

**Regular Meeting  
February 9, 2023  
7:30 PM**

**Mayor Grova called the meeting to order with a flag salute. This meeting was duly advertised in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, PL 1975, Chapter 231.**

**Call of the Roll: Mayor Grova, Mr. Carrow, Mr. Miller, Mr. Corwonski, Mrs. Pierce, and Mr. Linton. Absent: Mrs. Marandino. Also present was Solicitor Moustakas.**

**Committee Reports**

**Public Safety** As Chair, Mrs. Pierce began her report by congratulating the Franklin Township Police Department for apprehending the suspect in the liquor store robbery. Council Pierce provided the police stats and provided the council with a report. Mrs. Pierce commended Officer of the Month, Charles Heimer, for his outstanding work ethic.

Mrs. Pierce reported on behalf of Mrs. Marandino, in her absence, on the Special Events Committee, noting that Galentine's Day was a great event and was well attended. There was great feedback and everyone is looking forward to other future similar events. The committee has an upcoming Dr. Seuss Birthday celebration on Thursday, March 2 from 6-7 pm at the Newfield Public Library. Mrs. Pierce continued that while approval for a Bunny Hop and 5k was requested to be held in conjunction with the Easter Egg Hunt, the committee decided to forgo the 5k this year but keep the planning efforts moving forward for next year. The committee requests advance approval of the Easter Egg Hunt and Bunny Hop 5K for 2024 to be held on Saturday, March 23, 2024. **Mr. Corwonski made a motion to approve the 2024 events. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion carried.**

Mrs. Pierce advised that an email was sent to Gloucester County Parks and Recreation to provide a date and selection for this year's Movie in the Park event. The movie selected will be Sing 2, scheduled for Friday, June 16, 2023, with a rain date of Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>. **Mr. Carrow made a motion to approve the Movie in the Park event. Mr. Corwonski seconded the motion. All In favor. Motion carried.**

**Grants/Economic Development/Communication and Information Technology** Mrs. Pierce reported on behalf of the Chair, Mrs. Marandino, that a meeting was held with Mr. Edward Andricola, from Tri-State Light & Energy in which she was in attendance along with Mrs. Marandino and Clerk Van Camp. Mr. Andricola shared that there are no "Direct Install Programs" available for streetlights as the poles are owned by Atlantic City Electric. Only those light poles owned by the Borough would be eligible for the Prescriptive Program, but there as the Borough owns very few lights, this is not a feasible option to explore further. Mrs. Pierce noted that we will be investigating the feasibility of upgrading other equipment that was part of the energy audit last conducted in 2020. A follow-up with Mr. Andricola will be required.

Mrs. Pierce advised that she and Mrs. Marandino met with Anthony Coffee to discuss revisions to the website and Mrs. Marandino is working on new content for the Public Works page and revisions to the bios which appear on the Borough Council, Clerks' Office, and Public Works pages. A Poll Worker Application will be added to the website, replacing the Covid-19 button on the top right homepage. Revisions will also be made at the request of the Planning Board. The last year of the Town Crier will be added to the website for reference.

A meeting is scheduled with Deborah Tort, areas specialist for the United States Department of Agriculture on February 14<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the meeting is to provide an overview of the Rural Development's Water & Water & Waste Disposal Program and USDA /RD Community Facilities Program.

**Finance** As Chair, Mr. Carrow reported that Clerk Van Camp sent an email to the council stating the budget procedure was underway. Mr. Carrow further noted that Council has until Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup> to contact the Finance committee regarding department budgets.

**Water** As Chair, Mr. Corwonski reported that a Shade Tree meeting will be scheduled in a couple of weeks. Mr. Corwonski further noted that an Economic Development meeting is scheduled on Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8:30- 10.

**License & Inspection/Health & Welfare** As Chair, Mr. Linton reported that 20 permits were issued for the month of January, which totaled \$8,329. Mr. Linton advised that the signs that were ordered are in and will be installed as soon as they are received.

**Recycling and Trash/ Buildings, Grounds, Roads Chair** As Chair, Mr. Miller reported that the recycling facility will be open the first Saturday in March from 8:00 AM until noon. Mr. Miller requested this notice be placed on the sign.

#### **Solicitor's Report**

Solicitor Moustakas advised he would discuss some matters in an Executive Session.

#### **Engineer's Report**

Mr. Johnson advised that Franklin Street has two parts, the first is the design and Mr. Johnson requested permission to work on one part of the design since the project must be awarded by October 2023. The second part is obtaining the contract easement with the landowner for a cul-de-sac. Mr. Johnson advised that 17 water services must be considered, very similar to Columbia Avenue. **Mr. Miller made a motion to authorize Mr. Johnson to begin phase one of the design process of Franklin Avenue. Mrs. Pierce seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.**

The DRBC (Delaware River Basin Commission) Water Audit is due March 31, 2023. Mr. Johnson advised he would be working with the office personnel to obtain all the account data for 2022. Mr. Johnson noted that he had the DMR reports for the wells for 2022.

Mr. Johnson advised that he is working on the Flood Ordinance Application.

Mr. Johnson advised that Rena Street will be bid on in the Spring. He further noted that there are not many laterals on Rena Street and they were going to be replaced in the same way Columbia Avenue was done. The Governor put out a newsletter and there may be funding sources available for the services on Sandy Drive.

#### **Public Participation**

**Mrs. Pierce made a motion to open the meeting to the public. Mr. Corwonski seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.**

No one in the public came before the council with any matter.

**Mrs. Miller made a motion to close the meeting to the public. Mrs. Pierce seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion carried.**

#### **Approval of Minutes from**

November 15, December 8, and December 22, 2022, and December Tax Collector's Report

**Mr. Carrow made a motion to approve the 2022 minutes and Tax Collector's Report. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

#### **Approval of Minutes from**

January 5, 2023, and the January 2023 Tax Collector's Report

**Mr. Carrow made a motion to approve the 2023 minutes and Tax Collector's Report. Mr. Corwonski seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

#### **Old Business**

No Old Business.

#### **New Business**

Resolution NO. 27-23 DESIGNATING CONTACT PERSONS FOR THE EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES LIABILITY ATTORNEY CONSULTATION SERVICE (ATLANTIC COUNTY MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND)

**Mrs. Pierce made a motion to approve Resolution No 27-23. Mr. Carrow seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

Resolution NO. 28-23 TEMPORARY EMERGENCY BUDGET RESOLUTION

**Mr. Carrow made a motion to approve Resolution No 28-23. Mr. Corwonski seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

Resolution NO. 29-23 MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE DRUG AND ALCOHOL PREVENTION GRANT ALLOCATION

**Mr. Miller made a motion to approve Resolution No 27-23. Mr. Carrow seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

**Public Participation**

**Mr. Carrow made a motion to open the meeting to the public. Mr. Corwonski seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.**

No one in the public came before the council with any matter.

**Mr. Miller made a motion to close the meeting to the public. Mr. Corwonski seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.**

Resolution NO.30-23 DISBURSEMENTS

**Mr. Miller made a motion to approve Resolution No. 30; Mr. Carrow seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

**Mayor's appointments:**

Planning Board:

- ***Ryan Ricci*** Class IV – 4-year term expiring 12/31/2026
- ***Jared Marandino*** Class II – 1-year term expiring 12/31/2023
- ***Brent Hopkins*** Alternate II – 2-year term expiring 12/31/2024

**Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the mayor's appointments. Mrs. Pierce seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion carried.**

Resolution NO. 31-23 EXECUTIVE SESSION

**Mr. Carrow made a motion to approve Resolution NO. 31-23 EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss a litigation matter. Mr. Corwonski seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

The meeting was reopened to the public at 8:10 PM on a **motion made by Mr. Carrow and seconded by Mr. Miller. All in favor. Motion carried.**

Mr. Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Corwonski seconded the motion. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 PM.

Toni L. Van Camp, Clerk