

MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 21, 2022

Mayor Ferro calls the meeting to order 7:06 p.m.

STATEMENT OF NOTICE AS REQUIRED BY P.L. 1975, C231 IS READ.

I hereby announce that pursuant to the Open Public Meeting Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in the Annual Meeting Notice which was mailed to the Asbury Park Press and the Trenton Times, posted on the public announcements bulletin board in Town Hall and filed in the Office of the Township Clerk on December 20, 2021.

ROLL CALL: Committeeman Eric Davis – present, Deputy Mayor Chris Morris – absent, Committeeman Michael McLaughlin – present, Committeeman Tara Zabrosky – present and Mayor Al Ferro - present. Also, in attendance: Brian Chabarek, Esq. - Township Attorney, Kevin Abernethy – Township Administrator and Kathleen Hart - Municipal Clerk.

Motion to adopt Resolution 22-222 was moved by C/McLaughlin; second by C/Zabrosky.

Municipal Clerk read Resolution 22-222 Authorizing the Holding of an Executive Session, at Which the Public Shall be Excluded

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: C/Davis, C/McLaughlin, C/Zabrosky, M/Ferro
NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: DM/Morris

Motion to adjourn Executive Session was moved by C/McLaughlin; second by C/Zabrosky. All in Favor.

Time In: 7:08 p.m.; Time Out: 7:57 p.m.

Mayor Ferro calls the regular meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. followed by a flag salute and a moment of silence.

All attendees and participants agree to conduct themselves in a manner appropriate for public gathering. Individual speakers should be advised that no right of privacy protects a person’s public comments made in a public forum. Accordingly, all participants bear responsibility for their own statements and commentary.

PRESENTATION:

1. Millstone Township Fire/EMS: Captain Mike Maloney, who oversees the Emergency Medical Services Division that is provided by the Millstone Fire, District #1, discusses the program and the 2023 budget. The program started two years ago and is 100% successful. The call volumes for EMS for 2022 is between 1,200 – 1,300 with 875 transports due to the uptick in the beginning of the year with COVID, which included mutual aid. However, we do not anticipate this to occur in 2023. We work with a third-party billing company, which takes an 8% cut. The Township purchased a demo ambulance two years ago at a cost of approximately \$183,000 and that ambulance has had no issues. However, the other ambulance, which was inherited from the First Aid Squad is a 2012 ambulance. This ambulance has needed repairs due to the chassis being very problematic, at a cost of approximately \$25,000. With the repairs and adding an additional 30,000 miles on the ambulance over the past two years, the EMS Division is looking to purchase a new ambulance in 2023 and would like the Township Committee to be in position and fully prepared to be supportive through our shared services agreement. If we order a new ambulance, there is a two-year waiting period, however, they would look for a demo at a lower cost and if available, would be able to receive in 2023. In 2023, they would like to bring on one full time person at the beginning of the year and then another full-time person in July. The program has grown and is extremely busy and thanks the Township Committee for their continued support. Captain Maloney has not received one complaint and has only received praise for the program and response time.

C/Davis thanks Captain Maloney and staff for all they do and asked questions with regard to the anticipated deficit of \$56,000 for 2023. Captain Maloney states that the surplus anticipated through next year will be \$250,000 and will be used to offset the deficit. There will also be an increase in some fees which will hopefully help with the increase in fuel costs. M/Ferro asked if the percent of returns from insurance

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company payments have increased and has the 3rd party billing company increased their return on the claims. Captain Maloney stated that they anticipate \$330,000 in insurance collections this year. Medicare pays a percent of the cost; Medicaid pays a very low percentage; private insurance can pay well. It all depends on the type of insurance. C/Zabrosky asked if the EMS Division receives any portion of the tax levy from the Fire Company. Captain Maloney states that the EMS Division does not receive any portion of the tax levy from the Fire Company and has a separate budget. Currently there are 12 full-time firefighters; 25 part-time EMS and 3 volunteers.

Fire Commissioner Anthony Marra states that all of the administration is handled by the firefighters. All four Captains work every day trying to maintain coverage and he is extremely proud of what they do as they are very efficient. It is a very difficult job. We have 12 paid firefighters covering the Township 24/7 and he has not heard of any complaints for lack of services. He would like to publicly thank them for their performance.

The Township Committee would like to thank them for all they do.

2. Moose Club: Brian Dowd, Territory Manager for Moose International, states that the Jackson Moose Lodge #1459 is looking to purchase Tommy's Inn on Monmouth Road and is possibly looking for a Club License in Millstone. The Moose Club likes to work very closely with the community and donate to organizations. The Jackson chapter has 400 members currently and would like to move out of Jackson to Millstone. The Club was chartered in 1974. The Township Attorney states that a Club License has statutory requirements, wherein you need to be in exclusive possession and use of a clubhouse for 3 years. We would suggest contacting the Division of Alcohol Beverage Commission directly to see if you need to be in possession of a clubhouse for three years in Millstone given your status in Jackson. There are exceptions, but you need to contact them directly.

M/Ferro questions the hours of operations and what type of events that would occur. Rhonda Morales, 121 Sams Road, Jackson speaks on behalf of the Club. The hours are from 8:30am – 8:00pm during the week and the Club would stay open until 10:00pm on weekends. Summer fundraising events are held outside with anywhere from 30 – 200 people. The currently lodge is small and only holds about 40 people. With the Millstone location being a larger facility with more parking, they would be able to do fundraisers all year around. The club is family oriented. The cost to be a member is \$70 the first year, \$50 annually and you would need to complete a background check.

C/Davis questions what a club license is and is there a restriction on the number of licenses for the Township. The Township Attorney states that the Township ordinance does not limit the number of Club Licenses. The Township Administrator states that alcoholic beverages can be sold to their members and 2 guests. The Moose Club is not open to the public. The Moose Club can apply for social affairs permits for events. Currently the taxes collected from Tommy's Inn are about \$20,000 and a club would be tax exempt.

M/Ferro thanks the Moose Club and advised that the Township Committee would consider and get back to them.

Larry Mead, 499 Brentwood, Jackson advised that there are 1,355 lodges throughout the Country and your membership is for all lodges. We are very supportive of local organizations.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Resignation from Steven Budelman, regular member of the Office of Emergency Management, effective immediately.
2. Resignation from Sandra Riggins, regular member of the Open Space Preservation Council, effective December 31, 2022.

ORDINANCE:

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SECOND READING

ORDINANCE 22-18 ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A CONSERVATION EASEMENT FOR BLOCK 49.01, LOT 12 WHICH IS LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF LAUREL COURT AND OAK HILL DRIVE

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT: This Ordinance accepts a Conservation Easement conveyed from The Sycamores, LLC to the Township of Millstone for Block 49.01, Lot 12.

Affidavit of Publication Presented

Mayor Ferro opens the public hearing at 8:50 p.m.

No public comment.

Mayor Ferro closes the public hearing at 8:50 p.m.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 22-18 on second reading was moved by C/McLaughlin; second by C/Davis.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: C/Davis, C/McLaughlin, C/Zabrosky, M/Ferro

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: DM/Morris

RESOLUTION:

22-223 Resolution to Transfer Funds on Current Year Appropriations #3

Motion to adopt Resolution 22-223 was moved by C/McLaughlin; second by C/Zabrosky.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: C/McLaughlin, C/Zabrosky, C/Davis, M/Ferro

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: DM/Morris

RESOLUTIONS: CONSENT RESOLUTION POSTED ON BULLETIN BOARD.

ALL MATTERS LISTED UNDER ITEM "CONSENT AGENDA" ARE CONSIDERED ROUTINE BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE AND WILL BE ENACTED BY ONE (1) MOTION IN THE FORM LISTED BELOW. THERE WILL BE NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION ON THESE ITEMS, IF DISCUSSION IS DESIRED OF ANY ITEM, THAT ITEM WILL BE CONSIDERED SEPARATELY.

22-224 Resolution Establishing the 2023 Annual Schedule of Meetings for the Millstone Township Committee

22-225 Resolution Authorizing Schedule of Holidays for 2023

22-226 Resolution Listing Holidays to be Observed by the Mining Operators in Millstone Township For 2023

22-227 Resolution to Designate Official Newspapers Which Will Receive Public Notices for 2023

22-228 Resolution to Report Additions and Deletions to the Fixed Assets

22-229 Resolution Supporting Millstone Township's Participation in the State Agriculture Development Committee's Municipal Planning Incentive Grant Program 2024 Planning Round

22-230 Resolution Authorizing Cancellation of Balance Previously Appropriated From a Prior Year Capital Bond Ordinance

22-231 Resolution Authorizing Execution of License Agreement for 14 Chadwick Road in the Township of Millstone

22-232 Resolution Endorsing an Amended Treatment Works Application for Millstone River Mart LLC, Block 59, Lot 11, 508 Monmouth Road

22-233 Payment of Vouchers – December 21, 2022

Motion to adopt Consent Agenda Resolution 22-224 through 22-233 was moved by C/McLaughlin; second by C/Davis.

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ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: C/Zabrosky, C/Davis, C/McLaughlin, M/Ferro
NAYS: None **ABSTAIN:** None **ABSENT:** DM/Morris

REPORTS FROM VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS FOR NOVEMBER 2022:

Tax Collector	\$3,971,869.43
Clerks Report	\$ 145.00
Dog License	\$ 118.00
Municipal Court	\$ 6,607.11
Recreation	\$ 10,779.18
Construction	\$ 40,613.00
COAH	\$ 624,732.87
2022 Interest Revenue	

Motion to file was moved by C/McLaughlin; second by C/Zabrosky

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES:

1. Executive Meeting Minutes – December 7, 2022

Motion to adopt executive meeting minutes of December 7, 2022 was moved by C/McLaughlin, second by C/Davis.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: C/Davis, C/McLaughlin, M/Ferro
NAYS: None **ABSTAIN:** C/Zabrosky **ABSENT:** DM/Morris

2. Regular Meeting Minutes – December 7, 2022

Motion to adopt regular meeting minutes of December 7, 2022 was moved by C/Davis; second by C/McLaughlin.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: C/Davis, C/McLaughlin, C/Zabrosky, M/Ferro
NAYS: None **ABSTAIN:** None **ABSENT:** DM/Morris

LIAISON REPORTS:

C/Zabrosky discussed the Senior Bus Trip to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse on December 14, 2022. The bus trip was sold out and it was a great time. The Seniors are considering going closer to a theater in Spring Lake and then they would be able to car pool. They can't afford the bus transportation. The Affordable Housing Alliance will be holding an information session at the next Senior Meeting on January 10, 2023 from 1:30pm – 3:30pm at the Community Center. The Board of Education reorganization meeting is to be held on January 3, 2023 at 6:00pm. The Planning Board will hold its reorganization meeting on January 11, 2023 at 7:30pm.

The Township Committee discussed how to assist the Seniors' Bus Trip going forward.

C/Davis states that a representative from CDM Smith, Daniel O'Rourke attended the Environmental Commission last meeting to discuss stream assessments. CDM Smith received funding from NJDEP to do stream assessments, specifically increasing nitrogen levels in waterways. The Environmental Commission already does regular water testing with the Watershed and follows their protocols. The Shade Tree and Environmental Commission are working on finding a right location for a rain garden.

NEW BUSINESS:

MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 21, 2022

1. Millstone Township Reorganization Meeting is to be held on January 4, 2023 at 7:00pm at 215 Millstone Road.

OLD BUSINESS: None

COMMENTS FROM THE DIAZ:

C/Zabrosky states that the Winter Wonderland was fabulous and she attended both days. M/Ferro and C/Zabrosky thanked the members of the Recreation Commission and all of the volunteers who assisted in making this event very successful. Mike Fenlon, Recreation Coordinator and DPW did a fabulous job!

M/Ferro states that the Township will be holding a free rabies clinic in conjunction with the Monmouth County Board of Health on January 21, 2023 from 1pm – 2pm at Wagner Farm Park, 4 Baird Road. The Township is now online with the SDL Portal. You can sign up and schedule construction inspections, complete permit applications, search permit status and pay online. Please put out your Christmas trees for pick up prior to Monday, January 9, 2023. There will only be one pass per road. The recycling schedule is posted on the township website. Wishing all a happy holiday and a healthy and prosperous New Year!

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR: (Limited to ½ Hour)

Mayor Ferro opens the meeting to the public at 9:07 p.m.

No public comment.

Mayor Ferro closes the meeting to the public at 9:07 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was moved by C/McLaughlin; second by C/Davis. All in Favor.

Time Out 9:08 p.m.

Audio of the meeting is available in the Municipal Clerks Office.

December 21, 2022 Township Committee Regular Meeting Minutes approved at a Township Committee meeting held on January 4, 2023.

Kathleen Hart, RMC
Municipal Clerk