

CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES

March 7, 2023

5:00 P.M.

***MEETING WAS HELD VIA "ZOOM" APPLICATION WITH MEETING ID 349 802 0449

Mayor Jakubowski called the meeting to order.

MAYOR'S STATEMENT: "Notice of this meeting has been provided in a legal notice published in the Courier Post and the Retrospect; and posted in accordance with Title 10 of the New Jersey Statutes Annotated, specifying a 5:00 p.m. meeting time; and that formal action may or may not be taken at all Caucus and Commissioners meetings. Please be advised that this meeting is not being videotaped tonight." Those in attendance were Mayor Jakubowski, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Whitman, Borough Administrator David Taraschi, Solicitors Salvatore Siciliano & Jennifer McPeak, Borough Engineers Steve Bach & Craig Reilly, Police Chief Tom Tassi, Kurt Bicking, OEM, Jean Philips, Court Administrator, Danielle Ingves, Municipal Clerk, Rec Center Director & Library Trustee, Brian Conte, EMS, Fire Chief Pat Slemmer, Megan Giordano, Tax Collector, Joe Henry, Hardenberg Insurance.

Mayor Jakubowski led the audience in the Flag Salute.

Commissioner Whitman made a motion to approve meeting minutes of February 21, 2023, seconded by Commissioner Lee. All in favor-motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2023-01 – Ordinance of the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Audubon, County of Camden, and State of New Jersey Amending Chapter, 2, Administration, Article IV, Department, Division 3, Police Department, Section 2-185 Extra-Duty Employment through Borough in the Code of Borough of Audubon.—Second reading, public hearing.

Commissioner Whitman made a motion to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Commissioner Lee, All in favor motion carried.

Being there was no discussion, Commissioner Lee made a motion to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Commissioner Whitman. All in favor-motion carried.

Commissioner Whitman made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-01, seconded by Commissioner Lee. Unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION 2023-47 AUTHORIZING TURNOVER OF MUNICIPAL COURT UNCASHED CHECKS FOR AUDUBON MUNICIPAL COURT. The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Whitman. Unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION 2023-48 AUTHORIZING VETERAN DEDUCTION 2023 FOR BLOCK 45, LOT 3.02
The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Commissioner Whitman, seconded by Commissioner Lee.,
Unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION 2023-49 AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH ENGINEER TO MAKE APPLICATION AND THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CAMDEN COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT AGREEMENT FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2023. The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Whitman. All in favor-motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2023-50 AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF RUDY AVIZIUS AS AN ADDITIONAL MEMBER OF THE 2023 COMMUNITY ENERGY TASK FORCE. The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Commissioner Whitman, seconded by Commissioner Lee. All in favor-motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2023-51 APPROVING A SOCIAL AFFAIRS PERMIT ON APRIL 29, 2023, (Audubon Day) FOR THE AUDUBON FATHERS' ASSOCIATION. The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Whitman. Mayor Jakubowski abstained. All in favor-motioned carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: by Joe Henry, Hardenbergh Insurance – Safety and Complacency (Annual Requirement for membership in Camden County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund)

- Power Point presentation available and was shared with all.
- Avoid complacency as it can be dangerous.
- Performing tasks regularly can make one complacent.
- Workers are too secure in their workplace as they repeat tasks.
- Avoid short cuts.
- Police, Fire and Public Works are of the most concern as they are the riskier jobs.
- Think before you act, look before you start and ask if you do not know; these were the main messages to take away from the presentation.
- It is up to the Borough to assign mentors, encourage self-assessment and conduct job safety evaluations to ensure issues can be corrected before anyone is injured.

Department Reports:

Borough Administrator /DPW Superintendent- Spent a significant amount of time working on the 2023 budget. He spoke with our CFO, Jack Bruno, and should have more information about what it looks like next week.

Mayor Jakubowski asked about Bonnie Taft's, (previous MC) emails. D. Taraschi said that most emails were duplicates that he already received and that the email was deleted from the system. D. Ingves commented that some organizations that are exclusive to the Municipal Clerk's office still have not updated their systems and are making things a little messy with communication.

Chief Finance Officer -No Report

Borough Clerk- Animal licensing deadline is March 31. Late fees will be assessed after March 31. Financial Disclosures are coming up in April. Emails will start going out as soon as that opens.

Tax Collector – See attached report. Sewer bills are going out in the next couple of days. Still having computer issues in the office and working on glitches.

Tax Assessor -No report.

Construction Code/Zoning Report-Report attached.

Library- Several partnerships coming up soon with Sustainable Audubon on Earth Day with second graders coming through the library and then a movie, The Lorax, will be shown. Upcoming partnerships with Red, White & Brew and Haddon Heights Library to host a Paint and Sip event on April 10. Our new director is reaching out to businesses and organizations to bring as many programs to the community. All information can be found on their website and social media.

The Recreation Center- Report attached. (5) five private parties in February and (1) one non-private party. Three (3) private parties and one 5K for Haviland Ave PTA on Sunday, March 26. They are not using the building just running outside and using the outside bathrooms. One item for closed.

Police Chief- Report attached.

Fire Chief – Report attached. Thirty-five (35) calls in February for Audubon. Alarms answered to date: 65; Six new members in fire school with a tentative graduation date of May.

OEM- Report attached. Flood Control Ordinance; It is mandatory that we approve that by July 17, 2023. We are required to submit our draft ordinance to the State and FEMA for review by April 17. This will be a team effort by Borough Clerk, OEM, Construction, and the Solicitor. The flood map shows the only part of town in the flood zone is the area along Audubon Lake and the area of the creek by Village Court. The two buildings that face Nicholson are actually in the flood zone and some of the backyards behind DPW yard. Not many are in a flood zone. The State recommends attorney review first. Per Steve Bach, Engineer, this is an update of the flood ordinance already in place. This is just adding additional sections. We already have a starting point.

D. Taraschi commented on a property in question based on a call that came in from OEM. Reported that he was able to enter the property and all is well. It was not as originally reported.

EMS Report- Report attached. Audubon 63 calls.

Municipal Court- Report attached.

Engineer-Report attached. The resolution on tonight's agenda is for the 2023 CDBG application for continuing improvements to the Audubon Senior Center. There is a laundry list of improvements for the second and third floor of that complex. The DOT municipal aid roadway project that is East Merchant and East Pine can expect pavers to be out there next week, the week of the 13th. There will be no interference with any other projects. Still no word from Bellmawr about the paving and machinery, but they will reach out tomorrow for a status. The weather should not be a factor anymore.

Solicitor-No report. Contract talks in closed.

Sustainable Audubon- Next meeting is Wednesday, April 5, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Senior Center. They will be partnering with the Library for Earth Day. Please check out their website and the Library's website for more information.

OPEN SESSION: Commissioner Lee made a motion to open the meeting to the public; seconded by Commissioner Whitman. All in favor; motion carried.

Being there was no discussion, Commissioner Lee made a motion to close the meeting to the public; seconded by Commissioner Whitman -All in favor; motion carried.

Board of Commissioners Reports:

Commissioner Whitman- Kudos to Chief Slemmer for the number of volunteers he is bringing. It is a real testament to your leadership. Working on the budget and hopefully finalization of the budget for the next meeting.

Commissioner Lee – Caution to motor vehicles as there is construction in the Mansion Avenue school zone and down Wyoming as NJAW is doing their thing all next week. There has been some creative student crossing of the street. Pedestrians and drivers are asked to be extremely cautious.

Mayor Jakubowski- Reminder that Audubon Day is coming. The volunteers have started planning. They will need many volunteers on the day of the event. GABA (Greater Audubon Business Association) has begun planning their Third Fridays, May through October. Look for more information on that as well.

RESOLUTION 2023-52-AUTHORIZING A CLOSED SESSION FOR MATTER OF CONTRACTS

The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Commissioner Whitman, seconded by Commissioner Lee
All in favor-motion carried.

There may be action after closed session per Mayor Jakubowski.

Those present for the closed session: Mayor Jakubowski, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Whitman, Borough Administrator Dave Taraschi, Solicitors Salvatore Siciliano & Jennifer McPeak, and Municipal Clerk Danielle Ingves.

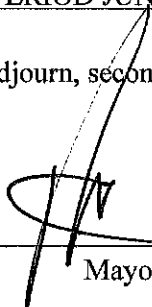
Discussion was had for contracts.

Commissioner Whitman made a motion to come out of closed session, seconded by Commissioner Lee. All in favor-motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2023-53 – AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF AUDUBON TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE YMCA TO PROVIDE A SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM AT THE FRANCIS J. WARD RECREATION AND COMMUNITY CENTER FOR THE PERIOD JUNE 26, 2023, THROUGH AUGUST 25, 2023.

Commissioner Whitman made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Lee. All in favor; motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:49 P.M.



Mayor Jakubowski

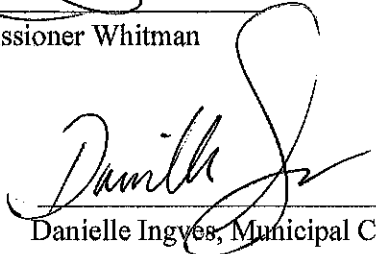


Commissioner Lee



Commissioner Whitman

ATTEST:



Danielle Ingves, Municipal Clerk

DATE APPROVED :

3/21/2023