

CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES

October 3, 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."

Roll Call: Mayor Jakubowski, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Whitman are all in attendance.

Those additionally in attendance were Administrator David Taraschi, Solicitors Sal Siciliano and Jennifer McPeak, Borough Engineer Craig Reilly, Danielle Ingves, Municipal Clerk, Library Board President, Tom Tassi, Police Chief, John Dymond, Tax Assessor, Jean Phillips, Court Administrator, Brian Conte, EMS, Jeanne Mugler and Aimee Bentley, Sustainable Audubon.

Commissioner Lee made a motion to approve minutes from September 19, 2023 Commissioners' meeting, seconded by Commissioner Whitman. All in favor-motioned carried.

ORDINANCES FOR ACTION: N/A

RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION:

RESOLUTION 2023-136 AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF CONTRACT, THRU THE CAMDEN COUNTY COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM, TO DEER CARCUSS REMOVAL SERVICES, LLC FOR THE PROVISION OF DEEAR CARCASS REMOVAL SERVICES. The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Commissioner Whitman, seconded by Commissioner Lee. Unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION 2023-137 AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENTS OF THE FOLLOWING TO THE JOINT LAND USE BOARD; DAVE THOMPSON, MATT DEL DUKE, STEVE CONNELLY FROM JULY 7, 2023 TO JULY 6, 2027; DAVID TARASCHI FROM JULY 1, 2023 TO JUNE 30, 2024 AND DAVID ALEMI FROM JULY 7, 2023 TO JULY 6, 2025 AND PAUL HARTSTEIN JR FROM JULY 17, 2023 TO JULY 16, 2025. The foregoing was approved by motion of Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Whitman. All in-favor motion passed.

RESOLUTION 2023-138 RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR FUNDING FROM THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION AND CONTINUATION OF CAMDEN COUNTY'S MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE PROGRAM FOR THE FISCAL GRANT CYCLE JULY 2023-2024. The foregoing motion was approved by motion by Mayor Jakubowski, seconded by Commissioner Lee. All in-favor motion passed.

RESOLUTION 2023-139 RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FROM AUDUBON'S GOVERNING BODY AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE 2023 SUSTAINABLE JERSEY-PSE&G ENERGY EFFICIENCY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (SECOND ROUND). The foregoing motion was approved by motion by Mayor Jakubowski, second by Commissioner Lee. All in-favor motion passed.

RESOLUTION 2023-140 AWARD OF BID-FY 2022 NJDOT TRUST FUND RESURFACING OF E. PINE STREET – PHASE II TO LANDBERG CONSTRUCTION, LLC. The foregoing was approved by motion of Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Whitman. Unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION 2023-141 AUTHORIZING THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE, CHAPTER 159, INTO THE 2023 MUNICIPAL BUDGET FOR ROUND #18 OPEN SPACE GRANT – COMMUNITY CENTER HOCKEY RINK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,000. The foregoing was approved by motion of Commissioner Whitman, Seconded by Commissioner Lee. Unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION 2023-142 AUTHORIZING THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL REVENUE, CHAPTER 159, INTO THE 2023 MUNICIPAL BUDGET FOR ROUND #20 OPEN SPACE GRANT – COMMUNITY CENTER HOCKEY RINK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,000. The foregoing was approved by motion of Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Whitman. Unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION 2023-143 AUTHORIZING THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL REVENUE, CHAPTER 159, INTO THE 2023 MUNICIPAL BUDGET FOR ROUND #23 OPEN SPACE GRANT – RECREATION FACILITY ENHANCEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,000. The foregoing was approved by motion of Commissioner Whitman, seconded by Mayor Jakubowski. Unanimous roll call vote.

Department Reports:

Borough Administrator /DPW Superintendent – Dave Taraschi and Mayor Jakubowski had a good meeting with public service yesterday with respect to the roads and the two-year project in Audubon. The vast majority of the paving will be done by November this year. Wyoming and a few of those short streets like Creston, Central and Oswego will not be done because NJAW is still working to update the infrastructure. PSEG is coming out to mobilize for the paving. Lieutenant John Gaspari attended the meeting as well on behalf of APD to assist with the coordination.

The Mayor stated that communication will be very forthcoming with door hangers etc. by PSEG. They promise to do an extensive communication campaign. The Borough will do their best to post on social media and our website to inform the residents. Residents will not be able to park in their driveways while work is being done so we appreciate their patience. When weather is a factor, things will be pushed, but the Borough will do everything we can to communicate the information that is provided to the residents. The work will start on October 23 and last for about 5-6 weeks.

NJAW and PSEG are working to coordinate regarding paving. No party will pave half the road. The two companies will coordinate well with trading off on the paving of streets for consistency.

Police Chief – Report attached. Congratulations to Mayor and Administrator on the good meeting to coordinate the final restoration. The final project will go a long way on the west side, and I am looking forward to the finished project.

Chief Finance Officer – Moody's annual review of the Borough and every municipality showed no change in our status.

Fire Chief – 50 calls for Audubon; 387 calls to date. The department is getting ready for fire prevention, which is scheduled for October 10.

Borough Clerk – General Election is Tuesday, November 7, 2023. Deadline to register to vote is October 17, 2023. The ballot boxes are open for mail in ballots and the BOE is emptying daily. Early voting locations starting October 28 through November 5 throughout the county. Deadline to apply for Mail-In-Ballot by mail is October 31, 2023 and all

information can be found on the Camden County website. Reminder that the November Caucus meeting will be on Wednesday, November 8.

OEM – K. Bicking was absent, but report was received. Annual Mitigation Plan review needs to be completed and the link will be sent. The necessary supplies for the CPR class have been ordered. The class date will be announced soon.

Tax Collector – M. Giordano was excused from the meeting, but the following was read on her behalf; Tax sale notices have been mailed. Tax Sale is scheduled for Thursday, November 30, and the added assessment bills should be out by the end of the week. She will send the monthly report as soon as she can.

EMS – Report submitted. 93 calls for Audubon. 233 calls for the month. They also attended the Audubon home football game. In regard to the Imperial House, they are looking for some additional help with resolving the broken elevator in the building. EMS is called multiple times per week to assist a disabled person on an upper floor.

The Mayor consulted with someone at the County, and they agreed the bills should be sent to the management company for payment. Com. Lee questioned the legal obligation of having a working elevator. S. Siciliano, Solicitor, responded that there is a statutory requirement above a certain level, and he believes this building meets that threshold.

Tax Assessor - Added Assessments have been completed and are going out shortly. Reminder that the NJ Property Tax reimbursement for seniors has a deadline of October 31, 2023. This is a reminder that deadline is approaching quickly for senior citizens and disabled residents.

Municipal Court Administrator – Report attached.

Construction Code/Zoning Report - Report attached.

Engineer – Submitted written report. Highlights include CDBG FY 2023 Senior Center Improvements; we are working on getting the contract signed with the bonds and insurance. We are hoping to have the pre-construction meeting in the next two weeks. The second item is the DOT FY 2022, the resurfacing of E. Pine, and Landberg Construction won that bid. Mayor Jakubowski asked about the status of the meeting with the DOT. Per C. Reilly, it is still in DOT's court to schedule that meeting. There is nothing official to report. He hopes to have more to update by the Commissioners' meeting.

Library – The October monthly meeting will be on Monday, October 30, but we are moving the time from 7:00 pm to 5:00 pm due to the Halloween activities in town. This will be advertised. The Library resumed Saturday hours again in September from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm (September through June). Will be closed on Monday, October 9. Pumpkin decorating will take place onsite this year on Monday, October 16, starting at 4 pm. There are many free programs offered as well. Please check out their monthly calendar.

The Recreation Center- The YMCA was pleased with the turnout for this year's Summer Camp. They are very interested in repeating this camp in 2024 and we are currently working to schedule a meeting in October to discuss. For September there were three (3) private parties and two non-profit events.

Solicitor – Nothing to report and no need for closed session.

Sustainable Audubon – Next meeting is Wednesday, October 4th at 7:00 pm. Sustainable Audubon is conducting a shade tree initiative for the residents of Audubon who are interested in a tree being planted on their curb strip. We interviewed the interested residents and evaluated their sites and found twenty residents who were eligible for trees. The included curb strip width, overhead telecommunication wires, underground utilities and existing trees. The trees are being

planted on Saturday, October 21, and they are still looking for volunteers to help plant those trees. The twenty trees and gator bags are being donated by Root 24 Inc., Plumbing and Drain Cleaning. We are looking to increase the tree count in our town. Therefore, looking for additional residents who are interested in receiving a tree. Interested people can email SustainableAudubon@gmail.com.

Mayor Jakubowski has been selected for a Municipal Leadership Award by the Association NJ of Environmental Commissions for his exceptional services and environmental leadership to the Borough. This is going to be presented on Friday, October 13. Congratulations Mayor on behalf of Sustainable Audubon.

Sustainable Audubon is co-hosting a shredding event with Haddon Heights. This will be paper shredding and electronics recycling together on October 14, 2023 9:00-12:00. We are still looking for volunteers and service hours will be provided.

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 Whitman made a motion to close the meeting to the public; seconded by Commissioner Lee -All in favor; motion carried.

Board of Commissioners Reports:

Commissioner Whitman- Mr. Dymond already touched on it, but money for the Anchor Program should be going out to residents soon. Questioned Engineer, C. Reilly regarding the puddling on the hockey rink. C. Reilly said there is one small area that they are currently working on, but nothing significant, but they will certainly do something about it.

Question to Mayor J. regarding parking by the rec center. Per D. Taraschi, he had a meeting, requested a border. They are weighing the options for stone vs. paving. Need it bordered with something. Public Service is going back to their people to see what they can pay for to restore this area. Standard car parking would be ideal, and we are working toward that. We don't have a 100% commitment yet.

Commissioner Lee -- Thank you to the Mayor and Dave T. for sticking them to the original commitment as far re-paving. Thank you to the APD and DPW for all their extra work. It has been a long two years, but we are finally approaching the finish line.


Also, there was a huge banter on social media regarding yard signs. So, I would encourage Sal and his office to try to get the sign ordinance nailed down as soon as possible.

Mayor Jakubowski -- The meeting with PSEG was easy for him thanks to D. Taraschi lobbying on behalf of Audubon. There is a relatively new piece of equipment called the zipper and he hopes that this produces a better finished product. Leaf season is starting soon. Please put the leaves on the curb strip and not in the street to avoid flooding. Please keep leaves out of the street. I would like to thank DPW, APD and all the Borough employees. Thank you to the courts for all the hard work they have been doing as he witnessed a busy court firsthand the day before.

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

Meeting Adjourned at 5:32 P.M.




Commissioner Whitman

Mayor Jakubowski

Commissioner Lee

ATTEST:



Danielle Ingves, Municipal Clerk

DATE APPROVED :

10/17/2023