

CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES

February 6, 2024

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, RJ Callaway, Assistant Superintendent PW, Solicitors Sal Siciliano and Jennifer McPeak, Borough Engineers Steve Bach and Craig Reilly, Danielle Ingves, Municipal Clerk, Library Board President, Tom Tassi, Police Chief, Brian Conte, EMS, Kurt Bicking, OEM Director, Megan Giordano, Tax Collector, Jean Phillips, Court Administrator

Commissioner Whitman made a motion to approve minutes from January 16, 2024, seconded by Mayor Jakubowski. All in favor-motioned carried.

ORDINANCES FOR ACTION: N/A

RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION:

RESOLUTION 2024-34 Authorizing the Suspension of Enforcing a Portion of Chapter 6, Section. 34-165 of the Code as it relates to Garage Sales in the Code of the Borough of Audubon for Sunday, May 19 and Sunday, September 29

The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Commissioner Whitman; seconded by Mayor Jakubowski. All in favor; motion carried. (Commissioner Whitman and Mayor Jakubowski)

(Commissioner Lee entered the meeting after Resolution 2024-34.)

RESOLUTION 2024-35 Authorizing reimbursement to Tavistock Swim Club in the amount of \$40.00 for one 50/50 raffle and one basket raffle. The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Commissioner Whitman and seconded by Commissioner Lee. Unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION 2024-36 Approving a Social Affairs Permit for the Audubon Fathers' Association for Audubon Day, Saturday, April 27, 2024, at the FJW Recreation and Community Center. The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Commissioner Lee and seconded by Commissioner Whitman. All in favor motion carried. Mayor Jakubowski abstained from this vote.

RESOLUTION 2024-37 Authorizing a Shared Services Agreement By and Between the Borough of Audubon and the Borough of Haddon Heights Regarding Court Services The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Commissioner Whitman and seconded by Commissioner Lee. Unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION 2024-38 Authorizing the Municipal Clerk to receive RFP Submissions for the Revised RFP for the Lease of Municipal Real Estate for Wireless Communication Facilities.

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

RESOLUTION 2024-39 Authorizing Application for the Community Energy Plan Grant (CEPG) Program

The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Mayor Jakubowski and seconded by Commissioner Whitman. All in favor motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2024-40 Authorizing an Award of Contract, the Camden County Cooperative Pricing System, to Atlantic Salt for the Furnishing of Road Salt

The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Commissioner Whitman and seconded by Commissioner Lee. Unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION 2024-41 Authorizing Application For Fiscal Year 2024 Local Recreation Improvement Grant for the Audubon Family Park Improvements Project, Borough Of Audubon, County Of Camden, State Of New Jersey

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

RESOLUTION 2024-42 Authorizing the Execution of a Contract By and Between the Borough of Audubon and the Government Workers' Union (GWU).

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

Department Reports:

Borough Administrator – Fixated on the budget currently. Nothing else to report.

Assistant Superintendent of Public Works – Report attached. Highlights include repaired dump truck #9, decorations taken down at municipal building, rock salt delivered, filling potholes, tree removal and trimming has begun, and they are reinstalling the hockey rink fence. There will be a demonstration on the electric vehicle in March. The new-used Mack Truck was delivered on Monday and should be on the road soon.

Chief Finance Officer – No Report.

Borough Clerk – Reminder that the Primary Election is Tuesday, June 4, and the deadline to register to vote is May 14. I will continue to remind everyone. That is 21 days prior to election. Reminder that animal licensing is open, and all pets should be licensed by March 31 because starting April 1 late fees will begin.

Tax Collector – It is tax time. The office is busy collecting taxes. The 10th falls on Saturday, so the grace period is extended until Monday, February 12. Payments can be made online or placed in the drop box or come in person to the tax office during business hours. There is no reason that payments should be late.

Tax Assessor – Excused.

Police Chief – Report attached. Received email from the Superintendent of Schools that the upper class of Mansion Avenue School will be riding their bikes to school now. We ask that everyone be extra careful and mindful of the extra bikes on the road especially during school traffic times.

Fire Chief – Report attached. Alarms answered in January: 51 Alarms answered to date: 51.

OEM – Report attached. Working with Red Cross to locate the check that our office sent for supplies for the CPR classes. OEM is working with our school nurse who is also a member of our Board of Health, and they are planning some public CPR classes.

EMS – Report attached. 89 calls in Audubon with a total of 247 calls in January.

Municipal Court Administrator – Report attached. The court posted for the deputy position, and they did receive some applications and are ready to start interviewing.

Construction Code/Zoning Report - Report attached.

Engineer – Report attached. Will be working on the DCA Local Recreation Grant for additional improvement down at the Audubon Family Park and that is due February 27. CDBG 2023, that project should be wrapping up this week. They had some issues with a door last week, but that has been resolved. Blinds will be hung up next. The 2024 application will be opening up soon and they will prepare resolution for Commissioners' meeting. Mayor asked if the billing is up to date from the tennis court etc. He has asked the Borough Administrator to make that happen and D. Taraschi has agreed to follow through.

Solicitor – One item for closed.

Library – Due to budgeting, the Library Line will be only publishing one per year from four. They will up their communication in other ways. Programming numbers and attendance overall were down due to the lack of usage at the Senior Center. Hoping to increase programs once again in March as the construction will be completed by then.

The Recreation Center – YMCA link for registration for the summer camp is open. The registration numbers are looking positive with over 100 thus far. January – (6) six private parties. February (4) four private parties and one non-profit party.

Sustainable Audubon – Meetings are the first Wednesday of every month. February's meeting is in the Court Room at Borough Hall. They are currently working on the home energy grant from PSEG. They are planning an education meeting along with Barrington and Haddonfield via ZOOM.

Board of Commissioners Reports:

Commissioner Lee – Concerns about three handicap ramps on Wyoming. Reached out to Mayor Jakubowski and then to Bob Harris at the County and they were addressed quickly. There was only a ramp to cross in one direction and not the other direction on those specific three ramps. So, thank you to the county for the quick response on that.

Commissioner Whitman – Thank you Bob Harris for another addition of a flashing stop sign at Atlantic & Pine Street. That has been one of the worst intersections for accidents over the years. Mr. Harris has always been able to help us out. Other than that, we are continuing to work on the budget.

Mayor Jakubowski. – Welcome to our Scouts! We appreciate you for joining us. There will be an open session if you want to share with us. April 27 is Audubon Day. The ACC is working hard to put this together. What they need the most is volunteers. The next meeting is on the 20th at 6:00 pm at Borough Hall prior to the Commissioners' meeting. A few more volunteers would be helpful.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Matt Machinsky, with the Scouts Audubon Troop 106, stated he is a Bellmawr resident, but leads a multi-town Troop as the towns are so close: Bellmawr, Oaklyn, Audubon, Audubon Park. Thank you for allowing us to join and learn about local government. We would like to know how the Scouts can help the local community. How can young people get more involved and help out in the community? Audubon Day would be a great start.

Mayor Jakubowski stated that they have always helped with cleaning the streets on the July 4 parade route. They always respond to calls from residents that need additional help and the troops have always stepped up when asked.

Com. Lee thanked them all for coming as he was Scout as well. As they start getting old enough, fire prevention is always a good option as there is a cadet program with the fire department. He will give some more thought to other options.

Com. Whitman was a Scout also and has fond memories. Suggested helping Mrs. Brown at Memorial Grove and Mr. Webb at the Murray Trout Legion.

Mr. Machinsky has asked everyone to keep them all in mind to help with anything. They also accept old flags to dispose of properly. They have worked with Sustainable Audubon etc. They are always willing to jump in and help out.

Alex F., a young Scout, said thank you for allowing them to come on and learn and to thank everyone for all they do for Audubon.

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


2024-43 RESOLUTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION FOR LITIGATION

The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Commissioner Lee and seconded by Commissioner Whitman. All in favor-motion carried at 5:32 pm.


Commissioner Lee made a motion to come out of closed session and seconded by Commissioner Whitman. All in favor-motion carried at 5:51 pm.

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

Meeting Adjourned at 5:52 P.M.



Mayor Jakubowski



Commissioner Whitman



Commissioner Lee

ATTEST:



Danielle Ingves, Municipal Clerk

DATE APPROVED :

2/20/2024