

CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES

June 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 Sal Siciliano, Jennifer McPeak, Borough Engineers Steve Bach & Craig Reilly, Danielle Ingves, Municipal Clerk, Rec Center, Library Board President, Megan Giordano, Tax Collector, Kurt Bicking OEM, John Dymond, Tax Assessor, Brian Conte, EMS, Tom Tassi, Police Chief.

Commissioner Whitman made a motion to approve meeting minutes of May 16, 2023, seconded by Commissioner Lee. All in favor-motioned carried.

ORDINANCES FOR ACTION:

2023-05 Ordinance by the Board of Commissioners amending the Borough of Audubon Code of Ordinances to repeal Ordinance No. 2016-10; to adopt a New Flood Hazard Maps; to Designate a Floodplain Administrator; and Providing for Severability and an effective date. First Reading-June 7, 2023, Second Reading-July 5, 2023.

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

RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION:

RESOLUTION 2023- 91 RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF AUDUBON APPROVING THE LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL FOR KOVE CATERING INC. The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Commissioner Whitman, seconded by Commissioner Lee. All in favor-motioned carried.

RESOLUTION 2023- 92 RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF AUDUBON APPROVING THE LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL FOR APPLE NEW JERSEY, LLC The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Commissioner Whitman, seconded by Commissioner Lee. All in favor-motioned carried.

RESOLUTION 2023-93 RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF AUDUBON APPROVING THE LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL FOR SRI PRIYA, LLC. The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Whitman. All in favor-motioned carried.

RESOLUTION 2023-94 RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF AUDUBON APPROVING THE LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL WV AUDUBON VENTURES The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Commissioner Whitman, seconded by Commissioner Lee. All In favor-motioned carried.

RESOLUTION 2023-95 AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF THE GREEN WAVE PARK RECREATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR A TERM OF ONE YEAR The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Whitman. All in favor-motioned carried.

RESOLUTION 2023-96 AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS LEAD GRANT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LGAP) The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Commissioner Whitman, seconded by Commissioner Lee. All in favor-motioned carried.

RESOLUTION 2023-97 RESOLUTION WAS TABLED/NO ACTION WAS TAKEN UNTIL FURTHER DISCUSSION CAN BE HAD IN CLOSED SESSION.

RESOLUTION 2023-98 AUTHORIZING A LEASE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF AUDUBON AND STC FOUR, LLC FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 247 OAKLAND AVE, AUDUBON, NJ The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Whitman. All in favor-motioned carried.

Department Reports:

Borough Administrator /DPW Superintendent – Public Works is extremely busy. Seasonal staff is on board to help play catch up.

Chief Finance Officer -No Report.

Borough Clerk- Report provided. Primary Election was Tuesday. There was low turn out at the pools. New machines and procedures created some chaos, but everyone who wanted to vote was able to do so. The Municipal Clerks in the county are working together to provide feedback and suggestions to the Board of Elections.

Pet Licensing renewals – Additional late fees will be added to any licenses after June 30 for a total of \$15.00 in late fees for any renewals.

Fire pits permits are required for use of fire pits. The cost is \$10.00 and is required annually. The permit is on the website and available in the office as well. This is to help protect our residents.

Tax Collector – All is well in the tax office. Just currently waiting on the budget numbers in order to generate new tax bills.

Tax Assessor – John Dymond was not available at the time of his report. Dave Taraschi and our Solicitor discussed concerns regarding East and West Taylor Avenue in relation to how it is represented on the tax map. This will be discussed in depth with John Dymond after the meeting in order to resolve. John Dymond did join the meeting a little later and had nothing new to add.

Construction Code/Zoning Report-Report attached.

Library – The Summer Reading Program has begun. Sign ups started on June 1. This program is open to all ages, kids and adults. There will be a separate reading competition with several other towns for the number of books read. Kudos to our Director for reaching out to other towns for a little friendly competition.

The Recreation Center- May – Six (6) Private Parties.

June – Primary Election – Currently scheduled - Four (4) outside events, County Chiefs Association Meeting and the YMCA starts on June 26 and runs through August 25.

Police Chief- Report attached. Security concerns in front of the Municipal Building. Will not elaborate here but will submit suggestions in a memo to the Mayor and Commissioners.

Fire Chief – Report attached. Alarms answered in May: 43 Alarms answered to date: 194 The Audubon Fire Department has been awarded a federal SAFER grant for staffing. This should allow a three-man crew Monday to Friday 8 am – 4pm. This will help with the time that most of our members are at work.

OEM- Report attached. Our EOP is due at the end of June. Met with the County and currently awaiting a few annexes to complete it. July 4th is around the corner. OEM will be reaching out to the PD and FD to prepare the IAP.

EMS Report- Report attached. Audubon calls 86 for the month of May.

Municipal Court- No report yet. Court Administrator at a conference.

Engineer- Report attached. The NJDOT announced solicitation and schedule for accepting applications for the NJDOT FY 2024 Municipal Aid program with a deadline of July 1, 2023. NJDOT has indicated grant awards are expected to be announced in November. Our office will submit an application for resurfacing the remaining of Hampshire Road/Merchant Street from Black Horse Pike to Dewey Parker Avenue. Will need a resolution for this at the June Commissioners' Meeting.

Discussion was had regarding the completion of the installation of the walkways at Audubon Family Park and the resurfacing of the hockey rink and basketball courts. Commissioner Whitman had real concerns regarding this completion date as the YMCA will begin summer camp on June 26. Steve Bach suggested meeting with the YMCA and Danielle, Municipal Clerk, at the building to see what we can work around. During the meeting an update was provided that Camden City should be releasing the equipment on June 17-18 and if all goes well, the resurfacing could start on June 19th and be done in time. Mr. Bach and the Mayor will be talking to their contacts to continue to push this date for completion and they will keep everyone updated.

Dave Taraschi, Borough Administrator, discussed with our engineers concerns regarding the back roof at the FJW Rec Center. They have agreed to discuss further and meet over there if need be.

Solicitor – Has items for closed session only.

Sustainable Audubon- Next meeting is tonight, at 7:00 pm at the Audubon Senior Center. They have been working on the Butterfly Garden at the Audubon Family Park. They will be partnering with the Boroughs of Audubon and Haddon Heights regarding a Shredding and Electronics event to take place at the Audubon Municipal Building on Saturday, October 14, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. More details to come.

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- Thank you to Murray Trout for the nice job on Memorial Day honoring our Fallen heroes.

Commissioner Lee- Fire Pit permits were mentioned earlier by the Municipal Clerk. He is encouraging all residents to obtain Fire Pit Permits. This allows the Fire Marshal's Office to discuss placement issues, safety concerns and education. This is really a service to the residents. Kudos to the Audubon Fire Department for a nice job this week after responding to a fire in town. They did a great job preventing further loss.

Chief Tassi asked to add to add an addendum to his report. Along with the safety concerns for the front of the building, he has asked that we add the address "606" on the building or sign. This will make it easier to find the building for people who do not necessarily live in the area or are new to the neighborhood. People coming to court is one example.

Mayor Jakubowski- Nothing to report.

RESOLUTION 2023-99 CLOSED SESSION FOR CONTRACTS AND LITIGATION


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

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

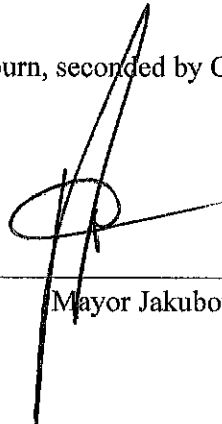
RESOLUTION 2023-97 AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF AUDUBON POLICE DEPARTMENT TO ACQUIRE, TRAIN, AND CARE FOR A POLICE K9 The foregoing resolution was approved by motion of Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Whitman. All in favor-motioned carried.

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

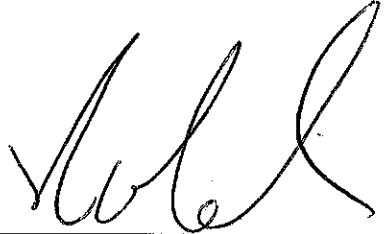
Meeting Adjourned at 5:49 P.M.



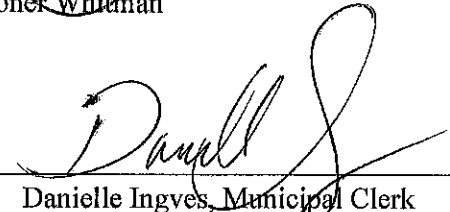
Commissioner Whitman



Mayor Jakubowski



Commissioner Lee

ATTEST: 

Danielle Ingves, Municipal Clerk

DATE APPROVED : 6/20/2023