

BOROUGH OF TOTOWA

MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

September 10, 2024

PRESENT: Mayor John Coiro, presiding, Council President Lou D'Angelo, Councilman Anthony Picarelli, Councilman William Bucher, Councilman John Capo, Councilman Patrick Fierro, Councilman Sanders Reynoso, Municipal Clerk Joseph Wassel and Municipal Attorney Kristin Corrado.

ABSENT: None.

Mayor John Coiro called the meeting to order and asked the Municipal Clerk to call the roll.

Mayor Coiro asked everyone to stand and offer a moment of silence in remembrance of the 23rd anniversary of 9-11.

Municipal Clerk Wassel recited the Prayer of the Meeting followed with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag with the public participating.

Mayor Coiro asked the Municipal Clerk to read the statement of the meeting.

Municipal Clerk Wassel read the following statement: This meeting of the Mayor and Council held on this day is being held in accordance with Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 of the State of New Jersey as amended. The agenda for this meeting has been prepared and distributed to the Mayor and Council and a copy has been on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

Mayor Coiro asked if any members of the Council, the Municipal Clerk or the Municipal Attorney wished to address the Council.

Councilman Picarelli: 1) Said he attended the Labor Day Celebration at the Pool and it was a great day and that Louise Capra donated hot dogs for the members and the goldfish for the children; 2) Thanked Borough Clerk Wassel for arranging the public auction of our surplus property and noted that all 15 items sold and we made over \$14,000.

Councilman Reynoso: 1) Stated that the Summer Camp and the Pool had a successful season and that the Concert Series ended with Peter D'Angelo's band; 2) Thanked Gary Bierach and his team at GJB for donating and installing a paver walkway at the PAL.

CITIZENS HEARD:

There were no citizens who wished to be heard.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to approve the Minutes of the Mayor and Council for the meeting of August 27, 2024. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative. Councilman Fierro abstained from the voting.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE:

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to approve Resolution No. 2024-19 for the payment of bills. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing Cancellation Of Unexpended Water Utility Capital Fund Improvement Authorizations. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 113-2024

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CANCELLATION OF UNEXPENDED WATER
UTILITY CAPITAL FUND IMPROVEMENT AUTHORIZATIONS

WHEREAS, certain Water Utility Capital Fund Improvement Authorization balances remain dedicated to projects now completed; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to formally cancel said balances so that the unexpended balances may be credited to water capital surplus and may be canceled.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Totowa, that the following unexpended Improvement Authorizations in the Water Utility Capital Fund be canceled:

Ordinance No.	Description	Water	
		Capital Surplus	Total Cancelled
02-08	Acquisition of Pump for Shepherds Lane	\$ 3,885	\$ 3,885
15-13	Abandonment of Shepherds Lane Pump Station	40,940	40,940
04-16	Repair of Water Main	<u>43,127</u>	<u>43,127</u>
		<u>\$ 87,952</u>	<u>\$ 87,952</u>

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing Cancellation Of Water Utility Capital Fund Encumbrances. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 114-2024

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CANCELLATION OF WATER UTILITY CAPITAL FUND ENCUMBRANCES

WHEREAS, there are Encumbrances Payable of \$18,015 in the Water Utility Capital Fund line item at year end; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that said balance is no longer valid.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Totowa that the following Encumbrances Payable balance of the Water Utility Capital Fund be canceled to Water Utility Capital Fund Balance.

Encumbrances Payable	<u>\$18,015</u>
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There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to acknowledge receipt of the Report of Audit for the year ended December 31, 2023 and that the recommendations will be reviewed by the Governing Body. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY:

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Capo to approve a grade increase for Patrol Officer Matthew Cossari from Grade 3 to Grade 2. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

A letter from Fire Chief Rich Schopperth advising that he will be attending the New Jersey State Firemen's Convention from September 11 – 13, 2024 was received and filed.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Capo to add the following item to the agenda. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

Upon the recommendation of the Committee, there was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Capo to appoint Ariana Adili, Charles Bell, Brian Nash and Sarah Tillie as School Crossing Guards. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT

I, Mayor John Coiro, with the advice and consent of the Council do hereby appoint Ariana Adili, Charles Bell, Brian Nash and Sarah Tillie as School Crossing Guards for a one year term expiring December 31, 2024.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Capo to confirm the appointments. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:

There was no report.

COMMITTEE ON ENGINEERING & PUBLIC PROPERTY:

There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilman Reynoso to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing The Sale Of Real Property And Reservation Of Rights For The Property Identified As Block 23, Lot 1 In The Borough Of Totowa. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 115-2024

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND RESERVATION OF RIGHTS FOR THE PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 23, LOT 1 IN THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa owns property identified as Block 23, Lot 1 on the official Tax Map of the Borough of Totowa and located at 86 Lincoln Avenue (the "Property"); and

WHEREAS, the Property measures approximately 3,999 square feet (0.09 acres) of land, is a mixed-use building with retail and residential components and is located in the R-7 Residential Zone; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a) authorizes local government units to sell real property owned by the governmental unit, not needed for public use, by open public sale at auction to the highest bidder; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough have determined that this property is not needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a) also provides that the Governing Body may fix a minimum price for the public sale of real property; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has determined that \$530,000.00 is the fair market value for the Property and the buyer shall be responsible for all of the costs of the Borough in this sale; and

WHEREAS, bids will be solicited for the sale of the property identified as Block 23, Lot 1 on the official Tax Map of the Borough of Totowa and located at 86 Lincoln Avenue; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a), the governing body may fix a minimum sale price with the reservation of the right to reject all bids where the highest bid is not accepted; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a) further provides that upon completion of the bidding the highest bid may be accepted, or all of the bids may be rejected.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the sale of the property identified as Block 23, Lot 1 on the official Tax Map of the Borough of Totowa and located at 86 Lincoln Avenue.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby establish a minimum sales price of \$530,000.00 for the Property.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby reserve the right to reject all bids where the highest bid is not accepted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the advertisement for the public sale of this Property shall include notice of the minimum rent and the reservation of rights.

COMMITTEE ON LIAISON & INSPECTION:

There was no report.

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION & ORDINANCES:

There was a motion by Councilman Fierro, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to approve Ice Cream Vendors License Application for Joanna Panepinto as Owner/Operator and Marissa Romaniello as Operator, trading as Mainland Shave Ice. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

There was a motion by Councilman Fierro, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to approve Raffle License Application Nos. 2392 & 2393 for the BPOE #2111 Passaic Valley Elks for a Casino Night and On-Premise 50-50 to be held on October 12, 2024. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

There was a motion by Councilman Fierro, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to carry the Resolution Authorizing The Renewal Of Division Of Alcoholic Beverage Control Liquor Licenses For The 2024 – 2025 License Term for further information. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

There being no further business to come before the Council, there was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli that the meeting be adjourned. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

Joseph Wassel, RMC
Municipal Clerk