

## BOROUGH OF TOTOWA

### MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

**December 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 for two former employees – Norma Fitzgerald and Allen Del Vecchio – who recently passed away.

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 Reynoso: 1) Congratulated the Fire Department on their annual Fire Truck Parade and said they had over 250 participants, and also thanked the DPW and Police for their help; 2) Stated that the Board of Recreation has already received over 100 Letters To Santa; 3) Reminded everyone about the Christmas Caroling Trolley on

December 18<sup>th</sup>; 4) Announced that the President of the PAL told him there will be a special meeting this Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m.

#### CITIZENS HEARD:

Philip Meyer, 3 Meadow Drive: Said he is the Crossing Guard by Memorial School at Totowa Road and William Place and he is concerned about the speeding going up Totowa Road for the students safety and for the teachers who park in the lot across the street. He said there is a digital speed limit sign coming down Totowa Road and would like to request one going up or possibly putting in speed humps. Mayor Coiro: Informed him that Totowa Road is a County road so it would be tough to get speed humps approved, but we just ordered some more digital radar speed signs and asked Police Sergeant Gary Bierach who was in attendance to put one there when they come in.

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman Bucher to approve the Minutes of the Mayor and Council for the meeting of November 26, 2024. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### COMMITTEE ON FINANCE:

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to approve Resolution No. 2024-25 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 Resolution No. 2024-26 Authorizing Transfer Of 2024 Budget Appropriations. 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 to effectuate the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate Number 19-00004 for 30 Young Avenue, Block 45, Lot 8. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

## RESOLUTION

Tax Sale Certificate Number 19-00004  
Block 45, Lot 8  
Property: 30 Young Avenue, Totowa, New Jersey 07512  
Owner: Deborah Machuszek

WHEREAS, at the Municipal Tax Sale on October 22, 2020, a lien was sold on Block 45, Lot 8; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate Number 19-00004, was sold to MGRP TL Capital LLC for a 0% redemption fee and a premium of \$30,900; and

WHEREAS, Deborah Machuszek, the owner of the property, has effected redemption of Tax Sale Certificate Number 19-00004 in the amount of \$80,938.76 as of December 10, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Treasurer to issue a check in the amount of \$80,938.76 payable to MGRP TL Capital LLC for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate Number 19-00004.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council do hereby authorize the Treasurer to issue a check in the amount of \$30,900.00 (premium) to the aforementioned Lien Holder.

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing Settlement Of The 2021, 2023 & 2024 Tax Appeals Entitled John Ambrose V. Borough Of Totowa. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

### RESOLUTION NO. 141-2024

#### RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SETTLEMENT OF THE 2021, 2023 & 2024 TAX APPEALS ENTITLED JOHN AMBROSE V. BOROUGH OF TOTOWA

WHEREAS, there have been appeals of the real property tax assessments for the stated tax years; and

WHEREAS, each Block and Lot listed therein was assessed at the amount stated therein; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Stipulation of Settlement, a copy of which is incorporated herein as if set forth at length, has been reviewed and recommended by the Borough Tax Assessor and Borough Tax Expert; and

WHEREAS, the settlement of these matters on the attached list are in the best interest of the Borough of Totowa.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa, New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Borough's Tax Appeal Attorney, Raymond B. Reddin, Esq. is authorized to execute the Stipulation of Settlement on behalf of the Borough of Totowa with respect to the tax appeals on the attached list which are currently pending in the Tax Court of New Jersey.
2. All municipal officials are hereby authorized to take whatever action may be necessary to implement the terms of this Resolution and authorizes the Special Tax Counsel to enter into the Stipulation of Settlement as provided by Taxpayer.

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing Purchase Of Various Items Through State, County, North Jersey Wastewater And Educational Services Commission Cooperative Contracts. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 142-2024

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF VARIOUS ITEMS  
THROUGH STATE, COUNTY, NORTH JERSEY WASTEWATER AND  
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION COOPERATIVE CONTRACTS

WHEREAS, the different Borough of Totowa Departments have requisitioned various goods and services for 2024 pursuant to the following New Jersey State Contracts, Passaic County Cooperative Contracts, Morris County Cooperative Contracts, Bergen County Cooperative Contracts, North Jersey Wastewater Pricing Cooperative Contracts and/or Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Cooperative Contracts; and

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>STATE/PCC/MCC/BCC/ESCNJ CONTRACT</u>
Jen Electric, Inc.	Morris County Cooperative Contract
Morton Salt, Inc.	Passaic County Cooperative Contract
Precision Electric Motor Works	North Jersey Wastewater Cooperative Contract
Rachles/Michele's Oil Company	New Jersey State Contract

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa is desirous of approving said purchases in accordance with the terms of the various State Contracts, County Contracts, North Jersey Wastewater Contracts and Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Contracts; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council is also desirous of authorizing these purchases from the State Contracts, County Contracts, North Jersey Wastewater Contracts and Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Contracts throughout calendar year 2024, subject to appropriate procurement controls and availability of funds; and

WHEREAS, the Finance and Administration Committee has considered this matter and recommended this resolution to the Mayor and Council for adoption.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that it hereby authorizes the purchase of the goods and/or services described above in accordance with the terms of the applicable State Contracts, County Contracts, North Jersey Wastewater Contracts or Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Contracts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Clerk and all other necessary officers and employees be and hereby are authorized and directed to take such further actions and sign such documents as are necessary to effectuate the purpose of this resolution, including but not limited to issuance of an appropriate Purchase Order.

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following Resolution Approving Disposal Services For Vegetative Waste Recycling. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 143-2024

RESOLUTION APPROVING DISPOSAL SERVICES FOR  
VEGETATIVE WASTE RECYCLING

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa need to dispose of the Borough's residential and municipal vegetative waste at a facility that is licensed and permitted by the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP"); and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa solicits proposals from licensed and permitted disposal facilities that will dispose of vegetative materials including but not limited to leaves, brush, tree parts, stumps, wood chips and grass; and

WHEREAS, RER Supply, LLC, 4 South Corporate Drive, Riverdale, New Jersey 07457 has submitted a proposal to dispose of vegetative waste at their facility in accordance with their Municipal Rate Schedule, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, these services were utilized during the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable New Jersey State laws, the authorization of this service may be authorized as an exception to public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contract Law as set forth in N.J.S.A 40A:11-5, et seq.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Borough of Totowa to utilize RER Supply, LLC for the disposal of vegetative waste for the Borough of Totowa in accordance with the Fee Schedule set forth in their proposal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Municipal Clerk to execute any and all necessary instruments relating thereto.

#### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY:

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Capo to approve the fireman's application, the purchase of fireman's equipment and authorize a fireman's physical for Kristofer J. Terzioski for Riverview Park Fire Company No. 3. 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 Terrence Maguire as a School Crossing Guard. 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 Terrence Maguire as a School Crossing Guard for a term of one year ending December 31, 2024.

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

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.

An email was received on this date from Lieutenant Jamie Titus asking for a second extension to his retirement date for another month from January 1, 2025 to February 1, 2025. There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Capo to approve his request. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:

There was a motion by Councilman Bucher, seconded by Councilman Fierro to approve Change Order No. 1 for a net increase of \$79,130.69 and Payment Estimate No. 1 in the amount of \$511,560.72 to AJM Contractors for the FY2024 NJDOT Municipal Aid and 2024 Road Program. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

### COMMITTEE ON ENGINEERING & PUBLIC PROPERTY:

There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilman Reynoso to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing Boiler Repairs At The Borough Of Totowa Lincoln Fire House. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 144-2024

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BOILER REPAIRS AT THE  
BOROUGH OF TOTOWA LINCOLN FIRE HOUSE

WHEREAS, the Boiler at the Borough of Totowa Lincoln Fire House is not working properly and is in need of various repairs; and

WHEREAS, 454 Mechanical, LLC, 14 Masklee Court, Totowa, New Jersey 07512 has submitted a proposal dated November 25, 2024 to remove and replace the motor assembly as well as remove and replace the hot water expansion tank for the sum of \$2,520.00, a copy of which is on file in the office of Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the proposal includes bleeding and purging the system, starting and testing the system and includes all necessary labor and tools needed to complete the boiler repairs; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to have the boiler repairs undertaken and completed as soon as possible for the well-being and safety of the Borough of Totowa Lincoln Fire Company Volunteer Firefighters; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable New Jersey State laws, the repair services may be authorized without public bidding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby accept the proposal submitted by 454 Mechanical, LLC for the boiler repairs at the Borough of Totowa Lincoln Fire House.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize 454 Mechanical, LLC to perform all services for the boiler repairs at the Borough of Totowa Lincoln Fire House in accordance with their proposal.

There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilman Reynoso to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing Boiler No. 2 Repairs At The Borough Of Totowa Municipal Complex. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.



RESOLUTION NO. 145-2024

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BOILER NO. 2 REPAIRS AT THE  
BOROUGH OF TOTOWA MUNICIPAL COMPLEX

WHEREAS, the gas valve on Boiler No. 2 at the Borough of Totowa Municipal Complex is cracked and must be replaced; and

WHEREAS, 454 Mechanical, LLC, 14 Masklee Court, Totowa, New Jersey 07512 has submitted a proposal dated November 26, 2024 to replace the cracked gas valve on Boiler No. 2 for the sum of \$4,275.00, a copy of which is on file in the office of Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the proposal includes starting and leak testing the system and includes all necessary labor and tools needed to complete the Boiler No. 2 repairs; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to have the gas valve replaced as soon as possible for the well-being of the employees and members of the community that work in and visit the Borough of Totowa Municipal Complex; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable New Jersey State laws, the repair services may be authorized without public bidding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby accept the proposal submitted by 454 Mechanical, LLC for the Boiler No. 2 repairs at the Borough of Totowa Municipal Complex.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize 454 Mechanical, LLC to perform all services for the Boiler No. 2 repairs at the Borough of Totowa Municipal Complex in accordance with their proposal.

There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilman Reynoso to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing Circulator Pump No. 3 Replacement At The Borough Of Totowa Municipal Complex. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 146-2024

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CIRCULATOR PUMP NO. 3 REPLACEMENT  
AT THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA MUNICIPAL COMPLEX

WHEREAS, the Circulator Pump No. 3 at the Borough of Totowa Municipal Complex is no longer working properly and must be replaced; and

WHEREAS, 454 Mechanical, LLC, 14 Masklee Court, Totowa, New Jersey 07512 has submitted a proposal dated November 26, 2024 to remove and replace the Circulator Pump No. 3 for the sum of \$3,965.00, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the proposal includes starting and testing the system and includes all necessary labor and tools needed to complete removal and replacement of the Circulator Pump No. 3; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to have the Circulator Pump No. 3 replaced as soon as possible for the well-being of the employees and members of the community that work in and visit the Borough of Totowa Municipal Complex; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable New Jersey State laws, the removal and replacement services may be authorized without public bidding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby accept the proposal submitted by 454 Mechanical, LLC for the Circulator Pump No. 3 replacement at the Borough of Totowa Municipal Complex.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize 454 Mechanical, LLC to perform all services for the Circulator Pump No. 3 replacement at the Borough of Totowa Municipal Complex in accordance with their proposal.

There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilman Reynoso to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing Blower Motor Replacement At The Borough Of Totowa Community Center. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 147-2024

#### RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BLOWER MOTOR REPLACEMENT AT THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA COMMUNITY CENTER

WHEREAS, the blower motor at the Borough of Totowa Community Center is no longer working properly and must be replaced; and

WHEREAS, 454 Mechanical, LLC, 14 Masklee Court, Totowa, New Jersey 07512 has submitted a proposal dated December 2, 2024 to remove the existing faulty motor and furnish and install one AO Smith indoor blower motor and capacitor for the sum of \$2,190.00, a copy of which is on file in the office of Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the proposal includes reassembling the unit as well as the starting and testing of the system and includes all necessary labor and tools needed to complete removal and replacement of the blower motor; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to have the blower motor replaced as soon as possible for the well-being of the employees and members of the community that work in and visit the Borough of Totowa Community Center; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable New Jersey State laws, the removal and replacement services may be authorized without public bidding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby accept the proposal submitted by 454 Mechanical, LLC for the blower motor replacement at the Borough of Totowa Community Center.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize 454 Mechanical, LLC to perform all services for the blower motor replacement at the Borough of Totowa Community Center in accordance with their proposal.

A letter was received from the Totowa Seniors requesting permission to use the Municipal Parking Lot on Monday, January 13, 2025 for a bus trip to Wind Creek Casino in Bethlehem, PA. There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilman Reynoso to grant permission. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### 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 Raffle License Application Nos. 2409 & 2410 for the BPOE #2111 Passaic Valley Elks for a Tricky Tray and On-Premise 50-50 to be held on February 2, 2025 at the Elks Lodge. 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 No. 2411 for the BPOE #2111 Passaic Valley Elks for an On-Premise 50-50 to be held on February 9, 2025 at the Elks Lodge. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

Mayor Coiro announced that barring any unforeseen emergency, this is the last Council Meeting of the year, so he wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

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.

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Joseph Wassel, RMC  
Municipal Clerk