

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
Meeting held at the Municipal Building, Great Meadows, NJ.
January 10, 2023 7:00 p.m.

This is a regular meeting of the Township Committee of Independence Township, Warren County, New Jersey. This meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert Giordano at 7:00 p.m. with the following announcement: "Adequate notice of this meeting was given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by providing a schedule of regular meetings to the Herald Times and The Express Times, posting a copy thereof on the Township bulletin board and filing a copy thereof in the office of the Municipal Clerk." The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Mayor Giordano.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mr. Stuber, Mrs. Kelsey, Mrs. Gesumaria, Mayor Giordano, and Dena Hrebenak. Also present were Attorney Leslie Parikh

Absent: Mr. Pennington

Minute Approval: 1.3.23

A motion was made by Mrs. Gesumaria to approve minutes 1.3.23 as written. Mr. Stuber seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Stuber, Mrs. Gesumaria, and Mayor Giordano

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: Mrs. Kelsey

Appointment to Musconetcong River Management Council – Harry Noble and Glenn Cogle

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Tax Collector – Report submitted. 1st tax due February 1 2023

Construction/Zoning – Reports submitted.

Environmental – No meeting.

Treasurer – Working on Budget.

Recreation/Green Acres – Basketball underway. Senior Activity is going well. Meeting next week.

Police – Report submitted

Emergency Services – Fire Department Chief Clyde Snyder gave a report. Squad Chief Nick Vasquez gave a report.

DPW – DPW Supervisor gave a report

Municipal Clerk: Dog licenses are being issued. 3 open positions posted. Budget Meeting January 20 at 9 am

Land Use Board – Mrs. Kelsey gave a report – reorganization meeting held January 9.

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PROFESSIONAL REPORTS:

Attorney Parikh: Spoke on the new policies for employee on cannabis.

Engineer Finelli: Report submitted.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Resolution 23-17

2022 APPROPRIATION RESERVES TRANSFERS

WHEREAS, there appears to be insufficient funds in the below listed account(s) to meet the demands thereon for the balance of the current year, and

WHEREAS, there appears to be a surplus in the below listed account(s) over and above the amount deemed necessary for the balance of the current year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Independence that, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-58, part of the surplus in the account(s) heretofore mentioned be and same are hereby authorized as transfers to the account(s) mentioned as being insufficient, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Finance Officer is hereby directed to make the following transfers:

FROM	AMOUNT	TO	AMOUNT
Roads O/E	\$ 1,000.00	Vehicle Maintenance O/E	\$ 1,000.00
Group Insurance O/E	\$ 1,000.00	Animal Control O/E	\$ 1,000.00

Resolution 23-18

Title: 50/50 Raffle & Tricky Tray

WHEREAS, Hackettstown HS Baseball Booster Club is registered by the State of New Jersey to operate legalized games of chance, (181-5-43115) and,

WHEREAS, they have submitted applications for a 50/50 Raffle and a Tricky Tray to be held on 03.11.2023 or snow date 03.18.2023 and all fees have been paid,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Independence, that RA# 2023-01 be issued to Hackettstown HS Baseball Booster Club.

Mrs. Gesumaria made a motion to approve Resolutions 23-17 and 23-18 as written. Mayor Giordano seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Stuber, Mrs. Kelsey, Mrs. Gesumaria and Mayor Giordano

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: None recorded

Ordinance 2023-02 Introduction/First Reading

AN ORDINANCE BY THE INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE AMENDING THE TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE CODE OF ORDINANCES TO REPEAL CHAPTER 222 FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION AND TO ADOPT A NEW CHAPTER 222 ENTITLED FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT AND ADOPTING FLOOD HAZARD MAPS; DESIGNATING A FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Mrs. Gesumaria made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2023-02 with a public hearing advertised to be held on February 14, 2023, which was seconded by Mrs. Kelsey.

Ayes: Mrs. Gesumaria, Mrs. Kelsey, Mr. Stuber, Mayor Giordano

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Second Reading February 14, 2023

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mrs. Helen Tomlinson asked about the Aiello situation. Mr. Charles Barabas asked about Aiello situation and the tree on Petersburg Road.

BILLS: A motion was made by Mrs. Kelsey to pay the bills as presented. Mrs. Gesumaria seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Stuber, Mrs. Kelsey, Mrs. Gesumaria and Mayor Giordano

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: None recorded

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Mrs. Kelsey to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. Mr. Stuber seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Stuber, Mrs. Kelsey, Mrs. Gesumaria, and Mayor Giordano

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: None recorded

Respectfully submitted,

Dena M. Hrebenak, RMC
Municipal Clerk/Administrator