

EASTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
Monday, January 22, 2024
7:00 pm Regular Session

Mayor Santillo called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Everyone participated in the flag salute.

Notice of this meeting was published in the Burlington County Times and the Courier Post on January 7, 2024. Notice was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and on the Township website.

Present were: Mayor Dominic F. Santillo, Deputy Mayor Ricardo J. Rodriguez, Council Member Robert Apgar, and Council Member Anthony Zeno. Also present were: Township Attorney Al Marmero, Municipal Clerk/Township Manager Kim-Marie White and Deputy Municipal Clerk Christina Lucas. Absent was: Council Member Jay Springer.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ORDINANCE- PUBLIC HEARING

Ordinance 2024-1

An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 268 of the Township Code Regarding Designation of the Local Enforcing Agency

The Mayor opened the floor for public comment. Hearing no comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

It was MOVED by APGAR and seconded by ZENO that Ordinance 2024-1 be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Rodriguez, Zeno, Santillo
Absent - Springer
Nays - None

There being four (4) ayes and no nays, Ordinance 2024-1 was approved.

Ordinance 2024-2

An Ordinance of the Township of Eastampton to Amend the Salary and Wage Ordinance of the Non-Union Employees

The Mayor opened the floor for public comment. Hearing no comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

It was MOVED by ZENO and seconded by RODRIGUEZ that Ordinance 2024-2 be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Rodriguez, Zeno, Santillo
Absent - Springer
Nays - None

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There being four (4) ayes and no nays, Ordinance 2024-2 was approved.

Ordinance 2024-3 An Ordinance to Amend Section 250-5(B) of the Township Code Regarding Annual Registration Fees for Non-Life Hazard Uses

The Mayor opened the floor for public comment. Hearing no comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

It was MOVED by RODRIGUEZ and seconded by ZENO that Ordinance 2024-3 be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Rodriguez, Zeno, Santillo
Absent - Springer
Nays - None

There being four (4) ayes and no nays, Ordinance 2024-3 was approved.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution R2024-31 Award of Professional Service Contract for Bond Counsel with McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, LLC

It was MOVED by RODRIGUEZ and seconded by ZENO that Resolution R2024-31 be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Rodriguez, Zeno, Santillo
Absent - Springer
Nays - None

There being four (4) ayes and no nays, Resolution R2024-31 was approved.

Resolution R2024-32 Award of Professional Service Contract for Labor Counsel with Albert Marmero of Marmero Law, LLC

It was MOVED by APGAR and seconded by ZENO that Resolution R2024-32 be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Rodriguez, Zeno, Santillo
Absent - Springer
Nays - None

There being four (4) ayes and no nays, Resolution R2024-32 was approved.

Resolution R2024-33 Award of Professional Service Contract for Township Architect with Regan Young England Butera, PC

It was MOVED by RODRIGUEZ and seconded by ZENO that Resolution R2024-33 be approved.

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ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Rodriguez, Zeno, Santillo
Absent - Springer
Nays - None

There being four (4) ayes and no nays, Resolution R2024-33 was approved.

Resolution R2024-34 Award of Professional Service Contract for Township Attorney
with Albert Marmero of Marmero Law, LLC

It was MOVED by APGAR and seconded by RODRIGUEZ that Resolution R2024-34 be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Rodriguez, Zeno, Santillo
Absent - Springer
Nays - None

There being four (4) ayes and no nays, Resolution R2024-34 was approved.

Resolution R2024-35 Award of Professional Service Contract for Township Auditor with
Bowman & Company, LLP

It was MOVED by APGAR and seconded by RODRIGUEZ that Resolution R2024-35 be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Rodriguez, Zeno, Santillo
Absent - Springer
Nays - None

There being four (4) ayes and no nays, Resolution R2024-35 was approved.

Resolution R2024-36 Award of Professional Service Contract for Township Engineer
with Stacey Arcari from Environmental Resolutions, Inc.

It was MOVED by RODRIGUEZ and seconded by APGAR that Resolution R2024-36 be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Rodriguez, Zeno, Santillo
Absent - Springer
Nays - None

There being four (4) ayes and no nays, Resolution R2024-36 was approved.

Resolution R2024-37 Award of Professional Service Contract for Township Planner with
Mark A. Remsa

It was MOVED by APGAR and seconded by ZENO that Resolution R2024-37 be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Rodriguez, Zeno, Santillo
Absent - Springer
Nays - None

There being four (4) ayes and no nays, Resolution R2024-37 was approved.

Resolution R2024-38 Resolution to Appoint a Fire Official

It was MOVED by APGAR and seconded by RODRIGUEZ that Resolution R2024-38 be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Rodriguez, Zeno, Santillo
Absent - Springer
Nays - None

There being four (4) ayes and no nays, Resolution R2024-38 was approved.

Resolution R2024-39 Declare Block 600.03, Lot 13 as Tax Exempt (Disabled Vet)

It was MOVED by RODRIGUEZ and seconded by ZENO that Resolution R2024-39 be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Rodriguez, Zeno, Santillo
Absent - Springer
Nays - None

There being four (4) ayes and no nays, Resolution R2024-39 was approved.

Resolution R2024-40 Declare Block 1100.11, Lot 6 as Tax Exempt (Disabled Vet)

It was MOVED by RODRIGUEZ and seconded by ZENO that Resolution R2024-40 be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Rodriguez, Zeno, Santillo
Absent - Springer
Nays - None

There being four (4) ayes and no nays, Resolution R2024-40 was approved.

Resolution R2024-41 Declare Block 700.13, Lot 115 as Tax Exempt (Disabled Vet)

It was MOVED by RODRIGUEZ and seconded by ZENO that Resolution R2024-41 be approved.

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ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Rodriguez, Zeno, Santillo
Absent - Springer
Nays - None

There being four (4) ayes and no nays, Resolution R2024-41 was approved.

MINUTES:

- December 18, 2023
- December 18, 2023 Closed Session
- January 2, 2024 Reorg

It was MOVED by RODRIGUEZ and seconded by APGAR that minutes be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Rodriguez, Zeno, Santillo
Absent - Springer
Nays - None

There being four (4) ayes and no nays, minutes were approved.

ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS:

- EMS
- Engineer
- Police
- Public Works
- Tax Assessor (December 2023)

It was MOVED by ZENO and seconded by RODRIGUEZ that reports be approved.

Councilman Apgar requested the EMS report to include each month's cost and revenue, along with a cumulative annual total for both.

Mayor Santillo asked if the new DEP/FEMA regulations in the Engineer's report required Any actions from Township Council.

Township Manager White responded that the Flood Damage Prevention ordinance as discussed in the Engineer's report did not require anything from Council at this time.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Rodriguez, Zeno, Santillo
Absent - Springer
Nays - None

There being four (4) ayes and no nays, reports were approved.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

It was MOVED by ZENO and seconded by RODRIGUEZ that bills be approved.

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ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Rodriguez, Zeno, Santillo
Absent - Springer
Nays - None

There being four (4) ayes and no nays, bills were approved.

MANAGER'S REPORT: None

COMMITTEE REPORT:

EDAC: Township Manager White provided that the owner next to the Police Department on the southeast corner of Woodlane Road wanted to proceed with a use variance and site plan application to have a mixed-use property with retail space and apartments. This conformed to the new Master Plan.

LUPB: Mr. Apgar expressed appreciation to the Eastampton Community School for use of the building for the reorganization meeting on January 17th. Mr. Adams was voted as the Chairman; Mr. Chieco was voted as the Vice-Chairman; and there was a 90-day continuance on the variance application for Rockefeller Acquisitions LLC.

Veteran's Committee: Mr. Rodriguez noted the board would have a meeting in February.

Recreation Committee: Mayor Santillo noted he would reach out to set up a meeting with the members.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Appointment of Council Liaisons to Certain Local Public Agencies
This item will be on the February 12, 2024 agenda as a resolution.
2. 2024 Goals of the Township Council
Mayor Santillo and Township Council discussed the goals for 2024:
Enhancement of Public Spaces
 1. Parks
 - a. Discussion on connecting Smithville Park to existing walking/biking networks; Knightsbridge Road or Powell Road to Smithville Road.
 - b. Township Manager White was questioned on what was happening with Veteran's Park and responded we would apply for further funds with the next Municipal Aid grant.
 2. Public Facilities
 - a. The Veteran's Park signs were still outstanding, and a picnic table (or two) in the pavilion would be a nice addition.
 3. Public Grounds
 - a. Discussion on adding landscaping around the Veteran's Park pavilion, to be built up over time.
 - b. Replace garbage cans at Buttonwood Park to heavier cans that do not tip over.
 - c. Enhance walking/biking areas, with benches along walking paths.

3. DCA Local Recreation Improvement Grant
Enhance Hollyville Park with 2nd component: parking lot. Ask for contingency to also include park entrance sign.

STAFF AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Township Attorney Marmero discussed the Governor's liquor license law reform.

1. Municipalities with Shopping Malls- we do not have any in our Township.
2. Transfer of Inactive Licenses- speeds up the process after 2 years license has not been used; license transferred to another town. We do not have any in our Township.
3. Breweries, Cideries, Meaderies, and Distilleries- there are currently none in our Township, but we may have some in the future.
4. Farm-Brewery License- newly established license issued only when the brewery is located and constructed on a tract of land exclusively under the license holder's control, and is actively engaged in farming on or adjacent to the brewery premises.

Township Manager White commented on the fantastic job the Public Works Department did during the snow event over the weekend. Public Works Director Fred Rodi came in on Saturday and kept Ms. White informed, and the entire department worked excellently.

Mayor Santillo replied that the Public Works Department did a great job.

PUBLIC COMMENT:


Eddie Besko remarked that the Public Works Department did a great job in the developments, and the plows came in nice and close to the curbs for the residents.

ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED by APGAR and seconded by ZENO to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 pm.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Rodriguez, Zeno, Santillo
Absent - Springer
Nays - None

All were in favor.



Kim-Marie White
Municipal Clerk



Dominic F. Santillo
Mayor

Approved: February 12, 2024