

December 29, 2023

A meeting of the Township Council was held in the Municipal Building at 10:00 a.m. and was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Township Clerk Iannarone announced adequate notice of this meeting was provided and published in the Asbury Park Press and The Ocean Star on January 27, 2023. Copies of the agenda were provided to the newspapers, posted on public bulletin boards and the township website (www.bricktownship.net)

Present

Councilman Derrick Ambrosino
Councilman Vince Minichino
Councilwoman Marianna Pontoriero (10:02)
Councilwoman Mellissa Travers
Council Vice President Andrea Zapcic
Council President Heather deJong

Also Present

Kevin Starkey, Township Attorney
Lynnette A. Iannarone, Township Clerk
Lisa Crate, Mayor
Joanne Bergin, Business Administrator

Absent

Councilman Perry Albanese

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

Motion by Councilman Minichino and seconded by Council Vice President Zapcic to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the December 12, 2023 meeting and approve same.

All Council Members voted AYE on the Roll Call.

Mayor Crate presented Council Vice President Zapcic with a Proclamation and noted her accomplishments and thanked her for service. She also presented her with a Key to the City and plaque from the Council.

Council Vice President Zapcic thanked Mayor Crate and her fellow council.

Motion by Councilman Minichino and seconded by Councilman Ambrosino to Adopt the following Resolutions.

All Council Members voted AYE on the Roll Call.

Authorize Budget Transfer

Councilman Minichino advised this resolution authorizes budget appropriation transfers as needed for year-end. These transfers do not increase our overall Municipal Budget in any way. We are moving funds from one account to another.

Authorize Transfer into Dedicated Trust Funds.

Councilman Ambrosino explained this resolution authorizes a transfer in the amount of \$1 million into the Dedicated Account for Accumulated Absence Liabilities Trust Fund, \$200,000.00 into Dedicated Account for Snow Trust; \$20,000.00 Into Public Defender Trust and \$30,000.00 into the Dedicated Account for Animal Control for a total authorized transfer of \$1,250,000.00 which is done each year as needed for year-end.

Authorize Cancellation of Checks –Municipal Court Bail and General Account

Councilwoman Travers stated this resolution authorizes the cancellation of stale dated checks totaling \$50.00 in the Bail Account and \$84.00 in the Municipal Court General Account.

Authorize Cancellation of Grant Reserves and Receivables – 2021 & 2022 Pedestrian Safety Grant and 2022 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over

Councilwoman Pontoriero said this resolution authorizes the cancellation of grant receivables in the amount of \$17,020.00 as part of the 2021 and 2022 Pedestrian Safety Grant as well the 2022 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Grant.

December 29, 2023

Authorize Amendment of Fees – Traders Cove Marina

Council Vice President Zapcic advised this resolution authorizes an amendment of fees at Trader’s Cove Marina. The rates are being increased to be more in-line with other local Marinas. The new rates are \$100 per foot for boats up to 26 feet; \$110 per foot for boats over 26’ and \$1,500 for slips under 9’ wide. Brick residents will continue to receive a \$5 per foot discount. This resolution was previously approved, but is being revisited after identifying an error in the previous version.

Authorize Award of Contract – Demolition of 24 Adair Drive Block 280, Lot 32

Councilman Minichino said this resolution authorizes the award of contract for the demolition of 24 Adair Drive to Frank Lurch Demolition, in the amount of \$16,200.00 for the demolition with \$2,000.00 per ton for asbestos remediation if needed. Bid notices were provided to 55 prospective bidders from the bidders list and 22 picked up bid packages. Seven bids were received with Frank Lurch Demolition being the lowest responsive, responsible bidder.

Authorize Participation in the New Jersey Coastal Coalition’s Public Information Group

Councilwoman Travers stated this resolution authorizes the Township’s participation in the New Jersey Coastal Coalition’s Public Information Group to evaluate existing public information on floodplain management. Participation is essential for all communities in the Community Rating System (CRS) program.

Authorize Agreements with Ocean County – Various Traffic Lights

Councilman Ambrosino explained this resolution approves an agreement with the County of Ocean for the battery backup system and generator bypass accommodations needed for the 27 traffic signals in the Township that will now have the capability of functioning to allow the traffic signals to operate under alternative power sources during periods of power outage.

Authorize Agreement with NJDEP Green Acres Program – Multi-Park Improvements 2

Council Vice President Zapcic advised this resolution authorizes an agreement with the NJDEP Green Acres Program to increase the funding request for the Multi-Park Improvements Phase 2 project by \$1,102,536.00. The multi-park project they are seeking reimbursement for includes: Bernie Cook Park, Birchwood Park and Bayside Park.

Authorize Shared Services Agreement with the Ocean County Prosecutor’s Office – Narcotics Strike Force 2024

Councilwoman Pontoriero stated this resolution authorizes the execution of a shared services agreement with the Ocean County Prosecutor’s Office for the Ocean County Narcotics Strike Force. The purpose of the strike force is to combat the growing gang element and enforce firearm and anti-drug laws of the State of New Jersey. The Township receives a stipend per officer assigned to the Task Force who participates for 12 consecutive months.

Authorize Agreement with Ocean County for Contract Year 3 – Older Americans Act, Title III Area Plan Contract 2024

Council President deJong said this resolution authorizes the acceptance of the Senior Caregiver and Senior Outreach Grants for 2024. The Ocean County Office of Senior Services provides the Brick Township Senior Services Department with a grant in the amount of \$165,000.00; up to \$30,000.00 from Title III E Senior Caregivers Grant, \$105,000.00 from Title III B Senior Outreach Grant and up to \$35,500.00 from the Congregate Nutrition Grant. These funds are used to offset the costs of providing services to Brick Township seniors.

Authorize Contract Health Benefits – Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield

Councilwoman Travers advised this resolution authorizes an award of contract to Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield to provide third party administrative services to the Township of Brick employees and retirees for health insurance coverage. The term of this contract is one year.

December 29, 2023

Authorize Award of Cobra Insurance – OCA

Councilman Minichino stated this resolution authorizes an award of contract to OCA, to provide COBRA rates and COBRA coverage. The contract renewal reflects a zero percent rate increase.

Authorize Motor Vehicle Selling Licenses – 2024

Councilman Minichino said this resolution authorizes renewal of motor vehicles sales licenses to All American Sales and Leonard Perry Motors for 2024. Land Use, Code Enforcement and the Fire Bureau has inspected the licensees and found them in compliance.

Authorize Towing License - 2024

Councilman Ambrosino advised this resolution authorizes the renewal of a police towing license for 2024 to Legacy Towing, Herbertsville Road. Land Use, Code Enforcement and the Fire Bureau have inspected the licensee and found them in compliance, as has the Police Department.

Authorize Mobile Home Park License – JSM at Martin Blvd., LLC – This item was removed from the agenda.

Tax Collector

Business Administrator Bergin advised of the following:

- Veteran Deductions – Block 378.13, Lot 1; Block 1033.06, Lot 26
- 100% DAV/Widow of Veteran – Block 324.05, Lot 5
- 100% DAV/Widow of Veteran – Block 356, Lot 422
- 100% DAV/Widow of Veteran – Block 490, lot 17
- 100% DAV/Widow of Veteran – Block 990.02, lot 7
- Tax Exemption – Block 321, Lot 23

Council President deJong opened the public hearing on the Resolutions.

There were no further comments from the public.

Council President deJong closed the public hearing on the Resolutions.

Council President opened the public hearing on the Computer Bill Resolution.

There were no comments from the public.

Council President deJong closed the public hearing on the Computer Bill Resolution.

Motion by Councilwoman Pontoriero and seconded by Councilman Ambrosino to Adopt the following Resolution:

- All Council Members voted AYE on the Roll Call
- Councilman Minichino abstained from Teamsters.

Computer Bill Resolution in the amount of \$2,457,611.22

There was no Manual Bill Resolution.

Ordinance on Second Reading – Amending Section 110-18 – Senior Citizen Beach Parking Discount

Clerk Iannarone read the Title of the Ordinance into the Record.

Council Vice President Zapcic advised the Council's Recreation Committee is recommending modifying the implementation of senior citizen rates for beach parking to a discounted rate of \$1 per day, which can be purchased at the beach with ID.

Council President deJong opened the public hearing on the Ordinance.

There were no further comments from the public.

December 29, 2023

Council President deJong closed the public hearing on the Ordinance.

Motion by Council Vice President Zapcic and seconded by Councilman Ambrosino to Adopt the following Ordinance on Second Reading and said Ordinance be published as provided by law:

All Council Members voted AYE on the Roll Call.

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRICK,
COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
AMENDING THE TOWNSHIP CODE OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF BRICK IN SECTION 110-18 TO
ESTABLISH A DAILY PARKING DISCOUNT FOR
SENIORS AT THE OCEAN BEACHES PARKING LOTS**

Council President deJong opened the public hearing portion of the meeting.

John Sluka read his letter dated December 29 stating that residents are being harmed by pollution from the Garden State Parkway and said that the Mayor is doing nothing to help the seniors and children. He said that toxins are being emitted by the volume of vehicles that are impacting the lives of residents and that for years the people have brought this information to the meeting and nothing has been done. 15-20 ft. safety walls are needed.

Business Administrator Bergin thanked Council Vice President Zapcic for her unwavering support and diplomacy. She said she was the steward for the parks and will leave a void that cannot be filled.

Mayor Crate concurred with everything Mrs. Bergin said about Council Vice President Zapcic. She also thanked her for her dedication and said she may need to call upon her in the future for her wealth of knowledge. She also wished everyone a Happy New Year!

Township Attorney Starkey also echoed their sentiments about Council Vice President Zapcic. He said she was the most effective council person he's worked with and her insights made his job easier. He congratulated her on her retirement.

Township Clerk Iannarone said it was a pleasure to work with her and thanked her for her dedication.

Councilwoman Pontoriero said that she has dreaded this day and that losing Council Vice President Zapcic will be a loss. She was a wealth of knowledge and it will be a loss felt for years. She worked on the opioid plaque, she served as head of Recreation – both employed and as council. She was a big supporter of the arts and will be a huge void to fill. She thanked her from the bottom of her heart for being a mentor to her and an inspiration and true leader. She also wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Councilman Ambrosino, on behalf of the council, thanked Council Vice President Zapcic for her years of service and for being a model for him as to what a council person is.

Councilman Minichino echoed all the sentiments and also said he mentored with Andrea Zapcic when he first ran for office. She will leave a void on council.

Councilwoman Travers said that she has only known her for a short time but admired her knowledge and wished her the best on her retirement.

Council Vice President Zapcic said what a long, strange trip it's been. None of it would have been possible without the love and support of her family, to whom she owes everything for standing by her through three campaigns and countless meetings, events, and other obligations that took her away from home. She thanked Mayor Crate and her Council colleagues for their support and encouragement over the years. She thanked Mrs. Bergin for her calm, steady hand, Mr. Starkey for his wisdom and guidance, the Township Clerk, Lynnette and Council Secretary Debbie for always making sure they

December 29, 2023

have what is needed to do their jobs, department heads and the entire Brick workforce for bringing their A-game every day. In January of 2014, she said that she was not completely sure what I was stepping into other than it seemed an opportunity to give back to the community where she raised her children and have called home for over 30 years. She said that it also felt so wonderfully familiar to be back working alongside former coworkers and friends, in many cases picking up right where they had left off some years earlier. They have always had a great team here in Brick and they have gotten to do some really cool things over the last ten years. But truth be told it's the highly competent, dedicated men and women of Brick's incredible workforce putting the elbow grease to the Council's ideas and showing up in ways large and small for the residents every day that makes the magic happen. They are truly the best municipal workforce in the State of New Jersey. Poet and artist Brian Andreas of Story People has written "Someday, the light will shine like a sun through my skin & they will say "What have you done with your life?" and though there are many moments I think I will remember, in the end, I will be proud to say I was one of us." Happy New Year to all.

Council President deJong noted that Council Vice President Zapcic has been up here for a decade and during that time, she helped get the parks done and brought back BMAC. She has made a great impact. She's a wealth of knowledge – historically and with her institutional knowledge. She said that she has made her a better person and will try to fill her shoes. She wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Motion by Councilman Ambrosino and seconded by Council Vice President Zapcic to Adjourn the meeting at 10:41 a.m.

All Council Members voted AYE.

Heather deJong
Council President

Lynnette A. Iannarone
Township Clerk