

March 25, 2024

A meeting of the Township Council was held in the Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m. and was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Township Clerk Iannarone announced adequate notice of this meeting was provided and published in the Asbury Park Press and The Ocean Star on February 16, 2024. Copies of the agenda were provided to the newspapers, posted on public bulletin boards and the township website (www.bricktownship.net)

Present

Councilman Perry Albanese
Councilwoman Heather deJong
Councilman Steve Feinman
Councilwoman Melissa Travers
Council Vice President Derrick Ambrosino
Council President Vince Minichino

Also Present

Scott Kenneally, Township Attorney
Lynnette A. Iannarone, Township Clerk
Lisa Crate, Mayor
Joanne Bergin, Business Administrator

Absent

Councilwoman Marianna Pontoriero

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

The Council accepted the reports from Municipal Officers and Council President Minichino asked Clerk Iannarone to file same.

Motion by Council Vice President Ambrosino and seconded by Councilman Fineman to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the March 12, 2024 meeting and approve same.

All Council Members voted AYE on the Roll Call.

Presentations

National Library Week – April 7 – 13, 2024

Mayor Crate read and presented librarian Lexi Majeski with a Mayor's proclamation recognizing National Library Week.

Meals on Wheels of Ocean County Month – March 2024

Mayor Crate presented a proclamation to Wyatt Earp, Board President of the Ocean County Meals on Wheels program. Mayor Crate read the proclamation and noted she delivered meals last week with other mayors.

Wyatt Earp thanked the Mayor, Council and also Zulma Soto, Senior Services Director. He said Brick is 1 of 5 community centers that hosts a Community Café. They are in a new facility and assist with transportation for those who cannot drive. He gave stats for those receiving Meals on Wheels – 98% feel more independent, 94% say they are eating better, 88% feel less lonely and 64% have less doctor visits and hospital stays. Some only have interaction with the drivers making the deliveries and say they look forward to it every day. It helps promote a better quality of life for seniors.

Budget Presentations

Public Works – Steve Krakovsky

Thank you for this opportunity to present a brief overview of the Department of Public Works, which includes the Road Crew, Solid Waste Collection & Recycling, Buildings & Grounds, and Vehicle Maintenance. The Sanitation Department makes more than 2.7 million stops per year to residents' homes. In 2023 we collected 38,427 tons of solid waste. Salary and wage budget for sanitation has decreased 2.8% as a reduction in overtime costs and the operating budget increased by 9.3% based on actual expenditures from 2023. The Sanitation Department is proud to serve our residents and takes great pride in serving Brick Township. The Township's Recycling Program resulted in 7,168 tons of Single Stream Recycling in 2023. In addition, 11,240 cubic yards of brush and 8,920 cubic yards of leaves were collected. Our Utility Crew, otherwise known as the Road Crew, does an outstanding job year-round. Along with all the drainage repairs and replacements, the crew also fills potholes, fixes sinkholes and seals cracks in the streets. The salary & wage budget for the utility crew is included in the sanitation budget. The operating budget for the Utility Crew decreased 11.5% this year as we reduced the outside contractor budget to be more in-line with actual expenditures. The 10 employees on the

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all-purpose crew do everything. They fill in when sanitation needs drivers, operate the street sweeper and Jet Vac, and complete necessary drainage projects. They also take care of Township parking lots and our public beaches and immediately respond, as needed, for brush and tree removal following weather events. In 2023, In-house Construction completed the renovation of the New Senior/ EMS building on Aurora Drive. In the past few weeks they have begun work on the new Special Operations Building here at Town Hall for Police and EMS. The work of the In-house Construction crew has significantly saved the Township costs compared to hiring outside contractors. The employees on this crew complete a significant list of projects that would cost significantly more to outsource. The Buildings and Grounds crew ensures the functionality of all Township properties including Town Hall, DPW, Civic Plaza, the Senior Center, Havens Farm, the EMS buildings and more. The Buildings & Grounds salary & wage budget increased by 7% due to increased overtime costs. The operating budget decreased 3%. In this budget, variances are more common and are based on the year's projects at hand. Vehicle Maintenance includes 7 exceptional mechanics, 2 supervisors and a shop keeper. They service more than 300 vehicles for the township, including all sanitation trucks, dump trucks, plows/sanders, police vehicles, ambulances, boats and also heavy equipment. The salary and wage budget for vehicle maintenance increased 10% with increased overtime costs and the operating budget increased 3.6% This amount is also subject to fluctuation based on the fleet and needed repairs. The Township's Sign Shop has two staff members who manufacture and install hundreds of signs annually. They also mark Township vehicles and are responsible for striping Township facilities as needed. Last but not least, are the professional and knowledgeable office staff that operate the Call Center at DPW. The Call Center consists of 4 exceptional employees who answered 87,002 calls in 2023 from residents and assisted them with their requests. Again, we would like to thank Mayor Lisa Crate, the Council, and Administration and for their continued support. It matters and makes a difference.

Council President Minichino opened for questions on the Public Works budget.

Vic Fanelli questioned why the recycling tonnage was down from last year.

Business Administrator Bergin advised loads get rejected curbside if plastic bags are included. We will work hard to educate the residents to have less rejected.

There were no further questions from the public.

Recreation – Dan Santaniello

I'd like to start by first taking the time to express my gratitude to Mayor Crate, Council President Vince Minichino, Vice President Ambrosino, members of the Council, and Administration. On behalf of the Recreation Staff, I am pleased to present our 2024 budget. The mission of the Recreation Department is to enhance the overall physical and recreational needs of the public by promoting the quality of life for our residents through fun family events and a variety of activities and programs for all ages. Recreation staff prides ourselves on creating positive recreational programming through coaching, teaching and mentoring. Our goal, as a staff, is to create a small community feel with a large community presence to elevate the social, cultural, and physical well-being of the citizens of Brick Township. In 2024, the Recreation department is excited to launch new programming and events. We are bringing back our National Kids to Park Day on Saturday May 18. This activity-filled day is for children in grades K through 3, and a parent, who will hop on a bus and visit five of our Township's newly renovated parks, with actives and special events planned at each stop. We are also looking forward to expanding our programming with more arts classes. And, after popular demand, the Senior Prom is back! After taking a break during COVID, the very popular Senior Prom (with high school seniors serving our Township seniors) made its return in 2023 and will be back again this year. Our staff is also making some changes in our girl's youth softball program that will ultimately make the game much more enjoyable for our young athletes. These changes were made by a joint effort of our Volunteer Coaches and Recreation Staff. We are also continuing a handful of programs that were very successful last year as new programs: Intro to Track and Field, Pre- School Summer Camp, Wrestling Clinics, Softball Clinics, Pickle Ball Clinics and various Challenger League activities. At the Recreation Department we are thrilled to be able to continue offering our community such wonderful programs and events! We have a summer full of very special events that we hope everyone can attend: The Summerfest concert series

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will be kicking off the season on July 4th with an epic fireworks performance featuring Trans Am in concert. 2024 marks the 10th anniversary of the Brick Farmer's Market - there will be a lot of fun activities throughout the season each Saturday throughout the summer at Windward Beach. Overall, the Recreation budget increased 13% which includes staffing and the operating budget. Recreation also supervises beach operations at Ocean Beaches I, II and III. Our seasonal beach staff includes 65 lifeguards and 20 badge checkers. We expect to have 45 returning lifeguards who are recognized for being some of the best trained lifeguards at the Jersey Shore. Between these guards, badge checkers, and crossing guards, we will once again be able to provide our beachgoers with a clean, safe and well managed beach. Trader's Cove Marina and Park had yet another successful season. This summer we will have all 120 boat slips rented again. We also had 133 boats for winter storage in 2023 which was up from 2022. The boat ramp generated \$56,980 in revenue which was an increase of 10% from 2022. This year we will keep delivering the best services, programs and planning the special events that improve the lives of our community. My entire staff has done a fantastic job in keeping our mission statement true to its word. Again, none of this would be possible without their extraordinary work. A special thank you to Mayor Crate, the Council, and our Business Administrator for all your support! We are looking forward to yet another great year!

Council President Minichino opened for questions on the Recreation budget.

There were no questions from the public.

Parks – Rob Byrnes

On behalf of the Parks Department, I would like to take a moment to thank Mayor Crate, Council President Minichino, Vice President Ambrosino, the Council, and our Business Administrator for your continued leadership. I am pleased to present the Parks Department Budget for 2024. The Parks Department is a division under the Department of Public Works. Our 18 full-time employees, 2 part-time employees and additional seasonal employees oversee the township parks, sports field and grounds for all township facilities. Our employees maintain 20 Parks, 10 Basketball Courts, 8 Tennis Courts, 5 Pickle Ball Courts, 3 Bocce Courts, 1 Skate Park, 1 Bike and Scooter Park, 3 Horseshoe pits, 3 Football Fields, 15 Soccer Fields, 2 Cornhole Game Areas, 6 miles of Bike Trails and 22 Softball and Baseball Fields. We are also responsible for all playground and picnic area maintenance and repairs. We maintain our sports fields including the 40-acre sports complex at Drum Point. This complex is consistently recognized as one of the best in the state. This year we are renovating Mallard Point Park, the T-Dock fishing pier at Windward Beach, and all walking paths at Windward Beach. The salary/wage budget remained relatively flat; however, the overall all budget increase was only 3%. We continue to take on more responsibility in an effort to decrease the use of outside contractors. We currently manage over 225 irrigation zones with 2,500 plus sprinkler heads. There are 147 acres of grass fields maintained by the Parks Department. There are also many intersections roadsides, and detention basins maintained by the Parks Department. In addition, we maintain all township owned properties such as Town Hall, Civic Plaza, and the Cultural Arts Center. We recently took on additional ground maintenance and irrigation at the new Senior Center/ EMS Building on Aurora Drive. One of our most time-consuming tasks is the annual fall and spring leaf collections. This process takes approximately 10 weeks in the Fall - beginning at the end of October until the second week in January. We then immediately move into Christmas Tree collection for three weeks. Spring leaf collection begins in April for approximately three weeks. Throughout the year we pick-up brush and leaves, deliver and repair township issued automated cans and complete tax liens issued by the township code enforcement department. Outside of the daily maintenance of all above mentioned areas we also oversee our Lake Management, Fertilization Program, Solar Field Maintenance, and Synthetic Field Cleaning. This year we will continue to be responsible for Windward Beach Maintenance. The Parks Department also plays a key role in all Township events, whether it be tournaments at Drum Point, Summerfest or the Farmer's Market. We assist in any way needed to make sure all events run smoothly. The department continues to take on more responsibilities as we move forward in renovating our parks. We look forward to that challenge and will continue to work hard in keeping them safe and enjoyable for all of the Brick Residents. On behalf of the Parks Department and employees, I would again like to thank Mayor Crate, the Township Council and Administration for their continued support and efforts.

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Council President Minichino opened for questions on the Parks budget.

There were no questions from the public.

Ordinance on First Reading: Cap Rate Ordinance

Clerk Iannarone read title of Ordinance into the record.

Council Vice President Ambrosino advised this ordinance allows the Township to establish a cap bank for future use. The ordinance allows for increases for budget appropriations, and allows the Township to bank any unused monetary room. This cap bank ordinance allows the Township to increase budget appropriations by 3.5% over the prior year's appropriations and to bank any unused appropriation room for the next two succeeding years. This ordinance is simply precautionary. It is not funded through a tax increase, since it is only used in subsequent years should it be needed to fund a one-time expenditure. The monies available by this cap rate index ordinance may be used to offset costs of any future disasters and the need for any future emergency appropriation. They are not generating cash, it is just creating the ability to raise money should it be needed in the future. If the funds are not needed in the succeeding two years the bank is simply dissolved.

Motion by Councilwoman Travers and seconded by Councilman Albanese to Adopt the following Ordinance on First Reading and said Ordinance be published as provided by law:

All Council Members voted AYE on the Roll Call.

CALENDAR YEAR 2024 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

Introduction of 2024 Municipal Budget

Clerk Iannarone reads the title of Resolution into the record.

Motion by Councilwoman deJong and seconded by Council Vice President Ambrosino to adopt the following resolution.

All Council Members voted AYE on the Roll Call.

Mayor Crate introduced the 2024 Municipal Budget to Council President Minichino, Council Vice President Ambrosino, members of the Council and residents of Brick Township as follows: I stand before you tonight to present my proposed municipal budget for 2024. This budget is the culmination of months of hard work by the township's financial team as well as the result of many years of instilling a philosophy of fiscal responsibility, an effort that has produced undeniable results and created what we consider is one of the most efficiently-run and fiscally conservative municipal governments in Ocean County. This budget also reflects the cost that comes with exceptional services and programs that I am deeply proud of – serving all residents from the very young to our active, aging, seniors. Tonight, I present a municipal budget that funds the services that the residents of Brick Township rely on and deserve, and ensures that they continue uninterrupted. This budget prioritizes the Brick Township Police Department, dispatchers, special police officers, and EMTs that work 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to keep our community safe; the Brick Senior Services and Senior Center that provides our older residents with essential services and life-enhancing programs; our Public Works Department and the services they provide including sanitation and recycling collection, leaf collection, street maintenance and more. It funds the maintenance of our beautiful parks and recreational facilities. It funds the Brick Farmers Market, SummerFest, Traders Cove Concert Series and other community events. It funds our beautiful ocean beaches. It funds every service provided to the citizens of our community by the municipal government. In crafting this year's budget, our objective was clear; to provide a budget that funds these services and programs while adhering to the conservative fiscal principles and polices that have guided this government since 2014. To that end, I am proud to say that this year's \$117 million budget has increased only 1.9% from last year. This modest increase is a testament to this administration's commitment to fiscal responsibility and running an efficient and effective municipal government. When I look

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back on 2023, I can attest to the great accomplishments we have experienced on behalf of our residents. We will build upon those successes in 2024. She explained that Brick Township's public safety needs are always a priority and we are committed to full rosters in our Police Department, special police, dispatchers and EMT's – the most we have ever had in the history of our town. Part of our commitment to them is the equipment and facilities they need to function efficiently. Within the coming weeks, we will be hosting the grand opening of the new EMS home on Aurora Place. This state-of-the-art building is just the start. Within the next few months, we will have another grand opening – this one for the Special Operations Building at Town Hall. This new facility will serve both EMS and the Police Department – giving both of them the space and support they need to be prepared and ready to serve the residents no matter when the call or need. As the year unfolds, we will be working with the Board of Fire Commissioners to develop plans for a Public Safety Building on the Barrier Island. This facility will house the fire department, EMS and Police (including summer crossing guards) and will be manned 24/7 all year long. In 2023, Brick Township became the ONLY municipality in Ocean County to offer dialysis transportation for our seniors. We launched this service for one reason: because it was the single biggest need that our seniors struggle with. Many were not able to receive much-needed dialysis simply because of transportation problems. The Township has removed those barriers and now both busses have full ridership every day of the week, so much so, we have a third bus coming to make sure no Brick Township senior goes without dialysis because of lack of transportation. Like me, you surely see the senior busses all over town. Doctor's appointments, grocery shopping, pharmacy trips and special events like the Farmer's Market – we serve our seniors unlike any other municipality in Ocean County. And we're not stopping there. Brick Senior Services moved to its new home on Aurora Place in October of 2023, and in addition from the dialysis transportation program, launched the community café and nutrition program. We also began a Community Lunch program at the Brick Housing Authority with a focus on providing a well-balanced hot meal to our most vulnerable residents living at the Brick Housing Authority complex. This is being funded by a grant through the American Recovery Act. We expect to serve approximately 2000 meals through this program. In 2024, we will be applying for grants to expand our Community Lunch program throughout areas of Town so that more of our seniors have access to a hot meal served by supportive staff. The parking lot at Aurora Place will be paved and ADA compliant doors will be installed using Township CDBG funds. The rock stars that are the crew at Public Works will continue to get the equipment and support they need to serve our residents. In 2024 we will be working hard on a Master Site Plan at the facility on Ridge Road. This new facility will ensure they have the room and most updated equipment to do their jobs and will include space for our Buildings and Grounds crew as well as the construction of a Vehicle Wash Station – a state mandated service that we currently have to contract out for. Building one of our own will ensure 24/7 access and will ultimately save us money. Supporting the building department to better serve our residents is a priority. In 2023, they issued close to 5,000 building permits, which does not include engineering and zoning permits! They work hard to turn around permit applications quickly after a thorough review. As 2024 develops, we are honored to have been the only municipality in Ocean County to have been awarded a \$5 million grant from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Climate Solutions grant for marshland restoration. This grant is part of an \$8 million project that includes dredging several areas throughout town, and then using those dredge materials for marshland restoration. This will be a tremendous step forward in addressing persistent flooding in low-lying areas in Brick Township. The Mayor's Open Space Savers Committee has been hard at work and in 2023 celebrated a huge victory with the acquisition of the Breton Woods property on Mantoloking Road. This 31-acre site was acquired with participation and support from the Ocean County Natural Lands Trust. The Township is now protecting this property from what would have been a 59-home subdivision. It will remain open space which greatly benefits all of the residents of Brick and we are working hard on a few other properties we feel should be a priority for open space acquisition and look forward to sharing more updates on those throughout the year. In 2023 we celebrated the grand opening of the completely refurbished Cedar Bridge Manor Park and the Township's only Bike and Scooter Park at Drum Point Sports Complex, furthering our commitment to have facilities for a wide variety of interests including pickleball, skateboarding, dog parks and more. In 2024, we hope to break ground on our next park project: Mallard Point Park and refurbish the safety surface at Frede Park. Brick has always been well-known for its comprehensive, family-centered events and activities. In the coming year you will see a lot of activity and excitement Lounge 270, a place for our teens and young adults to connect and thrive; the return of

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the beloved Senior Prom, where high school seniors escort and enjoy time with our Township's older adults and, back by popular demand, the 2nd annual Longest Table event. Of course, we expect a banner year of Summerfest Concert series kicking off on the Fourth of July, as well as many special activities as we enjoy the 10th year of our beloved Brick Farmer's Market. We have the best beaches on the Jersey Shore and award-winning parks, program, and services. These are the things our annual municipal budget does for our Town and our residents. This year's budget does require us to ask a little more from our community in the form of a slight increase in the municipal tax rate that equates to an annual increase of just over \$98 per year for the median home in Brick Township. One of our fiscal priorities has been the reduction of the township's debt. On January 1, 2014, the township debt stood at over \$168 million. This was after a decade that saw the debt grow by over \$86 million. I am proud to say that last year we were able to eliminate \$3.7 million from the township's debt which reduced the overall debt on January 1 of this year to just over \$125 million. This is a reduction of 25% - more than \$43 million – from that highwater mark of \$168 million. This equates to roughly \$572 for every single resident of Brick Township eliminated. Again, this debt reduction is the result of sticking to conservative fiscal principles and prioritizing projects and equipment purchases and doing them as fiscally responsibly as possible. Before I close, I would like to thank our Business Administrator Joanne Bergin and Chief Financial Officer Maureen Laffey-Berg for their outstanding work on this budget. A municipal budget requires months of preparation, a great deal of hard work, attention and compromise. Their patience, diligence and understanding were integral to the process and I extend my warmest thanks to them. I look forward to working with the both of them for many years to come. With that, this budget is now in the hands of our Township Council for your review and ultimately, it's adoption. I am confident that as you review this budget, you will see that it is a fiscally-conservative, lean and responsible. I continue to look forward to work with all of you for our big town with a small-town feel. To the residents of Brick Township, I pledge to you that we will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that your hard-earned property tax dollars are being used and managed wisely. We are all aware of the responsibility and obligations we have to you. We are committed to continuing the work of the past decade and creating an efficient, responsible, transparent and accountable municipal government. Thank you for providing me with this opportunity to address you and the citizens of Brick Township. Let us all continue working together to make Brick Township the best place to live, work and raise a family.

Motion by Council Vice President Ambrosino and seconded by Councilwoman deJong to adopt the following Resolutions:

All Council Members voted AYE on Roll Call.

Authorize Certification of Compliance with US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

Councilman Albanese explained this resolution certifies compliance with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This is a requirement by the Division of Local Government Services as part of the 2024 municipal budget submission.

Authorize Budget Transfer

Council President Minichino advised this resolution authorizes budget appropriation transfers as needed for year-end. These transfers do not increase the overall Municipal Budget, it only moves funds from one account to another.

Authorize Submission of Strategic Plan for the Brick Municipal Alliance Grant FY 2025

Councilwoman Travers stated this resolution authorizes submission of a strategic plan for the Brick Municipal Alliance grant fiscal year 2025 in the amount of: Drug Enforcement and Demand Reduction grant of \$21,773.00; Cash Match of \$5,443.25 and In-Kind match of \$16,329.75.

Authorize Receipt of Bids – Operation of Food Truck at Brick Beach 3

Councilman Feinman said this resolution authorizes the receipt of bids for the operation of a food truck at Brick Beach 3 during the summer months. Due to repairs of the concession stand, this contract will be a one-year contract for the operation of a food truck at Brick Beach 3 commencing May of 2024. The Township went out for bids previously

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and none were received.

Authorize Receipt of Bids – Traders Cove Dredge Program

Council President Minichino stated this resolution authorizes the receipt of bids for dredging at Trader’s Cove. This project will dredge the dock areas where the Township rents boat slips. This much-needed project will help make the area more navigable.

Authorize Award of Contract & Rebid – SummerFest Food Truck Vendors

Council Vice President Ambrosino advised this resolution authorizes an award of contract for Summerfest food truck vendors in different categories including Category 1 – Hot Food to Big Blue Wrap and Roll; Category 2 – Grilled/Fried Items to Dellano Food Service; Category 4 – Specialty to Highway 2 Ohana; Category 4 -Specialty to John & Debbie O’s Concession; Category 4 – Specialty to Little Caesars; and Category 3 – Ice Cream to You Scream Ice Cream. The Township is re-bidding this contract in the hopes of getting a few additional vendors.

Authorize Member Participation in the Monmouth-Ocean Educational Services Commission

Councilwoman deJong said this resolution authorizes the Township to participate in the Monmouth-Ocean Educational Service Commission Purchasing Co-operative, a cooperative pricing system municipalities can use for the purchase of goods and services. This particular co-op is most helpful to the Buildings & Grounds crew for needed HVAC work in Township buildings.

Authorize Close-Out Change Order #1 – Roadway Improvements to Laurelhurst, Phase III

Councilman Feinman explained this resolution authorizes Close Out Change Order #1 for the Roadway Improvements to Laurelhurst – Phase III contract with Earle Asphalt Company. The change order decreases the contract by \$364.67.

Authorize Award of Contract – Affordable Housing Counsel

Councilwoman deJong advised this resolution authorizes the execution of a contract for affordable housing counsel with a pool of professionals including: Marmero Law; Pashman Stein Walder Hayden; Scarinci Hollenbeck; The Law Office of Marco DiStefano. These professionals will be added to the current pool of firms previously awarded a contract on January 2, 2024.

Authorize Waiver of Section 110-5 of the Township Code – Allowing Dogs at the Farmer’s Market

Councilwoman Travers said this resolution was reviewed and approved by the Council’s Recreation Committee. It allows dog owners to bring their canine companions with them to the Farmer’s Market, held each Saturday from May through September at Windward Beach Park. Dogs are allowed in Township parks as long as they’re leashed and their owners clean up after them as needed. However, the bandshell area at Windward Beach is considered a beach area, where dogs are not allowed. Over the years, responsible dog owners have expressed dismay at not being allowed to bring their dogs to the market and the staff requested the Committee consider this exemption. Last year was the first year dogs were allowed and the change went very well.

Authorize Amending Beach Rules and Regulations to Prohibit Canopies and Tents on Ocean Beaches – 2024 Summer Season

Councilman Albanese stated this resolution amends the beach rules to ban canopies and tents at Brick’s public beaches this summer. The Army Corps of Engineers beach replenishment project will not be completed this summer and does not have an anticipated start date. Therefore, with limited space on the beach, the Township’s Recreation Committee is in favor of this resolution to ensure all beach goers have the ability to enjoy the beach with less intrusion from canopies and tents.

Authorize Installation of Bus Shelter – Hwy. 88 Westbound, Between Jack Martin Blvd. and Laurel Brook Drive, Mid-Block 50 ft. West of the Walgreens

Councilman Ambrosino advised this resolution authorizes the Township to request a new bus shelter on State Highway 88 between Jack Martin Boulevard and Laurel Brook Drive, this is on property owned by Walgreens. The resolution authorizes the Township to

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request permission from Walgreens to allow New Jersey Transit to complete the installation of the bus shelter.

Authorize Special Events Permit – Grand Opening Big Belly Bagel

Councilwoman deJong said this resolution authorizes a special event permit for a Grand Opening Event at Big Belly's Bagel on Drum Point Road. The grand opening celebration will take place from 9 am to noon on April 2.

Bond Releases/Reductions: Clerk Iannarone advised of the following:

- Inspection Fund Release – Block 1149, Lot 5 – Livoti's Old World Market

Tax Collector: Business Administrator Bergin advised of the following:

- Tax Overpayment 2024 – Block 383.03, Lot 27.
- Tax Overpayment 2023 – Block 889, Lot 4.

Council President Minichino opened up the public hearing on the Resolutions.

John Sluka asked if he could question the budget introduction.

Council President Minichino advised he could at the hearing next meeting.

John Sluka also questioned the need for a bus shelter by Walgreens and how many people actually ride the bus from that location.

Mayor Crate said that she did not have the numbers in front of her but has received many requests and there were safety concerns also.

Vic Fanelli also wanted to question the budget introduction resolution.

Business Administrator Bergin replied this was open for the consent agenda and questions on the budget would be at the hearing next meeting.

Vic Fanelli also questioned the special events permit and the closing of all other businesses in the plaza. He also asked how much sand has been lost to restrict tents and canopies at the beach and whether they would lose revenue.

Clerk Iannarone advised that businesses in that plaza are normally closed on Tuesdays and the pizzeria doesn't open until 4:00 p.m.

Business Administrator Bergin said the sand is a moving target with the ebb and flow of the tide.

Councilwoman deJong added that the tents and canopies impact the available space.

Bob Mattliano questioned the dredging at Traders Cove and explained issues where he lives with his boat. He also stated an island has formed near the Duck Farm Bridge. He said the water is approximately 2 ft. deep where it used to be 6 ft. He said the County came out to see the pipe was broken causing the issues.

Business Administrator Bergin responded that the Township has received a \$5 million-dollar DEP grant for dredging and knew of the area Mr. Mattliano was referencing. She said she would reach out to the County and the Engineering Department.

There were no further comments from the public.

Council President Minichino closed the public hearing on the Resolutions.

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

There were no comments from the public.

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

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Motion by Council Vice President Ambrosino and seconded by Councilwoman Travers to adopt the following Resolution:

All Council Members voted AYE on the Roll Call.
Council President Minichino abstained on Teamsters.

2024 Computer Bill Resolution in the amount of \$12,253,959.82

Council President Minichino opened up the public hearing on the Manual Bill Resolution.

There were no comments from the public.

Council President Minichino closed the public hearing on the Manual Bill Resolution.

Motion by Councilman Feinman and seconded by Council Vice President Ambrosino to adopt the following Resolution:

All Council Members voted AYE on the Roll Call.

2024 Manual Bill Resolution in the amount of \$1,947,491.81

Ordinance on Second Reading

Amending Chapter 288-52 to Authorize Police Department to Enforce Title 39 Motor Vehicle Regulations in Private Property Areas

Clerk Iannarone read the Title of Ordinance into the Record.

Councilman Feinman stated most statutes that pertain to motor vehicle laws and the Motor Vehicle Commission are in Title 39 of the New Jersey States Annotated. When property located outside of a public right of way wants to enforce the provisions of Title 39, an application is made to the Township to include the property in the Township Code Section 288-52, Schedule XXII. This gives the Police the ability to enforce motor vehicle rules and regulations on private property. The sites in this ordinance have applied to the Township for inclusion in the private property enforcement areas. These sites have all been inspected by the Division of Engineering to ensure that traffic signs and markings are properly installed in accordance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). It is important to note that while the Police will have the ability to enforce motor vehicle regulations, the Township will have no liability or obligation with respect to site maintenance.

Council President Minichino opened the public hearing on the Ordinance.

Resident (did not give his name) questioned which parcels this ordinance pertained to.

Business Administrator Bergin advised that this is generally for commercial properties that request the police to write tickets on their property and it is done by an application.

There were no further comments from the public.

Council President Minichino closed the public hearing on the Ordinance.

Motion by Council Vice President Ambrosino and seconded by Councilwoman deJong 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 IN SECTION 288-52
TO ADD LOCATIONS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO ENFORCE MOTOR
VEHICLE REGULATIONS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY**

Ordinance on Second Reading

Amending Chapter 86 to Authorize Issuance of a Non-Profit Theater Consumption License

Clerk Iannarone read the Title of Ordinance into the Record.

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Councilwoman deJong advised the State authorized the issuance of a plenary retail consumption license, without regard to the usual population limits, to a non-profit corporation that regularly operates as an art-house movie theater or conducts musical or theatrical performances or concerts for which admission is charged. This type of special license is known as a Theater License. The bill amending the law was adopted in June 2023. But the amendment only extended the Theater License to include art-house movie theaters. The Theater License has been applicable to non-profit theaters that conduct musical or theatrical performances for years. Under the current law, to be eligible for a Theater License, a theater must:

- (1) Be operated by a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization; and
- (2) Have a seating capacity of at least 50 seats; and
- (3) Regularly conduct musical or theatrical performances (or under the new law, show art-house movies).

If the theater qualifies under the foregoing, then it is eligible for the issuance of a Theater License by the municipality, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Alcohol may be served for the two hours immediately preceding a show, during a show including intermission, and in the two-hour period immediately following a show.
- (b) For theaters with capacities of 50-999 seats, alcoholic beverages may only be served during the two hours following a performance no more than 15 times per year.

The applicant must also comply with the usual requirements, such as background checks for the principals of the non-profit. This ordinance establishes the authorization to issue a non-profit theater license at a cost of \$250.00.

There were no comment from the public.

Motion by Council Vice President Ambrosino and seconded by Councilman Feinman 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 CHAPTER 86 ENTITLED "ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES" TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF A NONPROFIT THEATER CONSUMPTION LICENSE

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

John Sluka read his letter dated March 23 with regards to the impact the Turnpike Authority has caused to some of the not-so-wealthy residents living in the vicinity of the Parkway expansion. Residents are dying prematurely and getting illnesses from the air pollution. A 14-20 ft. wall is needed along with trees and brush to be planted. He's hoping the Mayor and Council will find the time between the ribbon cuttings to fight the bureaucracy of the NJTA.

Mary Buckley said she is a member of the Seniors and thanked the Mayor for her efforts there but asked if the Township has a designated comfort center in case of emergencies. She said Berkeley is in the process of creating one. She also suggested the senior center have a generator installed and that there are grants available to provide them. She said she'd be willing to help to possibly get a comfort center and it would be a valuable asset.

Business Administrator Bergin replied that they have applied for a grant for a generator at the Senior Center but have not received it yet. It is not for a Code Blue but Mayor Crute is working with the clergy if a weather event occurs. She said that they cannot apply for grants on property they do not own and said she believes Berkeley is working with their senior communities to help them get grants. She said the Township can help but not install at properties they do not own.

Resident (did not give his name) complained of the poor outdated lighting on St. Lawrence Boulevard and need for it to be updated especially with the current crime increase. He said lighting deters crime. He also complained of the poor conditions of the roadway saying that is it a patch job and needs to be all dug up and a new subbase installed to stabilize it. He offered his expertise as a retired developer and licensed engineer.

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Bob Mattliano said he is from Fords and has COPD and asked why the Township cannot help Mr. Sluka and reach out the NJTA to plant trees.

Business Administrator Bergin responded that there is a long history with this and the Township lobbied for and received a grant for trees but it required the association to sign an agreement and maintain the trees and they did not want to do that. The Township also had several meetings regarding the sound issues but the levels they found did not meet the criteria to build a wall.

Vic Fanelli complimented the great job DPW does but still had an issue with the 2500 tons reduction in recycling. He said it's a 25 percent decrease and someone should be looking into this and give warnings or summonses.

Mayor Crate said there are other ways loads get contaminated such as at the beaches if someone throws regular trash in the bins or sometimes when they are dropping off at the recycling center a whole load can be rejected. She said that education is the key.

Vic Fanelli also questioned the police staff hiring and EMS billing and collections from last meeting's budget presentations.

Business Administrator Bergin said that budget called for two additional dispatchers and up to 25 special police officers. Hiring seven more to get to 25 which is what their contract allows and sometimes its difficult to find candidates. The increase for crossing guards is up \$51,000 based upon last year's costs. With regards to the EMS, it is not promoted as self-funding as it is a service and money goes into the Township budget. She also noted that if you are a Brick resident, they accept what the insurance pays and residents do not get balance billed.

Mary Buckley also questioned the recycling issue and asked if a cap is not on, is it rejected. She said there used to be more detailed list for residents and she said even certain glass is not accepted.

Mayor Crate said she would look into doing a recycling presentation to educate the residents.

Charlie Bacon asked if the dates were corrected on the ordinance on first reading since being posted on-line.

Clerk Iannarone advised they were corrected.

There were no further comments from the public.

Council President Minichino closed the public hearing portion of the meeting.

Mayor Crate thanked Brick Township High School and the Chamber of Commerce for hosting Career Day last week. She participated in the Mayors' Meals on Wheels Day and said that the drivers treat their residents like family and the residents look forward to their visits every day. She said she had the opportunity to visit Osbornville Baptist Church on Drum Point Road and said they hold a food pantry every Thursday from 10am – 11am and they hope to continue their soup kitchen on Tuesdays at noon. Pick-up Brick is scheduled for this Saturday at Midstreams and supplies will be distributed for those interested in participating. She said while DPW and Parks staff goes out, it is everyone's responsibility to pick-up litter and keep Brick clean.

Councilwoman deJong announced that reservations for the Senior Citizen Prom are being accepted now. It will be held on May 3rd at 6 p.m. at the Civic Plaza and it is free attend.

Councilman Feinman said that the Brick offers so much to make your life better and suggested looking at the Recreation Community Pass page on the website to see the classes and leagues they offer. He said he will be coaching his daughter's t-ball team – the Gum Drops, and looks forward to it. He said there are 14 parks to visit and lots of activities to partake in. He said he loves this town and told everyone to stay safe.

Council President Minichino thanked the staff for their budget presentations and

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congratulated the library and the Meals of Wheels on their proclamations.

Motion by Councilman Albanese and seconded by Council Vice President Ambrosino to Adjourn the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

All Council Members voted AYE.

Vince Minichino
Council President

Lynnette A. Iannarone
Township Clerk