

The Public Meeting of the Mount Olive Township Council was called to order at 7:37pm by President Nicastro.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT ANNOUNCEMENT

President Nicastro: In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by sending timely notice to the Daily Record and the Mount Olive Chronicle and posting notice on the bulletin board of the Municipal Building, 204 Flanders Drakestown Road, Budd Lake, N.J. Additional notice has been posted on the Township website and Facebook page and on the outside front door of the Municipal Building and sent to those individuals requesting same.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mr. Aaron, Mr. Ferrante, Mrs. Labow, Mr. Mania, Mr. Roman, Mr. Stewart, and Mr. Nicastro

Absent: None

Also Present: Susan Gouveia, Deputy Township Clerk; Jon Testa, Township Attorney; and Andrew Tatarenko, Business Administrator

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- 1. September 19, 2023 WS & PM

Mr. Aaron makes a motion to approve the September 19, 2023, WS & PM Minutes, and **Mr. Mania** seconds.

ROLL CALL: Passed unanimously

CORRESPONDENCE

LETTERS FROM RESIDENTS/ORGANIZATIONS/OTHER TOWNS

- 1. Email received September 18, 2023, from NOFA NJ regarding NOFA NJ Weekly Email: September 18, 2023.
- 2. Email received September 18, 2023, regarding Correction: NOFA NJ Weekly Email: September 18, 2023.
- 3. Email received September 25, 2023, from NOFA NJ regarding NOFA NJ Weekly Email: September 25, 2023.
- 4. Email received September 25, 2023, from Raritan Headwaters regarding Calling all sponsors!
- 5. Email received September 28, 2023, from the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of NJ regarding Webinar: Understanding Your Estate Planning Documents. Stay tuned.
- 6. Email received September 29, 2023, from the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of NJ regarding Stay Up to Date with Our Weekly Community Calendar.

RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES OTHER TOWNS

- 7. Email received September 18, 2023, from Netcong Borough regarding Introduction Ordinance 2023-16-Netcong.

LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES

- 8. Email received September 22, 2023, from NJLM Weekly Round-Up regarding Police Licensing Rules; Knock Out Opioids Resolution; ARP LFN.
- 9. Email received September 25, 2023, from NJLM Daily Update regarding Mayor Bollwage to Testify Before Congressional Committee.

STATE AGENCIES/LOI/HIGHLANDS

- 10. Email received September 25, 2023, from DEP Local Government Assistance regarding NJDEP Weekly Update.

MSA/MUA – none

MORRIS COUNTY

- 11. Email received September 15, 2023, from Morris County regarding Morris County Hosts 2nd Annual Nonprofit Networking Event.
- 12. Email received September 18, 2023, from Morris County regarding This Week in Morris County: Sept. 15, 2023.
- 13. Email received September 19, 2023, from Morris County regarding Morris County Sheriff's Office Partners with NJRC.
- 14. Email received September 19, 2023, from Morris County regarding Morris County Career Training Center is Breaking Ground.
- 15. Email received September 22, 2023, from Morris County Surrogate's Court regarding Surrogate Darling named new President of COANJ - Constitutional Officers Association of New Jersey 2023-2024.
- 16. Email received September 22, 2023, from Morris County regarding This Week in Morris County: Sept. 22, 2023.
- 17. Email received September 26, 2023, from Morris County regarding July 2023 Minutes of the Morris County Planning Board.
- 18. Email received September 28, 2023, from Morris County regarding New Career Training Center Breaks Ground in Morris County.

UTILITIES

- 19. Letter received September 28, 2023, from PSE&G regarding Notice of Vegetation Management Work on PSE&G Electric Transmission Easement.

There was no discussion on Correspondence.

President Nicastro: I open the hearing to the public on Ordinance #29-2023,

ORDINANCE FOR PUBLIC HEARING:

Ord.#29-2023 Bond Ordinance Providing For the Purchase of a Sanitation Truck in and by the Township of Mount Olive, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, Appropriating \$359,998 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$341,998 Bonds or Notes of the Township to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof.

President Nicastro: Mr. Ferrante.

Mr. Ferrante: Sure, I move for adoption and final passage, Ordinance #29-2023.

Mr. Mania: Second.

President Nicastro: Does anyone from the public wish to be heard at this time or have any questions on this? Seeing none. Closed to the public. Anyone from Council have anything further? Roll Call, please.

ROLL CALL: Passed unanimously

President Nicastro: Ordinance #29-2023 is passed on second reading and I hereby direct the Clerk to forward a copy of the same to the Mayor and publish the notice of adoption as required by law. Next item on

the Agenda for first reading is Ordinance #30-2023,

ORDINANCE FOR FIRST READING: (2nd reading October 17, 2023)

Ord.#30-2023 Ordinance Amending Section 3(h) of Bond Ordinance #7-2022, as Amended by Ordinance #1-2023, Ordinance #18-2023 and Ordinance #20-2023, of the Township of Mount Olive, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, Finally Adopted April 5, 2022, as Amended January 24, 2023, June 27, 2023, and July 24, 2023, to Include an Additional Project.

President Nicastro: Mrs. Labow.

Mrs. Labow: Thank you, Mr. President. I move that Ordinance #30-2023 be introduced by title and passed on first reading, be scheduled for public hearing, second reading, and consideration of final passage at a meeting to be held on October 17, 2023, at 7pm at the Municipal Building, 204 Flanders-Drakestown Road, Budd Lake, New Jersey, and be published, posted, and made available by the Clerk in accordance with law.

Mr. Mania: Second.

President Nicastro: Any discussion? Roll Call, please.

ROLL CALL: Passed unanimously

CONSENT RESOLUTIONS AGENDA:

1. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Adopting the 2024-2025 Updated Version of the Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual & Employee Handbook
2. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Waiving Construction Permit Fees to the Mount Olive Child Care and Learning Center Related to the Child Care Facilities Improvement Grant
3. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Authorizing the Application and Execution of the FFY2022 and FFY2023 NJ Transit 5310 Grant Application for Operating Project Costs for the Senior Transportation Program
4. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Authorizing the Award of a Non-Fair and Open Professional Services Agreement with RJH Law Enforcement Consultants for Services of a Hearing Officer (December 1, 2022 - December 31, 2023)
5. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Authorizing the Award of a Contract for the Purchase of Snowplow and Truck Accessories off the ESCNJ Co-Op (A&K Equipment)
6. Resolution of Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Authorizing the Award of a One Year Contract Extension (Year 1) to George S. Coyne Chemical Co., INC. for Bid #04-2022 Furnish and Delivery of Water and Wastewater Treatment Chemicals
7. Resolution of the Township of the Township of Mount Olive Approving a Non-Fair and Open Vendor Service Contract Pursuant to New Jersey Local Unit Pay-To-Play (USA Blue Book)
8. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Authorizing the Award of a Contract for the Purchase of Handgun Accessories off Two New Jersey State Contracts (Atlantic Tactical)
9. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Closing Hampton Road Between Falcon Road and Ledgewood Road October 7th, Between 12 PM and 8 PM for the Purpose of Holding a Block Party (Rain Date - October 8th)
10. Resolution of the Township of Mount Olive, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing Release of Bonds to Gold Mind Road Solar, LLC in Connection with Development of a Solar Facility on Block 4100, Lot 10 (149 Gold Mine Road)

- 11. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Authorizing the Emergency Purchase of a PFAS Treatment System for the Repair of the Pinecrest Water System (AdEdge Water Technologies)

Mr. Mania moves for the adoption of Consent Resolutions one through eleven and **Mrs. Labow** seconds.

There was no discussion on Consent Resolutions.

ROLL CALL: **Passed unanimously**

MOTIONS

- 1. Bill List

Mr. Stewart moves for approval of the Bill List and **Mr. Mania** seconds. There was no discussion.

ROLL CALL: **Passed unanimously**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mr. Tatarenko announces that the Police Department was awarded \$550,000.00 from a federal grant called the Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program. He explains they were one of only two departments in New Jersey to receive this program. Atlantic City was the other one. It’s a three-year initiative, where every year money is allocated to fund a crisis response officer for mental health cases. **Mr. Roman** asks what the matching obligation is. **Mr. Tatarenko** explains for years one and two, it’s a 20 percent match and in year three, it’s a 40 percent match. He plans to reach out to the administrator of the opioid settlement to see if they can use some of those settlement funds for the match. They may also be able to use some of the Health Department grants. **Mr. Roman** asks for a memo outlining duties and the scope of the project. **Mr. Tatarenko** adds they retained their bronze level certification for Sustainable Jersey, as they met all the criteria. **Mrs. Labow** discusses her time as a member of the crisis response team that worked with the Police Department.

President Nicastro announces Oktoberfest has been changed to Sunday, October 8, 2023, from 12:00pm to 6:00pm. He reminds everyone that Town Hall is closed on Monday, October 9, 2023, in observance of Columbus Day. He also announces the George Ottavina Memorial Fishing Derby will be on Sunday, October 15, 2023, at Maiers Pond from 11:00am to 3:00pm. He adds that schools are open and asks everyone to observe school bus safety rules.

OLD BUSINESS – none

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Labow discusses an issue with parking on Linwood Road near Mountain View School. She then mentions out-of-date Ordinances. **Mr. Tatarenko** goes over the Code Book update that has been underway. **Mr. Roman** asks if after the update is done, the Code Book will be available on the website. **Mr. Tatarenko** confirms. **Mr. Roman** clarifies that he’s asking if they’ll be able to see the changes that were made. **Mr. Tatarenko** describes a record that’s located above the Ordinance. **Mr. Testa** adds it’ll say “amended” and will give the Ordinance number that was amended.

LEGAL MATTERS – none

COUNCIL REPORTS

Board of Education Liaison Report

Mr. Aaron reports the next Board of Education meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2023, at the Board of Education building. The Minutes and Agenda will be posted on their website. **Mr. Roman** asks when the Board of Education is selecting their replacement candidate. **Mr. Aaron** believes the interview process will begin shortly.

Environmental Committee
Lake Issues – none
Library Board Liaison

Mr. Ferrante reports Environmental will be meeting Wednesday, October 4, 2023, and Library’s meeting on the 10th has been moved to October 17, 2023.

Open Space Committee Report
Board of Health Report
Senior Citizen Liaison

Mrs. Labow reports that the Board of Health meets quarterly now. They’ve been doing water testing and are recommending people get their flu shots. She also discusses the Township nurse visiting the seniors. She reports the Open Space Committee is putting in puncheons on trails. She also talks about the senior meeting and the membership being up to 160. She then discusses seventy-one people attending the most recent meeting and their trip to the Lolita on Lake Hopatcong. She announces they’ll be going to the Mansion at Mountain Lakes on October 18, 2023, and they’re having a pumpkin painting contest. She asks about fixing the automatic door function at the Senior Center and thanks Mr. Tatarenko for his visit with the seniors.

Legislative Committee Report – none
Planning Board Report

Mr. Mania reports for the Planning Board, there were two d variances on which he cannot vote.

Recreation Liaison Report

Mr. Roman reports Recreation meets on Wednesday, October 4, 2023.

Economic Development Committee Report

Mr. Stewart reports the EDC met on September 27, 2023, and they finalized the third quarter newsletter that’ll come out in about two weeks.

PUBLIC PORTION

Irene Sergonis, 37 Mount Olive Road, Budd Lake, discusses the Town having a bronze certification for sustainability and her displeasure with the fact that the Town does not have a “Green Team.” **Mr. Roman** refutes Mrs. Sergonis’s statements and discusses the hard work the Administration does to be proactive with green initiatives. **Mrs. Sergonis** apologizes for her statements but feels the Town does not deserve the bronze certification and would like to see the Town do more for the environment. **Mrs. Labow** asks Mrs. Sergonis what she would do to make this happen. **Mrs. Sergonis** explains she’d officially have a Green Team. She discusses a cleanup committee that’s currently active. **Mrs. Labow** talks about the challenges with getting volunteers. **President Nicastro** asks if cleanup is Mrs. Sergonis’s main concern. **Mrs. Sergonis** explains it’s education. She feels the community needs more education about stormwater and recycling. She discusses the Environmental Commission meeting to review plans for the Planning Department but not planning educational activities. **President Nicastro** discusses a recycling program that was previously held online and the challenges with getting participation. **Mrs. Sergonis** discusses Trex and reiterates her feeling of the bronze certification being undeserved. **Mr. Aaron** rebuts Mrs. Sergonis’s comments. He feels the Town works hard for their recognition and should be proud of them. He feels cleaning the community is not a committee job but a job for residents to do within the community. **President Nicastro** discusses all the steps the Town has taken to improve the environment. **Mr. Aaron** discusses plastic bags. **Mrs. Labow** recalls when she’d collect soda cans. **Mr. Tatarenko** explains the application process and that what they submitted can be viewed on Sustainable Jersey’s website.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Aaron congratulates Renley Ghoshal for selling 500 cups of lemonade. He discusses the great example she has set. He highlights Ordinance #30-2023 and then discusses the importance of communication. He recognizes the attendance of Boy Scouts at the meeting.

Mr. Ferrante is looking forward to Oktoberfest.

Mrs. Labow discusses the importance of communication and her ability to do so.

Mr. Mania discusses an accident that occurred on Route 80 and is saddened by the fatality.

Mr. Stewart adds that Mount Olive’s first responders reported to the accident as well.

President Nicastro reminds everyone that the October 31, 2023, Council Meeting will be on Zoom due to early voting.

ADJOURNMENT - Motion made and seconded. All in favor, none opposed, the meeting was adjourned at 8:14pm.

Joe Nicastro, Council President

I, Susan Gouveia, Deputy Township Clerk of Mount Olive do hereby certify that the foregoing Minutes are a true and correct copy of the Minutes approved at a legally convened meeting of the Mount Olive Township Council duly held on October 17, 2023.

js _____
Susan Gouveia, Deputy Township Clerk