

**EAST BRUNSWICK TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 24, 2023**

Township of East Brunswick
1 Jean Walling Civic Center Dr.
East Brunswick, New Jersey



Regular Meeting: X
Special Meeting: N/A
Meeting Time: 7:30 P.M.

Council President McEvoy called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The Governing Body and its audience proceeded with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a Moment of Silence.

The Township Clerk, Tamar Lawful, called the roll:

Present: Councilman Behal
Councilman Wendell
Councilwoman Winston
Councilwoman Zimbicki
Council President McEvoy

Also Present: Mayor Brad Cohen
Michael Baker, Township Attorney
Joseph Criscuolo, Administrator
Tamar Lawful, Township Clerk

The Township Clerk, Tamar Lawful, read the Statement of Adequate Notice:

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided as required under Chapter 231, P. L. 1975, by specifying the time, date, location, and to the extent known, the agenda, by posting a copy on the Bulletin Board located in the main lobby of the East Brunswick Municipal Building, providing a copy to the Home News Tribune and Sentinel newspapers, posting a copy on the Township's website and by filing a copy in the office of the Township Clerk which will be entered into the minutes.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Resolution # 23-133 Resolution Adopting Meeting Minutes – April 10, 2023

Councilwoman Zimbicki moved the adoption of Resolution # 23-133, seconded by Councilman Behal. With no recommended changes to the Minutes, Council President McEvoy requested a roll call vote:

RECORDED VOTE OF COUNCIL						
Council Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Behal		X	X			
Wendell			X			
Winston			X			
Zimbicki	X		X			
McEvoy			X			

By a unanimous Roll Call Vote, the resolution adopting the meeting Minutes was approved.

PROCLAMATIONS

Proclamation Recognizing April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Mayor Cohen read the proclamation recognizing April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Proclamation Congratulating the EB High School Junior Varsity Cheer Team

Council President McEvoy invited Councilwoman Winston to present a proclamation recognizing the East Brunswick High School Junior Varsity Cheer Team. Councilwoman Winston gave a speech to the honorees for their outstanding achievement, hard work, dedication, and efforts. She proceeded to read the proclamation honoring the team for winning the state championship. A commemorative copy of the proclamation was issued to each member of the junior varsity cheer team, followed by a photo op with members of the Governing Body.

Proclamation Congratulating the East Brunswick High School Varsity Cheer Team

Council President McEvoy invited Councilwoman Zimbicki to present a proclamation recognizing the East Brunswick High School Varsity Cheer Team. Councilwoman Zimbicki said a few brief words, then proceeded to read the proclamation honoring the team for winning the state championship. A commemorative copy of the proclamation was issued to each member of the varsity cheer team, followed by a photo op with members of the Governing Body.

Council President McEvoy requested a brief recess to permit all honorees and their family members to exit. The meeting resumed a few minutes later.

PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION ITEM

There were none.

AGENDA SESSION (DISCUSSION ONLY- NO VOTE)

There were none.

**ORDINANCE(S) FOR SECOND READING
*** PUBLIC HEARING *****

There were none.

REPORTS

Brad Cohen, Mayor: Mayor Cohen reported on Earth Day and the following events held on Saturday, April 29, 2023:

There was a successful recycling event hosted by the Environmental Commission. An Eagle Scout had his Court of Honor for cleaning the Butterfly Park, and a fashion show was held at Brunswick Mall, which promoted fashion and the use of environmentally friendly materials.

On April 25, 2023, a forum for “Getting Past Plastic II” will be held to discuss reducing the use of single-use water bottles, followed by “Where Do We Go From Here?” which will focus on accountability and sustainability and the township’s efforts to promote a sustainable environment. The younger generation has always been influential in initiating change and engaging in movements for the betterment of our society. Sustainability is certainly a priority.

Tomorrow, April 25, 2023, there will be a flag-raising ceremony in recognition of Israel’s 75th Independence Day.

Joseph Criscuolo, Administrator: Mr. Criscuolo had nothing new to report.

Michael Baker, Township Attorney: Mr. Baker had nothing new to report.

Tamar Lawful, Township Clerk: Ms. Lawful reported on the commencement of mailing mail-in ballots. In her report, she informed the public of the three ways to return their mail-in ballots:

- U.S. Postal Service
- Board of Elections, located at 11 Kennedy Blvd. Ballots can be dropped off.

- The ballot drop box, which is located within the Municipal Complex by the parking lot of the Municipal Court and the Police Station.

Ms. Lawful further reported that Resolution # 23-134, authorizing MegaBite Events, LLC to hold a Food and Music Festival on May 6, 2023, has the incorrect location referenced in the body of the resolution. She clarified that the event will be held at the Brunswick Square Mall and not at the Middlesex County Fairgrounds. She asked the Council to adopt the resolution reflecting the correction.

Ms. Lawful also explained the purpose of Ordinance # 23-12, amending Chapter 83, entitled “Dogs and Cats,” and Ordinance # 23-13, amending Chapter 109, “Food Handling Establishments.”

Dinesh Behal, Councilman: Councilman Behal had nothing new to report.

James Wendell, Councilman: Councilman Wendell had nothing new to report.

Dana Winston, Councilwoman: Councilwoman Winston had nothing new to report.

Dana Zimbicki, Councilwoman: Councilwoman Zimbicki reported on Resolution # 23-141 concerning the replacement of synthetic turf at Heavenly Farms, Field C. The existing turf is beyond its usefulness and needs to be replaced. Once the turf is updated, the field will be utilized by older age groups playing soccer and softball and by the challenged population. Resolution # 23-137 is to award a contract for the supply and delivery of sodium hypochlorite for Crystal Springs Waterpark. The cost of chlorine has increased exponentially (70%). The Township went out to bid multiple times for sodium hypochlorite, and the price referenced in this resolution is the lowest cost currently available.

Recreation and Parks continue to thrive under the leadership of Michael Reissner. On April 15, 2023, the township celebrated Kite Day and hosted a Color Run event. St. Barts Flag Football and EB Youth Tennis had their opening days in the past month. The Eagle Scout projects continue, and maintenance and improvements to the Butterfly Park also continue. Crystal Springs Family Waterpark is preparing for its opening this summer. Season passes are on sale.

Residents continue to utilize the parks, and the annual Daisy Tricky Tray event was a huge success.

Kevin McEvoy, Council President: Council President McEvoy had nothing new to report.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The Township Clerk read the following statement:

PUBLIC COMMENT STATEMENT

The public comment portion of our meeting is to allow the public to bring to the Council’s attention their concerns or comments. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 10: 4-12(a) and the East Brunswick Rules of Council, the Council asks the public to limit their comments to **five (5) minutes or less**. At the conclusion of the statements or questions from a member of the public, the Council President, at his or her discretion, may choose to respond, or not respond, or to ask the Administration to respond.

Council President McEvoy opened the meeting to the public.

Alex Trakhman – 47 Dorchester Drive

Mr. Trakhman commented on the popularity of pickleball. He stated that the pickleball courts throughout the Township are either in disrepair or closed. He asked the Council to look into this matter.

Enas Soliman – 3 Stratford Road

Mr. Soliman’s property is located in close proximity to wetlands. He expressed concerns due to the swamp in his backyard, which attracts mosquitoes. The mosquitoes have been problematic and

resulted in his daughter obtaining Lyme disease. He requested that the Council consider remediating the issue.

Katherine Kolek – [Address not provided]

Ms. Kolek came forward, representing the Polish American Heritage League. The Polish American Heritage League will hold a Polish Heritage Festival in East Brunswick on June 11, 2023. She asked the Council to consider approving Resolution # 23-135, authorizing the Polish Heritage Festival. She further invited the Governing Body to support the event.

END OF PUBLIC SESSION

There being no further members of the public wishing to be heard, Council President McEvoy closed the Public Session of the meeting.

RESOLUTION(S) [Requiring a separate vote]

There were none.

*****CONSENT AGENDA*****

Resolution # 23-134 through Resolution # 23-147

The following items are considered to be routine and non-controversial items by the Township Council and will be enacted upon by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member so request, in which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda to be discussed, and voted on, following the approval of the remaining items listed on the Consent Agenda.

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- Resolution # 23-134 Resolution Authorizing MegaBite Events, LLC to Hold a Food and Music Festival on May 6, 2023
 - Resolution # 23-135 Resolution Authorizing the Polish American Heritage League to Hold a Polish Heritage Festival on June 11, 2023
 - Resolution # 23-136 Resolution of the Township of East Brunswick, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Award of a Fair and Open Contract to BlackRock Enterprises, LLC, for the Tices Lane Overlay Phase I and IV Project (Contract # 2023-03) in the Amount Not to Exceed \$643,765.79
 - Resolution # 23-137 Resolution of the Township of East Brunswick, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Award of a Fair and Open Contract to Main Pool and Chemical, for the Supply and Delivery of Sodium Hypochlorite for Crystal Springs Family Waterpark in the Amount Not to Exceed \$45,450.00 (\$3.03 Per Gallon)
 - Resolution # 23-138 Resolution Authorizing a Change Order [Number One] with Black Rock Enterprises, LLC from \$1,806,130.09 to \$2,120,130.09 for the 2023 Pavement Management Program (Contract # 2023-02)
 - Resolution # 23-139 Resolution of the Township of East Brunswick Authorizing the Submission of a "STEP Grant" Application to the New Jersey Division of Highway Safety for the Period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024
 - Resolution # 23-140 Resolution Authorizing the Award of Contract to Modern Power Systems, for the Purchase of a Mobile Diesel Generator Under the Sourcewell National Cooperative Pricing System, (Contract # 09222-GNR) in the Amount Not to Exceed \$34,995.00
 - Resolution # 23-141 Resolution Authorizing the Award of Contract to Field Turf USA, Inc. for the Heavenly Farms - Field C Synthetic Turf Replacement as Permitted Under the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ)

Cooperative Purchasing Program, through Contract # ESCNJ 22/23-37, in the Amount Not to Exceed \$357,460.00

Resolution # 23-142 Resolution Authorizing the Award of Contract to Nickerson Corporation for the Supply and Installation of Bleachers at Heavenly Farms – Field B, as permitted Under the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ) Cooperative Purchasing Price System, (Contract # ESCNJ 19/20-26) in the Amount Not to Exceed \$162,330.00

Resolution # 23-143 Resolution Appointing Aliasgar “Ali” Rangwala to the Water Policy Advisory Committee

Resolution # 23-144 Resolution Authorizing the Award of Contract to Metals Treatment Technologies, LLC, for Lead Remediation Services for the East Brunswick Police Training Facility in the Amount Not to Exceed \$26,150.00

Resolution # 23-145 Resolution of the Township of East Brunswick Authorizing the Tax Collector to Refund Tax/Utility Overpayments

Resolution # 23-146 Resolution Authorizing Refunds to be Issued Related to Tax Title Lien Redemptions

Resolution # 23-147 Resolution to Approve the Bill List

CONSENT AGENDA VOTE

Councilman Wendell moved the adoption of the resolutions listed on the Consent Agenda, Resolution # 23-134 through Resolution # 23-147. Councilman Behal seconded the motion.

RECORDED VOTE OF COUNCIL						
Council Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Behal		X	X			
Wendell	X		X			
Winston			X			
Zimbicki			X			
McEvoy			X			

By a unanimous Roll Call Vote, the resolutions listed on the Consent Agenda were approved.

RESOLUTION[S] REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION AND VOTE

There were none.

ORDINANCE(S) FOR INTRODUCTION Scheduled Public Hearing Date: May 8, 2023

ORDINANCE # 23-11

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST BRUNSWICK, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 209 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE, “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC,” ARTICLE XIII, SECTION 49, SCHEDULE X, “TRUCKS REGISTERED FOUR (4) TONS GROSS WEIGHT OR OVER,” OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST BRUNSWICK

The Township Clerk, Ms. Lawful, read the ordinance by title. Mr. Criscuolo explained the purpose of the ordinance.

Councilman Wendell moved the adoption of the ordinance on first reading, and that it be published according to the law, and a public hearing on the ordinance be held on May 8, 2023, at the Municipal Building/Court Room, located at 1 Jean Walling Civic Center Drive, in the Township of East Brunswick. Councilwoman Winston seconded the motion.

RECORDED VOTE OF COUNCIL						
Council Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Behal			X			
Wendell	X		X			
Winston		X	X			
Zimbicki			X			
McEvoy			X			

By a unanimous Roll Call Vote, Ordinance # 23-11 passed on first reading.

ORDINANCE # 23-12

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST BRUNSWICK, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 83, OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE, ENTITLED "DOGS AND CATS," OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST BRUNSWICK

The Township Clerk, Ms. Lawful, read the ordinance by title.

Councilman Wendell moved the adoption of the ordinance on first reading, and that it be published according to the law, and a public hearing on the ordinance be held on May 8, 2023, at the Municipal Building/Court Room, located at 1 Jean Walling Civic Center Drive, in the Township of East Brunswick. Councilwoman Zimbicki seconded the motion.

RECORDED VOTE OF COUNCIL						
Council Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Behal			X			
Wendell	X		X			
Winston			X			
Zimbicki		X	X			
McEvoy			X			

By a unanimous Roll Call Vote, Ordinance # 23-12 passed on first reading.

ORDINANCE # 23-13

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST BRUNSWICK, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 109, OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE, ENTITLED "FOOD HANDLING ESTABLISHMENTS," OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST BRUNSWICK

The Township Clerk, Ms. Lawful, read the ordinance by title.

Councilman Behal moved the adoption of the ordinance on first reading, and that it be published according to the law, and a public hearing on the ordinance be held on May 8, 2023, at the Municipal Building/Court Room, located at 1 Jean Walling Civic Center Drive, in the Township of East Brunswick. Councilwoman Winston seconded the motion.

RECORDED VOTE OF COUNCIL						
Council Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Behal	X		X			
Wendell			X			
Winston		X	X			
Zimbicki			X			
McEvoy			X			

By a unanimous Roll Call Vote, Ordinance # 23-13 passed on first reading.

ORDINANCE # 23-14

A BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS SCHOOL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST BRUNSWICK, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, PURSUANT TO A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE EAST BRUNSWICK BOARD OF EDUCATION, APPROPRIATING \$6,100,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$5,795,000 IN BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE VARIOUS IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Township Clerk, Ms. Lawful, read the ordinance by title.

Mr. Criscuolo explained the purpose of the ordinance.

Councilwoman Zimbicki moved the adoption of the ordinance on first reading, and that it be published according to the law, and a public hearing on the ordinance be held on May 8, 2023, at the Municipal Building/Court Room, located at 1 Jean Walling Civic Center Drive, in the Township of East Brunswick. Councilman Behal seconded the motion.

RECORDED VOTE OF COUNCIL						
Council Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Behal		X	X			
Wendell			X			
Winston			X			
Zimbicki	X		X			
McEvoy			X			

By a unanimous Roll Call Vote, Ordinance # 23-14 passed on first reading.

The Township Clerk, Ms. Lawful, read the following ordinance by title:

ADD-ON RESOLUTION

There were none.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

There were none.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CAUSE

Dinesh Behal, Councilman: Mr. Behal acknowledged and thanked the Dawoodi Bohras Community of East Brunswick for inviting the Governing Body to their Ramadan Iftar Dinner, held on Sunday, April 16, 2023. He further acknowledged their contributions to the East Brunswick community, recognizing their initiatives, such as recycling and clothes drives, to name a few.

Dana Winston, Councilwoman: Councilwoman Winston concurred with the comments made by Councilman Behal and acknowledged the Dawoodi Bohras for their exemplary commitment and services to the East Brunswick community.

CLOSED SESSION

There are none.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no other business to conduct, Council Wendell moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Behal seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

[Signatures of the Council President and Township Clerk are on the following page.]



KEVIN MCEVOY, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

ATTEST:


TAMAR LAWFUL, MUNICIPAL CLERK