

**EAST BRUNSWICK TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
October 10, 2022**

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 Wendell 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 McEvoy
Councilwoman Sullivan
Councilwoman Zimbicki
Council President Wendell

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 by specifying 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 # 17499 Resolution Adopting Meeting Minutes – September 12, 2022

Councilwoman Sullivan moved the adoption of Resolution #17499, seconded by Councilman Behal. With no recommended changes to the meeting Minutes, Council President Wendell requested a roll call vote:

RECORDED VOTE OF COUNCIL ON FINAL PASSAGE:						
Council Members	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Behal		X	X			
McEvoy			X			
Sullivan	X		X			
Zimbicki			X			
Wendell			X			

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

PROCLAMATIONS

Proclamation in Support of the Task Force Action Plan, advocated by the Task Force Partners, to “Get Past Plastic, One Bottle at a Time”

The proclamation in support of the sustainable efforts advocated by the Task Force Partners was read by Councilman McEvoy. A brief speech was given by Melissa Novak thanking the Governing

Body for the recognition. Mayor Cohen also expressed a few words about the initiative and its importance. A commemorative copy of the proclamation was given to the Task Force Partners.

Proclamation Proclaiming the Month of October 2022 as “Alpha Delta Kappa Month”

The proclamation proclaiming the month of October 2022 as Alpha Delta Kappa Month was read by Councilwoman Zimbicki. A commemorative copy of the proclamation was given to the members in recognition of their outstanding community service in East Brunswick. A member provided a brief speech expressing her deep appreciation.

Proclamation Acknowledging the Achievements of the EB Cub 9U and their Coaches

The proclamation acknowledging the achievements of the EB Cub 9U and their coaches was read by Council President Wendell. The head coach, Dan Nigro, thanked the Governing Body for the recognition and expressed his gratitude to the players on the team. A commemorative copy of the proclamation was given to the members of the EB Cub 9U and their coaches.

PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION ITEM

Presentation:

East Brunswick Police with NJSACOP Accreditation

By: Harry Delgado from the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police (NJSACOP)

Frank LoSacco introduced Harry Delgado, the program coordinator for the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police (NJSACOP). The agency is designed to enhance the professionalism and transparency in the state public safety system. An accreditation gives an agency a preparedness plan and verification of excellence. Mr. Delgado acknowledged the Township of East Brunswick Police Department for achieving accreditation with NJSACOP. The East Brunswick Police Department is considered one of the best Police Department in the State of New Jersey and is recognized as one of 33% of all law enforcement agencies who became accredited and have maintained the accreditation status. The accreditation status represents a significant professional achievement in the policies and procedures implemented by the Police Department. Mr. Delgado explained what accreditation provides and embodies. The East Brunswick Police Department has not only achieved accreditation of excellence but also exceeded the expectations of all 112 standards implemented by NJSACOP. The East Brunswick Police Department is looked upon as an exemplary law enforcement agency, that is highly professional.

Police Chief LoSacco was congratulated for the achievement and was given a framed certificate. Chief LoSacco thanked Mr. Delgado and acknowledged his team for their outstanding work to allow the department to achieve this recognition. Accreditation is issued every three (3) years, and the framed certificate received today will be displayed in the hallway next to the previous certificate, received three years ago.

Council President Wendell thanked the Chief and his team for maintaining a safe environment and for achieving this level of accreditation. Mayor Cohen echoed the same sentiment.

AGENDA SESSION (DISCUSSION ONLY- NO VOTE)

There were none.

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

There were none.

REPORTS

Brad Cohen, Mayor: Mayor Cohen reported on the success of East Brunswick Day, held on October 9, 2022. He acknowledged the Department of Parks and Recreation, and its director, Michael Reissner, for organizing the event.

Restaurant Week will be held from October 17th through October 23rd. With approximately 30 participating restaurants, he encouraged residents to support the event for a delightful and savory experience.

Joseph Criscuolo, Administrator: Mr. Criscuolo reported on Resolution # 17501, a resolution authorizing a change order [number one] with Black Rock Enterprises for performing an interconnect to extend the waterline of the Township to the City of New Brunswick and to repave the roadway. This project will ensure continuous quality water service to the residents of East Brunswick.

Michael Baker, Township Attorney: Mr. Baker reported on the National Opioid Settlement lawsuit in the amount of 2.8 billion dollars. The township is scheduled to receive its second settlement payment. So far, the Township has or will receive approximately \$22,000.00. Additional payments will follow. The settlement fund must go towards opioid remediation efforts, such as treatment, prevention, and other strategies to combat the opioid epidemic.

Tamar Lawful, Township Clerk: Ms. Lawful reported on the upcoming 2022 General Election and the important dates to remember. She informed the public that the mailing of mail-in ballots commenced on September 24th. Voters have the option to return their mail-in ballots free of charge through the U.S. Postal Service, submit their ballot directly to the Board of Elections located at 11 Kennedy Blvd., East Brunswick, NJ 08816, or conveniently use the mail-in ballot drop box located within the municipal complex by the parking lot of the Municipal Court and Police Station. The last day to register to vote in this upcoming election is Tuesday, October 18, 2022. Early voting begins on Saturday, October 29th through November 6th at the Community Arts Center.

Food and animal licensing have been transferred from the Revenue Department to the Clerk's Office. Renewal notices for animal licenses will be sent out on October 21st. She informed the public to submit their applications to the Clerk's Office for processing.

James Wendell, Council President: Council President Wendell reported on the press conference concerning the start of the redevelopment project on Rt. 18. The redevelopment project is progressing ahead as demolition started today. Within two years, the project should be completed and occupied. This week began the transformation of Route 18. He thanked the Mayor and the public for their support.

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

Kevin McEvoy, Councilman: Councilman McEvoy reported on behalf of the East Brunswick Cable Television and Telecommunication Advisory Committee, which met on September 20, 2022. The Committee welcomed Troy Bailey as its newest member. Dave Ambrosy, Director of EBTv, is retiring by the end of the year [2022], and we wish him joy and success as he embarks on this new chapter. On behalf of the Water Policy Committee, residential properties will receive new water meters. The Route 18th road improvement project, which includes drainage, pavement, and other improvements, was awarded to Earle Asphalt Company. The project is expected alleviate drainage and flooding deficiencies, enhance vehicle and pedestrian safety, and reduce congestion. The project is expected to begin around February 2023.

Sharon Sullivan, Councilwoman: Councilwoman Sullivan reported the 2nd Annual Harvest Festival to be held in the Historic District on October 22, 2022. The Mayor Cohen's Charity Gala will be held on Wednesday, November 9, 2022, at 6.00 p.m. The Gala will honor Adam Neary, Margaret Pemberton, East Brunswick VFW Post, and EB Chinese. The registration deadline is October 15, 2022 but will be extended to October 20th. She encouraged the public to support the event.

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

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The Township Clerk read the following:

PUBLIC COMMENT STATEMENT AND TIME LIMIT

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**. The public may use this opportunity to question any item listed on the Consent Agenda, and request that such item be removed from the Consent Agenda to be discussed and voted on separately. Only one member of the public should approach to speak to the council at a time. The Council will respect the public's time by refraining from any comment until the speaker has finished with their allotted time. It should be further noted that the public comment portion of our meeting is not structured as a question-and-answer session. 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.

If the questions require more detailed responses, the Council President or Administration may ask the member of the public to make an appointment with the appropriate township official during regular business hours. The Township Clerk will regulate the time during the comment portion of our meeting.

Council President Wendell opened the meeting to the public.

Mary Pan – 223 Milltown Road

Ms. Pan spoke about Restaurant Week scheduled for Monday October 17th through Sunday October 23rd. She listed the names of participating restaurants and encouraged the public to support the event.

Drew Weingarh – 2705 Commons at Kingswood

Mr. Weingarh spoke about the fireworks held in town and the township's ordinance. He briefly discussed the history of private fireworks displays, and the most recent private fireworks at the Chateau held on Friday, September 16, 2022. The fireworks lasted for about 9 minutes, but disappointingly the noise level was louder than anticipated. He recommended that the Township consider other vendors to perform fireworks. Mr. Weingarh stated that the Civic Plus notification was a good idea.

Council President Wendell voiced his discontent with the fireworks held on September 16, 2022. He further stated that the Council may not approve fireworks for private displays in the future.

Mr. Baker clarified that the Township does not have the authority to select firework vendors for private events. However, as it pertains to the Township, East Brunswick solicit bids for firework displays in celebration of Independence Day on July 4th.

Alex Speilman – 6 Douglas Road

Mr. Speilman came forward and commented that flyers were circulated during East Brunswick Day. The flyer had disparaging information about his character.

Liti Haramaty – 2 Bernard Road

Ms. Haramaty provided two suggestions for a more sustainable approach as it pertains to eliminating plastic one bottle at a time. On October 19, 2022, there will be a presentation on the quality of East Brunswick water, its safety, and how it is monitored. The presentation will be held at the East Brunswick Library. She encouraged the public to attend.

Antoinette Evola – 45 Merrill Avenue

Ms. Evola questioned the lack of action to address the speeding issue on Sunburst Drive. She gave recommendations to add a three way stop sign on Sunburst Drive and Evana Road, and to prohibit trucks on the street. She added that trucks are also an issue on River Road. She further expressed concerns about public safety on Merrill Avenue.

Neal Shah - 1 Jennifer Court

Mr. Shah spoke about the traffic and speeding vehicles on Sunburst Drive and requested more police presence to remediate the issue.

Dave Herrera – 32 Cosgrove Court

Mr. Herrera spoke about traffic on Sunburst Drive.

Joe Kincaid – 10 Winslow Avenue

Mr. Kincaid spoke about adding more funding towards public safety and Emergency Management Services (EMS).

Lee Allen – 1 Culver Lane

Mr. Allen spoke about the noisy traffic on River Road during the daytime.

Tom Rosetti – 58 Deerfield Road

Mr. Rosetti spoke about the increase in property taxes and mentioned certain school supplies that are driving the increase in taxes. He further recommended adding a speed bump on River Road to address the traffic concern.

Anothy Fedrerico – 9 Everton Drive

Mr. Federico spoke about the congested traffic on Sunburst Drive and recommended installing a traffic light, speed bump(s), and prohibiting trucks on that route to free up traffic and discourage speeding.

Connie Lonczak Balitsky – 177 Summerhill Road

Ms. Balitsky spoke against the redevelopment projects in the Township. She expressed that East Brunswick should remain the suburban community she has known it to be.

RESOLUTION(S) [Requiring a separate vote]

There are none.

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

Resolution # 17500 through Resolution # 17520

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.

- Resolution # 17500 Resolution Authorizing a Contract with CME Associates for the Kingswood Pump Station Improvement Design
- Resolution # 17501 Resolution Authorizing a Change Order [Number One] for Contract # 2022-01 with Black Rock Enterprises, LLC from \$1,827,843.95 to \$2,193,412.74 for the 2022 Pavement Management Program
- Resolution # 17502 Resolution Authorizing the Award of Contract to National Auto Fleet Group, for the Purchase of one (1) 2023 Ford F150 Electric Truck through the Sourcewell National Cooperative Pricing System, Under Contract # 060920-NF, in the Amount of \$49,594.00
- Resolution # 17503 Resolution Authorizing the Award of Contract to Henderson Products, Inc. for the purchase of Two (2) Material Spreader through the Sourcewell National Cooperative Pricing System, Under Contract # 080818-HPI, in the Amount of \$55,200.00
- Resolution # 17504 Resolution Authorizing the East Brunswick Arts Coalition and Cee French Harth to Hold a Harvest Fest in the East Brunswick Historic District on October 22, 2022
- Resolution # 17505 Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Fair and Open Contract to Pabco Industries, LLC for the Purchase of 100,000 Biodegradable and Recycling Leaf Bags at the Rate of \$0.65 per Imprinted Bag or \$0.63 per Plain Bag
- Resolution # 17506 Resolution of the Township of East Brunswick, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey Amending the Contract for the Rehabilitation of Sanitary

Sewer Infrastructure to National Water Cleaning, Under the BuyBoard
National Purchasing Cooperative

- Resolution # 17507 Resolution Authorizing the Cancellation of Property Taxes for the 3rd Quarter of the Year 2022, for Block 88.05 Lot 27, for Receiving a 100% Permanently Disabled Veteran Exemption
- Resolution # 17508 Resolution Authorizing the Cancellation of Property Taxes for the Year 2022, and the Preliminary Taxes for the Year 2023, for Block 625, Lot 32, for Receiving a 100% Permanently Disabled Veteran Exemption
- Resolution # 17509 Resolution Authorizing the Cancellation of Property Taxes for the Year 2022, and the Preliminary Taxes for the Year 2023, for Block 760, Lot 12, For Receiving a 100% Permanently Disabled Veteran Exemption
- Resolution # 17510 Resolution of the Township of East Brunswick Authorizing the Tax Collector to Refund Tax/Utility Overpayments
- Resolution # 17511 Resolution Authorizing Refunds to be Issued Related to Tax Title Lien Redemptions
- Resolution # 17512 Resolution Approving the Renewal of an Inactive Plenary Retail Distribution Liquor License [License # 1204-44-033-002], in the Township of East Brunswick for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year
- Resolution # 17513 Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Fair and Open Contract to Classic Turf Company, LLC for the Bicentennial Park Court Improvement Project, in the Amount Not to Exceed \$170,800.00
- Resolution # 17514 Resolution Authorizing the Award of Contract to Brothers Exterior DBA Brothers Landscaping for Tree Planting Services for the Township of East Brunswick in the Amount of \$43,790.00 for the Year 2022
- Resolution # 17515 Resolution Authorizing the Cancellation of a Bond and Note Authorized but not Issued in the Amount of \$15,000.00 and its Estimated Proceeds are to be Transferred into the General Capital Fund
- Resolution # 17516 Resolution Providing for the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the 2022 Budget Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-87 (Ch. 159, P.L. 148) Public and Private Revenues Offset by Appropriations for the New Jersey Urban and Community Forestry Program 2022 Grant in the Amount of \$30,000.00
- Resolution # 17517 Resolution Authorizing the Approval of a Corporate Structure Person-to-Person Liquor License Transfer for Dynamic Food Group Inc. dba Gusto Grill
- Resolution # 17518 Resolution Authorizing St. Mary Coptic Orthodox Church and St. Stephen Coptic Orthodox Church to Hold a Carnival on October 15, 2022, and October 16, 2022
- Resolution # 17519 Resolution Adopting the Township of East Brunswick “Procedure for the Administration and Inspection of Federal Aid Highway Projects”
- Resolution # 17520 Resolution to Approve the Bill List

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CONSENT AGENDA VOTE

Councilwoman Zimbicki moved the adoption of the resolutions listed on the Consent Agenda, Resolution # 17500 through Resolution # 17520. Councilman Behal seconded the motion.

Council President Wendell requested a roll call vote on the Consent Agenda:

RECORDED VOTE OF COUNCIL ON FINAL PASSAGE:						
Council Members	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Behal		X	X			
McEvoy			X			
Sullivan			X			
Zimbicki	X		X			
Wendell			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*****

There were none.

ADD-ON RESOLUTION

There were none.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

There were none.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CAUSE

Sharon Sullivan, Councilwoman: Councilwoman Sullivan informed the public that the East Brunswick Friends of the Library annual Book and Media Sale will be held at the Brunswick Square Mall from October 10th through October 17th.

Kevin McEvoy, Councilman: Councilman McEvoy reported on the follow events in town:

Date	Event	Location	Additional Information
October 15, 2022 (9:00 a.m.)	Guns 'N Hoses Football Game (EBPV vs. EBFD)	Heavenly Farms	\$5.00 Cost. Proceeds go towards breast cancer.
October 15 – 16 (5:30 p.m.)	Candlelight Tours	Chestnut Hill Cemetery	
October 17, 2022	Town Hall Meeting	Bowne Munro School	By Mayor Brad Coehn
October 19, 2022	Water Quality Discussion	EB Library	By Dan Losik, Director of DPW
October 20, 2022 (6:00 p.m.)	EBPD Award Ceremony	Hammarskjold Middle School	
October 22, 2022	Harvest Festival	Historic District	
October 22, 2022 (10:00 a.m.)	Coffee with a Cop	Brunswick Square Mall	
October 22, 2022 (9:00 a.m.)	Tour of the Middlesex County Landfill	Middlesex County Landfill	Hosted by the Environmental Commission

Dinesh Behal, Councilman: Councilman Behal informed the public that the celebration of Diwali will be held at the Community Arts Center on October 15, 2022, from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

James Wendell, Council President: Council President Wendell reported on the carnival hosted by St. Mary's and St. Stephen Coptic Orthodox Church on October 15th - October 16th at 12 Gates Avenue, East Brunswick, NJ 08816.

Dana Zimbicki, Councilwoman: Councilwoman Zimbicki informed the public that the East Brunswick Square Mall will hold a Malloween event on October 30th so children will have the opportunity to trick or treat indoors.

CLOSED SESSION

There were none.


ADJOURNMENT

Having no other business to conduct, Councilwoman Sullivan moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Behal seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.



JAMES WENDELL, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

ATTEST:



TAMAR LAWFUL, MUNICIPAL CLERK