

**EAST BRUNSWICK TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 13, 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
Anthony Iacocca, 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.

Council President McEvoy acknowledged Boy Scout Troop 132, who are present at tonight's meeting to understand the process of local government. This is a learning experience for the youth to understand how local government works, stated Mayor Cohen. The Governing Body is a representative government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Resolution # 23-310 Resolution Adopting Meeting Minutes – October 23, 2023

Councilman Behal moved the adoption of Resolution # 23-310, seconded by Councilman Wendell. 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	X			
Winston			X			
Zimbicki			X			
McEvoy			X			

By a unanimous vote, the resolution adopting the meeting Minutes was approved.

PROCLAMATIONS

**PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING NOVEMBER AS NEW JERSEY STATE
FEDERATION OF WOMAN'S CLUB MEMBERSHIP MONTH**

Councilwoman Zimbicki proceeded to read the Proclamation Proclaiming November, New Jersey State Federation of Woman's Club Membership Month.

A commemorative copy of the proclamation was received by Linda Carbley, EB Club President; Laura Pechar, 2nd Vice-President, and Sharon Sullivan, Member.

Ms. Carbley gave a brief speech and thanked the Governing Body for the proclamation. Ms. Pechar expressed her appreciation to the Governing Body and invited the public to attend their public meetings. The meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at St. Bartholomew Church, 460 Ryders Lane, East Brunswick. Additional information about the Club and membership can be obtained by visiting their website (www.eastbrunswickwowomansclub.com), Facebook page, Instagram, and by emailing Eastbrunswickwomansclub@gmail.com.

A brief recess was held to permit a photo opportunity with the Governing Body and the members of the East Brunswick Woman's Club.

PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION ITEM

Public Hearing:

Re: Pre-qualification for Prospective Bidders for the Construction of the Municipal Ice-Skating Facility

Anthony Iacocca explained the purpose of the public hearing and the statutory requirements pursuant to New Jersey's Local Public Contract Law. Due to the project's highly specialized nature, the law requires the municipality to adopt pre-qualification regulations after a public hearing on the matter. The Township has prepared its pre-qualification regulations to be approved by Resolution # 23-312, on tonight's agenda.

Councilman Wendell expressed that the requirement for qualified bidders is too restrictive and limits the Township to fewer bidders. However, he supports the importance of being cautious.

Mayor Cohen explained that the requirement is intended to restrict bidders who are not skilled or experienced enough to properly execute the project. It is imperative to exercise caution and procure services from experienced vendors to avoid potential errors and additional costs to the Township.

Council President McEvoy opened the floor to the public.

END OF PUBLIC SESSION

There being no members of the public wishing to be heard, Council President McEvoy closed the Public Hearing for the Pre-qualification for Prospective bidders for the construction of the Municipal Ice-Skating Facility.

AGENDA SESSION (DISCUSSION ONLY- NO VOTE)

There are none.

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

There were none.

REPORTS

Brad Cohen, Mayor: Mayor Cohen had nothing new to report.

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

Anthony Iacocca, Township Attorney: Mr. Iacocca had nothing new to report.

Tamar Lawful, Township Clerk: Ms. Lawful had nothing new to report.

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 various recreational activities and events.

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.

Kevin Sexton – 10 Coleman Road

Mr. Sexton expressed concerns with Ordinance # 23-29, which approves the Redevelopment Plan for 509 Cranbury Road. Over the years, East Brunswick’s farms and woods have been slowly diminishing and are being replaced with redevelopment projects. East Brunswick is unique for its farms and woods. He hopes that future developments will consider the preservation of the community’s open space.

Thomas Ingrisani – 58 Deerfield Road

Mr. Ingrisani inquired about the elimination of windmills in New Jersey. He inquired whether property owners would be reimbursed.

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]

Resolution # 23-311 Resolution Authorizing Budget Transfers in Accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58 [No less than 2/3 vote of full membership required]

Councilman Wendell moved the adoption of Resolution # 23-311, seconded by Councilman Behal. With no recommended changes, 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		X			
Winston			X			
Zimbicki			X			
McEvoy			X			

By a unanimous vote, Resolution # 23-311 was approved.

Resolution # 23-312 Resolution of the Township of East Brunswick Adopting Pre-qualification Regulations for the Construction of the Municipal Ice-Skating Facility

Councilman Wendell moved the adoption of Resolution # 23-312, seconded by Councilman Behal. With no recommended changes, 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		X			
Winston			X			
Zimbicki			X			
McEvoy			X			

By a unanimous vote, Resolution # 23-312 was approved.

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

Resolution # 23-313 through Resolution # 23-324

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 # 23-313 Resolution Approving the Compensation for the Board of Fire Commissioners, for Fire District No. 1, for Calendar Year 2024
- Resolution # 23-314 Resolution Approving the Compensation for the Board of Fire Commissioners, for Fire District No. 2, for Calendar Year 2024
- Resolution # 23-315 Resolution Approving the Compensation for the Board of Fire Commissioners, for Fire District No. 3, for Calendar Year 2024
- Resolution # 23-316 Resolution of the Township of East Brunswick Authorizing the Award of a New Plenary Retail Consumption License
- Resolution # 23-317 Resolution of the Township of East Brunswick Authorizing the Issuance of a New Plenary Retail Consumption License for the Licensing Period of 2023-2024
- Resolution # 23-318 Resolution of the Township of East Brunswick Authorizing the Tax Collector to Refund Tax/Utility Overpayments
- Resolution # 23-319 Resolution Authorizing Refunds to be Issued Related to Tax Title Lien Redemptions
- Resolution # 23-320 Resolution Authorizing the Cancellation of Property Taxes for the Year 2023, and the Preliminary 2024 Billing, for Block 178.18, Lot 27, for Receiving a 100% Permanently Disabled Veteran Exemption
- Resolution # 23-321 Resolution of the Township of East Brunswick Authorizing a Grant Application with the Department of Community Affairs in the Amount of 1,000,000.00 for the Expansion of the East Brunswick Community Arts Center

Resolution # 23-322 Resolution Authorizing the Cancellation of Certain Funded Appropriation Balance Under a Bond Ordinance Previously Adopted by the Township of East Brunswick, for the Parking Utility Project in the Amount of \$223,436.77

Resolution # 23-323 Resolution of the Township of East Brunswick Authorizing the Cancellation of Grant Receivables and Grants Appropriated

Resolution # 23-324 Resolution to Approve the Bill List

CONSENT AGENDA VOTE

Councilwoman Zimbicki moved the adoption of the resolutions listed on the Consent Agenda, Resolution # 23-313 through Resolution # 23-324. Councilman Wendell 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 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: November 27, 2023

ORDINANCE # 23-28

A BOND ORDINANCE FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST BRUNSWICK, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$4,235,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$4,023,250 IN BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

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 November 27, 2023, at the Municipal Building/Court Room, located at 1 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			

ORDINANCE # 23-29

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR BLOCK 87, LOT 10.07, ALSO KNOWN AS 509 CRANBURY ROAD, AS SHOWN ON THE TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST BRUNSWICK, PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 ET. SEQ.

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 November 27, 2023, at the Municipal Building/Court Room, located at 1 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		X			
Winston			X			
Zimbicki					X	
McEvoy			X			

ORDINANCE # 23-30

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST BRUNSWICK AMENDING ORDINANCE # 22-21 FIXING THE GRADES, CLASSIFICATIONS IN GRADES, AND COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST BRUNSWICK COVERING THE UNITED SERVICES WORKERS UNION, LOCAL 255 (IUJAT)

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

The purpose of the Ordinance was explained by Mr. Iacocca.

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 November 27, 2023, at the Municipal Building/Court Room, located at 1 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			

ORDINANCE # 23-31

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST BRUNSWICK AMENDING ORDINANCE 22-22 FIXING THE GRADES, CLASSIFICATIONS IN GRADES, AND COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST BRUNSWICK COVERING THE PROFESSIONAL MANAGERS ASSOCIATION (PMA), EXECUTIVE STAFF, AND CONFIDENTIAL EMPLOYEES

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

The purpose of the Ordinance was explained by Mr. Iacocca.

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 November 27, 2023, at the Municipal Building/Court Room, located at 1 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		X			
Winston			X			
Zimbicki			X			
McEvoy			X			

ORDINANCE # 23-32

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE # 22-23 FIXING COMPENSATION FOR TEMPORARY, PART TIME, SEASONAL EMPLOYEES

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

The purpose of the Ordinance was explained by Mr. Iacocca.

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 November 27, 2023, at the Municipal Building/Court Room, located at 1 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			

ORDINANCE # 23-33

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE # 21-21 ESTABLISHING THE SALARY COMPENSATION FOR THE EAST BRUNSWICK SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS ASSOCIATION

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

The purpose of the Ordinance was explained by Mr. Iacocca.

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 November 27, 2023, at the Municipal Building/Court Room, located at 1 Civic Center Drive, in the Township of East Brunswick. Councilman Wendell 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			

ORDINANCE # 23-34

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE # 21-30 FIXING THE SALARY CLASSIFICATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE SUPERIOR OFFICERS ASSOCIATION (SOA 145A) OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST BRUNSWICK

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

The purpose of the Ordinance was explained by Mr. Iacocca.

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 November 27, 2023, at the Municipal Building/Court Room, located at 1 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			

ORDINANCE # 23-35

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE # 21-29 FIXING THE SALARY CLASSIFICATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE POLICEMEN'S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, LOCAL 145, OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST BRUNSWICK

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

The purpose of the Ordinance was explained by Iacocca.

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 November 27, 2023, at the Municipal Building/Court Room, located at 1 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			
Winston		X	X			
Zimbicki	X		X			
McEvoy			X			

ORDINANCE # 23-36

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE # 21-37 ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION AND SALARIES FOR EAST BRUNSWICK SPECIAL POLICE ASSOCIATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONTRACTUAL PROVISIONS

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

The purpose of the Ordinance was explained by Mr. Iacocca.

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 November 27, 2023, at the Municipal Building/Court Room, located at 1 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			

ADD-ON RESOLUTION

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

There were none.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CAUSE

James Wendell, Councilman: Councilman Wendell acknowledged and congratulated the St. Bart's Buffalo Cheer teams for winning third place at the regional competition and advancing to the national championship in Florida. He further recognized the 14U Team for their success in the regional championship, despite not advancing to the national championship.

Joseph Criscuolo, Administrator: Mr. Criscuolo reminded the public to have their water meters changed if it has not been done.

Dana Winston, Councilwoman: Councilwoman Winston commended the Mayor's Office and Administrator Joseph Criscuolo for acting expeditiously to address the traffic light concern at Hardenburg Lane and Fresh Ponds Road through the introduction of Bond Ordinance # 23-28. Mr. Criscuolo elaborated on the various capital projects that Bond Ordinance # 23-28 will address.

CLOSED SESSION

There are none.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no other business to conduct, Councilman Wendell moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Behal seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.



 KEVIN MCEVOY, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

ATTEST:



 TAMAR LAWFUL, MUNICIPAL CLERK

