

**MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 23, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Manchester Township Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Vice President James Vaccaro, Sr. The following statement was read by Sabina T. Martin, Municipal Clerk:

“Adequate notice of this meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, pursuant to P.L. 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice was advertised in the Asbury Park Press, Star Ledger and was posted in the lobby of the Municipal Building.”

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

The following roll call was taken by the Municipal Clerk:

Councilman Joseph Hankins	- present
Councilman James Vaccaro	- present
Councilwoman Michele Zolezi	- present
Councilwoman Roxy Conniff	- absent

The Municipal Clerk noted for the record that also present were Township Attorney Lauren Staiger, Business Administrator Brandon Umba, Mayor Robert Arace, Chief Dolan, Capt. Manco, and DPW Director Al Yodakis.

PROCLAMATIONS

Proclamation read by Mayor Arace and presented to former Councilman Samuel Fusaro.

MAYOR APPOINTMENTS

Mayor appointments read into the record by Sabina Martin.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT APPOINTMENTS

Council President Appointments read into the record by Sabina Martin.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The regular meeting minutes and executive session minutes of December 19, 2022 was offered upon a motion by Councilwoman Zolezi, seconded by Councilman Vaccaro and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Zolezi, and Vaccaro; yea. Mr. Hankins, abstain. Mrs. Conniff, absent.

The reorganization meeting minutes of January 3, 2023 was offered upon a motion by Councilman Hankins, seconded by Councilwoman Zolezi and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Vaccaro, Zolezi, and Vaccaro; yea. Mrs. Conniff, absent.

SUBMISSION OF BILLS

#23-041– Authorizing payment of bills from the Current Fund in the amount of \$2,822,867.85 was offered by Councilman Hankins, seconded by Councilwoman Zolezi and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Zolezi, and Vaccaro; yea. Mrs. Conniff, absent.

#23-042 – Authorizing payment of bills from the Eastern Service Area in the amount of \$257,270.62 was offered by Councilman Hankins, seconded by Councilwoman Zolezi and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Zolezi, and Vaccaro; yea. Mrs. Conniff, absent.

#23-043 – Authorizing payment of bills from the Western Service Area in the amount of \$334,917.01 was offered by Councilman Hankins, seconded by Councilwoman Zolezi and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Zolezi, and Vaccaro; yea. Mrs. Conniff, absent.

ORDINANCES - First Reading and Introduction

#23-01 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 2 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED “ADMINISTRATION OF GOVERNMENT”

The above ordinance was upon a motion by Councilman Hankins seconded by Councilwoman Zolezi and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Zolezi, and Vaccaro; yea. Mrs. Conniff, absent.

#23-02 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 2 AND CHAPTER 430 OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CODE TO ELIMINATE THE DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES TO RE-ESTABLISHED THE DIVISION OF UTILITIES

Councilwoman Zolezi offered a motion to table, no second.

The above ordinance was upon a motion by Councilman Hankins seconded by Councilman Vaccaro and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, and Vaccaro; yea. Ms. Zolezi, abstain. Mrs. Conniff, absent.

CONSENT AGENDA

The items listed below are considered to be routine by the Township of Manchester and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no formal discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

Mr. Vaccaro asked if any member of Council had any comments on any item on the consent agenda.

Councilwoman Zolezi offered a motion to table resolutions #23-065 to #23-072, no second.

A motion to remove resolution #23-073 from consent agenda was made by Councilman Hankins, seconded by Councilwoman Zolezi and adopted by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Zolezi, and Vaccaro; yea.

Seeing no further comments from Council, Councilman Vaccaro asked if there were any comments from the public on any items on the consent agenda.

Edward Lynch, 5 Bridle Way: Mr. Lynch inquired about resolution #23-046 and asked what the funding can be used for.

Seeing no further comments from the public, Councilman Vaccaro closed this portion of the meeting.

Resolutions #23-024, #23-044 through #23-074, minus resolution #23-073, were considered routine by the Manchester Township Council and were enacted by one motion offered by Councilman Hankins, seconded by Councilman Vaccaro and adopted by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, and Vaccaro; yea. Councilwoman Zolezi, abstained.

Councilwoman Zolezi abstained from resolutions #23-065, #23-066, #23-067, #23-068, #23-069, #23-070, #23-071, #23-072 Councilwoman Zolezi commented that she was abstaining out of principle and lack of availability to review the resolutions.

A. FINANCE

#23-044 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL TAXES AS TO BLOCK 75.146, LOT 14 FOR A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN

#23-045 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE REFUNDS REQUESTED BY THE TAX COLLECTOR

B. GRANTS

#23-046 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, SUPPORTING THE HTS FEDERAL HIGHWAY SAFETY GRANT, SUSTAINED ENFORCEMENT 2023, AND ACCEPTING THE ENFORCEMENT GRANT FROM THE DHTS

#23-047 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR A SFY 2024 MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE GRANT

#23-048 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR FY 2022 ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT (AFG)

C. PURCHASING

#23-049 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, GRANTING AUTHORITY FOR APPROVAL OF CERTAIN PURCHASES THROUGH NEW JERSEY STATE CONTRACTS AND/OR PURCHASING COOPERATIVES FOR 2023

#23-050 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, GRANTING AUTHORITY FOR APPROVAL OF CERTAIN PURCHASES IN EXCESS OF THE BID THRESHOLD THROUGH NEW JERSEY STATE CONTRACTS AND/OR PURCHASING COOPERATIVES FOR 2023

#23-051 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF OBSOLETE PROPERTY IN THE POSSESSION OF THE TOWNSHIP AT AUCTION ON GOVDEALS.COM SOURCEWELL NATIONAL COOPERATIVE

#23-052 - RESOLUTION OF THE MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING FINAL PAYMENT AND APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 FOR THE PAINTING OF THE ROUTE 37 1.0 MG WATER STORAGE TANK

#23-024 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING FIREFIGHTING/ RESCUE EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES PURSUANT TO NEW JERSEY STATE CONTRACT – DIVISION OF PURCHASE AND PROPERTY CONTRACT NJ 17-FLEET- 00819

D. BONDS/ESCROWS

#23-053 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, RELEASING A PLANNING BOARD ESCROW POSTED BY PKN DEVELOPMENT LLC FOR A PROJECT KNOWN AS BLOCK 1.33 LOTS 9 & 13 (808 SECOND AVENUE)

#23-054 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING FINAL QUANTITIES CHANGE ORDER AND RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE BOND TO DERSTINE COMPANY, LLC FOR ESA TREATMENT PLANT 5 MEDIA REPLACEMENT (BID#20-16)

E. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS

#23-055 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH COOPER POWER SYSTEMS FOR PLANNED MAINTENANCE OF FOUR (4) GENERATORS

#23-056 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH NEW JERSEY STATE ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE, INC. FOR A PROMOTIONAL EXAMINATION

#23-057 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT FOR SUPPORT TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES FOR SERVICES RENDERED

#23-058 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY, LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT OFFICE, 1033 PROGRAM TO ENABLE THE MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT TO REQUEST AND ACQUIRE EXCESS DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EQUIPMENT

F. APPOINTMENT

#23-059 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPOINTING CHRIS KIMBIZ, TAYLOR SCHANDALL, AND MICHAEL SULLIVAN TO FILL THREE VACANT FULL-TIME POLICE OFFICER POSITIONS WITHIN THE DIVISION OF POLICE IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER

#23-060 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPOINTING JOEL BALDWIN AND MARK ROSSMAN TO FILL THE POSITION OF SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER CLASS III IN THE DIVISION OF POLICE IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER FOR THE MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

#23-061 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPOINTING TERI GIERCYK AS REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS

#23-062 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPOINTING JAMES A. VACCARO, SR. AS A CLASS III MEMBER OF THE MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING BOARD

#23-063 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARDING A CONTRACT TO AND AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF JOSEPH J. FACCONE, R.M.A., OF SAMUEL KLEIN AND COMPANY AS TOWNSHIP AUDITOR PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 ET SEQ.

#23-064 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPOINTING BRIAN RUDITSKY TO THE POSITION OF DEPUTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR TO THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER

#23-065 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARDING A CONTRACT TO AND AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF JEAN L. CIPRIANI, ESQ. OF ROTHSTEIN, MANDELL, STROHM, HALM & CIPRIANI, P.C. AS AFFORDABLE HOUSING ATTORNEY, PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 ET SEQ.

#23-066 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARDING A CONTRACT TO AND AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF JEAN L. CIPRIANI, ESQ. OF ROTHSTEIN, MANDELL, STROHM, HALM & CIPRIANI, P.C. AS OPRA ATTORNEY, PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 ET SEQ.

#23-067 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARDING A CONTRACT TO AND AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF MATTHEW SAGE, ESQ. OF THE LAW OFFICE OF MATTHEW SAGE AS PUBLIC DEFENDER, PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 ET SEQ.

#23-068 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARDING A CONTRACT TO AND AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF JUSTIN LAMB, ESQ. OF LAMB LAW OFFICES, LLC AS ALTERNATE PUBLIC DEFENDER, PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 ET SEQ.

#23-069 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARDING A CONTRACT TO AND AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF BRIAN RUMPF, ESQ. OF RUMPF LAW, P.C. AS ALTERNATE PUBLIC DEFENDER, PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 ET SEQ.

#23-070 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARDING A CONTRACT TO AND AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF LAUREN R. STAIGER AS TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY FOR LEGAL SERVICES FOR MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP, PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 ET SEQ.

#23-071 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARDING A CONTRACT TO AND AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF REMINGTON & VERNICK ENGINEERS FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR SEWER AND WATER, PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 ET SEQ.

#23-072 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARDING A CONTRACT TO AND AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF MORGAN ENGINEERING, LLC AS TOWNSHIP ENGINEER, PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 ET SEQ.

G. MISCELLANEOUS

#23-073 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, REQUESTING THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (“DEP”) TAKE CERTAIN MEASURES REGARDING THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AND CLEAN UP AT THE CIBA GEIGY SITE (“SITE”)

#23-074 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY CONTRACTS WITH VARIOUS PROFESSIONALS

REPORTS:

Ms. Zolezi: Mrs. Zolezi thanked Councilman Fusaro for all the years he has dedicated to Manchester, and stated him and his knowledge will be missed. She thanked Sabina Martin for all the hard work and dedication she has shown Manchester over the years.

Mr. Vaccaro: Mr. Vaccaro wished Sabina Martin all the best in her retirement, and he stated he respects her as a person and a professional. He stated that he attended various meetings, the Ridgeway Volunteer Fire Department installation dinner, and he reviewed bills with Councilman Hankins. Mr. Vaccaro requested the status of our cyber security, and a summary report and timeframe for the 10-year energy plan. He encouraged the public to continue protecting themselves from COVID 19, and other respiratory viruses. Mr. Vaccaro congratulated Councilman Fusaro and stated that he personally thanks him for his dedication to Manchester.

Brandon Umba stated that Data Processing has recently added a number of items to increase cyber security, and they are still putting in place more items. He stated that he can provide summary of 10-year energy plan.

Mayor Arace: Mayor Arace thanked Councilman Fusaro, and congratulated Sabina Martin on her retirement and thanked her for service to the community. He stated that he has received rent control comments, and stated they are working on an ordinance regarding rent control. Mayor Arace also commented that they established a legislative committee, which allows Council time to review the ordinance and allow input.

Chief Dolan: Chief Dolan congratulated Councilman Fusaro and Sabina Martin. He stated the next Coffee with a Cop will be this Thursday 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Toast. He commented the resolutions appointing officers for vacancies, not new appointments.

Sabina Martin: Mrs. Martin stated that she had a great 27 years and thanked Council for their support. She stated that Brandon Umba was best business administrator she has ever work with.

PUBLIC:

Judy Kuhmichel, 55 Winkle Court: Mrs. Kuhmichel thanked Councilman Fusaro and Sabina Martin for their service. She stated that Mr. Vaccaro will be the liaison for Manchester Coordinating Council.

Judy Noonan, 25A Stoneybrook: Mrs. Noonan commented that the Municipal Clerk is the rock of the Council. She asked for an update on the light on Congasia and Route 530, commented that there has been quad complaints, and dumping off Congasia. Mrs. Noonan asked for an update on the cell tower. She asked for Councils opinion of the whale deaths and wind projects off the coast.

Brandon Umba stated that the Township Attorney has been giving paperwork regarding the cell tower, and emails have been sent. He stated that At&t is on the tower, but they have no confirmation if Verizon is on the tower or live.

Lauren Staiger stated that Council does not need to comment of the whales at this time, but if they want to discuss and propose a resolution, we can do that.

Karen Perry, 2509 Steiner Roads: Commented that adding agenda items for Council approval is poor business and suggested that Council start working together. She stated that Manchester is a wonderful place to live and wants to keep it that way.

Karen Argenti, Country Walk: Mrs. Argenti thanked Councilman Fusaro and Sabina Martin for their dedication to Manchester. She commented on the wind projects, and invited everyone to comment of the on Ciba-Geigy settlement project.

No further public comment

EXECUTIVE SESSION

#23-075 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 2 OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, CHAPTER 231, PUBLIC LAWS OF 1975

A motion to enter into Executive Session at 7:28 p.m. was made by Councilman Hankins, seconded by Councilwoman Zolezi and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Zolezi, and Vaccaro; yea. Mrs. Conniff, absent.

The Executive Session was adjourned at 8:21 p.m. upon a motion by Councilman Hankins, seconded by Councilman Vaccaro and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Zolezi, and Conniff; yea.

A motion to reconvene into Regular Session at 8:24 p.m. was made by Councilman Hankins, seconded by Councilman Vaccaro and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Zolezi, and Vaccaro; yea. Mrs. Conniff, absent.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments or business to come before Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. upon a motion by Councilman Vaccaro, seconded by Councilman Hankins and approved by the following Roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Zolezi, and Vaccaro; yea. Mrs. Conniff, absent.

James A. Vaccaro, Sr.
Council Vice President

Sabina T. Martin, RMC
Municipal Clerk

2/13/2023
Date Approved