

**MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 22, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Manchester Township Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Roxy Conniff, Council President. The following statement was read by Teri Giercyk, Municipal Clerk:

STATEMENT

“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
Councilman Craig Wallis	- present
Councilwoman Michele Zolezi	- absent for regular meeting/Present via phone for executive.
Councilwoman Roxy Conniff	- present

The Municipal Clerk noted for the record that also present were Mayor Arace, Township Attorney Lauren Staiger, Business Administrator Carl Block, and Chief Dolan.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

#23-240 - 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 5:03 p.m. was made by Councilman Hankins, seconded by Councilman Vaccaro and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, Zolezi, and Conniff; yea.

The Executive Session was adjourned at 6:08 p.m. upon a motion by Councilman Hankins seconded by Councilman Vaccaro and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, Zolezi, and Conniff; yea.

A motion to reconvene into Regular Session at 6:09 p.m. was made by Councilman Hankins, seconded by Councilman Vaccaro and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, and Conniff; yea. Councilwoman Zolezi was absent.

PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Arace read a proclamation for National EMS Week and presented it to the EMS.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Regular Meeting Minutes - May 8, 2023 were offered upon a motion made by Councilman Hankins, seconded by Councilman Vaccaro and approved by the following roll call: Councilman Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, Conniff. Yea. Councilwoman Zolezi was absent.

SUBMISSION OF BILLS

#23-241 - Authorizing payment of bills from the current fund in the amount of \$1,211,763.24 was offered by Councilman Hankins, and seconded by Councilman Vaccaro and approved by the following roll call: Councilman Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, and Conniff. Yea. Councilman Zolezi was absent.

#23-242 - Authorizing Utility Fund – ESA in the amount of \$493,660.93 were offered by Councilman Vaccaro and seconded by Councilman Hankins and approved by the following roll call: Councilman Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, and Conniff. Yea. Councilwoman Zolezi was absent.

#23-243 - Authorizing Utility Fund – WSA in the amount of \$417,615.10 were offered by Councilman Vaccaro and seconded by Councilman Hankins and approved by the following roll call: Councilman Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, and Conniff. Yea. Councilwoman Zolezi was absent.

ORDINANCES - Second Reading, Public Hearing and Final Action

#23-11 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE VACATION OF PORTIONS OF BURNSIDE STREET ABUTTING BLOCK 1.339, LOT 5 AND BLOCK 1.340, LOTS 22-25

#23-11 was tabled upon a motion made by Councilman Hankins, seconded by Councilman Vaccaro. All in favor, yea. Councilwoman Zolezi was absent.

#23-12 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXCHANGE OF LANDS (BLOCK 1.317, LOTS 33 & 34 FOR BLOCK 1.317, LOT 40) BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER AND JEFFREY JERMAN PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-16

Councilwoman Conniff asked if any member of Council had any comments on this ordinance. Seeing no comments from Council, Councilwoman Conniff asked if there were any comments from the public.

Ed Lynch – Mr. Lynch inquired about the street location or address.

Township Attorney, Lauren Staiger responded that since they are vacant lots, there are no addresses, but they are between 6th and 7th Street.

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

#23-13 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXCHANGE OF LANDS (BLOCK 1.131, LOT 20 FOR BLOCK 1.191 LOT 15) BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER AND JEFFREY JERMAN PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-16

Councilwoman Conniff asked if any member of Council had any comments on this ordinance. Seeing no comments from Council, Councilwoman Conniff asked if there were any comments from the public. Seeing no comments from public.

Hank Glen, Wycliff Drive – Mr. Glen inquired if the lot has any drainage issues, and the reason for the land swap.

Township Attorney, Lauren Staiger explained that there are no drainage issues, but the Township wants to keep the lot for future drainage or a basin. She explained it was reviewed and determined to be in the best interest to be put back on tax rolls.

Hank Glen, Wycliff Drive – Mr. Glen stated that he thought it was determined not to overbuilt in Pine Lake Park and asked what the advantage is.

Mr. Block explained that it's a good faith effort. Mayor Arace explained that the land swap would leave a 75' x 100' to be built on instead of a 50' lot to be built on. He feels that a land swap would leave the Township in a better position and not building on 50' lots.

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

#23-14 - CAPITAL ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE REMEDIATION OF WELL #4 AND APPROPRIATING \$150,000 THEREFOR, AUTHORIZED IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, IN THE COUNTY OF OCEAN, NEW JERSEY

Councilwoman Conniff asked if any member of Council had any comments on this ordinance. Seeing no comments from Council, Councilwoman Conniff asked if there were any comments from the public.

Hank Glen, Wycliff Drive – Mr. Glen inquired about the remediation, and asked for clarification regarding the water storage and treatment.

Mr. Block explained that it is a temporary filtration system. \$150,000 for 6 months. We will upgrade to a filtration system. But designing, permitting, and building the new system will cost 1-2 million and will probably take one year to complete. Mr. Block commented that the water tower is for storage and the well needed treatment.

The comment period was closed, and the ordinance was approved upon a motion by Councilman Hankins, seconded by Councilman Vaccaro and approved by the following roll call: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis and Conniff; yea. Councilwoman Zolezi was absent.

ORDINANCES – First Reading & Introduction

#23-15 - ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF BLOCK 1.23, LOTS 11, 12 & 13 ON THE MUNICIPAL TAX MAP TO BRAIAN NAVARRO GRANADOS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13 (b) AND N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13.2 (SECOND AVENUE; \$57,070.00)

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

#23-16 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING THE TOWNSHIP CODE CHAPTER 396, ENTITLED "TOWING"

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

#23-17 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF AN EASEMENT ON A PORTION OF BLOCK 75, LOT 82.02, TO JCP&L AND VERIZON, IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1 ET SEQ.

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

#23-18 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING, SUPPLEMENTING AND REPEALING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 316 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE, ENTITLED "INVASIVE PLANTS"

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

Councilwoman Conniff asked if any member of Council had any comments on any item on the consent agenda.

Seeing no comments from Council, Councilwoman Conniff asked if there were any comments from the public on any items on the consent agenda. No comments from the public

Resolutions #23-244 - #23-257 were considered routine by the Manchester Township Council and were enacted by one motion offered by Councilman Vaccaro, seconded by Councilman Hankins and adopted by the following roll call: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis and Conniff, yea. Councilwoman Zolezi was absent.

A. FINANCE

#23-244 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL TAXES AS TO BLOCK 52.31, LOT 26 FOR A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN

#23-245 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL TAXES AS TO BLOCK 61.16, LOT 310 FOR A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN

#23-246 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL TAXES AS TO BLOCK 1.57, LOT 1 FOR A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN

#23-247 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL TAXES AS TO BLOCK 98.06, LOT 89 FOR A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN

#23-248 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE REFUNDS REQUESTED BY THE TAX COLLECTOR

#23-249 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE REFUNDS REQUESTED BY THE TAX COLLECTOR

#23-250 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE ADDITION OF A DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN, EQUITABLE, FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF MANCHESTER

B. RECREATION

#23-251 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH PARAMETRIX AUDIO & LIGHTING

C. PURCHASING

#23-252 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A REQUIRED DISCLOSURE CONTRACT WITH ABS ELECTRIC FOR WELL #5 VFD INSTALLATION

D. BONDS/ESCROWS

#23-253 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, RELEASING AN ESCROW THAT WAS POSTED BY KOKES ORGANIZATION IN CONNECTION WITH A PROJECT KNOWN AS RESERVE AT LAKE RIDGE, SECTIONS 2 & 3

#23-254 - RESOLUTION OF THE MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING FINAL PAYMENT, CHANGE ORDER NO. 1, RELEASE OF THE PERFORMANCE BOND, AND ACCEPTANCE OF MAINTENANCE BOND FOR THE WESTERN SERVICE AREA METER REPLACEMENT – PHASE 1

E. LEGISLATION

#23-255 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, URGING SWIFT PASSAGE OF S-330 WHICH RESTORES ENERGY TAX RECEIPTS

F. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS

#23-256 - 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 POLICE OFFICER WRITTEN EXAMINATION

#23-257 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH MEGHAN ANN BENNETT OF DILWORTH PAXSON LLP, AS BOND COUNSEL FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER

REPORTS:

Mr. Hankins – On Beckerville Road, beekeepers are having a bear problem. If you see damage or issues with bears, please call it in. Also, there are new mulch restrictions with placement close to buildings.

Mr. Vaccaro – On May 15th he attended the police promotion ceremony. On May 16th with Councilwoman Conniff they attended the bi-weekly meeting. May 20th with Councilman Hankins we reviewed the bills. May 22nd with Councilwoman Conniff attended a new home dedication. Also, on May 22nd with Councilman Hankins attended MCC meeting at Crestwood Village #5. The owner of the Barn was the speaker. Again, he requested by June 12th meeting the status of the SAFER Grant and a 10-year energy plan. He suggested a feasibility study of solar panels on a carport over the parking lots. Lastly, the public has been advised that tolls will be increased on 1/1/2024, we should adopt a resolution to oppose the tolls.

Councilman Wallis – He asked the public to remember the Memorial Day celebration.

Councilwoman Conniff – She attended the Habitat for Humanity house dedication. A house from Lavallette that was donated and moved to Whiting on land that was also donated.

Announcements: Farmers Market is every Thursday. Memorial Day ceremony on May 29th at 10am at the Veterans WWII memorial. Our rabies clinic is June 3rd at the Ridgeway Firehouse from 8:30 – 11am and Township Garage from 1-3pm. She wished everyone a beautiful, happy, and safe Memorial Day weekend.

Mayor – No report.

Chief Dolan – Chief Dolan commented on the promotions and stated some officers were moved into the Detective Bureau. Thanked Council for resolution for new exams for police officers. He thanked Mayor Arace, Council and Diane Lapp.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Salvatore DelCollo – Silverwoods – Mr. DelCollo stated that he called Roxy and spoke to her and the Mayor's office. The Mayor was supposed to speak at our clubhouse. We need rent control for Silverwoods and all senior citizens. He asked if the lawyer was an advocate for the town and if she could send letters out. He liked what the Township did for the residents with trailers and he thanked everyone for listening to him.

Mayor to Mr. DelCollo – He will be there at the meetings, and he has heard from you and all the residents.

Township Attorney, Lauren Staiger suggested that there are departments within the County that could put you in contact with Senior Services and Consumer Affairs. They could get you in touch with people that could help you.

Greg Malko – Silverwoods – He stated that he felt what they did was extortion, and blackmail. Silverwoods, most folks are on fixed income, and he has been using his savings to get by. Think about what you would do if it was you or your family members. My neighbors are my family and I worry about them all. We need to do what's right.

Elizabeth – Silverwoods- She thanked the Manchester Senior Services Department for the transportation. They are very helpful and courteous. They are a vital service. She also thanked Teri, Municipal Clerk. I emailed her and immediately got a response. We are being bullied. She has done some research and found paperwork from code and standards regarding rules about raising rent which she gave to Council. Anything you can do to help us.

Township Attorney, Lauren Staiger commented that she and everyone here believes that it is appalling what is happening but please follow up with county services.

Mayor Arace stated that he will be bringing County Senior Services with him to the meetings at Silverwoods.

Salvatore DelCollo commented that he wants rent control for senior citizens.

Edward Lynch – 3 types of people:

- 1) Make things happen
- 2) Watch thing happen
- 3) Wonder what happened

Councilwoman Conniff – Thanked residents for coming and bringing situations to light.

Michele Boyle – Huckleberry Lane – Mrs. Boyle asked when the ordinance regarding Schuls will be on the agenda.

Mayor Arace stated that it is on the Planning Board June 5th meeting agenda for review. Items needed to be looked at and cleaned up, language was updated. After the Planning Board, it comes back to council for second reading, public hearing, and comment.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further comments or business to come before Council at this time, a motion to close to public comments and adjourn at 7:07 pm was made by Councilman Hankins, seconded by Councilman Vaccaro and approved by the following roll call: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis and Conniff; yea. Councilwoman Zolezi was absent.

Roxy Conniff
Council President

Teri Giercyk, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk

6/12/2023
Date Approved