

**MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 10, 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	- present
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 Capt. Komsa (regular session only).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

#23-294 – 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 5:05 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 5:59 p.m. upon a motion by Councilman Vaccaro seconded by Councilman Hankins and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, Zolezi, and Conniff; yea.

A motion to reconvene into Regular Session at 6:02 p.m. was made by Councilman Wallis, seconded by Councilman Vaccaro and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, Zolezi, and Conniff; yea.

FLAG SALUTE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Regular Meeting Minutes - June 26, 2023 were offered upon a motion made by Councilman Hankins, seconded by Councilman Vaccaro and approved by the following roll call: Councilmember, Hankins, Vaccaro, Zolezi, and Conniff; yea. Mr. Wallis, abstained due to absence.

SUBMISSION OF BILLS

#23-295 - Authorizing payment of bills from the Current Fund in the amount of \$1,693,440.59 was offered by Councilman Vaccaro who stated he reviewed bills with Councilman Hankins, seconded by Councilman Hankins were approved upon the following roll call: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, Zolezi, and Conniff; yea.

#23-296 – Authorizing payment of bills from the Utility Fund – ESA in the amount of \$141,552.42 were offered by Councilman Vaccaro, seconded by Councilman Wallis and were approved by the following roll call: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, Zolezi, and Conniff; yea.

#23-297 – Authorizing payment of bills from the Utility Fund – WSA in the amount of \$107,799.39 were offered by Councilman Vaccaro, seconded by Councilman Wallis and were approved by the following roll call: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, Zolezi, and Conniff; yea.

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.

Seeing no comments from the public, Councilwoman Conniff closed this portion of the meeting.

Resolutions #23-298 - #23-303 were considered routine by the Manchester Township Council and were enacted by one motion offered by Councilman Vaccaro, seconded by Councilman Wallis and adopted by the following roll call: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, Zolezi, and Conniff; yea.

A. FINANCE

#23-298 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENTS WITH VARIOUS QUALIFIED PRIVATE COMMUNITIES.

B. LICENSING

#23-299 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROVING THE PLACE-TO-PLACE TRANSFER OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSE #1518-33-002-004, MANCHESTER RT 70 LLC.

#23-300 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROVING RENEWAL POCKET LIQUOR LICENSE 1518-33-013-001 (IRPINIA ASSOCIATES LLC) REQUIRING SPECIAL RULING IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER FOR THE 2023-2024 LICENSING TERM

C. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS

#23-301 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION TO THE DONATION OF EQUIPMENT IN THE POSSESSION OF THE TOWNSHIP

D. BONDS/ESCROWS

#23-302 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, RELEASING AN ESCROW POSTED BY ORGO-THERMIT INC., BLOCK 72, LOT 16 (3500 COLONIAL DRIVE NORTH)

E. MISCELLANEOUS

#23-303 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, IN SUPPORT OF THE COUNTY OF OCEAN ACQUIRING OPEN SPACE FOR THE NATURAL LANDS TRUST (BLOCK 69, LOTS 5, BLOCK 62, LOTS 15, 16, & 33, AND BLOCK 109, LOTS 14.01, 14.02, 15.01)

REPORTS:

Councilman Hankins – No report.

Councilman Vaccaro – Mr. Vaccaro attended the 6/28 Cedar Glen Lakes luncheon, where the Mayor presented proclamations to everyone 90 years of age and older. It was very nice event. He attended the ribbon cutting of our new Senior Services location at 82 Lacey Road. July 5th was our bi-weekly meeting. On July 8th bills were reviewed with Councilman Hankins. On 11/14/2022, he presented a healthcare pamphlet to Mayor and Council with one stop healthcare complex. He stated that we need to actively look into and establish a healthcare center in Manchester. No one should have to travel great distances for healthcare. Lastly, it would create numerous jobs.

Councilman Wallis – No report

Councilwoman Zolezi – Ms. Zolezi thanked Council President for adding the additional flag salute for public when we have closed session. She wished everyone a wonderful summer and asked the public to keep on eye on your neighbors in the heat.

Council President Conniff – Mrs. Conniff attended the luncheon at Cedar Glen Lakes which was very nice.

Capt. Komsa – He stated that the Police Department is having a youth academy for grades 6, 7, and 8th. It is Monday through Friday setting with training.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Karen Perry – Thornberry Lane – Thanked the Municipal Clerk for looking into the truck bill mentioned at last meeting and also the flag salute.

Mrs. Judy Kuhmichel – Country Walk – She inquired if there any updates on the cell tower and cell service in Whiting.

Mr. Block gave a Verizon update. The equipment there was activated last May, but they are looking at other locations for better service.

Mr. Edward Lynch, Bridle Way – Thanked the Public Works Department for the maintenance and upkeep on the Nicholas Ott Memorial.

Mr. Hank Glen – He inquired about the utility funds, and asked why we are paying a water engineer and a sewer engineer and their responsibilities.

Diane Lapp stated that the state mandates that we have a licensed water operator for both water and sewer.

Mr. Glen asked about the difference in cost between the East and West accounts.

Diane Lapp stated that the West is struggling with revenue at this time.

Gail Apgar, Columbus Blvd. – She inquired if we are still working on the toll opposition mentioned by a councilman at a previous meeting.

Lauren Staiger clarified, yes. Councilman Vaccaro mentioned it and at the last meeting, Council passed a resolution opposing the toll increase.

Ms. Abgar said she will work on the petition with the help of Judy Noonan and is it possible for her to come to the Municipal Complex for residents to sign the petition.

Mr. Block stated as long as it is not political, which it is not, and she doesn't block entrances, it would probably be ok.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further comments or business to come before Council at this time, a motion to close to public comments and adjourn the meeting at 6:19 pm was made by Councilman Vaccaro, seconded by Councilman Hankins approved by the following roll call: Councilman Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, Zolezi and Conniff; yea.

Roxy Conniff
Council President

Teri Giercyk, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk

7/24/2023
Date Approved