

**MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 12, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Manchester Township Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Council President Roxanne Conniff. The following statement was read by Teri Giercyk, 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
Councilman Craig Wallis	- present
Councilwoman Michele Zolezi	- present
Councilwoman Roxy Conniff	- present

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

PROCLAMATIONS

Proclamation for Mr. Bee. Present to receive proclamation were his wife Thelma Bee and son Daniel Dant.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The regular meeting minutes of January 22, 2024 was offered upon a motion by Councilman Vaccaro, seconded by Councilman Hankins and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, , Zolezi and Coniff, yea. Mr. Wallis abstained due to absence.

SUBMISSION OF BILLS

#23-89– Authorizing payment of bills from the Current Fund in the amount of \$14,778,150.74 was offered by Councilman Vaccaro, seconded by Councilman Hankins and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, Zolezi and Coniff, yea.

#23-90 – Authorizing payment of bills from the Eastern Service Area in the amount of \$512,095.84 was offered by Councilman Vaccaro, seconded by Councilman Wallis and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, Zolezi and Coniff, yea.

#23-91 – Authorizing payment of bills from the Western Service Area in the amount of \$481,166.10 was offered by Councilman Vaccaro, seconded by Councilman Wallis and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, Zolezi and Coniff, yea.

ORDINANCES – First Reading and Introduction

#24-03 – ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF BLOCK 1.21, LOT 30 ON THE MUNICIPAL TAX MAP TO KRISTINE LAPORTE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13 (b) AND N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13.2 (2033 First Avenue; \$20,000.00)

Councilwoman Conniff asked if any member of Council had any comments on this ordinance. Seeing no comments from Council, Councilwoman Zolezi made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Vaccaro. Roll Call: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, Zolezi, and Conniff; yea.

#24-04 - ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE DONATION OF BLOCK 54, LOT 1, TO THE COUNTY OF OCEAN IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1 ET SEQ. (3145 RIDGEWAY ROAD)

Councilwoman Conniff asked if any member of Council had any comments on this ordinance. Seeing no comments from Council, Councilman Vaccaro made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Wallis. Roll Call: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, Zolezi, and Conniff; yea.

#24-05 - 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”

Councilwoman Conniff asked if any member of Council had any comments on this ordinance. Seeing no comments from Council, Councilman Vaccaro made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Wallis. Roll Call: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, Zolezi, and Conniff; yea.

#24-06 - ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING SALARY RANGES AND POSITIONS OF NON-BARGAINING UNIT EMPLOYEES

Councilwoman Conniff asked if any member of Council had any comments on this ordinance. Seeing no comments from Council, Councilman Vaccaro made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Hankins. 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.

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

Seeing no comments from Council, Council President 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 #24-92 - #24-126, 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 vote: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, Zolezi, and Conniff; yea.

A. GRANTS

#24-92 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR AN OCEAN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANT

B. RECREATION

#24-93 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ESTABLISHING CERTAIN FEES FOR RECREATION THEATER TRIPS

#24-94 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH BLUE RAVEN ENTERTAINMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE JULY 10TH, 2024 CONCERT BY “THE BRITISH INVASION YEARS”

#24-95 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH KREATIONS N MUSIC IN CONNECTION WITH THE AUGUST 21ST, 2024 CONCERT BY “JULIAN & DOMINIQUE”

#24-96 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH CLAYTUNES, INC. / 107 PRODUCTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE AUGUST 21ST, 2024 CONCERT BY “MISSION DANCE”

#24-97 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH ATOMIC MUSIC GROUP IN CONNECTION WITH THE JULY 31ST, 2024 CONCERT BY “THE SENSATIONAL SOUL CRUISERS”

C. PURCHASING

#24-98 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARDING A REQUIRED DISCLOSURE CONTRACT TO PUMPING SERVICES

INC. FOR PLYMOUTH BOOSTER STATION PUMP REPLACEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A.19:44A-20.5

#24-99 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING AWARD OF BID 24-02 TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADES WELL NO. 4 TO CALGON CARBON CORPORATION

#24-100 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING AWARD OF BID 24-06 SITE IMPROVEMENTS FOR TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADES WELL NO. 4 TO DERSTINE COMPANY LLC

#24-101 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR COMMUNITY SOLAR DEVELOPERS

D. BONDS/ESCROWS

#24-102 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, RELEASING PERFORMANCE BOND AND CASH ESCROW FOR AN ENTITY KNOWN AS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST OF TOMS RIVER FOR BLOCK 1 LOT 3 (1681 RIDGEWAY ROAD)

#24-103 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, RELEASING AN ESCROW POSTED BY B & S HOMES BUILDING, LLC BLOCK FOR 1.285 LOT 19 (1532 LAWRENCE AVENUE)

#24-104 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, RELEASING AN ESCROW POSTED BY ROLANDO ALEMAN., FOR A PROPERTY LOCATED AT BLOCK 54 LOT 697.01 (3245 RIDGEWAY ROAD)

E. APPOINTMENT

#24-105 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARDING A CONTRACT TO AND AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF COMMUNITY GRANTS, PLANNING & HOUSING (CGP&H) AS ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING MATTERS, PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 ET SEQ.

F. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS

#24-106 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH GOOSE CONTROL TECHNOLOGY FOR GEESE CONTROL AT HARRY WRIGHT AND PINE LAKES

#24-107 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER AND THE 87TH SECURITY FORCES SQUADRON

#24-108 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT FOR SUPPORT TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES FOR SERVICES RENDERED

#24-109 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER AND MARK WHITE, PH.D. P.A.

#24-110 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER AND THE COUNTY OF OCEAN FOR FY 2024 PROSECUTOR’S PROGRAM

#24-111 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER AND ALAN DESIMONE FOR SERVICES RENDERED AS A REASSESSMENT FIELD INSPECTOR

#24-112 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER AND AUSTIN GEISSEL FOR SERVICES RENDERED AS A REASSESSMENT FIELD INSPECTOR

#24-113 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER AND BAILEY GRIFFIN FOR SERVICES RENDERED AS A REASSESSMENT FIELD INSPECTOR

#24-114 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER AND JAMES ROBINSON FOR SERVICES RENDERED AS A REASSESSMENT FIELD INSPECTOR

#24-115 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER AND KELLY VITO FOR SERVICES RENDERED AS A REASSESSMENT FIELD INSPECTOR

#24-116 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

#24-117 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR MUNICIPAL COURT FACILITIES AND PERSONNEL BETWEEN MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP AND THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED

#24-118 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, CONSENTING TO THE SALE OF A PROJECT AND TRANSFER OF A FINANCIAL AGREEMENT FOR PROPERTY KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS BLOCK 102, LOT 2 A/K/A 2121 LAKE ROAD, MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY

#24-119 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED

G. FINANCE

#24-120 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL TAXES AS TO BLOCK 71.01, LOT 39 FOR A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN

#24-121 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL TAXES AS TO BLOCK 1.308, LOT 1 FOR A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN

#24-122 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE REFUNDS REQUESTED BY THE TAX COLLECTOR

#24-123 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT FUND CALENDAR YEAR 2024

H. MISCELLANEOUS

#24-124 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, STATEMENT OF INTENT TO PURSUE PLAN ENDORSEMENT AND AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT THE MUNICIPAL SELF-ASSESSMENT REPORT ADDENDUM TO THE NEW JERSEY STATE OFFICE OF PLANNING ADVOCACY

#24-125 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING SALARY ADJUSTMENT AGREEMENT RELEASES AND WAIVER OF CLAIMS

#24-126 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING SALARY ADJUSTMENT AGREEMENT RELEASE AND WAIVER OF CLAIMS FOR JOSEPH VENI

REPORTS:

Mr. Hankins: none

Mr. Vaccaro: Thank you Council President Conniff. On January 25th I attended the zoning board reorganization meeting and regular meeting. I have to apologize to the Whiting Volunteer Fire Company #1. I was unable to attend the installation dinner due to illness. I want to congratulate the line officers. On February 5th I attended the Planning Board meeting. February 6th I attended the bi-weekly meeting, which you know prepares for tonight's meeting. On February 10th myself and Councilman Hankins reviewed bills. As you know, the public has been advised that tolls are going up. I would like the council to consider adopting a resolution to oppose toll hikes. I would like to thank the council for opening up the bidding process again in March for energy aggregation. Thank you also for resolution #24-101 for the solar bidding process to begin. Lastly, I would like to discuss the future of a senior community center and explore grants. Madam president, that concludes my report and thank you for the time allotted to me.

Mr. Wallis: none

Ms. Zolezi: It is that time of year. Congratulations to the Whiting Fire Volunteer Company and across the board to all. Thank you to all volunteers for their service. I would like to acknowledge that it is Black History month.

Mrs. Conniff: I attended the installation dinner at the Whiting Fire Company and had the honor of swearing them in. Thank you to all volunteer fire and EMS for all their service.

Chief Dolan: Lt. Chris Hemhauser is retiring, and this is his last week. We will be doing a sendoff. I was happy to see that the awards ceremony still being posted on social media.

PUBLIC:

Karen Perry – Thornberry Lane – With the reassessment coming up, I want to thank you for the presentations. It answered a lot of questions the residents had. It was informative. Thank you again.

Judy Noonan -Stonybrook Rd.- I work with the Mayor and as a resident I think a letter to the Governor needs to be sent regarding the Anchor Program. Checks have not been received. I call and you can't get through. The seniors need help. Thank you.

Gail Apgar – Columbus Blvd. – I agree with Judy. The Anchor program turned out to be a disaster. The EMS/Senior Center – can you put a sign up? It is hard driving trying to find the building.

Mayor – We did bring that up with the county. We will follow up with them.

Gail Apgar – question on crime and arrests. Do we have bail reform and do we follow state guidelines or have more stringent guidelines in Manchester?

Chief – we have to follow protocol with bail reform. State guidelines.

Carl – the guidelines are administered by state administrators of court at the state level.

Kathy Elen – Curry Ct. – I'm new in town. The councilman mentioned in his report a senior center. Do we not have one now? Councilman Vaccaro – no. Not a senior center.

Kathy Elen – Thank you, think it's a great idea.

Gail O'Connor – Thornberry Lane – On Christmas Eve a resident in LVW put rat poison on his lawn to distract dogs. The association called the police, and the police said their hands were tied since rat poison is not illegal. The health department was also called. Can something be done by the town or a rule against this?

Council President Conniff – We can take it under advisement.

With no further public comments, Council President Conniff asked for a motion to close public comment. A motion was made by Councilman Hankins, seconded by Councilman Vaccaro. All yeas.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

#24-127 - 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 was made to go into executive session 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 was made to come out of executive session by Councilman Hankins and seconded by Councilwoman Zolezi and approved by the following Roll Call: Councilmembers Hankins, Vaccaro, Wallis, Zolezi, and Conniff; yea.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments or business to come before Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 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.

Roxanne Conniff
Council President

Teri Giercyk, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk

2/26/2024
Date Approved