

MEETING MINUTES

**TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN
COUNTY OF OCEAN
BUSINESS MEETING
November 12, 2024
5:00 pm**

Call to Order

Flag Salute

ROLL CALL: BAULDERSTONE X LOPARO X DODD X

STATEMENT: Pursuant to the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act, adequate notice of this meeting was properly provided by sending a copy of the Notice of Meeting to two newspapers, The Asbury Park Press and the Press of Atlantic City. The Notice was posted at the office of the Township Clerk

Committee Reports

Committeeman – Ken Boulderstone

Good evening. I would like to Congratulate Mayor Lydia Dodd for winning her re-election.

Ordinance 2024-29. This ordinance is amending the tree ordinance that was required for adoption by the State of New Jersey. The Township is making an adjustment to the ordinance. If a property owner does not have the area to plant all of the trees on the property, the property owner will have the ability to pay a fee to a tree fund that will be used for the upkeep or planting of trees within the municipality.

Department of Public Works. Completed the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) compliance punch list – no violations. Completed hydrant tagging operations for Water Quality Compliance Act. Commenced valve exercising program as required by the Water Quality Compliance Act. Monthly water testing has been completed and all items are complying. Leaf collection has started and will continue through December. Each section is picked up as per the Township Calendar.

Senior Advisory

The next Senior Advisory Meeting will take place November 18th. The program is “Brain Alliance”. The topic is “Fall Prevention”. Fulfill of Monmouth/Ocean Mobile Food Pantry will attend at 12 noon.

The Senior Advisory Holiday Party will take place on December 9th at 11:30 am. The Waterview Singers will be performing. All are welcome to attend. Please let Recreation know ahead of time.

All programs and meals at the Engle Sprague Senior Center are very well attended and attendance continues to increase every month. Please register, all are welcome.

Recreation

The Township Committee would like to thank everyone who participated in the Halloween Decorating Contest. There were 11 entries. 1st place – 18 Dock Avenue, 2nd place – 46 Illinois Avenue, 3rd place – 13 Poplar Street

The Annual Holiday House Decorating Contest registration is starting on December 1st. You can nominate your home or your neighbors.

Ocean County Congregate Meals. Hot meals are served every Monday and Wednesday. Tuesday there is pizza and Bingo is held for nominal prizes. There is also a wellness speaker program after the meals.

Everyone is welcome to attend. It is a wonderful way to socialize, meet new people and just be out of the house. Calendars are on the back table and on the Township's website.

Thank you.

Deputy Mayor – Ben LoParo

Thank you for coming to the Township Committee meeting this evening.

Congratulations to Mayor Lydia Dodd for being re-elected to the Township Committee.

Ordinance 2024-26 – First Reading. This ordinance is changing the sign ordinance. This is to change the original ordinance that states the lighted signs can only change slides every 15 minutes to allow for slides changing every 3 minutes. The Public Hearing will be on December 17th.

Ordinance 2024-28 – First Reading. This ordinance is updating the noise ordinance. This removes the section which states a police officer with a noise gage will come and test the noise. The noise ordinance has kept all other items listed. The Public Hearing will be on December 17th.

Resolution 2024-279. This resolution authorizes a Shared Service Agreement with the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office for the Drug Recognition Expert Program. The Police Department works with the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office in this capacity every year.

Resolution 2024-286. This resolution is authorizing the 2024 Emergency Management Agency Assistance Grant in the amount of \$10,000. The application will be submitted and the Township will wait for the awards.

Resolution 2024-287. This resolution is allowing the Township of Ocean to donate a used police vehicle to the Ocean County Vocational Technical Program – Police Academy. This will allow the students to experience a real police car. The Township was going to auction the car on GovDeals but this is a great opportunity to assist with the Vocational School and building new police officers for the future.

Municipal Alliance

The food and toy collection started on November 1st. There are barrels in Town Hall for these items. Thank you to the people who have already dropped off items.

November 16th the Police Department will be hosting a "Stuff the Cruiser" event from 12 pm – 4 pm in the Waretown Volunteer Fire Department parking lot. All donations are appreciated and assist local children. Please consider donating toys for all ages including children ages 13–16. Gift cards are always welcome.

Recreation Bus Trip. Philadelphia Flower Show is on March 7, 2025. Recreation is taking reservations now. Please be reminded this trip is selling out quickly. The bus leaves from the Community Center at 12:00 noon and returns at 8:15 pm.

The Holiday Light Spectacular is the weekend of December 13th and 14th and December 20th and 21st, from 6pm-10pm. The cost is \$20.00 per carload. The Township is looking for sponsors.

Thank you.

Mayor – Lydia M. Dodd

Thank you for joining us this evening. Thank you for electing me back into the office to serve this town another 3 years. It is an honor and privilege to serve this great community.

First, I would like to take a moment of silence to honor all the Veterans that have served in the armed services. As the saying goes “Freedom is not Free”. Please stand for our moment of silence for remembrance. Thank you.

The Township Committee and I would like to acknowledge the 249th Birthday of the United States Marine Corp., which was celebrated on November 10, 2024. The Township Committee commends the United States Marine Corp. past and present. Please take a moment to appreciate these brave people who serve our country every day. Thank you and Happy Birthday.

October 2024 Construction/Zoning Report

Zoning Department. 29 Applications received, 23 applications approved, 4 Pending approval and 6 Denial applications.

Court Cases. 213 Teaneck Road has been cleaned, 379 Tuscarora New Summons issued, 72 Barnegat Beach Drive Court Date is set for November.

Construction. 54 Construction Permits issued, 13 Permit updates (NSFD’s/minor work/alteration/repairs), 71 Certificates of Approvals, 6 Certificates of Occupancy, 1 CCO (Continued Certificate of Occupancy), 2 Temporary Certificates of Occupancy, 0 Certificates of Compliance, 0 Unsafe Structures and 2 Violations were issued-Order to Terminate/Pay.

The new portal at the Construction Office has 136 registered users and continues to grow.

Project Updates

Ocean Isles -Construction and inspections have begun on the Clubhouse and Pool, as well as the first building of eight (8) homes that includes one (1) model.

Pennsylvania Avenue. The homes are just about complete with construction inspections and are now listed for sale.

Ordinance 2024-25 – 1st Reading. This ordinance being introduced tonight is regarding licensing for people to solicit in the Township of Ocean, as the Township was going to be sued by a company for the high cost of the permit. The Township is now lowering the cost of the permit due to a change in State law. Please be reminded there is a “No Knock List” that is kept in the Clerk’s office of Town Hall. Any solicitor who obtains a permit legally is also given the Do Not Know List with the permit. The 2nd Reading Public Hearing will be at the December 17th meeting.

Ordinance 2024-27 – First Reading. This ordinance is amending the personnel policy regarding time off not paid by the town. The employees will need to pay for their health insurance deductions to continue with their health insurance. This does not include Workman’s Compensation. The 2nd Reading Public Hearing will be at the December 17th meeting.

Thank you for coming tonight.

Chief of Police – Michal Rogalski

Chief Rogalski read the October 2024 Police Report. The Police Department handled 3,990 incidents for police service, 3 abandoned 911 calls, 35 alarms activated and responded to, 26 animal complaints, 2,309 individual business/residential checks, 10 acts of criminal mischief, 11 acts of domestic violence, 17 verbal disputes/harassment complaints, 12 disabled vehicles, 1 drunk driver arrest, 1 drug arrest, 87 first aid calls, 68 general complaints, 33 motor vehicle accidents, 450 motor vehicle stops which issued 75 summonses, 2 juvenile complaints, 3 incidents of mental health crisis, 25 persons were arrested on various warrants, 5 shoplifting incidents, 31 suspicious persons and/or vehicles were investigated, 1 stolen vehicle and 3 thefts from a residence and/or commercial property were investigated. A full list of this activity is on the Township website.

Business Administrator/Municipal Clerk – Diane B. Ambrosio, RMC – Best Practices

Since 2010 all local governments in the State of New Jersey are required to complete and publicly discuss the Best Practice Inventory in order to receive 100% of State aid.

The results of that inventory or questionnaire will be the determination on whether or not the Township receives 100% of the State aid. Since 2010 the Township has been successful in answering the questions on the worksheets regarding Best Practices in order to obtain 100% of State aid. A total of 69 questions are distributed amongst three scoring categories, Core Competencies, Best Practices and Unscored Surveys. Each municipality must receive a minimum score of 35 on the inventory to receive its full financial payment. The Township Committee is pleased to report that once again, the Township of Ocean has accomplished the goal of answering enough questions affirmatively to receive 100% of the State aid. The questions change from year to year.

The items discussed in this year’s Best Practices Worksheet refer to general management, finance, audit, purchasing, budget preparation, personnel, affordable housing, stormwater management, lead based paint and shared services, to name a few categories. A sample of the questions is whether the Township maintains an updated website that includes postings of meeting dates, meeting minutes, Requests for Proposals (RFP’s), adopted budgets and audits. This Township works on keeping the website up to date with all meeting schedules within the Township and all documentation required. The State requires a minimum of three years to be posted. At this time, the minutes and agendas are posted from 2008 to current. The budgets and audits are on the website from 2012 to current.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Motion to open Public Comment was moved by Deputy Mayor LoParo, seconded by Committeeman Baulderstone.

Roll Call: Baulderstone: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Dodd: Yes

Joseph Fabozzi, 99 Bay Parkway, discussed Ordinance 2024-26.

Township Attorney Dasti discussed the public hearing for Ordinance 2024-26 is at the next meeting. That is when you should speak on the ordinance.

Mr. Fabozzi discussed the ordinance deletes “Political signs may not be erected from places of public property nor on rocks, trees, public fences, sign posts, light poles or utility poles”. Mr. Fabozzi discussed he collected Mayor Dodd’s political signs and returned them to Mayor Dodd at Town Hall.

Township Attorney Dasti discussed Mr. Fabozzi is not Code Enforcement or the Police Department. Just because Mr. Fabozzi states something is on public property or violating an ordinance does not make it true.

Mr. Fabozzi discussed he removed the political signs around the Township and was contacted by Officer Mandarin about removing the political signs and was told he could be charged with theft. Mr. Fabozzi gave Officer Mandarin the signs.

Mr. Fabozzi discussed being bribed by Township employees regarding permits.

Township Attorney Dasti discussed if Mr. Fabozzi thinks someone has asked him for bribes, he should take that up with the authorities.

Chief Rogalski, discussed Mr. Fabozzi should express his opinion in a professional manner. To make accusations about somebody that are unproven or you cannot prove is not right.

Mr. Fabozzi inquired why the Township is repealing the political signs law.

Township Attorney Dasti discussed the Township adopts and revises ordinances all the time. There are a half dozen on the agenda tonight. That sign ordinance is not just revising the political sign portion, it also has to do with electronics signs as well. A lot of towns over the last few years, have adopted revised political sign laws. Barnegat Township did one last year.

Carol Flood, 381 Tuscarora Avenue, inquired about the political sign ordinance change.

Township Attorney Dasti discussed there was a regulation that you were not allowed to have political signs along roadways and on public easements and was unenforceable from the Township’s prospective because a lot of those easements are the County of Ocean Roadways or New Jersey Department of Transportation Roadways.

Mrs. Flood inquired about Resolution 2024-282 and 2024-283.

Township Attorney Dasti discussed the Township referred to the Planning Board to undertake an investigation as to whether certain properties in town fit within an area in need of Redevelopment. The

Planning Board issued a report that they voted to designate those pieces of property as areas in need of Redevelopment. Part is a condemnation area, where the old Thirsty Mallard is. The others are areas that are going to be part of a larger Redevelopment project.

Motion to close Public Comment was moved by Deputy Mayor LoParo, seconded by Committeeman Baulderstone.

Roll Call: Baulderstone: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Dodd: Yes

Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of October 15, 2024

Motion to approve was moved by Deputy Mayor LoParo, seconded by Committeeman Baulderstone.

Roll Call: Baulderstone: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Dodd: Yes

Resolution 2024-278 Payment of Claims – as presented to the Township Committee for payment thereof in the amount of \$2,877,653.63

Motion to approve was moved by Deputy Mayor LoParo, seconded by Committeeman Baulderstone.

Roll Call: Baulderstone: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Dodd: Yes

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-25 - 1st Reading – Title Only

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 215 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED "LICENSING" AND CHAPTER 273 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED "PEDDLING AND SOLICITING"

Motion to approve Ordinance 2024-25 was moved by Deputy Mayor LoParo, seconded by Committeeman Baulderstone.

Roll Call: Baulderstone: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Dodd: Yes

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-26 - 1st Reading – Title Only

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 299-7 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED "SPECIAL ZONING RESTRICTIONS"

Motion to approve Ordinance 2024-26 was moved by Deputy Mayor LoParo, seconded by Committeeman Baulderstone.

Roll Call: Baulderstone: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Dodd: Yes

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-27 - 1st Reading – Title Only

An Ordinance of the Township of Ocean, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey amending and supplementing Chapter 57-12 of the Township Code Entitled "Sick and disability Leave Benefits Sick Leave"

Motion to approve Ordinance 2024-27 was moved by Deputy Mayor LoParo, seconded by Committeeman Baulderstone.

Roll Call: Baulderstone: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Dodd: Yes

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-28 - 1st Reading – Title Only

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 245 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED “NOISE” AND SPECIFICALLY SECTION 3 THEREOF ENTITLED “NOISE CONTROL OFFICERS”

Motion to approve Ordinance 2024-28 was moved by Deputy Mayor LoParo, seconded by Committeeman Baulderstone.

Roll Call: Baulderstone: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Dodd: Yes

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-29 - 1st Reading – Title Only

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 373 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED “TREE REMOVAL/REPLACEMENT”

Motion to approve Ordinance 2024-29 was moved by Deputy Mayor LoParo, seconded by Committeeman Baulderstone.

Roll Call: Baulderstone: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Dodd: Yes

Consent Agenda

The below listed items are considered to be routine by the Township Committee of the Township of Ocean 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.

- 2024-279 Resolution of the Township of Ocean, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey authorizing the execution Shared Services Agreement with the County of Ocean Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:8A-1ET. Seq, for the Prosecutor Program – Drug Recognition Expert Program
- 2024-280 Resolution authorizing the refund of payment for Water/Sewer Commercial connection fees for 19 Main Street in the amount of \$31,725.00
- 2024-281 Resolution authorizing a refund tax/utility office for 27 Sea Bright Way for overpayment in the amount of \$299.66
- 2024-282 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, DESIGNATING BLOCKS 402, 403, 406, 407, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, and 435 AS WELL AS ADJACENT RIGHTS-OF-WAY ON THE TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN AS AN AREA IN NEED OF REDEVELOPMENT PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1, ET SEQ.
- 2024-283 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, DESIGNATING BLOCK 131, LOTS 1.01, 1.02, 3.01, 3.02, 3.03, AND 3.04 ON THE TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN AS AN AREA IN NEED OF REDEVELOPMENT PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1, ET SEQ.
- 2024-284 Resolution proclaiming Armistice Day/Veteran’s Day and hereby request you to join them in celebrating Veteran’s Day and to remind everyone to please make some time to appreciate these brave people who serve the country everyday
- 2024-285 Resolution proclaiming on November 10th was the 249th Birthday of the United States Marine Corp.
- 2024-286 Resolution authorizing the Township of Ocean to accept a subgrant award of the Federal Fiscal year 2024 of Emergency Management performance Grant and Emergency Management Agency Assistance

- 2024-287 Resolution authorizing the Township of Ocean to donate 2015 Ford Explorer Police Car to the Ocean County Vocational Technical School – Police Program in as is condition
- 2024-288 Resolution of the Township of Ocean, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, authorizing Reduction of Performance Bond for Sanitary Sewer Improvements for Ocean Isle
- 2024-289 Resolution of the Township of Ocean, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, authorizing Reduction of Performance Bond for Water Improvements for Ocean Isle

Motion to approve Resolutions 2024-279 through 2024-289

Motion to approve was moved by Deputy Mayor LoParo, seconded by Committeeman Baulderstone.
Roll Call: Baulderstone: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Dodd: Yes

Resolution 2024-290 Resolution authorizing the hiring of per-dem employees for the Township of Ocean for Recreation Department Programs for the year 2024

Motion to approve Resolution 2024-290 was moved by Deputy Mayor LoParo, seconded by Committeeman Baulderstone.

Roll Call: Baulderstone: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Dodd: Yes

Motion to approve: Hunter Hawk and Kayleigh Munt to the New Jersey State Firemen’s Association was moved by Deputy Mayor LoParo, seconded by Committeeman Baulderstone.

Roll Call: Baulderstone: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Dodd: Yes

Motion to approve: Application for Open Air Junk Yard or Salvage Yard, Jones Road_East for 2025 was moved by Deputy Mayor LoParo, seconded by Committeeman Baulderstone.

Roll Call: Baulderstone: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Dodd: Yes

Motion to Approve the below listed dates for the use of the Community Center, Corliss Park Lake & Recreation Area, Waretown Bayfront Park & Pier, Toumey Park, and Ballfields:

2024

Eileen Doyle – November 30, 2024

2025

Recreation – New Logic Marine Science Camp – July 7-11, 2025

Twp of Ocean – Republican Club – Last Wednesday each month

Twp of Ocean – Republican Club Executive Board – 2nd Wednesday each month

Democratic Club of Waretown – 3rd Tuesday each month

Recreation – Yoga – Mondays 2025

Recreation – Toning – Mondays 2025

Recreation – Monday & Tuesdays – Functional Fitness – 2025

Recreation – Monday & Wednesday – Zumba – 2025

Recreation – Monday & Wednesday – Congregate Meal Programs – 2025

Recreation – Monday & Friday – Line Dancing – 2025

Recreation – Tuesday – Amped up Aerobics – 2025

Recreation – Tuesday – Bingo and a Meal – 2025

Recreation – Tuesday – Jazzercise – 2025

Recreation – Tuesday – Mahjong – 2025

Recreation – Wednesday – Art Classes – 2025

Recreation – Thursday – Exercise Class – 2025

Recreation – Thursdays – Jazzercise – 2025
Recreation – Fridays – Horseshoes – 2025

Motion to Approve was moved by Deputy Mayor LoParo, seconded by Committeeman Baulderstone.
Roll Call: Baulderstone: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Dodd: Yes

Next Scheduled Regular Business Meetings

December 17, 2024 – 6:00 pm

Reorganization & Regular Business Meeting – January 2, 2025 – 6:00 pm

***Meetings can be added or cancelled as deemed necessary*

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was moved by Deputy Mayor LoParo, seconded by Committeeman Baulderstone.
Roll Call: Baulderstone: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Dodd: Yes

Signed and Submitted:

Diane B. Ambrosio, RMC
Municipal Clerk

Date