

## BOROUGH OF TOTOWA

### MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

**November 9, 2021**

**PRESENT:** Mayor John Coiro, presiding, Council President Lou D'Angelo, Councilwoman Debra Andriani, Councilman Anthony Picarelli, Councilman John Capo, Councilwoman Lisa Palazzo, Municipal Clerk Joseph Wassel and Municipal Attorney Kristin Corrado.

**ABSENT:** Councilman William Bucher.

Mayor John Coiro called the meeting to order and asked the Municipal Clerk to call the roll.

Municipal Clerk Wassel recited the Prayer of the Meeting followed with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag with the public participating.

Mayor Coiro asked the Clerk to read the statement of the meeting.

Municipal Clerk Wassel read the following statement: This meeting of the Mayor and Council held on this day is being held in accordance with Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 of the State of New Jersey as amended. The agenda for this meeting has been prepared and distributed to the Mayor and Council and a copy has been on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

Mayor Coiro asked if any members of the Council, the Municipal Clerk or the Municipal Attorney wished to address the Council.

Mayor Coiro: Congratulated our Senator Kristin Corrado, Councilman Anthony Picarelli and Patrick Fierro on their Election Day victories.

Councilman D'Angelo: Echoed the Mayor's sentiments.

Mayor Coiro asked if any citizens wished to be heard.

## CITIZENS HEARD:

Mike Mahometa, 269 Lincoln Avenue: Asked if there was any notice given to residents when the DPW was flushing the fire hydrants because they had dirty water. Mayor Coiro: Said, yes, we sent out a reverse 9-1-1 to announce the hydrant flushing and also the DPW puts out signs in the area where the flushing will occur.

Ralph Marana, 131 Greene Avenue: Inquired how often the Mayor sends out messages on the reverse 9-1-1. Mayor Coiro: Replied, as needed.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilwoman Andriani to approve the Minutes of the Mayor and Council for the meeting of October 26, 2021. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

## COMMITTEE ON FINANCE:

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to approve Resolution No. 2021-23 for the payment of bills. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to acknowledge receipt and discussion of the 2021 Municipal Best Practices Inventory. Municipal Clerk Wassel announced that we scored an 18 and a score of 15 + results in no aid being withheld from the municipality. The Worksheet was certified by Chief Administrative Officer/Municipal Clerk Joseph Wassel (C-0791) and Chief Financial Officer Lisa Nash (N-931). On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

## COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY:

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Capo to adopt the following Resolution Approving Participation With The State Of New Jersey Federal Grant Program Under The FY2022 Safe And Secure Communities Program Administered By The New Jersey Department Of Law And Public Safety, Office Of The Attorney General And To Accept The Grant Funding. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 108-2021

RESOLUTION APPROVING PARTICIPATION WITH THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAM UNDER THE FY2022 SAFE AND SECURE  
COMMUNITIES PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY, OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY  
GENERAL AND TO ACCEPT THE GRANT FUNDING

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa wishes to apply for funding of approximately \$32,400 with a match of \$406,944 for an approximate project total cost of \$439,344 for a project under the State of New Jersey Safe and Secure Communities Program Grant # 22-1612 for the period of 01/25/2022 to 01/24/2023; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa has reviewed the accompanying application and has approved said request; and

WHEREAS, the project is a joint effort between the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General and the Borough of Totowa, for the purpose described in the application.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that:

- 1) As a matter of public policy, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa wishes to participate to the fullest extent possible with the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General and to accept the grant funding in the amount of \$32,400.
- 2) The New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General shall receive funds on behalf of the applicant.
- 3) The New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General shall be responsible for the receipt and review of the applications for said funds.
- 4) The New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General shall initiate allocations to the applicant as authorized by law.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Capo to approve payment of the Fire Department Clothing Allowance for 2021. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Capo to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing The Borough Of Totowa To Enter Into A Traffic Signal Agreement Minnisink Road (CR 642) – Public Way “A” Located At 205-225 Minnisink Road With The County Of Passaic And NJDC Condominium Association, Inc. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 109-2021

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA TO ENTER INTO A TRAFFIC SIGNAL AGREEMENT MINNISINK ROAD (CR 642) – PUBLIC WAY “A” LOCATED AT 205-225 MINNISINK ROAD WITH THE COUNTY OF PASSAIC AND NJDC CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, INC.

WHEREAS, NJDC Condominium Association, Inc., 2 Broad Street, Suite 400, Bloomfield, New Jersey 07003 (“NJDC”) is the owner of the property located at 205-225 Minnisink Road, Totowa, New Jersey 07512 and identified as Block 154, Lot 19.07 on the official tax map of the Borough of Totowa; and

WHEREAS, Minnisink Road is a Passaic County Road; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2021, the Passaic County Planning Board granted conditional approval to NJDC’s site plan application (Passaic County File Number SP-19-004) for development of the property; and

WHEREAS, the County’s Conditional Approval requires NJDC to enter into an agreement with the County of Passaic and the Borough of Totowa for the installation and future maintenance of a traffic control signal at the intersection of Minnisink Road and Public Way “A” in accordance with a Traffic Signal Plan prepared by Andrew Jafolla, Dynamic Traffic, LLC, (the “Traffic Signal Plan”), a copy of which is on file in the office of the Borough of Totowa Construction Code Official; and

WHEREAS, the parties are willing to enter in an Agreement which outlines the parties respective responsibilities as to the traffic control signal at the intersection of Minnisink Road and Public Way “A”.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Borough of Totowa to enter into an Agreement with the County of Passaic and NJDC Condominium Association, Inc., for the purpose as set forth aforesaid, and a copy of said Agreement is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Council of the Borough of Totowa does hereby authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute any and all instruments relating thereto.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Capo to add the following item to the agenda. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

Upon the recommendation of the Committee, there was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Capo to appoint Roy Wells as a School Crossing Guard. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT

I, Mayor John Coiro, with the advice and consent of the Council  
do hereby appoint Roy Wells  
as a School Crossing Guard for a term of one year  
expiring on December 31, 2021.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Capo to confirm the appointments. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:

Upon the recommendation of DPW Superintendent Jim Niland, there was a motion by Councilwoman Palazzo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to approve a grade increase for DPW Laborer Domenick Coiro from Grade 1 to Grade 1-C. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

Upon the recommendation of DPW Superintendent Jim Niland, there was a motion by Councilwoman Palazzo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to approve a grade increase for DPW Laborer Josko Huljev from Grade 1-C to Grade 1-B. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

A letter was received from the New Jersey Department of Transportation advising that Totowa has been selected to receive funding from their FY 2022 Municipal Aid Program for Cumberland Avenue, Hamilton Trail and Stirling Terrace in the amount of \$307,100. There was a motion by Councilwoman Palazzo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to accept the grant funds. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### COMMITTEE ON ENGINEERING & PUBLIC PROPERTY:

There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilwoman Andriani to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing A Deed Of Dedication – Parcel 280 On A Map Entitled “New Jersey Department Of Transportation, General Property Parcel Map, Route 80, Section 4E, Two Bridges Road To Glover Avenue, Showing Existing Right Of Way And Parcels To Be Acquired In The Borough Of Totowa, County Of Passaic, November 2020” To The State Of New Jersey. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 110-2021

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A DEED OF DEDICATION – PARCEL 280 ON A MAP ENTITLED “NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, GENERAL PROPERTY PARCEL MAP, ROUTE 80, SECTION 4E, TWO BRIDGES ROAD TO GLOVER AVENUE, SHOWING EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY AND PARCELS TO BE ACQUIRED IN THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA, COUNTY OF PASSAIC, NOVEMBER 2020” TO THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, a traffic condition exists at the intersection of Route 80 WB and Vreeland Avenue – Minnisink Road (CR 642) in the Borough of Totowa, in the County of Passaic, which requires the installation of a semi-actuated traffic control signal; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 79-2021 dated July 27, 2021, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa authorized the Borough of Totowa to enter into an Agreement with the State of New Jersey, acting through its Commissioner of Transportation, for the installation of a semi-actuated traffic control signal; and

WHEREAS, NJDC Urban Renewal, LLC is the owner of the property located at 169 Minnisink Road, Totowa, New Jersey 07512, Block 154, Lot 19.03; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa is the owner of property located at Minnisink Road and the South Side of Vreeland Avenue, Block 154.02, Lot 1; and

WHEREAS, NJDC Urban Renewal, LLC has advised the Borough of Totowa that the municipality must also enter into a Deed of Dedication – Parcel 280 on a Map entitled “New Jersey Department Of Transportation, General Property Parcel Map, Route 80, Section 4E, Two Bridges Road To Glover Avenue, Showing Existing Right Of Way And Parcels To Be Acquired In The Borough Of Totowa, County Of Passaic, November 2020” to the State Of New Jersey Department of Transportation (“NJDOT”); and

WHEREAS, the Deed of Dedication is for the purpose of intersection modifications and roadway widening as required by the NJDOT; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to enter into a Deed of Dedication with the State of New Jersey for the aforesaid purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Borough of Totowa to enter into a Deed of Dedication – Parcel 280 on a Map entitled “New Jersey Department Of Transportation, General Property Parcel Map, Route 80, Section 4E, Two Bridges Road To Glover Avenue, Showing Existing Right Of Way And Parcels To Be Acquired In The Borough Of Totowa, County Of Passaic, November 2020” to the State Of New Jersey.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Council of the Borough of Totowa does hereby authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute any and all necessary instruments relating thereto.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an executed copy of the Deed of Dedication shall be recorded in the Passaic County Clerk’s Office.

#### COMMITTEE ON LIAISON & INSPECTION:

A letter of resignation was received from Totowa Public Library Trustee Janet L. Saunders effective December 31, 2021. There was a motion by Councilwoman Andriani, seconded by Councilwoman Palazzo to accept her resignation with regrets. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION & ORDINANCES:

There was no report.

There being no further business to come before the Council, there was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilwoman Andriani that the meeting be adjourned. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

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Joseph Wassel, RMC  
Municipal Clerk