

## **BOROUGH OF TOTOWA**

### **MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

**February 8, 2022**

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

**ABSENT:** None.

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.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilwoman Andriani to dispense with the regular order of business in order to have a swearing in ceremony to administer the Oath of Allegiance and Office to Sergeant Daniel DiBlasio, Sergeant Jamie Titus and Sergeant Jeffery Pasquariello being promoted to the rank of Lieutenant of the Borough of Totowa Police Department. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

Mayor Coiro asked Public Safety Committee Chairman, Councilman D'Angelo and Police Chief Carmen Veneziano to join him in front of the dais. Mayor Coiro said that it seems like we were just here because we had recent promotions to Captain which

opened up spots for Lieutenant, so tonight we will have promotions to Lieutenant and all three of our Sergeants being promoted are qualified and deserving and we are very proud.

Mayor Coiro asked Sergeant Daniel DiBlasio, Sergeant Jamie Titus and Sergeant Jeffery Pasquariello to approach the dais to take the Oath of Allegiance and Office for the rank of Lieutenant.

Mayor Coiro administered the Oath of Allegiance and Office to Lieutenant Daniel DiBlasio with his wife Melissa holding the Bible and his children by his side, Lieutenant Jamie Titus with his wife Kinga holding the Bible and his children by his side and Lieutenant Jeffery Pasquariello with his wife Andrea holding the Bible and his children by his side.

A badge symbolic to the rank of Lieutenant was presented to Lieutenant Daniel DiBlasio, Lieutenant Jamie Titus and Lieutenant Jeffery Pasquariello by Police Chief Veneziano.

Congratulations were extended to Lieutenant Daniel DiBlasio, Lieutenant Jamie Titus and Lieutenant Jeffery Pasquariello.

Councilman D'Angelo echoed the Mayor's words, congratulated them all, said it is well deserved and wished them the best.

Police Chief Veneziano thanked the Mayor and Council for moving these promotions along, congratulated each officer and went on to give a little personal and professional history about each officer being promoted.

Lieutenant DiBlasio thanked the Mayor and Council, Chairman Peter Murphy and Chief Veneziano, and also thanked his brothers, his family and friends and said he's very humbled.

Lieutenant Titus thanked the Chief, Mayor and Council, Chairman Murphy, his wife, kids and all his family and friends.

Lieutenant Pasquariello thanked the Mayor and Council, Chairman Murphy and Chief, his family and friends.

Mayor Coiro announced that there will be a short recess to allow all family and friends to congratulate the promoted officers.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilwoman Andriani to revert to the regular order of business. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

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

There were no reports.

#### CITIZENS HEARD:

There were no citizens who wished to be heard.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Andriani, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to approve the Minutes of the Mayor and Council for the meeting of January 25, 2022. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative. Councilman D'Angelo abstained from the voting.

#### COMMITTEE ON FINANCE:

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to approve Resolution No. 2022-04 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 adopt the following resolution authorizing the Treasurer to issue a refund for Stacy Ann Salmond, 72 Greene Avenue, Block 79, Lot 22 due to a 100% Exemption for a 100% permanent and total disability. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Stacy Ann Salmond, 72 Greene Avenue, Block 79, Lot 22 has applied for a 100% exemption for a 100% permanent and total disability due to a service connected disability; and

WHEREAS, she meets all the requirements for the exemption; and

WHEREAS, the 100% disability became effective on June 2, 2021, and she applied for exemption on January 22, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Corelogic paid the property taxes from January 22, 2022 to March 31, 2022 in the amount of \$1,374.27, and is now entitled to a refund of \$1,374.27.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that the Treasurer is authorized to refund \$1,374.27 to Corelogic and upon paying the refund due this property will be exempted from future tax payments.

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following resolution authorizing the Treasurer to issue a refund for William Santos, 617 Totowa Road, Block 154, Lot 28 due to a 100% Exemption for a 100% permanent and total disability. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, William Santos, 617 Totowa Road, Block 154, Lot 28 has applied for a 100% exemption for a 100% permanent and total disability due to a service connected disability; and

WHEREAS, he meets all the requirements for the exemption; and

WHEREAS, the 100% disability became effective on November 17, 2021, and he applied for exemption on January 22, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Corelogic paid the property taxes from January 22, 2022 to March 31, 2022 in the amount of \$1,527.11, and is now entitled to a refund of \$1,527.11.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that the Treasurer is authorized to refund \$1,527.11 to Corelogic and upon paying the refund due this property will be exempted from future tax payments.

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to accept the Franchise Fees for calendar year 2021 from Cablevision (Altice) in the amount of \$111,719.00. 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 accept the Franchise Fees for calendar year 2021 from Verizon (Fios) in the amount of \$41,748.61. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY:

Upon the recommendation of the Committee, there was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Capo to appoint Nicholas Duncan as a Police Dispatcher. 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 Nicholas Duncan as a Police Dispatcher  
for a term of one year expiring December 31, 2022.

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

#### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:

A letter from Library Director Anne Krautheim thanking DPW Superintendent Jim Niland and Laborers Steve Filan, Joe Dulski, Mike Bastante, Mike Ardis and Josko Huljev for helping them move their furniture over to the Community Center for storage during the Library renovations was received and filed.

COMMITTEE ON ENGINEERING & PUBLIC PROPERTY:

There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilwoman Andriani to approve Payment Estimate No. 1 in the amount of \$63,279.43 to Pact Two, LLC for the William Place Pump Station Improvements. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilwoman Andriani to adopt the following Resolution authorizing the application to the Passaic County Community Development Block Grant Program for the rehabilitation of the Borough's Sanitary Sewer Main on Willard Avenue from Union Boulevard to William Place. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 29-2022

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa wishes to apply for funding from the Passaic County Community Development Block Grant Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa authorizes the application for and use of requested funds in the amount of \$269,100.00 from the Passaic County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program for the rehabilitation of the Borough's Sanitary Sewer Main on Willard Avenue from Union Boulevard to William Place.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if awarded, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa shall implement the activities in a manner to ensure compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilwoman Andriani to adopt the following Resolution In Support Of The Federal Fair Housing Law And New Jersey Law Against Discrimination. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 30-2022

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE FEDERAL FAIR HOUSING LAW AND  
NEW JERSEY LAW AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa supports Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Federal Fair Housing Law) and the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Borough of Totowa to implement programs to ensure equal opportunity in housing for all persons regardless of race, color, religion, ancestry, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, nationality, familial status, marital or domestic partnership status, affectional or sexual orientation, atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait, genetic information, liability for military service, mental or physical disability, perceived disability, AIDS/HIV status and Lawful Income or Source of Lawful Rent Payment (Section 8); and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa further objects to discrimination in the sale, rental, leasing, financing of housing or land to be used for construction of housing, or in the provision of brokerage services because of race, color, religion, ancestry, sex, national origin, handicap or disability as prohibited by Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Federal Fair Housing Law) and the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby support Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Federal Fair Housing Law) and the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination as follows:

1. Within available resources, the Borough of Totowa will assist all persons who feel they have been discriminated against under one of the aforementioned categories, to seek equity under federal and state laws by filing a complaint with the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, as appropriate.

2. The Borough of Totowa shall publicize this resolution and through this publicity shall cause owners of real estate, developers, and builders to become aware of their respective responsibilities and rights under the Federal Fair Housing Law, the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination, and any local laws or ordinances.

3. The Borough of Totowa will at a minimum include, but not be limited to: (1) the printing and publicizing of this resolution, a fair housing public notice and other applicable fair housing information through local media, community contacts and placement on the Municipal website and in other social media; (2) distribution of posters, flyers, and any other means which will bring to the attention of those affected, the knowledge of their respective responsibilities and rights concerning equal opportunity in housing.

#### COMMITTEE ON LIAISON & INSPECTION:

There was no report.

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION & ORDINANCES:

There was a motion by Councilman Fierro, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to approve Raffle License Application Nos. 2253 & 2254 for the Totowa Parent Teacher Organization for a Tricky Tray and On-Premise 50/50 to be held on April 1, 2022 at the Totowa PAL. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

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