

BOROUGH OF TOTOWA

MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

September 28, 2021

PRESENT: Mayor John Coiro, presiding, Council President Lou D'Angelo, Councilwoman Debra Andriani, Councilman Anthony Picarelli, Councilman William Bucher, Councilman John Capo, Councilwoman Lisa Palazzo, 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.

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

Councilwoman Andriani: Announced that the town was happening on Saturday, with the Library's Trash-To-Treasure, Borough Wide Garage Sale and Shredding Event, Senator Kristin Corrado sponsoring a Food Drive and Chairman Greg Luciano and the Shade Tree Commission holding an Arbor Day Ceremony and thanked everyone who was involved for their assistance and participation.

Mayor Coiro asked if any citizens wished to be heard.

CITIZENS HEARD:

Alba Vitale, 196 Grant Avenue: Wants the town to do something about the flooding that occurs on her street in front of her house and about the trucks that drive through the floodwaters causing waves that push the water up to and into her home. Said the street floods all the time because the storm sewers can't swallow the water and they back up.

Mayor Coiro: Responded that with the recent storms that we've had, a lot of people's homes were flooded. Asked DPW Superintendent Jim Niland to check the catch basins and make sure they are clear.

DPW Superintendent Niland: Stated that they will check the catch basins on both sides of the road and then he will call Mrs. Vitale with his findings.

Mrs. Vitale: Said she also called the Police two times and they told her there is nothing they can do and then she saw the fire truck that was responding to another call and they said they would come back and they never did.

Mayor Coiro: Informed her that the Fire Department was out on many calls rescuing people from their flooded cars, but if they said they would come back, they should have come back.

Fayez Rahman, 193 Grant Avenue: Thanked the Mayor and Council, Office of Emergency Management and the Fire Department for all they do and did during the recent storms and that he likes living in Totowa. Said, however, that from 187 – 211 Grant Avenue, the area floods every time there is at least a half hour of heavy rain and then the cars drive through and create waves pushing the water up to their homes. Advised that he has called the DPW in the past and they would come to clean out the catch basins, but they still flood. Remarked that he is at the low end of the street and with Hurricane Ida, he got water into his car which was parked in the driveway and into the first floor of his home.

Mayor Coiro: Expressed gratitude for Mr. Rahman's introduction and told him our first step would be to inspect and clean out the catch basins in the area to determine if that will solve the problem and then if not, then we will look into it further, possibly with our engineer.

Borough Attorney/Senator Corrado: Explained the process to both Mrs. Vitale and Mr. Rahman for obtaining FEMA relief and advised that Totowa's OEM Coordinator would be in contact with them and provide them with an information handout containing important telephone numbers. Also, told them both that they could contact her Senate office for assistance.

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 September 14, 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. 2021-20 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 refunds to various property owners due to overpayment of 3rd Quarter 2021 taxes. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, there has been an overpayment of 3rd quarter 2021 taxes on the property listed below; and

WHEREAS, the taxpayer is entitled to a refund; and

WHEREAS, the chart sets forth the refund as follows:

Block	Lot	Property Owner	Payable To:	Overpayment
25	17	19 Jefferson Pl. Walen Gonzalez	Corelogic Attn: Refund Dept. PO Box 9202 Coppell, TX 75019-9760	\$1,915.51
78	48	15 Highview Ave. Christie & Richard Hammer	Corelogic Same as above	\$1,966.33
112	7	190 Washington Pl. Erin Kennedy & Cathi Brown	Erin Kennedy & Cathi Brown 32 High St. Wayne, NJ 07470	\$1,813.90
112	56	209 Grant Ave. Imran Uddin	Corelogic Same as above	\$1,975.67

115	36	109 Dewey Ave. Natalie Sanchez	Natalie Sanchez 109 Dewey Ave. Totowa, NJ 07512	\$1,753.75
116	3	272 Grant Ave. Ralph & Brenda Miller	Corelogic Same as above	\$1,805.72
129	1	1 Mair Ave. Brian & Stephanie Cappadonna	Corelogic Same as above	\$2,096.56
147	28	145 Bogert St. Dragan & Nihada Nikolas	Corelogic Same as above	\$1,881.07
167	8	159 Sandra Dr. Bart 7 Doreen Pierson	Corelogic Same as above	\$2,077.29
173	29.03	26 Melissa Dr. Louis & Amy Pellegrini	Carnegie Title 55 Harrison Rd. Suite 302, Attn : Martha Glen Rock, NJ 07450	\$2,314.39

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the overpayment shall be refunded to the taxpayer, as stated above, and the Treasurer is authorized to issue separate checks for the refunds, which shall be paid to the stated property or taxing authority.

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to credit the accounts of various property owners due to qualifying for the \$250.00 Veterans Deduction or \$250.00 Senior Citizen Deduction for 2021. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the following taxpayer qualifies and is entitled to the \$250 Veteran Deduction for the year 2021:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Qual</u>	<u>Address</u>
Frank Petruccelli	135.01	2		60 Garretson Ave.
Nicholas Canzona	102	10		85 Harding Ave.
Jesse Braddell	137	16		27 Garretson Ave.

John Ralston	77	2		9 Barnert Ave.
Nicholas Emolo	86	1		56 Rosengren Ave.

; and

WHEREAS, the following taxpayer qualifies and is entitled to the \$250 Senior Citizen Deduction for the year 2021:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Qual</u>	<u>Address</u>
Dorothy Lombardo	13	1		90 Totowa Rd.
John Sanford	103	7		6 Roosevelt Ave.
Elena Martucci	78	49		11 Highview Ave.
Romana Obrycki	173	32	C0470	68 Falls Bride Dr.
SuFain Ma	147	3		142 Stewart Terr.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa authorize the Tax Collector to credit the 4th quarter 2021 installment \$250.00 to the aforementioned taxpayers.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY:

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Capo to carry the Resolution Authorizing The Purchase And Delivery Of Two 2021 Ford Explorer Interceptor SUV's For The Borough Of Totowa Police Department. 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 approve a grade increase for Patrol Officer Jack Pohlman from Grade 3 to Grade 2. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:

There was a motion by Councilman Bucher, seconded by Councilwoman Palazzo to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing The Milling And Paving Of The PAL Parking Lot, Bullens Avenue, Margaret Avenue And Crescent Avenue. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 101-2021

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MILLING AND PAVING OF THE PAL PARKING LOT, BULLENS AVENUE, MARGARET AVENUE AND CRESCENT AVENUE

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa Department of Public Works ("DPW") Superintendent has recommended the milling and paving of the Totowa PAL Parking Lot, Bullens Avenue, Margaret Avenue and Crescent Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa have determined that the PAL Parking Lot, Bullens Avenue, Margaret Avenue and Crescent Avenue are in need of resurfacing; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to authorize the milling and paving of the Totowa PAL Parking Lot, Bullens Avenue, Margaret Avenue and Crescent Avenue; and

WHEREAS, Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council Contract No. 6 has been awarded to Schifano Construction Corp., 1 Smalley Avenue, Middlesex, New Jersey 08846 for road resurfacing; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable New Jersey State laws, the authorization of these road improvement services may be authorized without public bidding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize Schifano Construction Corp. to provide all materials and labor for the milling and paving of the Totowa PAL Parking Lot, Bullens Avenue, Margaret Avenue and Crescent Avenue for the total sum of approximately \$72,400.00, subject to actual final quantities based on the unit prices.

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

Upon the recommendation of DPW Superintendent Jim Niland, there was a motion by Councilman Bucher, seconded by Councilwoman Palazzo to approve a grade increase for DPW Laborer Michael Ardis from Grade 4 to Grade 3. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

COMMITTEE ON ENGINEERING & PUBLIC PROPERTY:

A letter was received from resident John Mancinelli requesting permission to use the Municipal Parking Lot on Thursday, October 7, 2021 from 5:00 – 10:00 p.m. for a bus trip to New York. There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilwoman Andriani to grant permission. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

COMMITTEE ON LIAISON & INSPECTION:

There was no report.

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION & ORDINANCES:

There was a motion by Councilwoman Palazzo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to approve Raffle License Application No. 2235 for the Totowa Parent Teacher Organization for an Off-Premise Draw Raffle to be held on December 3, 2021. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Palazzo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to approve Raffle License Application No. 2236 for the Totowa Parent Teacher Organization for an Off-Premise Draw Raffle to be held on March 7, 2022. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Palazzo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to approve Raffle License Application No. 2237 for the Totowa Parent Teacher Organization for an Off-Premise Draw Raffle to be held on May 2, 2022. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Palazzo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to approve Raffle License Application Nos. 2238 & 2239 for St. James of the Marches Church for a Tricky Tray and On-Premise 50/50 to be held on December 5, 2021. 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.

Joseph Wassel, RMC
Municipal Clerk