

## **BOROUGH OF TOTOWA**

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

**October 26, 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.

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 Lieutenant Brian Mulroony, Lieutenant George DiPasquale and Lieutenant Jerry Tolomeo being promoted to the rank of Captain 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 went on to say that this is always one of our greatest honors when we get to make promotions, so this is a special day for us, our officers and our community.

Mayor Coiro asked Lieutenant Brian Mulroony, Lieutenant George DiPasquale and Lieutenant Jerry Tolomeo to approach the dais to take the Oath of Allegiance and Office for the rank of Captain.

Mayor Coiro administered the Oath of Allegiance and Office to Captain Brian Mulroony, with his wife Sarah and children Jane and Walter beside him holding the Bible, Captain George DiPasquale, with his wife Sharon and daughters Devyn and Kacey by his side holding the Bible and Captain Jerry Tolomeo, with his wife Dawn and daughter Gianna beside him holding the Bible.

A badge symbolic to the rank of Captain was presented to Captain Brian Mulroony, Captain George DiPasquale and Captain Jerry Tolomeo by Police Chief Veneziano.

Congratulations were extended to Captain Brian Mulroony, Captain George DiPasquale and Captain Jerry Tolomeo.

Councilman D'Angelo congratulated all three being promoted here tonight, said it is well deserved and you have been doing this a long time and wished them all the best.

Mayor Coiro – who had said a little about each officer before he swore them in – then congratulated each officer on their promotion and asked Police Chief Veneziano to say a few words.

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

Captain Mulroony thanked the Mayor and Council, Republican Party Chairman Peter Murphy and Chief Veneziano for the promotion, and also thanked all the men and women they work with, his wife and children, his family and friends.

Captain DiPasquale thanked the Mayor, Council, Chairman and Chief, his wife and daughters, family and friends and all of Totowa for having their backs.

Captain Tolomeo thanked the Mayor, Council, Chairman, Chief, his wife and daughter, his family and friends and everyone in attendance tonight for their support.

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.

Councilman D'Angelo: Reminded everyone about the Holiday Parade on Saturday, November 27<sup>th</sup>.

Councilwoman Palazzo: Congratulated Councilman Capo on his wedding this evening.

Mayor Coiro asked if any citizens wished to be heard.

CITIZENS HEARD:

There were no citizens who wished to be heard.

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 12, 2021. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative. Councilman Capo abstained from the voting.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE:

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to approve Resolution No. 2021-22 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 to effectuate the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate Number 19-00002 for 131 Hickory Hill Boulevard, Block 9.08, Lot 32. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION

Tax Sale Certificate Number 19-00002  
Block 9.08, Lot 32  
Property: 131 Hickory Hill Boulevard, Totowa, New Jersey 07512  
Owner: 131 Totowa Realty, LLC

WHEREAS, at the Municipal Tax Sale on October 22, 2020, a lien was sold on Block 9.08, Lot 32; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate Number 19-00002, was sold to US Bank As Cust for Actlien for a 0% redemption fee and a premium of \$1,400.00; and

WHEREAS, 131 Totowa Realty, LLC, the owner of the property, has effected redemption of Tax Sale Certificate Number 19-00002 in the amount of \$1,407.62 as of October 12, 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Treasurer to issue a check in the amount of \$1,407.62 payable to US Bank As Cust for Actlien for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate Number 19-00002.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council do hereby authorize the Treasurer to issue a check in the amount of \$1,400.00 (premium) to the aforementioned Lien Holder.

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following Resolution To Cancel Escrow Account Balances In Other Trust Fund. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 105-2021

RESOLUTION TO CANCEL ESCROW ACCOUNT BALANCES  
IN OTHER TRUST FUND

WHEREAS, the CMFO/Treasurer has advised that there exists old and inactive escrow balances that remain outstanding in the Other Trust Fund; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to formally cancel said balances so that the unexpended balances may be credited to Surplus; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to cancel these account balances of record – as detailed on the attached list – in the total amount of \$56,593.31 and transfer to Surplus.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that the CMFO/Treasurer be authorized to cancel the account balances of the old and inactive escrow accounts in the Other Trust Fund as detailed on the attached list in the total sum of \$56,593.31.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that the CMFO/Treasurer transfers the total sum of \$56,593.31 from Other Trust to Surplus.

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to authorize the Borough Attorney to prepare and the Borough Clerk to advertise for the RFP's for 2022 Professional Services. 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 Renee Adili, Lorella Gloor and Karin Sciacca as School Crossing Guards. 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 Renee Adili, Lorella Gloor and Karin Sciacca as School Crossing Guards 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.

A letter from the Passaic Mayor and Fire Department Chief thanking Fire Chief Rich Schopperth and the Totowa Fire Department for all their help during and after the flash flooding caused by Tropical Storm Ida was received and filed.

A letter from Volunteer Fire Company No. 1 advising that Richard Schopperth has been nominated as their candidate for Fire Chief was received and filed.

### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:

There was a motion by Councilman Bucher, seconded by Councilwoman Palazzo to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing Repair Services And The Removal And Installation Of A New Pump At The Shepherds Lane Pump Station. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

### RESOLUTION NO. 106-2021

#### RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REPAIR SERVICES AND THE REMOVAL AND INSTALLATION OF A NEW PUMP AT THE SHEPHERDS LANE PUMP STATION

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of the Borough of Totowa Department of Public Works ("DPW") has advised the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that some of the equipment at the Shepherds Lane Pump Station is no longer working satisfactorily and needs to be repaired and/or replaced; and

WHEREAS, the necessary repairs at the Shepherds Lane Pump Station include the rebuilding of an electric motor and the removal and replacement of a pump; and

WHEREAS, North Jersey Waste Water Cooperative Pricing System Contract No. B279-8 has been awarded to Precision Electronic Motor Works, Inc., 18 Sebago Street, Clifton, New Jersey 07013 for motor repairs and pump services; and

WHEREAS, Precision Electronic Motor Works, Inc. has submitted a proposal for the removal of the existing pump and installation of a new Peerless Pump and the rebuilding of the 150HP electric motor in the amount of \$18,850.00, a copy of which is on file on the office of the Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to authorize these necessary repairs as well as the purchase and installation of the new pump for the Shepherds Lane Pump Station for the general health, safety and well-being of the residents of the Borough of Totowa; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Local Public Contracts Law, the motor repair and replacement of the pump may be authorized by the Borough of Totowa without public bidding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby accept the proposal submitted by Precision Electronic Motor Works, Inc. for the removal of the existing pump and installation of a new Peerless Pump and the rebuilding of the 150HP electric motor at the Shepherds Lane Pump Station in the amount of \$18,850.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize Precision Electronic Motor Works, Inc. to provide the labor and materials for the repair services and the removal and installation of a new pump at the Shepherds Lane Pump Station as set forth in their proposal.

#### COMMITTEE ON ENGINEERING & PUBLIC PROPERTY:

There was no report.

#### COMMITTEE ON LIAISON & INSPECTION:

There was a motion by Councilwoman Andriani, seconded by Councilman Bucher to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing The Borough Of Totowa To Enter Into A Real Estate Sales Contract For The Purchase Of 55 Mitchell Avenue For Veteran's Housing. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 107-2021

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA TO ENTER INTO  
A REAL ESTATE SALES CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF  
55 MITCHELL AVENUE FOR VETERAN'S HOUSING

WHEREAS, Angelo and Mary Murro are the owners of property located at 55 Mitchell Avenue in the Borough of Totowa and identified as Block 86, Lot 2.02 on the official tax map of the Borough of Totowa; and

WHEREAS, this property is currently listed for sale; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to purchase homes within the community that are in good condition, at a reasonable price, and create safe, affordable homes for Veterans and their families within our community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa has made an offer in the amount of \$516,000.00 to purchase the property located at 55 Mitchell Avenue and this offer has been accepted by Mr. and Mrs. Murro; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council desire to memorialize the terms and conditions of the purchase of 55 Mitchell Avenue in a Real Estate Sales Contract; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa further desire to authorize the purchase of this property for Veteran Family Housing as part of the Borough of Totowa Affordable Housing Trust Fund Spending Plan.

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 Real Estate Sales Contract with Mr. and Mrs. Murro for the purchase of property located at 55 Mitchell Avenue in the Borough of Totowa and identified as Block 86, Lot 2.02 on the official tax map of the Borough of Totowa.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa further authorize the purchase of this property with funds that have been set aside for Veteran Family Housing as part of the Borough of Totowa Affordable Housing Trust Fund Spending Plan.

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.

## COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION & ORDINANCES:

There was a motion by Councilwoman Palazzo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to approve Raffle License Application Nos. 2242 & 2243 for the Passaic Valley Band Association for a Tricky Tray and Off-Premise 50/50 to be held on January 22, 2022 at the Elks Lodge. 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. 2244 for the St. Joseph's Home for the Elderly of the Little Sisters of the Poor for an Off-Premise 50/50 to be held on March 17, 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. 2245 for the Passaic Valley Elks BPOE #2111 for an Off-Premise 50/50 to be held on January 14, 2022. 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