

## **BOROUGH OF TOTOWA**

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

**March 28, 2023**

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

**ABSENT:** Councilman Patrick Fierro.

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 Councilman Picarelli to dispense with the regular order of business in order to present a Proclamation to Passaic County CASA, accept the nominees and appoint a person to fill the vacancy of Council and to hold a public hearing on Ordinance No. 04-2023 as advertised. 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 Picarelli to adopt the following Proclamation Supporting April As Child Abuse Prevention Month. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

PROCLAMATION SUPPORTING APRIL AS  
CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

WHEREAS, children are vital to the Borough of Totowa's future success, prosperity and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect is a community responsibility affecting both the current and future quality of life of a community; and

WHEREAS, all members of our community have a role to play in strengthening families to ensure children grow up in a safe, nurturing environment free from fear, abuse, and neglect; and

WHEREAS, all children deserve to have safe, stable, nurturing and healthy home and communities that foster their well-being; and

WHEREAS, there are almost 300 children in Passaic County who enter the child welfare system due of abuse and/or neglect each year; and

WHEREAS, for the last 15 years, Passaic County CASA for Children has provided court-appointed volunteer advocates for children throughout Passaic County who have been removed from home due to abuse and/or neglect; and

WHEREAS, Passaic County CASA for Children requires the generosity of community volunteers to step up and serve as Court Appointed Special Advocates for each of these children.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa calls upon all citizens, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities, elected leaders and businesses to increase their participation in their efforts to support children who have been abused and/or neglected and placed into foster care.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of does hereby supports Passaic County CASA's mission and proclaims April 2023 as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Mayor Coiro asked the representatives of Passaic County CASA to join him in front of the dais as he read some excerpts from the Proclamation, thanked them for their work and presented the Proclamation to them.

Sasha Lowery: Thanked the Mayor and Council for the Proclamation and recognizing the work that Passaic County CASA does on behalf of the children in the child welfare system.

Joyce Savastano, 11 Dey Hill Trail: Said that as a resident of Totowa, thank you for your support of Passaic County CASA and the work that we do for the children.

Municipal Clerk Wassel advised the Mayor and Council that he is in receipt of a letter from Peter A. Murphy, Chairman of the Totowa Borough Republican Club, Inc. regarding the submission of eligible nominees to fill the vacancy of Council that was created by the resignation of Councilwoman Debra Andriani.

Municipal Clerk Wassel read the following letter and names of the three (3) nominees.

TOTOWA BOROUGH REPUBLICAN CLUB, INC.  
29 PAMELA DRIVE  
TOTOWA, NEW JERSEY 07512

March 23, 2023

Joseph Wassel, RMC  
Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk  
Municipal Complex  
537 Totowa Road at Cherba Place  
Totowa, New Jersey 07512

RE: (A) Resignation of Councilwoman Debra Andriani  
(B) Appointment of Successor Councilperson

Dear Joe:

In response to the resignation of Councilwoman Debra Andriani which became effective on March 14, 2023, I am pleased to submit to the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa three (3) nominees selected by the members of the Totowa Republican County Committee to fill the vacant Council position. Each of the nominees is a member of the Republican Party and has the requisite qualifications that are required by statute. The nominees are as follows:

1. Sanders Reynoso  
1 Battle Ridge Trail  
Totowa, New Jersey 07512

2. Anne Krautheim  
43 Winifred Drive  
Totowa, New Jersey 07512

3. Giovanni D'Ambrosio  
138 Gordon Avenue  
Totowa, New Jersey 07512

The above nominees were unanimously selected by the Totowa Republican County Committee members at a meeting duly called for that purpose.

The Council of the Borough of Totowa shall, within thirty (30) days after the occurrence of the vacancy, appoint one (1) of the nominees as the successor to fill the vacancy.

Very truly yours,  
PETER A. MURPHY  
Chairman

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to acknowledge receipt of the letter from Peter A. Murphy, Chairman of the Totowa Borough Republican Club, Inc. and accept the names of the three (3) nominees to fill the vacancy of Council as submitted by the Totowa Republican County Committee. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

Councilman Picarelli nominated Sanders Reynoso to fill the vacancy of Council of the Borough of Totowa. The nomination was seconded by Councilman D'Angelo. There were no other nominations.

There being no further nominations, there was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to appoint Sanders Reynoso as Councilman of the Borough of Totowa to fill the unexpired term of Debra Andriani. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

Mayor Coiro advised everyone that there will be a swearing in ceremony for new Councilman Sanders Reynoso at the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 11, 2023.

Municipal Clerk Wassel announced that Ordinance No. 04-2023 has been advertised for public hearing for Tuesday, March 28, 2023.

Municipal Clerk read the legal notice and the title of Ordinance No. 04-2023.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to open the public hearing. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

Mayor Coiro asked if any citizens wished to be heard on Ordinance No. 04-2023.

**CITIZENS HEARD:**

There were no citizens who wished to be heard.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to close the public hearing. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

Municipal Clerk Wassel read Ordinance No. 04-2023 by title:

**ORDINANCE NO. 04-2023**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA CHAPTER 256 ENTITLED "MOTELS, HOTELS AND TOURIST LODGES", TO ADD A NEW SUB-SECTION TO BE KNOWN AS ARTICLE III, "SHORT TERM RENTALS"**

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to adopt Ordinance No. 04-2023 on second and final reading. 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 Picarelli 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: Congratulated Sanders and welcomed him to the Council.

#### CITIZENS HEARD:

There were no citizens who wished to be heard.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to approve the Minutes of the Mayor and Council for the meeting of March 14, 2023. 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. 2023-07 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 approve Resolution No. 2023-08 Authorizing The Transfer Of 2022 Budget Appropriations. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

A letter from the American Legion Memorial Post No. 227 inviting the Mayor and Council to participate in the Annual Memorial Day Parade on Sunday, May 28, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. was received and filed.

#### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY:

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Capo to approve a grade increase for Patrol Officer Meagan Akins from Grade 2 Patrol Officer to Grade 1 Patrol Officer. 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 the Fire Department TSAP for 2022. 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 memorialize the following Proclamation In Honor And Recognition Of Richard Vander Berg For Fifty Years Of Service To The Borough Of Totowa Fire Department. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

PROCLAMATION IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF  
RICHARD VANDER BERG  
FOR FIFTY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE  
BOROUGH OF TOTOWA FIRE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, this proclamation is presented to RICHARD VANDER BERG for meritorious achievement for having served as a volunteer fireman of the Borough of Totowa, New Jersey, for Fifty (50) years, since April 1972; and

WHEREAS, in addition to having served as a volunteer fireman, RICHARD VANDER BERG served as Assistant Engineer, Engineer, Lieutenant, Captain and Assistant Chief of Lincoln Fire Company, Company Secretary for four years, Company President for eleven years, Secretary of the Totowa Fire Relief Association for thirty three years and Totowa Exempt Fireman's Association for ten years and in other fields has been active in stimulating the growth of the Fire Department, through his affiliations with many social and fraternal organizations; and

WHEREAS, at no time during these past Fifty (50) years has RICHARD VANDER BERG refused to assist those in need, thereby creating a tremendous feeling of goodwill throughout this community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, that in recognition of the many years of service as a volunteer fireman, and to the community life of the Borough of Totowa, RICHARD VANDER BERG is hereby recognized and acknowledged as a true example of good leadership and understanding and may those that follow profit by his dedication.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that this Proclamation be made a part of the permanent records of the Borough of Totowa and be presented to RICHARD VANDER BERG.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Capo to memorialize the following Proclamation In Honor And Recognition Of Allen Del Vecchio For Fifty Years Of Service To The Borough Of Totowa Fire Department. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

PROCLAMATION IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF  
ALLEN DEL VECCHIO  
FOR FIFTY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE  
BOROUGH OF TOTOWA FIRE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, this proclamation is presented to ALLEN DEL VECCHIO for meritorious achievement for having served as a volunteer fireman of the Borough of Totowa, New Jersey, for Fifty (50) years, from March 1973 to March 2023; and

WHEREAS, in addition to having served as a volunteer fireman, ALLEN DEL VECCHIO rose through all the ranks as Assistant Engineer, Engineer, Lieutenant, Captain and Assistant Chief of Volunteer Fire Company #1, became Department Chief in May 1980, a position he held for nineteen and one half years, longer than any other Chief in department history, helped organize the Passaic County Fire Academy, started one of the first Haz-Mat teams in the State and in other fields has been active in stimulating the growth of the Fire Department, through his affiliations with many social and fraternal organizations; and

WHEREAS, at no time during these past Fifty (50) years has ALLEN DEL VECCHIO refused to assist those in need, thereby creating a tremendous feeling of goodwill throughout this community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, that in recognition of the many years of service as a volunteer fireman, and to the community life of the Borough of Totowa, ALLEN DEL VECCHIO is hereby recognized and acknowledged as a true example of good leadership and understanding, and may those that follow profit by his dedication.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that this Proclamation be made a part of the permanent records of the Borough of Totowa and be presented to ALLEN DEL VECCHIO.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:

There was a motion by Councilman Bucher, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to adopt the following Resolution Granting To The County Of Passaic A Guarantee In Lieu Of Performance Bond For Work Performed On A Passaic County Highway. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 47-2023

RESOLUTION GRANTING TO THE COUNTY OF PASSAIC A GUARANTEE  
IN LIEU OF PERFORMANCE BOND FOR WORK PERFORMED ON  
A PASSAIC COUNTY HIGHWAY

WHEREAS, the Passaic County Board of Commissioners have adopted a Resolution known as the Highway Opening and Use Resolution; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned Resolution provides that whenever a Highway Opening and Use Permit is issued, a performance bond must be posted with the County of Passaic; and

WHEREAS, from time to time, the Borough of Totowa will require a Highway Opening and Use Permit by the County of Passaic in order to perform work in, on, under or over the public right-of-way of the County in connection with the operation of Borough utilities; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa wishes to file a Guarantee in lieu of a Performance Bond in the amount of \$30,000.00 which shall cover any and all Highway Opening and Use Permits by the County of Passaic to the Borough of Totowa for the purpose of work within the County right of way for a period of two (2) years from the date of acceptance of the final restoration by the County Supervisor of Roads for which the permit has been issued; and

WHEREAS, this Guarantee is only required to be posted once and it will cover all Highway Opening and Use Permits issued to the Borough of Totowa by the County during the year 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the posting of a Guarantee in Lieu of a Performance Bond in the amount of \$30,000.00 for work performed within the right of way of the County.

COMMITTEE ON ENGINEERING & PUBLIC PROPERTY:

There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing Emergency Repairs To The Sanitary Sewer Line Along Totowa Road At Charles Street. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 48-2023

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY REPAIRS TO THE SANITARY SEWER LINE ALONG TOTOWA ROAD AT CHARLES STREET

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 the sanitary sewer line located along Totowa Road at Charles Street has become blocked and needed to be repaired and/or replaced as soon as possible; and

WHEREAS, the nearby homes in the surrounding area serviced by the sanitary sewer line were also experiencing sewer back-ups in their homes as a result of the blocked piping; and

WHEREAS, the necessary repairs to the sanitary sewer line included but were not limited to removing the existing sidewalk area from the manhole to the gas lateral of the existing dwelling; excavating to the existing sewer line, removing and disposing of the damaged piping; installing new 8" sewer main piping and repairing the manhole around the piping; and installing a new sidewalk; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa DPW Superintendent solicited quotes from companies experienced in sanitary sewer repairs; and

WHEREAS, F. Antonucci & Sons, Inc., 283 Edmund Avenue, Paterson, New Jersey 07502 submitted a proposal for the removal and replacement of the sanitary sewer line in the amount of \$19,850.00, 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 sanitary sewer line along Totowa Road at Charles Street for the general health, safety and well-being of the residents of the Borough of Totowa; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6, the repairs and replacement of this sewer line constitutes an emergency service that 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 F. Antonucci & Sons, Inc. for the removal and replacement of the sanitary sewer line along Totowa Road at Charles Street in the amount of \$19,850.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize F. Antonucci & Sons, Inc. to provide the labor and materials for the emergency repairs to the sanitary sewer line along Totowa Road at Charles Street as set forth in their proposal.

#### COMMITTEE ON LIAISON & INSPECTION:

There was a motion by Councilman Bucher, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing The Purchase And Installation Of Lightning Detection Equipment. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 49-2023

#### RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF LIGHTNING DETECTION EQUIPMENT

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 64-2013 dated May 14, 2013, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa authorized the Borough of Totowa to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Township of Little Falls, Borough of Woodland Park and Passaic Valley Regional High School for the joint purchase of a Lightning Detection System that will be utilized by all four (4) entities at their respective recreational fields; and

WHEREAS, the Lightning Detection System consists of a lightning sensor (sensor equipment) to be located at a central location and outdoor remote sirens (notification equipment) that will be located at the various recreational fields; and

WHEREAS, the entities agree to equally share the cost of the sensor system and will own same jointly for the duration of the Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the purchase, cost and ownership of the notification equipment for each entity shall be made by each individual entity; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 73-2013 dated June 11, 2013 and Resolution No 74-2014 dated July 8, 2014, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa authorized the purchase and installation of notification equipment for the Borough of Totowa's recreational fields; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to authorize the purchase of additional lightning detection equipment for the Borough of Totowa's municipal swimming pool; and

WHEREAS, the Lightning Detection System may be purchased from Commercial Recreation Specialists, 807 Liberty Drive, Suite 101, Verona, Wisconsin 53593-9160 pursuant to New Jersey State Contract No. 16-FLEET-00133; and

WHEREAS, Commercial Recreation Specialists has submitted a proposal for the purchase and installation of notification equipment for the Borough of Totowa's municipal swimming pool in the amount of \$5,757.65, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to authorize the purchase and installation of the outdoor remote siren and all related equipment; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable New Jersey State laws, the purchase of this safety equipment may be authorized without public bidding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the purchase and installation of notification equipment from Commercial Recreation Specialists for the Borough of Totowa's municipal swimming pool in the amount of \$5,757.65.

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 hereto.

There was a motion by Councilman Bucher, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing Contract For Fertilizer And Weed Control Services For 2023. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 50-2023

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR FERTILIZER AND  
WEED CONTROL SERVICES FOR 2023

WHEREAS, the Superintendent for the Borough of Totowa Department of Public Works has recommended the Borough of Totowa implement a fertilization and weed control treatment program for the Borough of Totowa Municipal Complex grounds, the Board of Recreation property and our recreational parks and fields; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa Department of Public Works did solicit proposals for these lawn maintenance services; and

WHEREAS, Lawn Doctor, 10 Park Place, Butler, New Jersey 07405 has submitted a proposal dated March 16, 2023 to provide the necessary fertilization and weed control services in the amount of \$13,855.00, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent for the Borough of Totowa Department of Public Works has reviewed the proposal and recommended the Borough of Totowa implement the five (5) step treatment plan recommended in the proposal; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable New Jersey State laws, the authorization of this service will not exceed the public bidding threshold and may be authorized without public bidding.

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 contract with Lawn Doctor for lawn maintenance services for the Borough of Totowa Municipal Complex grounds, the Board of Recreation property and our recreational fields and parks in the amount of \$13,855.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Municipal Clerk and Superintendent for the Department of Public Works to execute any and all necessary instruments relating thereto.

#### COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION & ORDINANCES:

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to approve Raffle License Application Nos. 2310 & 2311 for the PTA Bloomingdale for a Tricky Tray and On-Premise 50/50 to be held on May 12, 2023 at The Barnyard & Carriage House. 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 approve Raffle License Application No. 2312 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 August 30, 2023. 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 Councilman Picarelli 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