

BOROUGH OF TOTOWA

MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

April 14, 2020

Due to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic this meeting was live-streamed on Facebook.

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

ABSENT: Councilwoman Debra Andriani.

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

Mayor Coiro announced that we are live-streaming on Facebook because of the COVID-19 outbreak and the Municipal Complex being closed to the public.

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.

The Municipal Clerk 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.

There were no reports.

CITIZENS HEARD:

Mayor Coiro announced that we have not received any emailed questions through 7:30 p.m.

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 24, 2020. 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. 2020-09 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 pursuant to State Tax Court judgments. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, there has been a State Tax Court Judgment to reduce the evaluation on the following.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Treasurer of the Borough of Totowa is authorized to refund this amount.

<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Property/Owner</u>	<u>Payable To:</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
170.01	3	33 West End Rd.	Ventura, Miesowitz Et al Trust Account	2019	850,000	810,000	\$955.20

Mail to:
Ventura, Miesowitz, Keough & Warner
Counselors at Law
783 Springfield Ave.
Summit, NJ 07901-2332

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 18-00006 for 685 Riverview Drive, Block 173, Lot 9. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION

Tax Sale Certificate Number 18-00006
Block 173, Lot 9

Property: 685 N. Riverview Dr., Totowa, New Jersey 07512
Owner: Elizabeth & Peter Badunos

WHEREAS, at the Municipal Tax Sale on October 24, 2019, a lien was sold on Block 173, Lot 9; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate Number 18-00006, was sold to C & E Tax Lien Fund 1 for a 0% redemption fee and a premium of \$100; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth & Peter Badunos, the owner of the property, has effected redemption of Tax Sale Certificate Number 18-00006 in the amount of \$989.66 as of March 31, 2020.

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 \$989.66 payable to C & E Tax Lien Fund 1 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate Number 18-00006.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council do hereby authorize the Treasurer to issue a check in the amount of \$100 (premium) to the aforementioned Lien Holder.

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following resolution authorizing a tax refund for Richard Santamaria, 156 Sandra Drive, Block 164, Lot 1 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, Richard Santamaria, 156 Sandra Drive, Block 164, Lot 1 has applied for a 100% exemption for a 100% permanent and total disability due to a wartime service connected disability; and

WHEREAS, he meets all the requirements for the exemption, and his 100% disability became effective on November 7, 2019; and

WHEREAS, he is "Exempt" from real estate taxes for 2020; and

WHEREAS, he paid the 1st quarter 2020 taxes in the amount of \$2,422.22, and is now entitled to a refund of \$2,422.22.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that the Treasurer is authorized to refund \$2,422.22 to Richard Santamaria and upon paying the refund due to the Taxpayer, this property will be exempted from future tax payments.

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to approve payment of the 2nd Quarter 2020 Budget Allotment to the Borough of Totowa Public Library in the amount of \$197,963. 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 approve a grade increase for Patrol Officer Damian Dilorio from Probationary Patrol Officer to Grade 8 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 a grade increase for Patrol Officer Meagan Akins from Grade 5 Patrol Officer to Grade 4 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 a grade increase for Patrol Officer Nicholas Macaluso from Grade 7 Patrol Officer to Grade 6 Patrol Officer. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:

There was no report.

COMMITTEE ON ENGINEERING & PUBLIC PROPERTY:

There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing Professional Engineering Services For The Upgrades To The Riverview Drive Pump Station. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 52-2020

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES
FOR THE UPGRADES TO THE RIVERVIEW DRIVE PUMP STATION

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa owns and operates the Riverview Drive Pump Station which receives sewage flow from the various pump stations located throughout the Borough; and

WHEREAS, all pump stations are required to operate pursuant to their respective Treatment Works Approvals ("TWA's") which are issued by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection ("NJDEP"); and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa have requested that the Municipal Engineer review the potential impact of several new developments connecting to the Borough's sanitary sewer systems to determine if the resulting flows may exceed the permitted allowable capacity of the Riverview Drive Pump Station; and

WHEREAS, the proposed scope of work includes but is not limited to developing base plans; reviewing the existing conditions, the permitted flows, the anticipated flows and operational issues of the sewer operator; preparing a report addressing the critical and recommended upgrades to the Riverview Drive Pump Station; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to retain the services of a professional engineering firm to develop the base plans and provide a report of recommendations for the upgrades to the Riverview Drive Pump Station; and

WHEREAS, Richard A. Alaimo Engineering Associates has submitted a proposal dated April 8, 2020 for the base plans and report for the upgrades for the Riverview Drive Pump Station at a cost not to exceed \$25,650.00, 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 on April 14, 2020 did examine the proposal submitted by Richard A. Alaimo Engineering Associates; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable New Jersey State laws, these professional services may be awarded 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 Richard A. Alaimo Engineering Associates for professional engineering services for the upgrades to the Riverview Drive Pump Station in the amount of \$25,650.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize Richard A. Alaimo Engineering Associates to perform the professional services as set forth in their proposal.

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

There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing Professional Engineering Services For The Upgrades To The William Place Pump Station. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 53-2020

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES
FOR THE UPGRADES TO THE WILLIAM PLACE PUMP STATION

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa owns and operates the William Place Pump Station which receives sewage flow from various areas located throughout the Borough; and

WHEREAS, all pump stations are required to operate pursuant to their respective Treatment Works Approvals ("TWA's") which are issued by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection ("NJDEP"); and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa have requested that the Municipal Engineer review the potential impact of several new developments connecting to the Borough's sanitary sewer systems to determine if the resulting flows may exceed the permitted allowable capacity of the William Place Pump Station; and

WHEREAS, the proposed scope of work includes but is not limited to developing base plans; determining baseline inflow conditions, the permitted pumping capacity and actual pumping capacity; reviewing the existing conditions, the permitted flows, the anticipated flows and operational issues of the sewer operator; preparing a report addressing the critical and recommended upgrades to the William Place Pump Station; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to retain the services of a professional engineering firm to develop the base plans, determine flows and provide a report of recommendations for the upgrades to the William Place Pump Station; and

WHEREAS, Richard A. Alaimo Engineering Associates has submitted a proposal dated April 8, 2020 for the base plans, determination of flows and report for the upgrades for the William Place Pump Station at a cost not to exceed \$35,100.00, 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 on April 14, 2020 did examine the proposal submitted by Richard A. Alaimo Engineering Associates; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable New Jersey State laws, these professional services may be awarded 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 Richard A. Alaimo Engineering Associates for professional engineering services for the upgrades to the William Place Pump Station in the amount of \$35,100.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize Richard A. Alaimo Engineering Associates to perform the professional services as set forth in their proposal.

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

COMMITTEE ON LIAISON & INSPECTION:

There was a motion by Councilman Bucher, seconded by Councilwoman Palazzo to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing Contract For Fertilizer And Weed Control Services For 2020. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 54-2020

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR FERTILIZER AND
WEED CONTROL SERVICES FOR 2020

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, 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 February 28, 2020 to provide the necessary fertilization and weed control services in the amount of \$14,445.00, 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, recreational fields and parks in the amount of \$14,445.00.

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 Councilwoman Palazzo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to introduce on first reading and advertise for public hearing the following entitled ordinance. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

ORDINANCE NO. 04-2020

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA
CHAPTER 75 ENTITLED "POLICE DEPARTMENT", ARTICLE III,
"COMPOSITION OF DEPARTMENT", SECTION 75-4, "FULL-TIME AND
PERMANENT PERSONNEL" AND ARTICLE IV, "SALARIES",
SECTION 75-6, "SALARIES AND COMPENSATION"**

Mayor Coiro reminded all that our next Council Meeting will be in two weeks on April 28th and though we are not sure of what the situation will be at that time, we suspect that we will hold the same type of virtual meeting on Facebook.

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.

Joseph Wassel, RMC
Municipal Clerk