

BOROUGH OF TOTOWA

MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

January 10, 2023

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

ABSENT: Councilman John Capo.

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.

There were no reports.

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 December 27, 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 Councilwoman Andriani to approve the Minutes of the Mayor and Council for the Reorganization Meeting of January 1, 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. 2023-02 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 Tax Collector to process the cancellation of any property tax refund, delinquency or charge and fee imposed by the municipality of less than \$10.00 for the year 2022. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, there are taxpayers who have a property tax refund, delinquency or charge and fee imposed by the municipality of less than \$10.00 on their accounts regarding property taxes for the year 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of Totowa may authorize a municipal employee to process the cancellation of any property tax refund, delinquency or charge and fee imposed by the municipality of less than \$10.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Totowa that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to process the cancellation of any property tax refund, delinquency or charge and fee imposed by the municipality of less than \$10.00 for the year 2022.

A letter was received from the employees of the Municipal Complex requesting permission to switch the following holidays: Lincoln's Birthday, Monday, February 13th for the day after Thanksgiving, Friday, November 24, 2023. There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to approve the request. 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 Bucher to appoint Fina Matranga and Nicholas Duncan as Police Officers in the Borough of Totowa Police Department. 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 Fina Matranga and Nicholas Duncan as Police Officers in the Borough of Totowa Police Department effective with their swearing in on January 17, 2023.

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

Upon the recommendation of the Committee, there was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Bucher to appoint Marilyn Petruccelli as a School Crossing Guard. 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 Marilyn Petruccelli as a School Crossing Guard for a term of one year ending December 31, 2023.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Bucher to confirm the appointment. 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 Bucher to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing The Purchase And Delivery Of Ten Solar Digital Radar Speed Signs And Accessories. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 27-2023

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF TEN SOLAR DIGITAL RADAR SPEED SIGNS AND ACCESSORIES

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa Police Chief has requested that Solar Radar Speed Signs be purchased for the Borough of Totowa Police Department; and

WHEREAS, more specifically, the Police Chief has requested the purchase of 10 Solar Digital Radar Signs be purchased to be installed throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa have determined that there is a need for these Radar Speed Signs which are designed to slow cars down and make streets safer for everyone; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to authorize the purchase and delivery of the new Solar Digital Radar Speed Signs; and

WHEREAS, Elan City, 10-34 44th Drive, Long Island City, New York 11101 has submitted a proposal for the purchase and delivery of ten (10) Evolis Solution Digital Radar Speed Signs and related accessories in the amount of \$31,150.00, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the purchase and delivery of ten (10) Evolis Solution Digital Radar Speed Signs and related accessories from Elan City in the amount of \$31,150.00.

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

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:

There was a motion by Councilman Bucher, seconded by Councilman Fierro to adopt the following Resolution To Amend Resolution No. 84-2022 For The Purchase And Delivery Of A Ford F-550. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 28-2023

RESOLUTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION NO. 84-2022
FOR THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF A FORD F-550

WHEREAS, by Resolution No 84-2022 dated June 28, 2022, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa authorized the purchase and delivery of one Ford F-550 to be added to the Department of Public Works (“DPW”) fleet; and

WHEREAS, more specifically, the governing body authorized the purchase and delivery of one new 2023 Ford F-550 4x4 Truck with Spreader and Plow from Route 23 Auto Mall, 1301 Route 23, Butler, New Jersey 07405 in the amount of \$85,055.00 pursuant to New Jersey State Contract No. 17-FLEET-00241; and

WHEREAS, Route 23 Auto Mall has advised the Borough of Totowa DPW Superintendent that delivery of the 2023 Ford F-550 4x4 Truck with Spreader and Plow has been delayed for at least 2 years due to supply chain issues being experienced in the automotive industry; and

WHEREAS, Route 23 Auto Mall further advised that the dealer currently has one new 2022 Ford F-550 Chassis 4x4 SD Super Cab Truck with Spreader and Plow that can be substituted for the 2023 Ford F-550 4x4 Truck with Spreader and Plow; and

WHEREAS, Route 23 Auto Mall has submitted a proposal for the purchase and delivery of one new 2022 Ford F-550 Chassis 4x4 SD Super Cab Truck with Spreader and Plow in the amount of \$94,920.00, 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 have determined that there is still a need for this multi-function vehicle to be added to the DPW fleet; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to authorize the purchase and delivery of the 2022 Ford F-550 Chassis 4x4 SD Super Cab Truck with Spreader and Plow; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby amend Resolution No, 84-2022 dated June 28, 2022 to authorize the purchase and delivery of one new 2022 Ford F-550 Chassis 4x4 SD Super Cab Truck with Spreader and Plow from Route 23 Auto Mall in the amount of \$94,920.00.

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

Upon the recommendation of DPW Superintendent Jim Niland, there was a motion by Councilman Bucher, seconded by Councilman Fierro to approve a grade increase for DPW Laborer Joseph Dulski from Grade 3 to Grade 2, effective January 16, 2023. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

A letter from the Passaic Valley Water Commission advising that they are increasing wholesale water rates by 6% for 2023 was received and filed.

A letter was received from DPW Superintendent Jim Niland requesting permission to switch the following holidays: Lincoln's Birthday, Monday, February 13th for Monday, July 3rd and Washington's Birthday, Monday, February 20th for the day after Thanksgiving, Friday, November 24, 2023. There was a motion by Councilman Bucher, seconded by Councilman Fierro to approve the request. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

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 Apply For A New Jersey Department Of Community Affairs (DCA) – Local Recreation Improvement Grant (LRIG) Program FY23. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 29-2023

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa desires to apply for and obtain a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approximately \$100,000.00 to carry out a project to install a playground at Veterans Park in Totowa, NJ.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED,

- 1) That the Borough of Totowa does hereby authorize the application for such a grant; and,
- 2) recognizes and accepts that the Department may offer a lesser or greater amount and therefore, upon receipt of the grant agreement from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, does further authorize the execution of any such grant agreement; and also, upon receipt of the fully executed agreement from the Department, does further authorize the expenditure of funds pursuant to the terms of the agreement between Borough of Totowa and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the persons whose names, titles, and signatures appear below are authorized to sign the application, and that they or their successors in said titles are authorized to sign the agreement, and any other documents necessary in connection therewith:

John Coiro
Mayor

Joseph Wassel
Municipal Clerk

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION & ORDINANCES:

There was a motion by Councilman Fierro, 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. 01-2023

**AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE ANNUAL SALARIES AND WAGES
OF THE OFFICIALS, EMPLOYEES AND THE APPOINTEES OF THE
BOROUGH OF TOTOWA, COUNTY OF PASSAIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

There was a motion by Councilman Fierro, 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. 02-2023

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA
CHAPTER 266 ENTITLED "NOISE", SECTION 2,
"ENUMERATION OF PROHIBITED NOISES"**

There was a motion by Councilman Fierro, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to approve Raffle License Application No. 2292 for the Macedonian Orthodox Church St. Nikola for a Tricky Tray to be held on March 4, 2023. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

Mayor Coiro asked a woman who had walked into the meeting after the public portion was already closed if she wanted to address the Council. She said no, but that she will be attending in the future and just wanted to learn the process from the Governing Body.

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