

## **BOROUGH OF TOTOWA**

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

**April 9, 2024**

**PRESENT:** Mayor John Coiro, presiding, Council President Lou D'Angelo, Councilman Anthony Picarelli, Councilman William Bucher, Councilman John Capo, Councilman Sanders Reynoso, Deputy Municipal Clerk Kathryn Wasilewski and Municipal Attorney Kristin Corrado.

**ABSENT:** Councilman Patrick Fierro and Municipal Clerk Joseph Wassel.

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

Deputy Municipal Clerk Wasilewski recited the Prayer of the Meeting followed with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag with the public participating.

Mayor Coiro asked the Deputy Clerk to read the statement of the meeting.

Deputy Municipal Clerk Wasilewski 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 enable the Mayor and Council to present a Proclamation In Honor And Celebration Of Patricia Knapp. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

Mayor Coiro asked Councilman Reynoso to join him in front of the dais and also called up Patricia Knapp to receive the proclamation. Mayor Coiro started by saying that 42 years is certainly a very long time to serve so selflessly on the Board and for her many years of teaching. Thanked Mrs. Knapp for all of her hard work and dedication over the years and wished her the very best in her retirement. Mayor Coiro then went on to read

some excerpts from the Proclamation and then presented the Proclamation to Mrs. Knapp.

Patricia Knapp thanked the Mayor and Council for the proclamation and for the privilege of serving on the Library Board for all these years.

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 Deputy Municipal Clerk or the Municipal Attorney wished to address the Council.

Councilman Reynoso: Mentioned that the 2024 Car Show will be held on April 21<sup>st</sup> and that we had a successful Blood Drive on March 29<sup>th</sup> and the Library Open House on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### 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 26, 2024. 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. 2024-09 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 To Introduce The 2024 Municipal Budget. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

## RESOLUTION NO. 56-2024

### RESOLUTION TO INTRODUCE THE 2024 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following statements of revenues and appropriations attached hereto constitute the local Budget of the Borough of Totowa, Passaic County, New Jersey for the year 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the said Budget be published in The North Jersey Herald News in the issue of May 3, 2024, and that a hearing on the Budget will be held at the Municipal Building on May 14, 2024 at 7:30 P.M. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be reached.

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to approve payment of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2024 Budget Allotment to the Borough of Totowa Public Library in the amount of \$337,679. 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 Nicholas Macaluso from Grade 3 Patrol Officer to Grade 2 Patrol Officer. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:

Upon the recommendation of DPW Superintendent Jim Niland, there was a motion by Councilman Bucher, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to approve a grade increase for DPW Laborer Nicholas Romanelli from Grade 1-B to Grade 1-A. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

COMMITTEE ON ENGINEERING & PUBLIC PROPERTY:

There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilman Reynoso to approve Payment Estimate No. 8 in the amount of \$99,960.00 to Pact Two, LLC for the William Place Pump Station Improvements. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

COMMITTEE ON LIAISON & INSPECTION:

There was a motion by Councilman Reynoso, seconded by Councilman Bucher to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing Contract For Fertilizer And Weed Control Services For 2024. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 57-2024

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR FERTILIZER AND  
WEED CONTROL SERVICES FOR 2024

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, Harvest Lawn Care, P.O. Box 643, Franklin Lakes, New Jersey 07417 has submitted a proposal dated March 7, 2024 to provide the necessary fertilization and weed control services in the amount of \$15,990.00, 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 Harvest Lawn Care 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 \$15,990.00.

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.

A letter of resignation was received from Cemetery Inspector William Marsala. There was a motion by Councilman Reynoso, seconded by Councilman Bucher to accept his resignation. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION & ORDINANCES:

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman Reynoso 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. 07-2024**

**CALENDAR YEAR 2024 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE  
MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO  
ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)**

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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Kathryn Wasilewski  
Deputy Municipal Clerk