

BOROUGH OF TOTOWA

MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

November 28, 2023

PRESENT: Mayor John Coiro, presiding, Councilman Anthony Picarelli, Councilman William Bucher, Councilman John Capo, Councilman Patrick Fierro, Councilman Sanders Reynoso, Municipal Clerk Joseph Wassel and Municipal Attorney Kristin Corrado.

ABSENT: Council President Lou D'Angelo.

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.

Mayor Coiro: 1) Congratulated Recreation Director Mark Monteyne and the Board of Recreation, the Library and the DPW on the success of the Turkey Trot; 2) Announced that we had another very successful Fire Truck Parade and thanked the Fire Department, First Aid Squad, Police Department and DPW on their participation; 3) Congratulated Councilman Bucher in person for winning his re-election since he wasn't at our last meeting.

Councilman Picarelli: Echoed the Mayor's sentiments on both events.

Councilman Reynoso: 1) Remarked that the Turkey Trot was a great success run by the Board of Recreation, and this year, his wife Nancy organized a turkey collection during the event and with the help of the community we were able to collect close to 60 turkeys that were donated to the Oasis House; 2) Stated that we will also be collecting Letters To Santa which will be collected during the Christmas Tree Lighting, at the Library Dropbox and at the Board of Recreation building.

CITIZENS HEARD:

There were no citizens who wished to be heard.

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman Capo to approve the Minutes of the Mayor and Council for the meeting of November 14, 2023. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative. Councilman Bucher abstained from the voting.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE:

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman Capo to approve Resolution No. 2023-24 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 Capo 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>
9.05	11	Manish D & Gunjab	Jennifer R. Jacobus	2022	1,540,000	1,410,000	\$ 3,169.40

Kanani 40 Mountainview Ct	Trustee for Kanani, M, N, B & T	2023	1,540,000	1,410,000	<u>3,370.90</u>
				Total	\$6,540.30

Mail to:
Jacobus & Associates
Attn: Jennifer Jacobus, Esq.
201 Littleton Road, Suite 100
Morris Plains, NJ 07950

173	38	Totowa Plaza Assoc. 783 N. Riverview Dr.	Venutra, Miesowitz et al Trust Account	2021	2,750,000	2,400,000	\$ 8,326.50
				2022	2,750,000	2,200,000	<u>13,409.00</u>
				Total			\$21,735.50

Mail to:
Ventura, Miesowitz & Keough
Attn: Daniel G. Keough Esq.
783 Springfield Ave
Summit, NJ 07901-2332

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman Capo to adopt the following resolution authorizing the Treasurer to issue refunds to various property owners due to overpayment of 4th Quarter 2023 taxes. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, there has been an overpayment of 4th quarter 2023 taxes on the properties listed below; and

WHEREAS, the taxpayer is entitled to a refund; and

WHEREAS, the chart sets forth the refund as follows:

Block	Lot	Property Owner	Payable To:	Overpayment
9.05	24	56 Mountainwood Ct. Tahera Ali	Corelogic Attn: Refund Dept. PO Box 9202 Coppell, TX 75019-9760	\$5,436.91
20	18	53 Boyle Ave Douglas Ploch & Kathleen Cirino	Corelogic Attn: Refund Dept. PO Box 9202 Coppell, TX 75019-9760	\$2,180.53

116	19	229 Dewey Ave Mary Crossley	PHH Mortgage 2000 Midlantic Dr. Suite 410-A Mt, Laurel, NJ 08054	\$1,707.21
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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the overpayment shall be refunded to the taxpayer, as stated above, and the Treasurer is authorized to issue separate checks for the refunds, which shall be paid to the stated property or taxing authority.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY:

There was a motion by Councilman Capó, seconded by Councilman Bucher to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing The Borough Of Totowa To Apply For And Obtain A Grant From The New Jersey Department Of Community Affairs American Rescue Plan Firefighter Grant. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 113-2023

Whereas, the Borough of Totowa desires to apply for and obtain a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs American Rescue Plan Firefighter Grant for an amount not to exceed \$75,000 to carry out a project to obtain Personal Protective Equipment for turnout gear for the Totowa Fire Department.

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 the 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:

(signature)

John Coiro
(type or print name)

Mayor
(title)

(signature)

Joseph Wassel
(type or print name)

Borough Clerk
(title)

There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilman Bucher to approve Junior Firefighter Application for Valerie Ann Schopperth for Volunteer Fire Company No. 1. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilman Bucher to approve payment of the Fire Department Clothing Allowance for 2023. 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 no report.

COMMITTEE ON LIAISON & INSPECTION:

There was no report.

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION & ORDINANCES:

There was a motion by Councilman Fierro, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to approve Raffle License Application Nos. 2346 & 2347 for the Passaic Valley Band Association for a Tricky Tray and Off-Premise 50/50 to be held on February 3, 2024 at The Barnyard and Carriage House. 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 Picarelli, seconded by Councilman Capo that the meeting be adjourned. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

Joseph Wassel, RMC
Municipal Clerk