

STAFFORD TOWNSHIP REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 2, 2024

Mayor Gregory E. Myhre calls the Stafford Township Council Meeting to order with the Salute to the Flag and the reading of the Open Public Meeting Statement. Time: 7:01 PM

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT: *“This meeting complies with the Open Public Meeting Act by adoption of Resolution No. 2023-329 setting forth meeting dates for calendar year 2024. Notification and publication of this meeting was given to three local newspapers and is posted on the municipal bulletin board”.*

ROLL CALL: Present: Mr. Esposito, Mrs. Otte, Mr. Krier, Mr. Henken, Mr. Steadman, Ms. Mower, and Mayor Myhre

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-001

Appointing Lisa Mower as President of Council

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-001: Mr. Esposito Second: Mr. Henken
RCV: All Yes:Mr. Esposito, Mrs. Otte, Mr. Krier, Mr. Henken, Mr. Steadman, Ms. Mower,
Mayor Myhre

PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Myhre read and presented a proclamation to Bob and Nancy Wick recognizing their dedication to community service and ability to connect residents to events happening throughout the Township of Stafford through their local radio station.

Mayor Myhre read and presented a proclamation to Donald and Karen Bonica of the Toms River Avian Care Facility honoring them for their dedication of over forty years of rehabilitating injured birds and for being a vital part of the Stafford Township Animal Control team.

ORDINANCES INTRODUCTION & FIRST READING

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-01

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF STAFFORD, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY ALLOWING THE MUNICIPALITY IN PREPARING ITS 2024 BUDGET TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14

Motion to Introduce Ordinance No. 2024-01 on 1st Reading: Mr. Krier Second: Mr. Esposito
RCV: All Yes:Mr. Esposito, Mrs. Otte, Mr. Krier, Mr. Henken, Mr. Steadman, Ms. Mower,
Mayor Myhre

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-02

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF STAFFORD, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ACCEPTING DEDICATION OF STAFFORD PARK, BLOCK 25.06, LOT 10; BLOCK 25.02, LOT 22.01; BLOCK 25.04, LOT 38; BLOCK 25.07, LOT 21 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF STAFFORD AS A PUBLIC OPEN SPACE FROM STAFFORD PROPERTIES RESIDENTIAL URBAN RENEWAL, LLC

Motion to Introduce Ordinance No. 2024-02 on 1st Reading: Mrs. Otte Second: Mr. Esposito
RCV: All Yes:Mr. Esposito, Mrs. Otte, Mr. Krier, Mr. Henken, Mr. Steadman, Ms. Mower,
Mayor Myhre

The above Ordinances will be scheduled for public comment at the January 23, 2024 Council meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

“CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS ARE CONSIDERED TO BE ROUTINE AND WILL BE ENACTED WITH A SINGLE MOTION. ANY ITEMS REQUIRING EXPENDITURE ARE SUPPORTED BY A “CERTIFICATION OF FUNDS” SIGNED BY THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER. ANY ITEM REQUIRING DISCUSSION WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA. ALL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS WILL BE REFLECTED IN FULL IN THE MINUTES”.

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-002

Authorizing the appointment of Matthew von der Hayden as Community Rating System Coordinator for the Township of Stafford

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-003

Authorizing the appointment of Matthew von der Hayden as the Township Representative to the Ocean County Community Development Block Grant Committee

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-004

Authorizing and designating Mayor Gregory E. Myhre as the Township Representative for the Pinelands Municipal Council and Administrator Matthew von der Hayden as Alternate

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-005

Designating the Township Administrator as Township Council’s Designee to hear and decide grievances for all the Township Collective Bargaining Units for calendar year 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-006

Designating the official newspapers for the Township of Stafford for calendar year 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-007

Appointing Township Administrator, Matthew von der Hayden as the Township’s Representative and Mayor Gregory E. Myhre as an Alternate Representative to the Ocean County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund

ATTORNEY

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-008

Appointing Lauren Staiger, Esq. of the firm Dasti & Staiger as Township Attorney for the Township of Stafford

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-009

Appointing Jerry Dasti, Esq., of the firm Dasti, Murphy, McGuckin, Ulaky, Koutsouris & Connors and the firm Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri & Jacobs LLC as Conflict Township Attorneys

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-010

Appointing the firm Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri Jacobs, LLC as Labor Counsel for the Township of Stafford

BOARDS

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-011

Appointing members to the Planning Board

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-012

Appointing members to the Zoning Board of Adjustment

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-013

Appointing members to the Historic Preservation Commission

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-014

Appointing members to the various boards and commissions for the Township of Stafford

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-015

Appointing members to the Environmental Commission

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-016

Appointing members to the Emergency Management Council

COURT

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-017

Appointing Steven A. Zabarsky, Esq., of the firm Citta, Holzapfel & Zabarsky as Municipal Prosecutor

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-018

Appointing Barry A. Stieber, Esq. and Brian K. Wilkie, Esq. of the firm Citta, Holzapfel & Zabarsky as Alternate Municipal Prosecutors

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-019

Appointing Brian E. Rumpf, P.C., d/b/a Rumpf Law, P.C. as Public Defender for Stafford Township

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-020

Appointing Brian J. Distefano, Esq., LLC and Timothy Wintrode, Esq. of the firm Pepe Wintrode, LLC as Conflict Public Defenders for Stafford Township

FINANCIAL

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-021

Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer of the Township of Stafford to deposit public monies in any bank, savings and loan or trust company having its place of business in the State of New Jersey and which is organized under the laws of the United States or the State of New Jersey

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-022

Authorizing and adopting the temporary budget

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-023

Authorizing the 2024 Cash Management Plan

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-024

Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement with Meghan Bennett, Esquire of Dilworth Paxson, as Bond Counsel for the Township of Stafford

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-025

Appointing Holman Frenia Allison, P.C. as Township Auditor

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-026

Appointing Phoenix Advisors, LLC as Financial Advisor

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-027

Designating the Township Purchasing Agent, Nicola Reid, as the Township's Public Agency Compliance Officer

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-028

Appointing CGP&H (Community Grants, Planning & Housing) as Stafford Township's Affordable Housing Consultant

ENGINEERING

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-029

Appointing Owen, Little & Associates, Inc. as Township Engineer

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-030

Appointing Owen, Little & Associates, Inc. to perform Inspections of Improvements installed by Developers in the Township of Stafford

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-031

Appointing Demaio's Inc. as the Gasoline Tank Specialist for the Township of Stafford

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-032

Appointing Owen, Little and Associates, Inc. to perform Tax Map Maintenance to the existing Stafford Township Tax Map for the year 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-033

Appointing ACT Engineers, Inc., CME Associates, Morgan Engineering, LLC, Owen, Little & Associates, Inc. and T&M Associates, as Special Projects Engineers

HEALTH

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-034

Appointing Connor Strong & Buckelew as Employee Health Benefits Consultant

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-035

Appointing Mark White, Ph.D., P.A. for Psychological Evaluating Services for the Township of Stafford

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-036

Appointing Meridian Occupational Health, P.C. for Physician Services for the Township of Stafford

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-037

Authorizing the renewal of membership with Benecard Services, LLC for Prescription Drug Management Services

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-038

Awarding a contract to Interstate Mobile Care, Inc., for Occupational Health Services

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-039

Appointing City MD/Summit Medical Group, P.A. for Physician Services for the Township of Stafford

AWARDED GRANTS

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-040

Accepting the FY23 Homeland Security Grant for the Purchase of ALPR's

TAX COLLECTOR/ASSESSOR

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-041

Fixing the rate of interest to be charged on delinquent taxes, assessments or other municipal liens or charges

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-042

Authorizing cancellation of certain taxes with delinquent and credit balances under ten dollars

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-043

Authorizing a tax sale pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:5-19

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-044

Authorizing the Tax Assessor as agent in filing Petition of Appeals and Roll-back Complaint Forms

PURCHASING

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-045

Authorizing contracts with certain approved State of New Jersey Contract Vendors through the State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program (ID#1-NJCP) pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12a

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-046

Authorizing contracts with certain approved Bergen County - New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Alliance #CK04 (Bergen County Cooperative Purchasing System) Contract Vendors for Contracting Units pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5)

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-047

Authorizing contracts with certain approved Educational Service Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ Co-op) - ID# 65-MCESCCPS (f/k/a Middlesex County Educational Service Commission) Contract Vendors for Contracting Units pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5)

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-048

Authorizing contracts with certain approved Hunterdon County Educational Service Commission (34-HUNCCPS) Contract Vendors for Contracting Units pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5)

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-049

Authorizing contracts with certain approved Ocean County Cooperative Contracting Purchasing System (ID# CK-02-OC) Contract Vendors for Contracting Units within the Ocean County's Geographic Boundaries pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(6)

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-050

Authorizing contracts with certain approved vendors through the Somerset County Cooperative Pricing System (2-SOCCPS) pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5)

ANIMAL CONTROL

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-051

Awarding a contract to Stafford Veterinary Hospital for Veterinary Services for the K-9 Unit and Animal Control

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-052

Awarding a contract to Jersey Shore Veterinary Hospital (Barnegat And Lakewood Locations) for Emergency Services After Hours and on Weekends and awarding contracts to Ocean Acres Veterinary Office LLC, and Red Bank Veterinary Hospital of Linwood for Alternate Emergency Services After Hours and on Weekends

CONSULTANTS/APPRaisal SERVICES

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-053

Appointing Concord Engineering Group, Inc. as the Stafford Township Cooperative Pricing System Energy Consultant

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-054

Appointing Henry J. Mancini & Associates, Inc. for Appraisal Services

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-055

Appointing Jean L. Cipriani, Esq. of the firm Rothstein, Mandell, Strohm, Halm & Cipriani, P.A. as Special Counsel for the Township of Stafford

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-056

Authorizing a contract with Taylor Design Group as the Landscape Architect for the Township of Stafford

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-057

Authorizing a contract with CME Associates as the Conflict Landscape Architect for the Township of Stafford

GENERAL

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-058

Resolution in support of temporary time limit parking along the southbound (westerly side) of Route 9, between North Lakeshore Drive and East Bay Avenue (CR 50) during specific dates and times for public events at the Manahawkin Lake Park

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-059

Appointing Vicki Furmanek as Registrar for the Township of Stafford

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-060

Approving a request for family medical leave

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-061

Accepting the resignation of Carlos Baltazar Rojas from his position with the Township

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-062

Authorizing and approving Change Order #1 to the contract with J.H. Williams Enterprises, Inc., for the Police Department Locker room and Holding/Processing Area Renovations Project (Project #2023-046A/2023-161)

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-063

Awarding a contract for HVAC System Time and Materials for various municipal buildings (excluding the Municipal Complex located at 260 East Bay Avenue) for the Township of Stafford, Inc. to Falasca Mechanical, Inc. (Project #2023-146)

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-064

Appointment of Committee Representatives to the Deign Review Committee pursuant to Township of Stafford Code Chapter 10, Article XIII – Design Review Committee

WATER/SEWER RESOLUTIONS

W/S RESOLUTION NO. 2024-01

Appointing Matthew von der Hayden as the Director of the Water and Sewer Utility

W/S RESOLUTION NO. 2024-02

Appointing Remington & Vernick Engineers as Consulting Engineers for the Water and Sewer Utility Department

W/S RESOLUTION NO. 2024-03

Appointing Van Cleef Engineering Associates, LLC, T&M Associates, Owen, Little & Associates, Inc. and CME Associates as Supplemental Engineers for the Water and Sewer Utility Department

W/S RESOLUTION NO. 2024-04

Appointing Complete Control Services as the Water Control Specialist for the Township

W/S RESOLUTION NO. 2024-05

Authorizing cancellation of certain water or sewer with delinquent and credit balances under ten dollars

W/S RESOLUTION NO. 2024-06

Appointing Jerry Dasti, Esquire, of the firm Dasti, Murphy, McGuckin, Ulaky, Koutsouris & Connors as Attorney for the Water and Sewer Utility Department

W/S RESOLUTION NO. 2024-07

Appointing J. R. Henderson Labs, Inc., to provide water quality testing services for the Township of Stafford

W/S RESOLUTION NO. 2024-08

Granting final Sanitary Sewer System Approval for Block 225, Lots 2-4; Block 226, Lot 1; Block 227, Lot 1 and Block 228, Lot 1, Stafford Township, New Jersey

W/S RESOLUTION NO. 2024-09

Granting final Water Approval for Block 225, Lots 2-4; Block 226, Lot 1; Block 227, Lot 1 and Block 228, Lot 1, Stafford Township, New Jersey

W/S RESOLUTION NO. 2024-10

Granting preliminary Sanitary Sewer System Approval for Block 143, Lot 1, Stafford Township, New Jersey

W/S RESOLUTION NO. 2024-11

Granting preliminary Water Approval for Block 143, Lot 1, Stafford Township, New Jersey

W/S RESOLUTION NO. 2024-12

Approving and authorizing execution of a Three-Party Settlement Agreement with the Township of Barnegat and the Ocean County Utilities Authority

W/S RESOLUTION NO. 2024-13

Approving and authorizing certain personnel actions

W/S RESOLUTION NO. 2024-14

Accepting the resignation of Jake Daly from his position with the Township

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

Township Council meeting minutes: December 11, 2023

MOTION TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA OF JANUARY 2, 2024

Motion to adopt the Consent Agenda: Mr. Henken Second: Mr. Esposito
RCV: All Yes: Mr. Esposito, Mrs. Otte*, Mr. Krier, Mr. Henken, Mr. Steadman,
 Ms. Mower, Mayor Myhre
Abstain: *Mrs. Otte abstained on Resolution No. 2024-12, yes to the balance.

Township Attorney Lauren Staiger joined the Mayor Council on the dais.

GOVERNING BODY COMMENTS

Mayor Myhre announced this is his last meeting as Mayor for Stafford Township. He will be retiring upon his swearing in on January 9 as a New Jersey State Assemblyman. He expressed his thanks and accolades to all the departments and employees that make Stafford Township great. He also acknowledged all the towns on Long Beach Island and the surrounding area that we share services with.

The first project he became proactive with after becoming Mayor in 2019 was the Beach Haven West sewer system upgrades; we are currently in Phase 5 with Phase 6 in the design phase. The DEP has recognized this project has cleaned up the Manahawkin Bay; we have been rewarded with 3.9 million dollars in principle forgiveness on money we have borrowed for the project. This savings affects every rate payer in the town.

Another project is the Stafford Park section of town that was taken over by the Walters Group years ago; improvements there include new fields at Nautilus Park and they agreed to build a new substation for Fire, EMS and Emergency Management on Haywood Road. They also built the township's newest park The Park of the Pines.

The Township's bond rating increased to AA by Standard & Poor's and our rating with Moody's went to AA3. These are the first ever bond rating increases in township history. The increased ratings allow the Township to borrow money at lower interest rates. With all the improvements to be done it is important to have a strong fiscal position. Also, our surplus has nearly doubled since 2019 and this is needed in case of emergencies.

We have also taken steps to make our parks more ADA accessible. I came here to do a good job and with the support of the Council and my family I was able to make a difference. He thanked the Council members, his family and residents, being Mayor has been a great experience.

Councilman Steadman expressed working with Greg has been a pleasure and wished him success as Assemblyman.

Councilman Henken read a prepared fish tale wishing the Mayor the best of luck and success in his new role.

Council President Mower extended her best wishes and that it's been a privilege working with Mayor Myhre.

Councilman Krier congratulated the Mayor and wished him luck in the future.

Councilwoman Otte reported the Rabies Clinic is January 27. Thanked the Council for allowing her to serve as Council President this past year; and will continue to work hard for our town, our new mayor and her department and is looking forward to this year and the achievements the Council will make for Stafford Township. Thanked Greg Myhre for the past five years as Mayor and is honor to have served with him and wished him the best as Assemblyman.

Councilman Esposito mentioned the DPW trash and recycling collection zones are in the 2024 Stafford Township calendar. Wished the Mayor well and thanked him for being a great mentor and appreciates all he has done for Stafford.

PUBLIC COMMENT

FIVE MINUTE LIMIT PER INDIVIDUAL. ALL COMMENTS WILL BE ADDRESSED TO THE MAYOR AND ALL INDIVIDUALS MAKING COMMENT MUST STATE THEIR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD. MAYOR MYHRE WILL RESPOND ONCE YOUR COMMENT IS COMPLETE

Mayor Myhre to opened public comment

Susan Langdon, Honeysuckle Drive, as a member of the Ocean Community Church on Route 72 she stated they feed 81 families weekly. The Pastor for our homeless would like to have tiny

homes built in their parking lot and asked if it's possible for the church to purchase the property behind them, for a dollar, and use it for parking. The Family Promise program helps families that are homeless, most people have jobs just not a roof over their head.

Rocco Dinery, adjacent to Lighthouse Park, expressed his concern with vehicles driving too fast along Lighthouse Drive, it's become a hazard and asked for a traffic light be installed and it's a great spot for a speed trap. These precautions could potentially save a life.

Carl Block, expressed a personal thank you to Mayor Myhre and congratulated him on his new elected position as Assemblyman.

Gunner Myhre, thanked his dad for being Mayor.

Frances Kosa, Mill Creek Road, expressed her thanks to the Mayor for doing his best.

Jimmy Hill, thanked the Mayor for doing a great job.

Owen LaRocca, Parker Street, congratulated Mayor Myhre and expressed it's been an honor getting to know you.

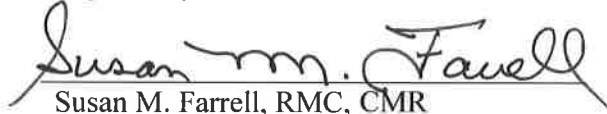
Mayor Myhre closed public comment

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn: Mrs. Otte Second: Mr. Esposito All in Favor

Time: **8:03 PM**

Respectfully Submitted,


Susan M. Farrell, RMC, CMR

Township Clerk
Township of Stafford


Council President Lisa Mower