

**TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 28, 2023**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Howard Kritz called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

2. COUNCIL PRESIDENT TO LEAD THOSE PRESENT IN THE SALUTE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

3. MOMENT OF SILENCE TO REMEMBER THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICES OF THE ARMED SERVICE MEMBERS WHO PROTECT OUR NATION AND THE FIRST RESPONDERS WHO PROTECT OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

4. ROLL CALL

Councilman Friedlander, Councilwoman Noon, Councilman Brookes, Councilman Sackett, Councilman Salberg, Councilman Wojtowicz, Vice President Quinn, and President Kritz were present. Also present were Mayor Joe Jackson, Attorney John Iacofano, Business Administrator Patricia Seger, CFO Lisa Palmieri, Purchasing Officer Bryan Coward, Township Engineer Allison Ferrante, Director of Recreation David Dyer, Director of Health Peter Tabbot, Director of Fire Prevention Jeff Heinzelman, Director of Public Works Al Knoth, Police Chief Martin McParland, and Municipal Clerk Everett Falt.

5. NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS SENT TO THE DAILY RECORD AND THE STAR LEDGER, THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY, IN COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC LAW 1975, CHAPTER 231 (THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT). ADDITONALLY, NOTICE WAS POSTED ON THE TOWNSHIP WEBSITE, THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN BOARDS OF ROCKAWAY, AND FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE TOWNSHIP CLERK.

Following the moment of silence, President Kritz asked for a motion by consensus to hold a closed session. The motion carried.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTE(S)

**A. MINUTES FOR MARCH 4 TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
BUDGET HEARING**

President Kritz tabled the vote to allow the council time to review the minutes.

**B. MINUTES FOR MARCH 14 TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

President Kritz called for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 14 Township Council regular meeting. Vice President Quinn provided said motion, with Councilwoman Noon seconding.

AYE- Councilman Friedlander, Councilwoman Noon, Councilman Brookes, Councilman Sackett, Councilman Salberg, Councilman Wojtowicz, Vice President Quinn, President Kritz

NAY- none

With 8 ayes and 0 nays, the motion passed

7. PRESENTATION- RECREATION DONATION- MAYOR JACKSON

Mayor Jackson thanked Dr. Jean Levitan for her \$1000 donation to the Rockaway Township Recreation Basketball Program.

Councilman Sackett read a proclamation and congratulated the Copeland Boys Basketball team on their championship season.

Mayor Jackson read a proclamation for Eagle Scout John Holly.

8. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Several residents came forward with various questions and concerns.

9. ORDINANCE(S) FOR INTRODUCTION

**A. O-23-13 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING
CHAPTER 54 ENTITLED "LAND USE AND
DEVELOPMENT" OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
ROCKAWAY TO AMEND ITS REGULATIONS
PERTIANING TO ACCESSORY STRUCTURES AND USES**

President Kritz called for a motion to introduce Ordinance 23-13; the motion was provided by Vice President Quinn and seconded by Councilman Brookes.

AYE- Councilman Friedlander, Councilwoman Noon, Councilman Brookes, Councilman Sackett, Councilman Salberg, Councilman Wojtowicz, Vice President Quinn, President Kritz

NAY- none

With 8 ayes and 0 nays, the ordinance was introduced with no council discussion.

10. ORDINANCE(S) FOR PUBLIC HEARING/FINAL ADOPTION

**A. 0-23-10 AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE
SALARIES OF VARIOUS OFFICIALS AND
CONTRACTUAL EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
ROCKAWAY IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS**

President Kritz called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 23-10; the motion was provided by Councilman Salberg and seconded by Councilman Brookes.

AYE- Councilman Friedlander, Councilwoman Noon, Councilman Brookes, Councilman Sackett, Councilman Salberg, Councilman Wojtowicz, Vice President Quinn, President Kritz

NAY- none

With 8 ayes and 0 nays, the ordinance was adopted with no discussion.

B. O-23-11 AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF VARIOUS OFFICIALS AND NON-CONTRACTUAL EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS

President Kritz made a motion to amend the Chief of Police salary range in Ordinance 23-11. The motion was seconded by Vice President Quinn.

AYE- Councilman Friedlander, Councilwoman Noon, Councilman Brookes, Councilman Sackett, Councilman Salberg, Councilman Wojtowicz, Vice President Quinn, President Kritz

NAY- none

With 8 ayes and 0 nays, the amendment passed.

President Kritz called for a motion to adopt the amended Ordinance 23-11. The motion was provided by Councilman Friedlander and seconded by Councilwoman Noon.

AYE- Councilman Friedlander, Councilwoman Noon, Councilman Brookes, Councilman Sackett, Councilman Salberg, Councilman Wojtowicz, Vice President Quinn, President Kritz

NAY- none

With 8 ayes and 0 nays, the amended ordinance passed with no further discussion.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

A. R-23-71 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PUBLIC FIREWORKS DISPLAY FOR WHITE MEADOW LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

B. R-23-72 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PUBLIC FIREWORKS DISPLAY FOR CHRIST CHURCH, ROCKAWAY NEW JERSEY

C. R-23-73 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF COMPETITIVELY SOLICITED CONTRACT FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

D. R-23-74 2018 TAX COURT JUDGEMENT REFUND

E. R-23-75 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF A PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,354,010.00

PREVIOUSLY POSTED FOR GREENBRIAR AT FOX RIDGE DEVELOPMENT AND REQUIRING THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE FOR TWO YEARS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,513,367.00 FOR CONSTRUCTION ON REAL PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 11301, LOTS 28, 29, 32, 54 AND 55 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY, COUNTY OF MORRIS

F. R-23-76 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A CERTAIN SOIL DISTURBANCE PERMIT FOR THE GENTILE RESIDENCE WITH RESPECT TO REAL PROPERTY DESIGNATED ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY AS BLOCK 40501, LOT 15 AND BEING MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS 115 LAKE END ROAD

G. R-23-77 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A CERTAIN SOIL DISTURBANCE PERMIT FOR THE NEARY RESIDENCE WITH RESPECT TO REAL PROPERTY DESIGNATED ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY AS BLOCK 11301, LOT 59.01 AND BEING MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS 62 UPPER HIBERNIA ROAD

H. R-23-78 REDEMPTION OF TAX TITLE LIEN C#18-051

President Kritz announced that Items A & B would be tabled for further review. Councilman Brookes requested that Item E be pulled for discussion. President Kritz then called for a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda, absent of Items A, B and E- Vice President Quinn provided said motion, with Councilman Salberg seconding.

AYE- Councilman Friedlander, Councilwoman Noon, Councilman Brookes, Councilman Sackett, Councilman Salberg, Councilman Wojtowicz, Vice President Quinn, President Kritz

NAY- none

With 8 ayes and 0 nays the Consent Agenda was adopted, minus Items A, B and E

After discussion and clarification of Item E, President Kritz asked for a motion to adopt Resolution 23-75. The motion was provided by Councilman Quinn and seconded by Councilwoman Noon.

AYE- Councilman Friedlander, Councilwoman Noon, Councilman Brookes, Councilman Sackett, Councilman Salberg, Councilman Wojtowicz, Vice President Quinn, President Kritz

NAY- none

With 8 ayes and 0 nays, Item E, Resolution 23-75, was adopted.

12. OLD BUSINESS, NEW BUSINESS AND DISCUSSION

Councilman Wojtowicz congratulated the Copeland Boys Basketball team and Eagle Scout John Holly, and thanked the Rockaway Police Department for their work in thwarting recent car burglary attempts.

Councilwoman Noon congratulated Crumbl Cookies and Super Chix on their successful grand openings, and reminded everyone about the Stony Brook School Easter Event on April 1st.

Councilman Brookes reported that hockey season has come to a close, and that the regional school district is still interviewing for a superintendent.

Councilman Sackett discussed the recent Board of Education meeting and encouraged everyone to attend Copeland's upcoming performance of Mary Poppins. He commended new local businesses Crumbl Cookies and Super Chix, and reminded everyone about the upcoming Stony Brook School Easter event. He wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Councilman Friedlander reported that library programs and lending are back to pre-pandemic levels; he also reminded everyone about their upcoming Spring Festival on April 23rd. He reported that the Substance Abuse Alliance and Historical Society are both planning upcoming events and talks. The Environmental Committee and Water Quality Committee both had recent meetings and are moving forward. He wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Councilman Salberg announced that Opening Day for trout at the Hibernia Fire Department is April 8th.

Councilman Quinn reported that he is happy to see so many new businesses coming to the Township. He reminded everyone that the grand opening of the fields for spring sports is April 1st. He thanked Dial-a-Ride for their St. Patrick's Day trip to Thatcher McGee's, and announced that they will be starting a walking program. He wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Mayor Jackson discussed the upcoming Mary Poppins performance at Copeland Middle School. He discussed the recent Planning Board meeting, local blood drive, and annual Spring Cleanup on April 22nd. He reported that he's excited to see new businesses in the Township and commended recent events at Germania Park. The Water Quality and Environmental Committees are moving forward, and a Recreation Committee is being formed. He concluded by reporting that he recently sent an open letter to the State Legislature regarding restoration of the Energy Tax Receipts Property Tax Relief Fund.

Counsel John Iacofano gave a brief explanation on the review/adoption process for Ordinance 23-13.

Business Administrator Patricia Seger thanked Copeland Middle School's art teachers for displaying student work at the municipal complex. She commended municipal staff for holiday décor throughout the building and announced that a new bulletin board has been erected in the parking lot.

CFO Lisa Palmieri wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Purchasing Officer Bryan Coward and Township Engineer Allison Ferrante had no reports.

Chief Martin McParland announced that the Police Department successfully stopped car theft and shoplifting attempts over the past week, and that they are currently investigating a gun incident at a local school.

Recreation Director David Dyer addressed a resident's question about parking lot issues at Peterson Field.

Director of Health Peter Tabbot answered a resident's question about local noise ordinances.

Director of Public Works Al Knoth announced that street sweeping will be commencing soon, and that Street Solutions will be assessing township roads for pavement analysis.

Director of Fire Protection Jeff Heintzelman announced that the White Meadow Lake Fire Department will be receiving a new boat shortly, and a new fire engine is set to arrive in a few months' time.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION

A. R-23-79 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, ET SEQ) TO DISCUSS MATTERS THAT CONTAIN PERSONNEL MATTERS AND CONTRACT NEGOTIATION

President Kritz called for a motion to adopt Resolution 23-79 for a closed session. Vice President Quinn provided said motion, with Councilwoman Noon seconding.

AYE- Councilman Friedlander, Councilwoman Noon, Councilman Brookes, Councilman Sackett, Councilman Salberg, Councilman Wojtowicz, Vice President Quinn, President Kritz

NAY- none

With 8 ayes and 0 nays, the resolution was adopted and the meeting entered an Executive Session.

President Kritz made a motion to adopt a policy on payout of excess vacation. Councilwoman Noon seconded the motion.

AYE- Councilman Friedlander, Councilwoman Noon, Councilman Brookes, Councilman Kritz

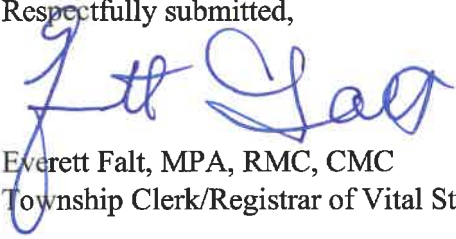
NAY- Councilman Sackett, Councilman Salberg, Councilman Wojtowicz

ABSTAIN- Vice President Quinn

With 4 ayes, 3 nays and 1 abstention, the motion passed.

14. ADJOURN

Respectfully submitted,



Everett Falt, MPA, RMC, CMC
Township Clerk/Registrar of Vital Statistics