

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MEETING – November 6, 2023**

Mayor Huelsebusch *calls the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.* announcing that all laws governing the Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting has been duly advertised.

PRESENT: Mayor J. Huelsebusch, Deputy Mayor A. Mueller, Mr. J. Albanese, Mr. J. Heller, and Mr. V. Panico

ALSO PRESENT: Administrator R. Sheola, Municipal Clerk K. Parker, Attorney S. Dragan, Twp. Engineer R. O’Brien

ABSENT: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Clerk read the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION
EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 *et seq.*, the Open Public Meetings Act, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist and desires to authorize the exclusion of the public from the portion of the meeting in accordance with the act;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

- The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the specified subject matter as set forth in the following Exhibit “A.”

EXHIBIT A

| <u>Subject Matter</u> | <u>Basis Of Public Exclusion</u> | <u>Date Anticipated When Disclosed to Public</u> |
|---|---|--|
| Personnel | Potential Litigation | Certain information at the discretion of the Township Committee tonight...other Information will remain confidential |
| Attorney-Client Privilege | Attorney-Client Privilege..... | “ “ “ |
| Personnel | Personnel | “ “ “ |
| Code Enforcement | Personnel | “ “ “ |
| Chief Financial Officer | Personnel | “ “ “ |
| Employee Personnel Policy | Personnel | “ “ “ |
| PBA # 317 (Lieutenants) | Contract Negotiations | “ “ “ |
| Award of Solid Waste & Recyclable Materials Collection / Hauling / Disposal Service | Contract Negotiations | ” “ “ |
| Executive Session Minutes..... | Attorney-Client Privilege..... | “ “ “ |

- October 16, 2023

Affordable Housing..... Potential Litigation..... “ “ “
It is anticipated at this time that the stated subject matter will be made public on or about the time set forth in Exhibit “A.”

2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Heller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Albanese with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

The meeting reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Huelsebusch led those present in the *Salute to the Flag*.

Executive Session:

Potential Litigation / Personnel

Mayor Huelsebusch stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Attorney-Client Privilege / Attorney-Client Privilege

Mayor Huelsebusch stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Personnel / Personnel

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2023-173

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MARGARET SLUTTER AS MUNICIPAL REGISTRAR

WHEREAS, due to shifting roles with the Township Administrator’s Office, there is a need to reorganize functions; and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Township Administrator to appoint Margaret Slutter as Municipal Registrar; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that effective November 13, 2023, Margaret Slutter is hereby appointed as the Municipal Registrar with an increase in salary of \$500.00 per annum; and

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Mueller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Albanese and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese -Aye
Mr. Heller - Aye
Mr. Mueller - Aye
Mr. Panico - Aye
Mayor Huelsebusch - Aye

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2023-174

RESOLUTION APPOINTING DANIELLE MONAGHAN AS MUNICIPAL DEPUTY REGISTRAR

WHEREAS, due to shifting roles with the Township Administrator’s Office, there is a need to reorganize functions; and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Township Administrator to appoint Danielle Monaghan as Municipal Deputy Registrar; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that effective November 13, 2023, Danielle Monaghan is hereby appointed as the Municipal Deputy Registrar with an increase in salary of \$700.00 per annum; and

A MOTION was made by Mr. Mueller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Albanese and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Mr. Albanese | -Aye |
| Mr. Heller | - Aye |
| Mr. Mueller | - Aye |
| Mr. Panico | - Aye |
| Mayor Huelsebusch | - Aye |

Personnel / Code Enforcement

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2023-175

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Taylor Gribbin was hired as Technical Assistant in the Construction Code Office on May 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, has tendered her resignation on October 26, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee hereby accepts Taylor Gribbin’s resignation.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Mueller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Albanese and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Mr. Albanese | -Aye |
| Mr. Heller | - Aye |
| Mr. Mueller | - Aye |
| Mr. Panico | - Aye |
| Mayor Huelsebusch | - Aye |

Personnel / Chief Financial Officer

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2023-176

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION***

WHEREAS, Thomas Ferry resigned as Chief Financial Officer effective September 27, 2023;
and

WHEREAS, Richard Sheola was appointed Interim Chief Financial Officer on September 27, 2023; and

WHEREAS, after advertising for a Chief Financial Officer and not finding suitable candidates, the Township Administrator is recommending retaining JRP Strategic Solutions, LLC for accounting and transactional services; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Township Committee retains JRP Strategic Solutions, LLC at the rate of \$125 per hour for no more than 15 hours per week.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Mueller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Albanese and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Mr. Albanese | -Aye |
| Mr. Heller | - Aye |
| Mr. Mueller | - Aye |
| Mr. Panico | - Aye |
| Mayor Huelsebusch | - Aye |

Personnel / Employee Personnel Policy

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2023-177

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION***

WHEREAS, the Municipal Excess Liability Fund (MEL) annually provides updates to the Model Personnel Policies; and

WHEREAS, review by the Administrator's staff, several changes were made to local policies and incorporated in to the final document; and

WHEREAS, in order to retain the discounts offered to MEL municipalities and protections of the MEL, the Township Committee must approve the changes offered by the MEL consultant; and

WHEREAS, it the recommendation of the Township Administrator the Township Committee approve the revised Personnel Policies; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Township Committee approves the revised Model Personnel Policies as presented.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Mueller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Albanese and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese -Aye
Mr. Heller - Aye
Mr. Mueller - Aye
Mr. Panico - Aye
Mayor Huelsebusch - Aye

Contract Negotiations / PBA # 317 (Lieutenants)

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Mueller to approve the memorandum of understanding and contract seconded by Mr. Albanese and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese -Aye
Mr. Heller - Aye
Mr. Mueller - Aye
Mr. Panico - Aye
Mayor Huelsebusch - Aye

Contract Negotiations / Award of Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Collection / Hauling / Disposal Service

Administrator Sheola gave an overview of possible options available for solid waste and recycling, which included: 1) awarding the contract to the lowest bidder with garbage/recycling collection with no sticker program, 2) a subscription service where residents contract with their own hauler for garbage/recycling or 3) award the contract with the Township establishing a Solid Waste and Utility bill for each property with a flat rate. Deputy Mayor Mueller presented a cost comparison analysis of contract services versus a subscription service for residences. The Committee discussed the individual subscription option as being the most beneficial for most residents

Mayor Huelsebusch opened the meeting to questions and comments from the public.

Betty Ann Fort inquired if the prices quoted on subscription services were based on there already being a contract in place with Readington.

Christina Garcia spoke to the sticker program and how it is a benefit to many residents, specifically senior citizens.

Emanuel Bola inquired about the number of Township residents that are currently using a subscription service and commented on the lack of time to prepare for this transition. Mr. Bola also asked about the savings to the Township.

Andrew Roth inquired about the current garbage and recycling process.

Michelle Jaunarajs inquired about the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) regulations and the potential for any negotiations with the haulers.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2023-178

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Readington Township Committee (“ Township”) publically advertised for bids for Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Collection/Hauling/Disposal Services (hereinafter “Solid Waste/Recycling Bid”) for residential and business services, as well as for certain municipally-owned locations in the Township, for the period of 2024-2026, with an option to extend, and

WHEREAS, on September 20, 2023 the Township Administrator and Township Clerk conducted the bid opening whereupon the total number of bidders for Solid Waste/Recycling Bid was two (2); and

WHEREAS, upon review of the bids, the Township Administrator determined that the bid of the lowest bidder, Republic Services of New Jersey, LLC, d/b/a Raritan Valley Disposal was well in excess of the Township’s estimated costs for the residential and business portion of the Solid Waste/Recycling Bid, as well as the other portions of the bid when calculated in the aggregate, and the contract amount would not be able to be funded without a referendum approving a municipal property tax levy CAP increase; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-13.2, the Township may reject all bids if the lowest bid substantially exceeds the cost estimates, or the amount appropriated for the goods and services.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Township Committee hereby rejects all the bids received in conjunction with the residential and business portions of the Solid Waste/Recycling Bid, because the bid of the lowest bidder substantially exceeded the cost estimates and the Township’s ability to perform the contract is uncertain for the reasons expressed above. This resolution shall be effective immediately.

2. The Township Administrator and/or Township Clerk, as appropriate, is authorized to notify all those who bid on the Property of this decision.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Mueller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Panico and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Mr. Albanese | -Aye |
| Mr. Heller | - Aye |
| Mr. Mueller | - Aye |
| Mr. Panico | - Aye |
| Mayor Huelsebusch | - Aye |

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2023-179

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Readington Township Committee (“ Township”) publically advertised for bids for Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Collection/Hauling/Disposal Services (hereinafter “Solid Waste/Recycling Bid”) for residential and business services, as well as for certain municipally-owned locations in the Township, for the period of 2024-2026, with an option to extend, and

WHEREAS, on September 20, 2023 the Township Administrator and Township Clerk conducted the bid opening whereupon the total number of bidders for Solid Waste/Recycling Bid was two (2); and

WHEREAS, the Township Administrator determined that the bid of the lowest bidder, for solid waste/recycling services for the municipal building, parks and other municipal off-site locations described in the bid specifications was Republic Services of New Jersey, LLC, d/b/a Raritan Valley Disposal in the amount of \$26,552.00 for a three-year contract.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Township Committee hereby awards a three-year contract (years 2024, 2025 and 2026) for solid waste/recycling at the municipal building, parks, and other municipally-owned off-site locations described in the bid specifications to Republic Services of New Jersey, LLC, d/b/a Raritan Valley Disposal, in the total amount of \$26,552.00

2. The Township Administrator and/or Township Clerk, as appropriate, is authorized to notify all those who bid on the Property of this decision.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Mueller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Panico and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Mr. Albanese | -Aye |
| Mr. Heller | - Aye |
| Mr. Mueller | - Aye |
| Mr. Panico | - Aye |
| Mayor Huelsebusch | - Aye |

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2023-180

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Readington Township Committee (“ Township”) publically advertised for bids for Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Collection/Hauling/Disposal Services (hereinafter “Solid Waste/Recycling Bid”) for residential and business services, as well as for certain municipally-owned locations in the Township, for the period of 2024-2026, with an option to extend, and

WHEREAS, on September 20, 2023 the Township Administrator and Township Clerk conducted the bid opening whereupon the total number of bidders for Solid Waste/Recycling Bid was two (2); and

WHEREAS, the Township Administrator determined that the bid of the lowest bidder, for bulk waste/vegetative waste at the municipal depot (Public Works Facility) was Sanico, Inc., in the amount of \$127,740.00 for a three-year contract.

Resolution #2023-180 cont'd:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Township Committee hereby awards a three-year contract (years 2024, 2025 and 2026) for bulk waste/vegetative waste at the municipal depot (Public Works Facility) to Sanico, Inc., in the total amount of \$127,740.00.

2. The Township Administrator and/or Township Clerk, as appropriate, is authorized to notify all those who bid on the Property of this decision.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Mueller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Panico and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Mr. Albanese | -Aye |
| Mr. Heller | - Aye |
| Mr. Mueller | - Aye |
| Mr. Panico | - Aye |
| Mayor Huelsebusch | - Aye |

Attorney-Client Privilege / Executive Session Minutes / October 16, 2023

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Mueller to approve the Executive Session Minutes of October 16, 2023, for content only, seconded by Mr. Albanese with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Potential Litigation / Affordable Housing

Mayor Huelsebusch stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Huelsebusch read the following statement:

All items listed with an asterisk "" are considered to be routine by the Township Committee and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a committee member or citizen requests, in which event the item will be removed from the General Order of Business and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.*

1. * **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of meeting of October 16th
2. * **Release of Developers Escrow / Block 51.02, Lot 38**
3. * **Release of Police Escrow / Schade**
4. * **Release of Police Escrow / Ready Set Go Adventures**

5. * *Results of Bond Anticipation Note Sale*

| Bidder | Coupon | Premium | NIC | NIC in Dollars | Rank |
|----------------------------|--------|-------------|-------|----------------|------|
| TD Securities | 4.50% | \$17,008.04 | 4.06% | \$157,645.46 | 1 |
| Oppenheimer & Co., Inc | 4.75% | \$25,842.88 | 4.84% | \$158,513.59 | 2 |
| Piper Sandler & Co. | 4.50% | \$11,831.68 | 4.20% | \$162,821.82 | 3 |
| BNY Mellon Capital Markets | 5.00% | \$26,729.09 | 4.31% | \$167,330.35 | 4 |

6. * *2023 Best Practices Inventory*

7. * *Discharge of Mortgage / Discharge of Affordable Housing Agreement (Block 21.06, Lot 302.14)*

8. * *Payment of Bills* – (Complete bill list is on file in Clerk’s Office)

| <u>Fund Description</u> | <u>Fund No.</u> | <u>Received Total</u> |
|---------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| GENERAL | 3-01 | \$ 7,608,953.45 |
| SEWER UTILITY OP FUND | 3-02 | \$ 184,645.24 |
| OTHER TRUST | X-03 | \$ 9,307.95 |
| PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS | X-06 | \$ 230,581.12 |
| 2014 CAP IMPROVEMENTS | X-14 | \$ 32,627.50 |
| 2022-14 VARIOUS CAPITAL | X-21 | \$ 916.90 |
| 2023 CAP IMPROVEMENTS | X-23 | \$ 49,080.95 |
| TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS | | \$ 8,116,113.11 |

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Albanese to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Mueller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

- Mr. Albanese -Aye
- Mr. Heller - Aye
- Mr. Mueller - Aye
- Mr. Panico - Aye
- Mayor Huelsebusch - Aye

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC for items listed on the agenda only

There were none.

PUBLIC HEARING

As it was after 7:45 p.m., A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Albanese to adjourn the regular meeting to hold a Public Hearing, seconded by Mr. Panico with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING CHAPTER 201 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON ENTITLED "SPECIAL EVENTS"

ORDINANCE #26-2023

Mayor Huelsebusch asked if there were any comments from the governing body.

There were none.

Mayor Huelsebusch asked if there were any comments from the public.

Andrew Roth commented on the special event approval process.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Panico to close the Public Hearing and open the regular meeting, seconded by Mr. Albanese with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING CHAPTER 201 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON ENTITLED "SPECIAL EVENTS"

ORDINANCE #26-2023

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Panico to adopt this ordinance, seconded by Mr. Albanese and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Mr. Albanese | -Aye |
| Mr. Heller | - Aye |
| Mr. Mueller | - Aye |
| Mr. Panico | - Aye |
| Mayor Huelsebusch | - Aye |

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Panico to adjourn the regular meeting to hold a Public Hearing, seconded by Mr. Albanese with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING A CHAPTER OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON REGARDING HOTEL AND MOTEL TAX

Ordinance #27-2023

Mayor Huelsebusch asked if there were any comments from the governing body.

The Committee discussed some minor changes to the wording to clarify the language in the ordinance.

Mayor Huelsebusch asked if there were any comments from the public.

There were none.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Panico to close the Public Hearing and open the regular meeting, seconded by Mr. Albanese with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING A CHAPTER OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON REGARDING HOTEL AND MOTEL TAX

Ordinance #27-2023

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Mueller to adopt this ordinance, seconded by Mr. Panico and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Mr. Albanese | -Aye |
| Mr. Heller | - Aye |
| Mr. Mueller | - Aye |
| Mr. Panico | - Aye |
| Mayor Huelsebusch | - Aye |

CORRESPONDENCE / OTHER INFORMATION

1. Letter dated October 24, 2023 from Lindsay Heller, Acting Township Clerk, Township of Clinton, in the matter of *An Ordinance of the Township of Clinton in Hunterdon County, New Jersey, Amending the Development Regulations Applicable to the AH-9 Affordable Housing Zoning District Located on Route 31 North in Order to Facilitate the Construction of a 100 Percent Affordable Housing Project in Said District*. No action taken.
2. Notice from Karen Romano, Borough Administrator/Clerk, Borough of Lebanon, in the matter of *An Ordinance by the Mayor and Council Amending the Borough of Lebanon Code of Land Use Ordinances to Repeal Lebanon Borough Land Use Ordinances Revised in 2004. Chapter 165 Land Use Regulations Ordinance; to Adopt Chapter 165 Land Use Ordinance and to Adopt Administrative Waiver of Site Plan Review Application and Waiver Checklist to Adopt Check Lists, to Adopt Zoning Map and Schedule of Zoning Requirements*. No action taken.
3. Notice of Public Hearing from NJ Transit in the matter of *Senior Citizens & Disabled Residents Transportation Assistance Program Informational Public Hearing*. No action taken.

OLD BUSINESS

1. *An Ordinance Amending a Chapter of the Code of the Township of Readington Regarding Fire Department*

The following ordinance was offered for introduction:

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 21 "FIRE DEPARTMENT"
OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON**

Ordinance #28 -2023

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the following amendments shall be made to Chapter 21 "Fire Department" of the Township of Readington as follows (changes marked thus signify new language; changes marked ~~thus~~ signify deletions):

SECTION 1. Sec. 65-1 Purpose

Fire Department

§ 21-1 Establishment.

A Fire Department of the Township of Readington in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, is hereby established.

§ 21-2 Title.

Said Fire Department shall be known as the "Readington Township Fire Department."

§ 21-3 Composition of Department.

The ~~East Whitehouse Fire Company, Inc.~~; Readington Fire Company, Inc.; Three Bridges Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.; and Whitehouse Fire Company No. 1, Inc., are hereby made and established as said Fire Department.

Ordinance #28-2023 cont'd:

~~§ 21-4 Rules and regulations; selection of Chief.~~

~~The Township Committee may adopt rules and regulations for the conduct, control and duties of the Chief of said Fire Department. The Chief of each fire company which shall constitute the Fire Department shall meet within 30 days of the effective date of this article and elect from among themselves an Acting Chief of the Readington Township Fire Department, and thereafter in the month of January 1969 they shall meet again and elect annually in January and name the new Acting Chief, who shall be from one of the companies not previously having the Acting Chief. After the first four Acting Chiefs, the appointment shall be on a rotating annual term, with the Acting Chief being elected in the same order as were the first four.~~

§ 21-5 Adoption of rules, regulations and amendments.

When rules and regulations affecting this article are passed, they shall be passed only upon written notice to all fire companies, and any amendments thereafter made to these rules and regulations may only be made upon 30 days' prior written notice to all fire companies.

§ 21-6 Township Chief.

A. Effective January 1, 2024, or as soon thereafter as practical, shall be a Township Fire Chief who shall report to the Township Administrator and shall be responsible for all Fire Companies now in existence or to be created to the following extent.

B. The Township Chief, by education and experience shall be qualified to manage the Readington Township Fire Department as follows:

1. coordinate and develop unified budgets and company budgets in conjunction with the various Company Chiefs and the Township Chief Financial Officer;
2. standardize and maintain Standard Operating Guidelines ("SOG's)/Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's)
3. liaison with Whitehouse Rescue Squad and the Readington Township Police Department;
4. standardize equipment and apparatus maintenance and maintain all pertinent records of same;
5. standardize and schedule quarterly training evolutions and maintain records of same and annual recertifications;
6. schedule annual testing for pumps, hose and ladder and maintain records of same;
7. coordinate all LOSAP applications for the fire service;
8. may assume command at an incident;
9. address and resolve issues of a personnel nature at the various fire companies;
10. any other duties so assigned by the Township Administrator.

11. Shall be required to have and maintain the following certifications and any other certifications so required by the Division of Fire Safety:

- i. Fire Fighter 1
- ii. Hazardous Materials Awareness
- iii. Hazardous Materials Operations
- iv. I-100 National Incident Management System Introduction
- v. I-200 ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents
- vi. I-700 National Incident Management Systems - Introduction
- vii. I-800 National Response Framework
- viii. IMS Level 1
- ix. IMS Level 2

Ordinance #28-2023 cont'd

----- Preferred Qualifications -----

- x. Hazardous Materials On Scene Incident Commander
- xi. IMS Level 3
- xii. Firefighter 2
- xiii. Fire Officer 1 or 2
- xiv. Fire Instructor 1 or 2
- xv. Any other qualifications so determined by the New Jersey Division of Fire Service, Department of Community Affairs.

§ 21-7 Company Chief.

There shall be a continuation of each Fire Company, which shall now be known as a Company. Each Company shall continue having a Chief, which shall now be known as Company Chief and shall report to the Township Chief as outlined in § 21-6. Each said Fire Company shall have its own chain of command officers.

SECTION 2. All other language not specifically changed by this ordinance amendment shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. The sections, subsections and provisions of this Ordinance may be renumbered as necessary or practical for codification purposes.

SECTION 4. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 5. If the provision of any article, section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision or clause of this ordinance shall be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of any such article, section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision or clause and, to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Albanese to introduce this ordinance, seconded by Mr. Heller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Mr. Albanese | -Aye |
| Mr. Heller | - Aye |
| Mr. Mueller | - Nay |
| Mr. Panico | - Nay |
| Mayor <i>Huelsebusch</i> | - Aye |

The Public Hearing was scheduled for November 20, 2023 at 7:45 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **2023 Master Plan Reexamination Report / Resolution** - memo from Ann Marie Lehberger, Planning Board Secretary

The Committee briefly discussed the Master Plan Reexam process.

Jacqueline Hindle, Planning Board Chair, explained that this reexam report focuses on new zoning recommendations that will allow additional uses along the Route 22 corridor.

2. **Acceptance of Maintenance Surety Bond / Toll NJI, LLC (Phase 5 - Regency at Readington)**

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Panico to accept the maintenance bond, seconded by Mr. Albanese and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese -Aye
 Mr. Heller - Aye
 Mr. Mueller - Aye
 Mr. Panico - Aye
 Mayor Huelsebusch - Aye

3. **Resolution to Authorize Budget Appropriation Transfers**

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2023-181

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE BUDGET APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS

WHEREAS, certain transfers of funds for various 2023 budget appropriations are necessary to cover anticipated expenditures; and

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58* provides for transfer of appropriations with an excess over and above the amount deemed necessary to fulfil their purposes to those appropriations deemed to be insufficient; and

WHEREAS, the appropriations subject to fund transfers hereby are not within those restricted by *N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58* for transfer purposes.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington that the Chief Financial Officer shall and is hereby authorized to make transfers between appropriation accounts of the 2023 Municipal Budget as follows:

| | From: | To: |
|---------------------------|--------------|------------|
| Other Expenses: | | |
| Uniform Const. Code | \$10,000 | |
| Consultants | \$10,000 | |
| Group Insurance - Waivers | \$10,000 | |
| Insurance – Other | \$10,000 | |
| Administration | \$5,000 | |
| | | |
| Engineering | | \$20,000 |
| Buildings & Grounds | | \$7,500 |
| Public Defender | | \$2,500 |
| Legal | | \$15,000 |
| | | |
| | | |
| TOTALS | \$45,000 | \$45,000 |

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Albanese to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Panico and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese -Aye
 Mr. Heller - Aye
 Mr. Mueller - Aye
 Mr. Panico - Aye
 Mayor Huelsebusch - Aye

4. ***Resolution of the Township of Readington Supporting RevolutionNJ***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2023-182

***A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
SUPPORTING RevolutionNJ***

WHEREAS, Governor Philip Murphy and the New Jersey State Legislature created RevolutionNJ in 2018 to plan, encourage, develop, and coordinate the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, New Jersey’s pivotal role in the American Revolution, and the contributions of its diverse peoples to the nation’s past, present, and future; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Historical Commission, under the leadership of Secretary of State Tahesha Way, with its non-profit partner Crossroads of the American Revolution established RevolutionNJ to advance the role that history plays in public discourse, community engagement, education, tourism, and scholarship in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, RevolutionNJ will engage New Jerseyans in all 21 counties and 564 municipalities through its officially recognized programs, initiatives, and events over the next ten years; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and desirable that we commemorate the beginning of the Nation and the role New Jersey played over the past 250 years as well as its present and future role as part of the United States, with particular focus on the individuals, ideas, and events that shaped our Country, State, and Township of Readington; and

WHEREAS, RevolutionNJ will consider the role New Jersey played during the American Revolution when it saw more battles and skirmishes than any other state and was truly the Crossroads of the American Revolution; and

WHEREAS, RevolutionNJ will highlight the role New Jerseyans played beyond the battlefield during the American Revolution when people of diverse backgrounds contributed to the development of the State and the Nation in various ways and fought for the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and

WHEREAS, preserving, studying, and enjoying state history strengthens communities and builds bonds between New Jersey residents as we work together toward the goals of justice and equality embedded in the United States Constitution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of Readington hereby endorses RevolutionNJ and its mission to advance the role that history plays in public discourse, community engagement, education, tourism and scholarship in New Jersey.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that:

1. The Township Committee of the Township of Readington commemorates the 250th anniversary of the establishment of the United States as an independent Nation.
2. The Township Committee of Readington authorizes the appointment of a committee to develop a plan for this commemoration that will promote the maximum involvement of our residents, neighborhoods, businesses, schools, civic organizations, and institutions in the commemorations.

Resolution #R-2023-185 cont'd:

3. The Township Committee of Readington further urges all its residents to reflect upon the significance of this event and the role that our State and its diverse people have played in the history and development of our Nation and to participate in this important commemoration, endeavoring to include the stories of all those whose lives are part of the history of what we now know as New Jersey, and understanding that the revolution continues today as we uphold the revolutionary ideals articulated in our founding documents.

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mr. Panico to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Albanese and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese -Aye
Mr. Heller - Aye
Mr. Mueller - Aye
Mr. Panico - Aye
Mayor Huelsebusch - Aye

5. * ***Release of Developers Escrow / Block 51.02, Lot 38***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

6. * ***Release of Police Escrow / Schade***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

7. * ***Release of Police Escrow / Ready Set Go Adventures***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

8. * ***Results of Bond Anticipation Note Sale***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

9. * ***2023 Best Practices Inventory***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

10. * ***Discharge of Mortgage / Discharge of Affordable Housing Agreement (Block 21.06, Lot 302.14)***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Sheola reported that the capital improvement plan will be available for review by November 15th.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Dragan stated that she had nothing further to report.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer O'Brien reported that he will provide the Committee with options and costs for the work needed on the septic at Dobozyński farm. Engineer O'Brien further reported that the Township received a grant for 2024 for work on Pulaski Road Section Four.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

JOHN ALBANESE

Mr. Albanese stated that he had nothing further to report.

JONATHAN HELLER

Mr. Heller stated that he had nothing further to report.

JUERGEN HUELSEBUSCH

Mayor Huelsebusch reported that they recently had a successful joint water safety drill with the police department and rescue squad.

ADAM MUELLER

Mr. Mueller reported that the County is preparing plans to replace the bridges on Locust Road over the Pleasant Run and Holland Brook Road over the Holland Brook. Mr. Mueller reported that they are looking to find a new location for the Christmas Tree Lighting.

VINCENT PANICO

Mr. Panico stated that he had nothing further to report.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Betty Ann Fort commented on the location of the new Christmas tree. Mrs. Fort further inquired about the dedication for the Dale Haver Memorial Greenway.

Joe Krazakowski spoke to the fire department ordinance and a potential meeting between the Township and East Whitehouse Fire Department.

Michelle Jaunarajs commented on the condition of Pulaski Road after the recent PSE&G installation of a gas line.

John Kalinich commented on the upcoming public informational meeting regarding the Solberg Hunterdon Airport Master Plan process.

Andrew Roth commented on the Township's seal.

COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY

As there was no further business, *A MOTION* was made by Mr. Panico at 9:20 p.m. to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Mueller with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Submitted by:

Karin M Parker, *RMC*
Municipal Clerk