

MINUTES OF THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
AUGUST 15, 2024 - COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Township Council of the Township of Bridgewater, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, convened in a regular session on Thursday, August 15, 2024, at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers in the Municipal Complex, Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807 & via Live Online Broadcast.

Council President Ring read the following announcement:

Notice of Meeting

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT OF NEW JERSEY, ADEQUATE NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS PROVIDED ON DECEMBER 21, 2023, WITH WRITTEN NOTICE AND ELECTRONIC NOTICE PROVIDED TO THE COURIER NEWS AND THE BREEZE POSTING ON THE WEBSITE AND THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND FILING WITH THE TOWNSHIP CLERK

On call of the roll, the following Council members were present:

Councilman Michael Kirsh
Councilman Allen Kurdyla
Councilman Howard V. Norgalis
Councilman Filipe Pedroso
Council President Timothy Ring

Also Present: Matthew C. Moench, Mayor
Michael Pappas, Township Administrator
Christopher Corsini, Township Attorney
Juliana Coelho, Deputy Township Clerk

Councilman Kurdyla led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

JULY 18, 2024 & AUGUST 1, 2024 - REGULAR SESSION

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the July 18, 2024, and August 1, 2024, regular session minutes were approved and passed unanimously on a voice call vote.

JULY 18, 2024 & AUGUST 1, 2024 – CLOSED SESSIONS

The July 18, 2024, and August 1, 2024, closed session minutes were passed around for Council approval & signature.

Council Reports

Councilman Kirsh:

- On August 6th, Councilman Kirsh attended a Planning Board meeting where a subdivision on Mountain Top Road was approved with several conditions following extensive discussion. The board also addressed a redevelopment area near Foothill Road, as well as addressed the amended Master Plan

Housing Plan.

- The Planning Board met again on August 13th to memorialize several actions from the previous meeting.
- On August 13th, the Zoning Board reviewed a case for 821 Bridgewater LLC, involving the JCC.
- Councilman Kirsh participated in an event at Camp Cromwell with Mayor Moench and Congressman Kean.
- Councilman Kirsh visited Avnos, a new business operating on Milltown Road, that has made a commitment to using technology to remove CO2 from ambient air.
- Councilman Kirsh attended the Senior Citizen Appreciation Day and expressed anticipation for this annual event.

Councilman Kurdyla:

- Attended the third Recreation and Open Space Master Plan meeting.
- Councilman Kurdyla informed the council that he had met with several residents to discuss the ongoing speeding issue in Bridgewater. He proposed holding a meeting with the council, administration, and Chief Mitzak to explore the possibility of installing speed bumps in affected areas

Councilman Norgalis: *(verbatim)*

- Continued personal discussions with Warren Mayor Victor Sordillo regarding the billing to Warren for Warren sewerage conveyed through Bridgewater. The heavy lifting and documentation on this subject had already been worked on by Tom Genova, Michael Pappas and Bill Savo over many months. We are attempting to update somewhat vague contract wording dating back decades. More to follow after my planned telephone call with Mayor Sordillo tomorrow morning.
- Participated in numerous email exchanges, telephone and conferences dealing with police vehicle fleet maintenance and procurement. As a township we continue to struggle with parts availability and as importantly the escalating costs of repair parts for all of the vehicles used by the township. Under Supt. Richard Shimp the vehicle maintenance staff, read that mechanics, make valiant attempts to reuse and repurpose parts from retired vehicles to keep line vehicles on the road but ALWAYS, ALWAYS to insure they are safe to operate.

- I would like to revisit a subject I talked about several years ago that being street lights not working. The township, under contract with both JCP&L (basic electric coverage is West of County Club Rd) and PSE&G covers the traffic costs of various street light fixtures xx. We pay for these fixtures whether they are working or not. I am somewhat frustrated to ride down a street at night and see one or more lights not working. We are paying but not getting a service. BUT the electric company does not patrol for light outage they rely on reports from employees and residents. I will discuss a township reporting process with Mr. Pappas.
- Road work in the township continues on two fronts. First, we have the formal five-year plan frequently discussed at numerous Council meetings in each of the six township areas. Then we have the PSE&G mill and overlay on some streets as negotiated by the Administration to address the issue of PSE&G gas line replacement. A good example is the Talamini work from 202/206 to the JCC Driveway completed this week. More on that in the future.
- Speaking of PSE&G gas line replacement, that work either in the street or in the hookup by PSE&G EMPLOYEES will continue for some time. I underscore that only PSE&G credentialed employees will be doing the hookup inside of your home or businesses. If someone other than a PSE&G employee comes to your door to say they are going to hook up your new gas line inside the home DO NOT LET THEM IN . Check first with the Township Administration.
- A question that I have been asked numerous times is "will I have gas shut off in the house with my new line?" The answer according to township engineer Bill Burr is "no, your main shut off will be outside by the newly installed gas meter." You can however, at your expense, hire your own contractor to install an inside gas shutoff should you prefer.

Councilman Pedrosa: *(verbatim)*

- Congratulations to Bridgewater-Raritan High School graduate Casey Murphy for winning the gold medal at the Paris Olympics. Casey was a soccer star here at Bridgewater-Raritan, went on to play for Rutgers, and has achieved so much in her young, blossoming soccer career. Like many in our Bridgewater community, I look forward to watching Casey's continued success.

Casey competes in women's soccer, where she rightfully faces other women. It's common sense that women should compete with women in physical sports; allowing men to compete alongside them would create an unfair advantage.

Yet, this common sense is being challenged on today's athletic fields. Transgender girls and women are often allowed to compete in female sports,

and at times, this results in physical advantages that make it impossible for cisgender females to compete fairly.

I empathize with transgender women as they seek their place in sports. They deserve fair, equitable opportunities to compete, just as all people do. Equal treatment must extend to everyone, including transgender women.

However, when one group's rights overshadow another's, we cross the line from equality to preferential treatment. Women have fought for centuries to gain equality with men. Within that struggle, they've had to carve out their place in the sports world—a world historically dominated by men that often-suppressed women's participation.

Now, transgender women are fighting for their place in sports. But their physical advantages can place biological women at a disadvantage, sometimes even in harm's way. Transgender women have the right to compete in sports, but not at the expense of fairness for cisgender women and the progress made in women's rights.

As these issues become more prevalent, they will undoubtedly touch upon our Bridgewater-Raritan schools. I urge our Board of Education to stand firm for equality and protect the rights of our young biological girls, ensuring they have a fair and level playing field—just as Casey Murphy did.

Council President Ring:

- Council President Ring was honored to attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony and grand opening of 'Success on the Spectrum' (SOS), located at 745 Route 202/206. This franchise, owned by local residents including Mahish, serves individuals with autism aged 18 months to 18 years.
- Participated in an event at Camp Cromwell with Mayor Moench and Congressman Kean.
- Council President Ring attended the Senior Citizen Appreciation Day. Bridgewater recognized all seniors for their contributions to the community over the years. He congratulated Jennifer Osterberg, the director of the Senior Center, on her outstanding program.
- Participated in various meetings with the administration regarding budgets, police vehicles, and PBA contracts.
- Congratulated all athletes who participated in the Olympics, especially former Bridgewater-Raritan High School goalie Casey Murphy for her gold medal win

Mayor's Reports

Mayor Matthew C. Moench

- Mayor Moench announced that Bridgewater has received the four-million-dollar check from Congressman Kean's office for Camp Cromwell Improvements. He expressed his gratitude to Congressman Kean for his support in securing the grant.
- Attended a tour of the Avnos facility, which is a company that is at the cutting edge of carbon removal systems. Avnos is developing and researching this technology in Bridgewater Township. Mayor Moench welcomed Avnos and stated that they plan to double in size within a year.
- Mayor Moench attended an event at the Senior Center and commended Jennifer Osterberg on her phenomenal job with the program. He thanked the seniors for their contributions to the township.
- Thanked Gabriel's Fountain for visiting the municipal building for an ice cream social with employees
- Congratulated Casey Murphy on her Olympic gold medal win and expressed hope for a local celebration of her achievement. Mayor Moench mentioned that her brother, Kyle Murphy, is active in town and involved in the wrestling community and as a high school freshman football coach.
- Attended the wake of former Bridgewater Township police officer Thomas J. Dinan. Mayor Moench recognized his accomplishments and dedication to the township during his 27 years of service.
- Met with the owners of the Bridgewater Commons Mall, who plan to present their vision to the council in the fall. Mayor Moench expressed that their vision aligns with the township's goals.
- Mayor Moench stated that there are some cul-de-sacs around town with islands in the middle of them. As the township has repaved roads, some of the islands have been removed. He stated that the township's goal is to remove all islands as they require maintenance which isn't always executed. Mayor Moench asked that the Engineering Division and Public Works Department develop a policy regarding the removal of islands and improved communication with residents.

2024 Municipal Budget

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2024 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Kurdyla, the meeting was opened to the public.

- **Cathy Franco - 766 Weemac Road, Bridgewater, NJ 08807**

Ms. Franco stated that the overdue adoption of the budget is a disservice to the public. She also offered suggestions for the allocation of funds.

- **Sarika Maheshwari - 1020 Sunset Ridge, Bridgewater, NJ 08807**

Ms. Maheshwari expressed concern over the condition of the roads in town. She stated that if the roads aren't repaired, there will be damage to resident's cars.

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the public comment portion was closed.

Councilman Norgalis made a motion to hold a public hearing on the 2024 municipal budget. The motion was seconded by Councilman Kirsh and carried on the following roll call vote:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

A copy of resolution [#24-08-15-214](#) is appended to the official minutes

ADOPTION OF 2024 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Mayor Moench thanked the council for their input throughout the budget process. He believes the budget meets the community's service needs while maintaining financial responsibility.

Councilman Pedroso stated that he will be voting "No" on the budget. He offered that the amount to be raised by taxation is very high and suggested it would be prudent for the governing body to consider making cuts either in departments or budgetary items.

Councilman Kirsh acknowledged that there were many collaborative meetings between Administration and the Budget/Finance Committee, in addition to bringing in council members separately to gain their input. He stated that this is a difficult budget as the township faces a substantial number of mandates, new expectations and new requirements. Councilman Kirsh highlighted three (3) positive key areas of the budget: investments in transparency, public safety, and debt management.

Council President Ring expressed that the budget represents a compromise and that it was impossible to meet all requests. He thanked the budget committee and fellow council members for their hard work and contributions.

On the motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Nay
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-08-15-215](#) is appended to the official minutes

**Public
Comment**

Members of the public wishing to address the Council on any matter will be allowed two minutes to speak unless there are unusual circumstances.

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Kurdyla, the meeting was opened to the public for comment.

- **Cathy Franco - 766 Weemac Road, Bridgewater, NJ 08807**

Ms. Franco questioned the late release of the audit to the public and expressed concerns about the transparency of the wording in resolutions on the agendas. She encouraged Councilman Pedroso to use alternative platforms for making statements instead of council meetings.

- **Joseph Deren – 543 Foothill Road, Bridgewater, NJ 08807**

Mr. Deren expressed frustration over the lack of notice and communication regarding the removal of islands and trees on his cul-de-sac. He was informed that the island needed to be removed for emergency vehicle access. Mr. Deren stated that he and his neighbors were not given the opportunity to discuss the decision before it was made.

- **Dan Zolinski – 715 Chimney Rock Road, Bridgewater, NJ 08807**

Mr. Zolinski stated that although he has concerns regarding the tax increase this year, he is also worried about what will happen next year. He stated that the residents should be given more time to understand the budget.

- **Sarika Maheshwari - 1020 Sunset Ridge, Bridgewater, NJ 08807**

Ms. Maheshwari asked the council how long it would take to repave all the roads in Bridgewater and stated that her road has not been repaved in five years.

Council President Ring explained that the township is currently in the fourth year of a five-year road improvement plan and provided Ms. Maheshwari with a website to check the street ratings.

- **John Arcoleo – 1110 Washington Valley Rd., Bridgewater, NJ 08836**

Mr. Arcoleo expressed concerns about the amount of funds allocated for future road repaving in the township.

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the public comment portion was closed.

**Public
Hearing &
Final Action
Ordinances**

**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)**

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the meeting was opened to the public.

- **Cathy Franco - 766 Weemac Road, Bridgewater, NJ 08807**

Ms. Franco asked the Council to explain the 'cap bank.' Mayor Moench stated that the cap bank is an annual practice. By law, we can increase the budget up to a certain amount. If we increase it by less than the allowable amount, we can bank the difference for future use. Mayor Moench explained that this is an accounting practice for local finance law purposes.

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the public comment portion was closed.

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the foregoing Ordinance was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Nay
Council President Ring	Aye

ORDINANCE #24-09 WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-08-15-216](#) is appended to the official minutes

ADDING CHAPTER 63 TO THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP CONCERNING LEAD-BASED PAINT INSPECTIONS

Township Administrator Pappas explained that all municipalities, with certain exceptions, are now required to inspect every single-family, two-family, and multiple rental dwelling located within the municipality for lead-based paint hazards at tenant turnover.

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the meeting was opened to the public.

- **Cathy Franco - 766 Weemac Road, Bridgewater, NJ 08807**

Ms. Franco requested clarification of the ordinance. Council President Ring explained that the ordinance applies to both residential and commercial properties, which will need to be inspected by the township.

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the public comment portion was closed.

Councilman Pedroso stated that this is now a state law requirement and that passing this ordinance would bring the township into compliance.

Councilman Norgalis added that the law was passed in 2022, but the state provided the township with a two-year window to meet all requirements.

Council President Ring thanked Councilman Norgalis for his persistence in working with the administration on this ordinance.

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the foregoing Ordinance was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

ORDINANCE #24-11 WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-08-15-217](#) is appended to the official minutes

**Introduction
of Ordinances**

AN ORDINANCE TO SET THE COMPENSATION OF THE MAYOR, TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEMBERS, DEPARTMENT HEADS AND CERTAIN OTHER MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 374 OF THE PUBLIC LAWS OF 1985; N.J.S.A. 2A:809; N.J.S.A. 2A:8-13; N.J.S.A. 40A:9-165; N.J.S.A.40A:9-135; N.J.S.A. 40A:9-146, AND CHAPTER 95 OF THE PUBLIC LAWS OF 1996

Mayor Moench expressed that, although some believed that the salaries for the council members and mayor were being increased, no change will be made in their compensation.

Councilman Norgalis suggested that individual names be used instead of titles so someone assuming a position during the year would not feel an entitlement to that salary. Mayor Moench agreed to consider that for a future salary ordinance.

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the foregoing Ordinance was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Abstain
Council President Ring	Aye

THE ORDINANCE WAS INTRODUCED.

A copy of resolution [#24-08-15-218](#) is appended to the official minutes

Juliana Coelho, Deputy Township Clerk read the following report:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the said pending ordinance be passed on first reading and advertised as required by statute fixing the 15th day of August 2024, at 7:30 p.m. prevailing time on said day as the time and the Bridgewater Township Municipal Court Chambers at 100 Commons Way in said Township as the place for hearing and final action.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Clerk shall forthwith post on the bulletin board in the Township Municipal Building at 100 Commons Way, a true copy of said ordinance and make copies available to members of the general public and spread the same upon the minutes of the meeting.

Resolutions

CONSENT VOTE

COUNCIL PRESIDENT RING READ THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS BY TITLE AND ALLOWED FOR DISCUSSIONS/QUESTIONS. HE THEN CALLED FOR A CONSENT MOTION.

CERTIFICATION OF THE 2023 MUNICIPAL AUDIT

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

Mayor Moench expressed that when the audit was performed, six township assets were omitted from the list, which have since been added.

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the foregoing resolutions were proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED.

Copies of resolutions [#24-08-15-219 thru #24-08-15-220](#) are appended to the official minutes

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE PLANNING BOARD OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER TO UNDERTAKE A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION OF BLOCK 221, LOTS 1.02, 1.03, 1.04, 2.00, & 2.01 PURSUANT TO THE NEW JERSEY LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW (N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1, ET SEQ.) FOR CLASSIFICATION AS AN “AREA IN NEED OF REDEVELOPMENT” AND DIRECTING THE TOWNSHIP’S REDEVELOPMENT PLANNER TO PREPARE A STUDY INVESTIGATING WHETHER BLOCK 221, LOTS 1.02, 1.03, 1.04, 2.00, & 2.01 ALSO KNOWN AS 1200, 1210, AND 1220 ROUTE 22 CONSTITUTE AN “AREA IN NEED OF REDEVELOPMENT”

Mayor Moench stated that in an effort to combat overdevelopment, the township is requesting that the Planning Board review this property as an 'area in need of redevelopment.' He added that the township is exploring alternative uses for the property. Mayor Moench said that this process is necessary to maintain the quality of life in Bridgewater

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-08-15-221](#) is appended to the official minutes

AWARD OF CONTRACT TO HM COMPANY LLC (3 ORLANDO DRIVE, FAIRFIELD, NJ 07004) FOR THE BRIDGEWATER SENIOR CENTER (LOCATED ON SOMERVILLE ROAD) IMPROVEMENTS WHICH INCLUDES THE BASE BID FOR INTERIOR PLUMBING AND ELECTRICAL REPAIRS, IN THE SUM OF \$237,500.00, FUNDED THROUGH THE CDBG-COVID-19 RESILIENCY PROGRAM AND 2024 CAPITAL FUND

Mayor Moench stated that these improvements are necessary to maintain the quality of the Senior Center.

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-08-15-222](#) is appended to the official minutes

AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF THE PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$37,873.66, AND RELEASE OF \$1,200.00 TREE BOND, ACCEPTANCE OF THE SITE IMPROVEMENTS FOR VIAMARE LLC, BLOCK 315, LOTS 7 & 8 NOW BLOCK 315, LOT 7.01 AND 8.01 ON 605 & 609 BRIDGEWATER AVENUE

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-08-15-223](#) is appended to the official minutes

AUTHORIZING DISBURSAL OF \$81,883 FROM THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND FOR RENOVATIONS AND REPAIRS FOR FOUR (4) LOW AND MODERATE-INCOME PROPERTIES 295 YORKTOWN ROAD, 50 ARDMAER DRIVE, 4020 CRAWFORD COURT, 214 WEST END AVENUE THROUGH THE BRIDGEWATER HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Mayor Moench stated that this resolution is part of the township's court ordered COA, which requires the township to make certain grants, that are paid for through the COA trust fund, available to the qualifying public.

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-08-15-224](#) is appended to the official minutes

WAIVER OF CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FEES IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$233 (ELECTRIC \$120, PLUMBING \$75 AND DCA TRAINING \$38) FOR THE SOMERSET COUNTY REGIONAL ANIMAL SHELTER LOCATED AT 100 COMMONS WAY IN BRIDGEWATER FOR SUBCODE FEES ASSOCIATED WITH THE REPLACEMENT OF CABINETS

Council President Ring stated that while the shelter is located on township property, it is a non-profit, independent organization that is requesting the township to waive their permit fees.

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-08-15-225](#) is appended to the official minutes

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 349, LOT 2 (ALSO KNOWN AS 136 FOOTHILL ROAD) ON THE TAX MAP OF TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER AS AN AREA IN NEED OF REDEVELOPMENT (NON-CONDEMNATION) PURSUANT TO THE NEW JERSEY LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW (N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1, ET SEQ.) FOR CLASSIFICATION AS AN “AREA IN NEED OF REDEVELOPMENT” AND DIRECTING THE TOWNSHIP’S REDEVELOPMENT PLANNER AND PLANNING BOARD TO PREPARE A REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

Mayor Moench stated that the township requested the planning board to review and develop a plan for this property, as it has already been designated as an 'area of redevelopment.'

Councilman Norgalis emphasized the importance of demonstrating the township's commitment to maintaining a Bridgewater-based yard waste facility on that property

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-08-15-226](#) is appended to the official minutes

Closed Session

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Bridgewater Township Council, that this body will now hold a closed meeting to discuss public safety.

When and if the matters discussed become public record, this will be made known to the public at that time.

The public is excluded from said meeting and further notice thereof is dispensed with all in accordance with Sections 8 and 4a of the Open Public Meetings Act.

On the motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the Council convened in a closed session at approximately 9:06 p.m.

A copy of resolution [#24-08-15-227](#) is appended to the official minutes.

On the motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the meeting reconvened to open session at approximately 9:59 p.m.

Resolutions

AUTHORIZING A FOUR-YEAR LEASE PURCHASE FINANCING AGREEMENT IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$652,379.92 FOR THE ACQUISITION OF NINE VEHICLES THROUGH GENTILINI MOTORS, 2703 FIRE ROAD, EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP, NJ 08234 VIA THE CRANFORD POLICE COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM CONTRACT # 23-01

Mayor Moench stated that Chief Mitzak and his administrative team have presented a proposal for police vehicles, which recommends purchasing five marked cars and four unmarked cars. He supports the chief's recommendation and requested the council's support.

Councilman Norgalis advised that he analyzed the mileage of the existing marked fleet and found eleven cars with over 100,000 miles, including one with 150,000 miles. He expressed that the proposed vehicle breakdown is insufficient and suggested a different allocation. Councilman Norgalis stated that he would not be supporting this resolution.

On motion of Council President Ring, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Nay
Councilman Norgalis	Nay
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-08-15-228](#) is appended to the official minutes

Adjournment

On the motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Council President Ring, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Grace Njuguna, RMC
Municipal Clerk

Timothy Ring
Council President