

The regular meeting of the East Amwell Township Committee, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Mark Castellano, Deputy Mayor Tara Ramsey, Committee members John Mills, Richard Wolfe and Jenna Casper-Bloom. Also present was Township Attorney Frank Whittlesey and Chief Financial Officer Margaret Pasqua.

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting had been published in the January 13, 2022 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat and a copy of the agenda for this meeting had been forwarded to the Hunterdon County Democrat, the Times of Trenton, the Courier News, the Star Ledger, posted on the bulletin board and filed in the Township Clerk's Office on April 25, 2022.

AGENDA REVIEW

There were no items for agenda review.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. Dog Licenses are now overdue. There is an additional \$25.00 late fee per dog. Cost is \$42.00 for a Neutered/Spayed dog and \$45.00 for a Non-Neutered/ Non-Spayed dog. Contact Deputy Clerk, Pam Dymek at 908-782-8536 x 10 for details.

b. Residents are reminded that the grit-yard, located at 4 John Ringo Road, is open for brush collection from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily and the first and third Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. For further information, refer to the Township website at www.eastamwelltownship.com. The Municipal Offices will be closed on February 21st for President's Day.

Please see the Community Events page on the East Amwell Township website for all activities and their details:

Parks & Recreation Events:

a. Spring Clean Up Day- April 30th

Township Events:

a. Amwell Valley Rescue Squad Clothing & Toy Drive- April 30th

b. Amwell Valley Fire Co. Mother's Day Flower Sale- May 7th and 8th

c. Larison's Corner Church Flea Market- May 7th

d. National Psoriasis Foundation Annual Cycle Event (Start time is 6:30am at The Unionville Winery) – May 7th

e. East Amwell School PTO Color Run – May 14th

NOTE: For the safety of the Color Run Participants: Wertsville Road will be closed from Rocktown Road to Route 202, between the hours of 10am to 12pm.

(Approximately)

f. Plant Swap at Clawson Park- May 21st

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 10, 2022 Regular Minutes

A motion made by Richard Wolfe, seconded by John Mills to approve the minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote, with Deputy Mayor Tara Ramsey abstaining.

SPECIAL DISCUSSIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Presentation from Region Nine Housing Corporation

Region Nine Housing Corporation was not in attendance. Richard Wolfe will check their availability for the next regularly scheduled meeting on May 12, 2022.

Monthly Update from Amwell Valley Rescue Squad

Amwell Valley Rescue Squad was not in attendance.

Clawson Park Pavilion Rental Fee to Trust Fund

Deputy Mayor Tara Ramsey explained that Parks & Recreation inquired about the fee charged for rental of Clawson Park. It was discussed that a portion of the fee would go directly to a trust fund for future enhancements/improvements to Clawson Park to benefit the many residents that enjoy the use of the park. Deputy Mayor Ramsey will take this issue back to Parks & Recreation to discuss further in regards to the portion of the fee that would be put into the trust fund. CFO Margaret Pasqua stated a resolution would need to be done indicating the changes and effective date.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Historic Preservation Quarterly Report

Frances Gavigan, Member of HPC, said she was not prepared to give an update but did say that the committee recently discussed access/use of Clawson House and coming up with some kind of lease/custody agreement that can be used. All is going well with the museum; it is open for walks and art shows and has had a number of visitors.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC- Topics Not on the Agenda (limited to 10 min)

A motion made by Richard Wolfe, seconded by John Mills to open the meeting to the public was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Frances Gavigan, 123 Wertsville Road, Ringoes, NJ - Ms. Gavigan commented that while the Township Committee continues working on the Master Plan, it should consider a dark skies ordinance since this is a rural, natural community; it should be kept that way. A native, dark sky is innate to the township. Ms. Gavigan also stated that during storms, the Thompson land that backs up to Dutch Lane properties drains into creeks and Backbrook Road, creating watershed problems. Unless stormwater management elements start being added to development for commercial purposes, while still looking at environmental impacts, plans to prevent water problems will not be effective.

Josh Hoyer, 57 Dutch Lane, Ringoes, NJ – Mr. Hoyer recently heard about the letter that NJDEP sent to residents. Mr. Hoyer stated that his fears are also about wells and watershed. If they put buildings on farmland, the water has nowhere to go, it's got to push the water someplace; the farmland used to soak it up.

Mary Ann Reiter, 12 Dutch Lane, Ringoes, NJ – Ms. Reiter asked if there is any definitive information to substantiate the claim of greenhouses at this time. Ms. Reiter mentioned that no application has currently been filed that she is aware of. She also echoed the concerns about wells and watershed on Dutch Lane. Also, the concern of heavy pesticide use, after speaking with farmers familiar with the commercial growing of strawberries, if it is going to be there. Additionally, Ms. Reiter brought up noise concerns of generators that would run overnight to power refrigerated trailers used to keep items cool that were picked the previous day, if indeed a greenhouse facility should be built near Dutch Lane. Ms. Reiter stated that it is important to preserve the 202/31 farmland corridor as it's always been the gateway to East Amwell, going back to the master plan of the 80's. Ms. Reiter isn't aware if the Farmland/Open Space Committee has looked into preserving this farmland but stated it would be a good idea to keep that farmland as the entrance to the township. Also, regarding night skies, Ms. Reiter said she has the big lights used for soccer and the exterior back lights of East Amwell school shining into her back yard; however, the school doesn't need to comply with the lighting ordinance, as told to her. The school has been cooperative in shading the lights and asked if that can be done by everyone using big lights. The night skies can't be seen, which is one of the beautiful things about living here.

A motion made by Richard Wolfe, seconded by John Mills to close the meeting to the public was unanimously approved by voice vote.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Resolution Authorizing the Change in Custodian of Petty Cash Fund for the Recreation Department

RESOLUTION #49-22

WHEREAS, Margaret Pasqua is the custodian of the Petty Cash Fund for the Recreation Department;

WHEREAS, in accordance with NJSA 40A:5-21, The Township of East Amwell is changing custodian to Ann Marie Silvia; and

WHEREAS, Ann Marie Silvia is covered under a blanket surety bond in the amount of \$1,000,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of East Amwell Township, County of Hunterdon, hereby authorizes such action and two copies of this resolution be filed with the Division of Local Government Services, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approval.

CERTIFICATION

I, Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell at a regular and duly convened meeting held on April 28, 2022.

Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk

Resolution to Approve a Social Affairs Permit for the Sourland Conservancy

RESOLUTION # 50-22

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that they have no objection to a Social Affairs Permit being granted to Sourland Conservancy for their Sourland Mountain Festival that will be held on July 23, 2022 at Unionville Vineyards, 9 Rocktown Road, Ringoes, NJ 08551.

I, Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell at a regular and duly convened meeting held on April 28, 2022.

Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk

Resolution to Approve a Raffle License to Benefit the Thomas Edison State University Foundation Inc.

RESOLUTION # 51-22

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they hereby support the fund-raising efforts of Thomas Edison State University Foundation Inc., 111 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 08608;

WHEREAS, the organization has made application to hold a 50/50 Raffle for a drawing on May 9, 2022, at The Ridge at Back Brook, 211 Wertsville Road, Ringoes, NJ 08551;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, that the raffle license number 22-01 be approved and processed.

CERTIFICATION

I, Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell at a regular and duly convened meeting held on April 28, 2022.

Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk

Resolution to Approve a Tax Sale Certificate Redemption for Block 41 Lot 17.01

RESOLUTION #52-22

WHEREAS there has been a redemption made for Tax Sale Certificate #21-3, Block 41, Lot 17.01, 93 Snyderstown Road, Hopewell, sold on October 22nd 2021, Bala Partners, and,

WHEREAS the amount of \$11,028.58 has been collected from the owner of this property, for the redemption of this Tax Sale Certificate #21-3,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a check in the amount of \$11,028.58 be prepared and the Mayor, Treasurer and Clerk be authorized to sign this check and that an additional check in the amount of \$17,000.00 for the Premium paid and that these checks be mailed to:

Bala Partners
P.O. Box 303
Pottersville, NJ 07979

I, Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell at a regular and duly convened meeting held on April 28, 2022.

Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk

Resolution to Approve and Process 50/50 and Basket Raffle for Readington Home School Association

RESOLUTION # 53-22

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they hereby support the fund-raising efforts of Readington Home School Association, 48 Readington Road, Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889;

WHEREAS, the organization has made application to hold a raffle for a drawing on May 14, 2022 at the Unionville Vineyard, 9 Rocktown Road, Ringoes, NJ, 08551;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, that raffle license number 22-01 be approved and processed.

I, Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell at a regular and duly convened meeting held on April 28, 2022.

Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk

A motion made by John Mills, seconded by Jenna Casper-Bloom to approve the Consent Agenda Items was conducted by roll call vote:

Ms. Casper-Bloom: Yes, Mr. Mills: Yes, Ms. Ramsey: Yes, Mr. Wolfe: Yes, and Mr. Castellano: Yes

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution Reducing the Performance Guarantee for Tabby’s Place

RESOLUTION #54-22

WHEREAS, the developer of the site known as Tabby’s Place, (Block: 9.01 Lot: 5) had posted with the Township a Performance Guarantee and Inspection Escrow in the following amounts:

- Performance Guarantee= \$356,733.60 (120% of construction costs)
- Inspection Escrow= \$14,863.90 (5% of construction costs)

WHEREAS, the developer has requested a reduction of said Performance Guarantee; and

WHEREAS, the Consulting Engineer, as set forth in his letter of February 19, 2022; indicated he has inspected the premises and has recommended that the performance guarantee in the form of surety bonds and cash bonds be reduced as follows:

- Performance Guarantee Amount= \$155,048.63
- Cash Portion (10%)= \$15,504.86
- Surety Bond (90%)= \$139,543.77

WHEREAS, the Township Committee agrees with said recommendation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the inspection fee account must be replenished as required by the developer’s agreement; and that the Hunterdon County Planning Board requires final inspection prior to release of the final remaining balance of the performance bond.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the East Amwell Township Committee that the Performance Guarantee be reduced.

I, Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell at a regular and duly convened meeting held on April 28, 2022.

Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk

A motion made by Richard Wolfe, seconded by John Mills to approve the resolution was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Resolution to Appoint Alison Kavchok Secretary to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

RESOLUTION #55-22

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that Alison Kavchok is hereby appointed Secretary for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, with respect to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, Ms. Kavchok’s responsibilities will include attending meeting, preparing minutes, work on committee events, attending certain committee events, posting of fliers; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2022 Salary and Wage Resolution also include salary as follows:

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Secretary \$1,500/year

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the appointment will have an effective date of April 1, 2022.

I, Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell at a regular and duly convened meeting held on April 28, 2022.

Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk

A motion made by Deputy Mayor Tara Ramsey, seconded by Jenna Casper-Bloom to approve the resolution was unanimously approved by voice vote.

**RESOLUTION #56-22
East Amwell**

Resolution of Support from Local Governing Body Authorizing the Sustainable Jersey 2022 EDF Climate Corps Program Application

WHEREAS, a sustainable community seeks to optimize quality of life for its residents by ensuring that its environmental, economic, and social objectives are balanced and mutually supportive; and

WHEREAS, East Amwell strives to save tax dollars, assure clean land, air and water, improve working and living environments; and

WHEREAS, East Amwell is participating in the Sustainable Jersey Program; and

WHEREAS, one of the purposes of the Sustainable Jersey Program is to provide resources to municipalities to make progress on sustainability issues, and they have created the 2022 EDF Climate Corps Program;

THEREFORE, the Township Committee of East Amwell has determined that East Amwell should apply for the aforementioned 2022 EDF Climate Corps Program. The assistance will help East Amwell identify ways to save on energy costs and reduce emissions of greenhouse gasses; and

THEREFORE, East Amwell will commit to providing staff support for the duration of the 2022 EDF Climate Corps Program, including access to data for energy projects such as utility billing data.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the East Amwell, State of New Jersey, authorize the submission of the aforementioned application to the 2022 EDF Climate Corps Program.

By Order of the Township Committee

Approved Date : 04/28/2022

Tara Ramsey, Deputy Mayor

I, Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell at a regular and duly convened meeting held on April 28, 2022.

Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk

A motion made by Richard Wolfe, seconded by John Mills to approve the resolution was unanimously approved by voice vote.

RESOLUTION #57-22

Authorize the Award of a Required Disclosure Contract for Township HVAC Repair

WHEREAS, the Township of East Amwell has a need for HVAC service and repair at the Township Building, through Worth & Company Inc. 6263 Kellers Church Road, Pipersville, PA 18947 contractors as a required disclosure contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5; and,

WHEREAS, Worth & Company Inc. were deemed to be the most advantageous quote based upon price and other factors with a quote in the amount of \$8,900.00; and

WHEREAS, Worth & Company Inc. in the aggregate has exceeded the pay to play threshold of \$17,500.00 in the prior contract year; and

WHEREAS, Worth & Company Inc. have completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification and a Personal Contribution Disclosure form which certifies they, have not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of East Amwell in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

WHEREAS, subject to the approval by the Governing Body, the Chief Financial Officer hereby certifies that funds NOT TO EXCEED \$8,900.00 are available as follows.

Housing Trust: E-12-57-916-000-000

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Township of East Amwell authorizes the Mayor to enter into HVAC contract with Worth & Company Inc. for HVAC repair in the amount of \$8,900.00 and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and Personal Contribution Disclosure form, Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution.

CERTIFICATION

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the above is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Township of East Amwell at a regular meeting of said Governing Body conducted on April 28, 2022.

Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk

A motion made by Jenna Casper-Bloom, seconded by Deputy Mayor Tara Ramsey to approve the resolution was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Resolution #58-22

April 28, 2022

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT TEMPORARY EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS #3

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A 40A:4-20 provides that an addition to temporary appropriations necessary for the period prior to the adoption of the budget and regular appropriations, the

Governing Body may, by resolution adopted by two-thirds vote of the full membership thereof, make emergency temporary appropriations for any purpose for which the appropriationS may lawfully be made for the period between the beginning of the current fiscal year and the date of the adoption of the budget for said year.

WHEREAS, the total emergency temporary resolutions adopted in the year 2022 pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20) including this resolution total: \$333,851.00

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Township of East Amwell, that in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A 40A: 4-20, the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to make the following emergency temporary budget appropriations in the 2022 current fund temporary budget and that said amounts be included under the correct headings in the municipal budget as adopted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that one certified copy of this resolution be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services and one certified copy to the Chief Financial Officer

	Salaries & Wages	Other Expenses
Mayor & Committee		\$250.00
Financial Administration	\$15,000.00	
Revenue Administration		\$1,000.00
Affordable Housing Agency		\$750.00
Solid Waste Collection		\$3000.00

I, Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell at a regular and duly convened meeting held on April 28, 2022.

Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk

A motion made by Richard Wolfe, seconded by Deputy Mayor Tara Ramsey to approve the Resolution to Adopt Temporary Emergency Appropriations #3 was conducted by roll call vote: Ms. Casper-Bloom: Yes, Mr. Mills: Yes, Ms. Ramsey: Yes, Mr. Wolfe: Yes, and Mr. Castellano: Yes

ORDINANCES- PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING

There were no ordinances for public hearing and second reading.

ORDINANCES- INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

Introduction of the 2022 Budget

**Resolution to Read the 2022 Budget by Title
RESOLUTION #59-22**

WHEREAS, N.J.S. 40A:4-8 provides that the budget be read by title only at the time of public hearing if a resolution is passed by not less that a majority of the full governing body, providing that at least one week prior to the date of hearing a complete copy of the approved budget as advertised has been posted in the Municipal building, the local public library, and copies have been made available by the Clerk to persons requesting them; and

WHEREAS, these conditions have been met;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, in the County of Jersey, State of New Jersey, that the budget shall be read title only.

I, Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell at a regular and duly convened meeting held on April 28, 2022.

 Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk

 A motion made by Jenna Casper-Bloom, seconded by Deputy Mayor Tara Ramsey to approve the Resolution to Read the 2022 Budget by Title was conducted by roll call vote:
 Ms. Casper-Bloom: Yes, Mr. Mills: Yes, Ms. Ramsey: Yes, Mr. Wolfe: Yes, and Mr. Castellano: Yes

**Resolution to Introduce the 2022 Budget
 RESOLUTION #60-22**

Municipal Budget of the TOWNSHIP of EAST AMWELL
 COUNTY of HUNTERDON for the Fiscal year 2022

(as attached to the original set of minutes)

Be it Resolved, that the following statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the Municipal Budget for the year 2022;

TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL
 2022 Municipal Budget
 Township of East Amwell, County of Hunterdon

Revenue & Appropriation Summary

<u>Summary of Revenue</u>	<u>2022</u>	Anticipated <u>2021</u>
Surplus	\$400,000.00	\$500,000.00
Total Miscellaneous Revenue	\$1,218,000.00	\$974,562.00
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	\$186,000.00	\$199,000.00
Amount to be Raised by Taxes for Municipal Purposes	\$1,448,000.00	\$1,364,600.00
Total General Revenue	\$3,252,000.00	\$3,038,162.00
<u>Summary of Appropriations</u>	<u>2022 Budget</u>	<u>2021 Budget</u>
Operating Expenses Salaries & Wages	\$753,026.00	\$767,015.00
Other Expenses	\$1,232,261.45	\$830,024.97
Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations	\$153,732.58	\$142,923.94
Capital Improvements	\$425,000.00	\$467,600.00
Debt Service	\$387,979.97	\$527,129.97
Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	\$300,000.00	\$303,468.12
Total General Appropriations	\$3,252,000.00	\$3,038,162.00
Total Number of Employees Time	10 Full Time & 12 Part Time	10 Full Time & 11 Part Time

Balance of Outstanding Bonded Debt

	2022	2021
Interest (current year)	\$44,665.19	\$59,476.62
Principal (current year)	\$343,314.78	\$467,658.34
Outstanding Balance	\$1,522,546.70	\$1,990,205.05

Be it Further Resolved, that said Budget be published in the Hunterdon County Democrat in the issue of May 5, 2022.

Notice is hereby given that the Budget and Tax resolution was approved by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, County of Hunterdon on April 28, 2022.

A hearing on the Budget and Tax resolution will be held at the Municipal Building on May 26, 2022 at 7:00pm at which time and place objections to the Budget and Tax resolution for the year 2022 may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons.

I, Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell at a regular and duly convened meeting held on April 28, 2022.

Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk

A motion made by Deputy Mayor Tara Ramsey, seconded by John Mills to approve the Resolution to Introduce the 2022 Budget was conducted by roll call vote:

Ms. Casper-Bloom: Yes, Mr. Mills: Yes, Ms. Ramsey: Yes, Mr. Wolfe: Yes, and Mr. Castellano: Yes

ORDINANCE #22-03 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL, CHAPTER 53, ANIMALS

The introduction and first reading of Ordinance #22-03 was tabled to the next meeting, scheduled for May 12, 2022.

ORDINANCE # 22-04 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2022 SALARY AND WAGE SCHEDULE

TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL

ORDINANCE #22-04

AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2022 SALARY AND WAGE ORDINANCE

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township of East Amwell, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

The 2022 Salary and Wage Ordinance shall be amended as follows:

Hourly:

Add CFO \$65.00-\$125.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this ordinance shall become effective upon publication, according to law.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Tara Ramsey, Deputy Mayor

Attest: _____
Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk

A motion made by Richard Wolfe, seconded by Jenna Casper-Bloom to introduce Ordinance #22-04 was approved by voice vote.

The Ordinance will be published in the May 5, 2022 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat and the public hearing is set for the next regular township committee meeting on May 12, 2022 at 7:00pm.

ORDINANCE #22-05 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 75, FEES, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL, SPECIFICALLY SECTION 75.1 TO INCREASE AND ADD FEES FOR SUMMER PLAYGROUND

EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP

ORDINANCE #22-05

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 75, FEES, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL, SPECIFICALLY SECTION 75.1 TO INCREASE AND ADD FEES FOR SUMMER PLAYGROUND

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, that they hereby amend the Code of the Township of East Amwell, Chapter 75 Fees, as follows:

Section 75.1, Event fees and miscellaneous fees.

Change under B. Miscellaneous fees shall be as follows:

(7) Fees for summer playground:

Change (a) to now read: Participation fee per attendee for the four-week program: **\$85** if paid by June 15; **\$10 late fee if paid after June 15**. Once the fee is paid, there will be no refunds for days missed.

Add (c): Participation fee is \$10 per attendee, per week, for the lunch bunch program.

This ordinance shall take effect upon publication, according to law.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Tara Ramsey, Deputy Mayor

Attest: _____
Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk

A motion made by Deputy Mayor Tara Ramsey, seconded by John Mills to introduce Ordinance #22-05 was approved by voice vote.

The Ordinance will be published in the May 5, 2022 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat and the public hearing is set for the next regular township committee meeting on May 12, 2022 at 7:00pm.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Employee Benefits Package regarding Holidays

A Resolution to amend Resolution #02-22 designating Township holidays by day and date specifically listed.

A Resolution Amending Resolution #02-22 Recognizing Township Holidays

RESOLUTION # 62-22

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the following shall be paid holidays for full time, qualified part time and salaried employees:

Martin Luther King Day	Monday, January 17, 2022
President's Birthday	Monday, February 21, 2022
Good Friday,	Friday, April 15, 2022
Memorial Day	Monday, May 30, 2022
Independence Day	Monday, July 4, 2022
Labor Day	Monday, September 5, 2022
Columbus Day	Monday, October 10, 2022
Veteran's Day	Friday, November 11, 2022
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 24, 2022
Day after Thanksgiving	Friday, November 25, 2022
Christmas Eve	Friday, December 23, 2022
Christmas Day	Monday, December 26, 2022
New Year's Eve	Friday, December 30, 2022
New Year's Day,	Monday, January 2, 2023

BE IT RESOLVED, the above stated holidays will be observed on the date that is documented within; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution is effective immediately.

CERTIFICATION

I, Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell at a regular and duly convened meeting held on April 28, 2022.

Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk

A motion made by Jenna Casper-Bloom, seconded by Deputy Mayor Tara Ramsey was approved by voice vote, with Richard Wolfe opposed.

Appointment of CFO

RESOLUTION APPOINTING CFO

RESOLUTION # 63-22

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that the following appointment be made with an effective start date of June 6, 2022:

Ashleigh Frueholz- CFO

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the conditions of Ms. Frueholz's appointment are as follows:

- CFO services for 6 hours a week (5:30-8:30 Tuesdays & day TBD) and to be available for additional phone calls and/or zoom meetings.
- \$85.00 per hour, being paid on the 15th and last day of each month.
- For 2022 you will receive nine (9) hours of vacation time and six (6) hours of sick time. You are allowed to carry over one (1) week of vacation time to the following year and bank up to the equivalent of five (5) sick days.

CERTIFICATION

I, Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell at a regular and duly convened meeting held on April 28, 2022.

Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk

A motion made by Deputy Mayor Tara Ramsey, seconded by John Mills was approved by voice vote.

Landis Burial Ground

Ms. Casper-Bloom stated that she spoke with John Allen and they have gone as far as they can regarding title searches; however, Mr. Allen has found old wills from the 1830’s. As the next step, they have contacted the County Surrogates office to inquiry about the wills. Mr. Wolfe added that they are very close to being at the point of going into court and saying all avenues have been exhausted in trying to identify the owner of this property. The Township will have to publish notice four times during a 60-day period in two newspapers indicating that it wants to take possession of the burial ground. Once that has been done, the Township can go into court and ask the judge to award title to the Township.

NEW BUSINESS

Resignation of Zoning Officer, Krista Parsons

A motion made by Deputy Mayor Tara Ramsey, seconded by Jenna Casper-Bloom to accept the resignation with regrets was approved by voice vote.

Discussion of Shared Service Agreement with West Amwell Township for Zoning Officer

Mayor Castellano spoke with West Amwell regarding shared services. There is a construction department in West Amwell already and the process is online and automated which should make for a smooth transition.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL AND THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST AMWELL, HUNTERDON COUNTY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1, et seq.

RESOLUTION #61-22

WHEREAS, The Township of West Amwell has agreed to furnish the services of its Zoning Officer to the Township of East Amwell pursuant to N.J.S.A 40A:65-1 et.seq.; and

WHEREAS, The Township of East Amwell and the Township of West Amwell have determined it is in their mutual best interests to provide shared services for a Zoning Officer; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Township of East Amwell, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the Mayor and Clerk are authorized to sign the Shared Service Agreement in substantially the same form as attached hereto.

I, Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell at a regular and duly convened meeting held on April 28, 2022.

Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk

A motion made by Jenna Casper-Bloom, seconded by John Mills to accept the shared service agreement with West Amwell Township was conducted by roll call vote:

Ms. Casper-Bloom: Yes, Mr. Mills: Yes, Ms. Ramsey: Yes, Mr. Wolfe: Yes, and Mr. Castellano: Yes

Resignation of Violations Clerk Margaret Acquista

A motion made by Richard Wolfe, seconded by Jenna Casper-Bloom to accept the resignation of violations clerk Margaret Acquista was approved by voice vote.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

A motion made by Richard Wolfe, seconded by Deputy Mayor Tara Ramsey to open the meeting to the public was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Linda Ranft, 148 Cider Mill Road, Flemington, NJ – Ms. Ranft stated she is very interested in Ordinance #22-03 about the animals and asked when the public would get a chance for a public meeting in order to make comments, to correct spelling and grammar errors in regards to the ordinance. Ms. Ranft is concerned that the ordinance doesn't take into account farms/farm animals such as horses, cows and barn cats, for example, since East Amwell is also a farming community. Also, Ms. Ranft stated that she is hard of hearing and has a hard time hearing what everyone at the dais is saying, especially to each other. Additionally, Ms. Ranft added she's not sure if the ACO is aware that NJ has a manure management program in place already through Rutgers NJAES, but wanted it to be noted.

Frances Gavigan, 123 Wertsville Road, Ringoes, NJ – Ms. Gavigan commented that the ACO has had conflicts with various residents wants to have more policing powers. What is being proposed in the animal ordinance is not appropriate. Ms. Gavigan stated that the ordinance should not be re-introduced and it should be thrown out as it's for a problem that doesn't fit. Ms. Gavigan also asked what is being done currently regarding office staffing. She stated that the office needs adequately trained staff members who can handle various issues, especially if the Deputy Clerk is on vacation, etc. Ms. Gavigan feels that East Amwell does not need an office manager who doesn't manage the office and the money paid for one should be used instead to provide a service to the residents of East Amwell. Ms. Gavigan submitted an OPRA request on timecards and found that timecards are not being signed by the supervisor. The office needs to get going with day-to-day issues but what do people do in the meantime who need answers. Possibly put something on Facebook to let people know who can help them or where to go, other than hearing about it on the Township Committee livesteam meetings. Ms. Gavigan stated that the Deputy Clerk can't be here all of the time and that there should be incentive for employees to feel appreciated.

A motion made by Richard Wolfe, seconded by John Mills to close the meeting to the public was unanimously approved by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Bills of the Evening - April 14, 2022

A motion made by Jenna Casper-Bloom, seconded by Deputy Mayor Tara Ramsey to approve the bills of the evening for April 14, 2022, was conducted by roll call vote:

Ms. Casper-Bloom: Yes, Mr. Mills: Yes, Ms. Ramsey: Yes, Mr. Wolfe: Yes, and Mr. Castellano: Yes

Bills of the Evening - April 28, 2022

A motion made by Richard Wolfe, seconded by John Mills to approve the bills of the evening for April 28, 2022, was conducted by roll call vote:

Ms. Casper-Bloom: Yes, Mr. Mills: Yes, Ms. Ramsey: Yes, Mr. Wolfe: Yes, and Mr. Castellano: Yes

APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A motion made by Richard Wolfe, seconded by Jenna Casper-Bloom to approve the administrative reports was unanimously approved by voice vote.

CORRESPONDENCE

No discussion was held regarding correspondence.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion made by Richard Wolfe, seconded by Deputy Mayor Tara Ramsey to adjourn the meeting at 8:35pm was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Amy Jo Merz, Administrative Officer

Pamela Dymek, Deputy Clerk