

Approved: August 08, 2023

MONTAGUE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

JULY 25, 2023
7:00 PM

OPENING STATEMENT

Mayor Zitone called the Montague Township Committee meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. announcing that adequate notice has been provided to the New Jersey Herald and the Sunday New Jersey Herald for publication in which notice was given of the date, time, place, and general agenda of the meeting according to the Open Public Meetings Act.

FLAG SALUTE

The Pledge of Allegiance commenced.

ROLL CALL

Present were: Mr. Innella, Mr. Krumpfer, Mr. LeDonne, Mr. Merusi, and Mayor Zitone.
Also present was Municipal Clerk Dana Klinger

Absent: None

MINUTES

Mr. Merusi made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 11, 2023.
Mr. Krumpfer seconded, and the motion was carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

ORDINANCES (First Reading)

None

ORDINANCES (Second Reading)

2023-14 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTAGUE, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTAGUE AT CHAPTER 18 ENTITLED "FEES AND COSTS"

Mr. Merusi made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-14. Mr. Innella seconded the motion and asked for clarification of what qualifies as a "Club License". Municipal Clerk Klinger stated that there are currently no club licenses within the Township, but these types of licenses would be issued to a qualified club to sell alcoholic beverages only for immediate consumption on the licensed premises to only bona fide club members and their guests. Mr. Merusi then made a motion to open to the public for discussion of Ordinance 2023-14. Mr. Krumpfer seconded, and the motion was carried with a unanimous voice vote.

With no comment from the public, Mr. Merusi made a motion to close to the public. Mr. Krumpfer seconded, and the motion was carried with a unanimous voice vote. Municipal Clerk Klinger then called the roll, and the motion to approve Ordinance 2023-14 was carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTIONS

2023-089 AUTHORIZATION TO CANCEL TOWNSHIP TAX SALE CERTIFICATE
Mr. Krumpfer made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-089. Mr. Merusi seconded, and the motion was carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

2023-090 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING GRACE PERIOD FOR AUGUST 2023 TAX PAYMENT

Mayor Zitone stated that the grace period will be extended to August 14, 2023. This is an extra four days from the normal grace period, Tax bills were mailed on July 20, 2023. Mr. Merusi made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-090. Mr. Krumpfer seconded, and the motion was carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Zitone stated that the next four Resolutions are all Veteran Exemption Resolutions that will be approved with one motion.

2023-091 EXEMPT VETERAN EXEMPTION/CANCEL TAXES (BL 19.02, LT 22)

2023-092 EXEMPT VETERAN EXEMPTION/CANCEL TAXES (BL 16.02, LT 4)

2023-093 EXEMPT VETERAN EXEMPTION/CANCEL TAXES (BL 18.53, LT 21)

2023-094 EXEMPT VETERAN EXEMPTION/CANCEL TAXES (BL 4, LT 21.02)

Mr. Krumpfer made a motion to approve Resolutions 2023-091, 2023-092, 2023-093, and 2023-094. Mr. Merusi seconded, and the motion was carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

2023-095 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTAGUE, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING THE TERMS OF THE APPOINTMENT OF DANA KLINGER TO THE POSITION OF TOWNSHIP CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Krumpfer made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-095. Mr. Merusi seconded, and the motion was carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

CORRESPONDENCE

Montague Township Volunteer Fire Department – Regarding the request for approval of applications for Membership for Patrick Goes and Ashleigh Dickson. Mr. Merusi made a motion to approve these applications. Mr. Innella seconded, and the motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

Montague Township Volunteer Fire Department – Regarding a request for approval of a Blue Light Permit Application for Patrick Goes. Mr. Merusi made a motion to approve these applications. Mr. LeDonne seconded, and the motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

Montague Township Volunteer Fire Department – Regarding a Request for approval of applications for Membership for Patrick Goes in the NJ State Fireman’s Association for Patrick Goes. Mr. Merusi made a motion to approve these applications. Mr. Krumpfer seconded, and the motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Zitone amended the agenda to include an update from Mr. Merusi regarding Cadoos Road. Mr. Merusi said that Mr. Bostwick has finally gotten a name and phone number for someone at the State Park Service that they can contact. The government hauled in stone and the DPW did a beautiful job spreading it out and making the road beautiful to drive on as well as cleaning up the area. They want to get someone in authority to work with them to make it easier to walk to the beach and to improve the parking. The area is overgrown right now. There had been an issue in the past about disturbing the vegetation without first doing an environmental impact study. Mr. Merusi said this is the only access to the river and a lot of people go down there during the week. He will work with Mr. Bostwick and the Park Rangers on this.

REPORTS

Mayor Zitone amended the Meeting Agenda to include “Municipal Updates”. Mr. Innella reported that today Gene Crawford was awarded the Hometown Hero by Congressman Josh Gottheimer for people in the 5th District. The Congressman went over each candidate and what they have done for their community. Gene was ecstatic to be the recipient of that award.

Before moving on, Mr. Merusi asked about the sprinkler system. Mr. Zitone responded saying he spoke with Charlie Schaeffer, and he is working on getting the bid specs and cost estimate complete in order for the project to go out to bid. Mr. Zitone added that the sprinkler system pump house will be going on the end toward the pipeline, and the tank is going on that end and will go over the top of the fire department and will be almost higher than the roof. The building will be facing Clove Road, so we may paint a mural on it like Lafayette did with their silo.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (limited to three minutes per person)

Mr. Merusi made a motion to open to the public. Mr. LeDonne seconded, and the motion was carried with a unanimous voice vote.

Rory Downes – Tomahawk Terrace – Mr. Downes asked for a quick update regarding Short-Term Rentals as he was unable to attend the last Committee Meeting. Mr. Zitone informed him that Mr. Krumpfer met with the High Point Country Club and came up with a few stipulations of having so many units that they would do short-term rental on. The Committee voted 3 to 2 that we would be in favor of looking into short-term rentals a little further but only for two-family or single-family houses. The vote is not official yet. Municipal Clerk Klinger advised there should be a second hearing at the next meeting. Rory said he is in favor of them.

There being no further comment from the public, Mr. Krumpfer made a motion to close to the public. Mr. LeDonne seconded, and the motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURN

Mr. Krumpfer made a motion to adjourn at 7:14 PM. Mr. Innella seconded, and the motion was carried with a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted:

**DANA KLINGER, RMC
MUNICIPAL CLERK**