

Approved: September 12, 2023

MONTAGUE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

**AUGUST 22, 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, and Mayor Zitone
Also present was Municipal Clerk Dana Klinger.

Excused: Mr. Merusi

MINUTES

Mr. Krumpfer made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 8, 2023. Mr. LeDonne seconded, and the motion was carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

ORDINANCES (First Reading)

None.

ORDINANCES (Second Reading)

None.

RESOLUTIONS

2023-099 RESOLUTION TO RENEW STATEWIDE INSURANCE FUND
MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Innella made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-099. Mr. Krumpfer seconded, and the motion was carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

2023-100 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING INDEMNITY AND TRUST AGREEMENT
WITH STATEWIDE INSURANCE FUND

Mr. LeDonne made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-100. Mr. Innella seconded, and the motion was carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

2023-101 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING 2023 ELECTRONIC TAX SALE

Mr. Krumpfer made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-101. Mr. LeDonne seconded, and the motion was carried with a unanimous roll call vote. Municipal Clerk Klinger announced to all in attendance that this year's online Tax Lien Sale will be held at 8:30 AM on Thursday, October 26, 2023.

2023-102 RESOLUTION APPROVING SOCIAL AFFAIRS PERMIT TO TAMERLAINE
FARM ANIMAL SANCTUARY, INC.

Mr. Krumpfer made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-102. Mr. Innella seconded, and the motion was carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

NEW BUSINESS

Purchase of Used Loader – Mayor Zitone stated that the Montague DPW has found a used 1994 Komatsu Loader available for purchase at a cost of \$26,500, through Keesler Truck & Tractor Sales, Inc. The equipment is in good shape, the equipment was originally owned by the town of Sayreville in New Jersey. After some brief discussion, Mr. Innella made a motion to approve the purchase of the used loader. Mr. LeDonne seconded, and the motion was carried with a unanimous roll call vote. Municipal Clerk Klinger then issued Resolution 2023-103 to Authorize the Purchase of a Used Loader for the Department of Public Works.

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OLD BUSINESS

None

REPORTS

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (limited to three minutes per person)

Mr. Krumpfer made a motion to open it to the public. Mr. Innella seconded, and the motion was carried with a unanimous voice vote.

Margot Sawicki – Shore Drive – Ms. Sawicki was at the meeting tonight as a representative of the HPCC Board. The HPCC Board members wanted to thank the Township Committee and Fire Department for helping them make their event this past Saturday a huge success. There were about 160 people in attendance, and everything went as smoothly as could be. Ms. Sawicki also added that the HPCC has begun a community art project where family members or individuals are making art pieces on different sizes of wood. The artwork that they have so far is coming out wonderfully and they would love to continue and grow the piece and have more and more community involvement and have this as one bigger art installation.

Sandy Hull – Layton, NJ – Ms. Hull asked the members of the Committee if they had heard any response from the Sierra Club regarding the Township’s request for a meeting, which she assumed they had not responded. Ms. Hull respectfully asked that if the Township does hear a response, please send an email to nonationalpark2030@gmail.com and to any of the other municipalities that had also asked for a meeting with the Sierra Club. Mr. Innella asked if Sandyston got a positive response. Ms. Hull replied that no one got a positive response, but she said Hampton Township also sent a letter requesting a meeting as well as the Sussex County Commissioners and the Warren County Commissioners. Tomorrow night Ms. Hull will also address the Sussex County Commissioners to see if they got a response. Ms. Hull added that she just wants to make sure that if they do decide to have meetings that could affect any of the surrounding municipalities and communities we really, really need to be a part of it. She doesn’t want anybody going to the DEP, the EPA, or anybody else and saying this is what you guys should be doing. She thinks every municipality does a pretty good job of running their own business and it should stay that way.

Darren Ponce – Millville Road – Mr. Ponce referred to a conversation he had today with Mayor Zitone regarding the Junkyard on River Road. Mr. Ponce also presented the Mayor and Committee with photographs showing the cars moving closer and closer out of the original footprint of the Junkyard. Mayor Zitone said he spoke to the Zoning Official today and he is going to investigate this matter. If the Zoning Official can site any violations, then he will do so, after his investigation.

Joe Barbagallo – River Road - Mr. Barbagallo presented the Mayor and Committee with a copy of the survey that shows the original footprint of the Junkyard on River Road. This survey reflects where the cars should be within the property. The Zoning Official will investigate the boundary with the Resolution from the Land Use Board that allows for the Junkyard. Mr. Barbagallo stated that he doesn’t care if he stacks the cars ten high, he just wants him to remain inside the footprint. Mr. Barbagallo further added that he has provided numerous pictures for the Zoning Officers review as well.

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

ADJOURN

Mr. Innella made a motion to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. Mr. Krumpfer seconded, and the motion was carried with a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted:

**DANA KLINGER, RMC
MUNICIPAL CLERK**