

**Township of Mount Laurel
Reorganization Council Meeting
January 3, 2024
Mount Laurel Court Room
6:00 P.M.**

Municipal Clerk called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance and traditional moment of silence were observed.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The Public Announcement, which is required by the “Open Public Meetings Act” of the State of New Jersey and read at every meeting of the Township Council was read by the Municipal Clerk.

ROLL CALL

Councilwoman Karen Cohen – present, Councilwoman Fozia Janjua – present, Councilman Nick Moustakas – present, Councilman Kareem Pritchett – present, Councilman Stephen Steglik – present, Township Solicitor – present, Meredith Riculfy, Township Manager/Township Clerk - present

Municipal Clerk calls for nominations for Mayor for 2024.

Councilman Steglik nominated Councilwoman Janjua, 2nd Councilman Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

Municipal Clerk declares Councilwoman Janjua as Mayor for the year 2024. Oath of office administered by Assemblywoman Murphy.

Gavel presented to new Mayor by Municipal Clerk.

Mayor calls for nominations for Deputy Mayor for 2024.

Councilman Steglik nominated Councilman Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

Mayor declares Councilman Moustakas as Deputy Mayor for the year 2024. Oath of office administered by Assemblywoman Murphy.

Mayor and Deputy Mayor gave acceptance remarks and goals for 2024

RESOLUTION #1-2024: RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JANUARY AS MUSLIM HERITAGE MONTH

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #1-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Steglik

Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #2-2024: APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY

Parker McCay

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #2-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman

Pritchett Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #3-2024: APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP BOND COUNSEL

Parker McCay

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #3-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman

Pritchett

Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #4-2024: APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL PROSECUTOR

Chance & McCann

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #4-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman

Pritchett

Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #5-2024: APPOINTMENT OF PUBLIC DEFENDER

Rosenberg Perry & Associates, LLC

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #5-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman

Pritchett

Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #6-2024: APPOINTMENT OF PLANNING CONSULTANT

CME Associates

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #6-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman

Pritchett

Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #7-2024: APPOINTMENT OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLANNER

Harbor Consultants

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #7-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #8-2024: APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP LABOR COUNSEL
Capehart Scatchard & Rainone, Coughlin, Minchello

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #8-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #9-2024: APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ATTORNEY
Weiner Law Group LLP

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #9-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #10-2024: APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP TAX APPEAL ATTORNEY
Marmero Law, LLC

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #10-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #11-2024: APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP REDEVELOPMENT ATTORNEY
Campbell Rocco Law

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #11-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #12-2024: APPOINTMENT OF REDEVELOPMENT PLANNER
CME Associates

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #12-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #13-2024: APPOINTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
Remington & Vernick Engineers

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #13-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #14-2024: APPOINTMENT OF TRAFFIC ENGINEER
Remington and Vernick Engineers

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #14-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #15-2024: APPOINTMENT OF OPEN SPACE ENGINEER &
CONSULTANT
Pennoni

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #15-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #16-2024: APPOINTMENT OF RISK MANAGEMENT
CONSULTANT
Conner Strong & Buckelew

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #16-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #17-2024: APPOINTMENT OF INSURANCE BROKER
Conner Strong & Buckelew

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #17-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #18-2024: APPOINTMENT OF APPRAISERS SOCKLER REALTY SERVICES GROUP & BRB VALUATION & CONSULTING SERVICES, APPRAISAL CONSULTANTS CORP

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #18-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett

Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #19-2024: APPOINTMENT OF FINANCIAL ADVISOR Phoenix Advisors

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #19-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett

Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #20-2024: APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR Mercadien, P.C.

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #20-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett

Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #21-2024: APPOINTMENT FOR ACCOUNTING SERVICES Bowman & Company LLP

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #21-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett

Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #22-2024: APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP CONFLICT ATTORNEY Capehart & Scatchard

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #22-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett

Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #23-2024: RESOLUTION APPOINTING FUND COMMISSIONER AND ALTERNATE FUND COMMISSIONER TO THE BURLINGTON COUNTY MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #23-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #24-2024: APPOINTMENT OF CLAIMS COORDINATORS FOR THE
BURLINGTON COUNTY MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #24-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #25-2024: APPOINTMENT OF A SAFETY COORDINATOR FOR
2024 FOR THE BURLINGTON COUNTY MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #25-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #26-2024: APPOINTMENT OF PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #26-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #27-2024: APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS ZONING BOARD OF
ADJUSTMENT

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #27-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #28-2024: APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS LIBRARY BOARD OF
TRUSTEES

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #28-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #29-2024: APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER MOUNT LAUREL
MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #29-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #30-2024: APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION BOARD

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #30-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #31-2024: APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #31-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #32-2024: APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE DIVERSITY & INCLUSION BOARD

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #32-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #33-2024: RESOLUTION FIXING THE RATE OF INTEREST TO BE CHARGED ON DELINQUENT TAXES OF ASSESSMENTS

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #33-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #34-2024: DESIGNATING THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MOUNT LAUREL AND ADDITIONAL NEWSPAPERS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #34-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #35-2024: 2022 TAX REFUNDS AND/OR APPLICATION OF CREDITS FOR DUPLICATE PAYMENTS AND 2024 TAX REFUNDS WITH INTEREST FOR CREDITS RESULTING FROM COUNTY TAX BOARD JUDGMENTS

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #35-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett

Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #36-2024: TEMPORARY BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR 2024

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #36-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett

Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #37-2024: AUTHORIZING THE TAX ASSESSOR OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MOUNT LAUREL TO FILE APPEALS, OMITTED AND ADDED ASSESSMENT APPEALS, AND ROLLBACK COMPLAINTS WITH THE BURLINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF TAXATION

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #37-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett

Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #38-2024: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MOUNT LAUREL, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING AN ANNUAL CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #38-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett

Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #39-2024: DEPOSITORIES OF FUNDS

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #39-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett

Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #40-2024: INVESTMENT OF FUNDS

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #40-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett

Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #41-2024: ESTABLISHING THE REGULAR AND WORK SESSION MEETING DATES OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN COMPLIANCE WITH NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #41-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett

Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #42-2024: MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MOUNT LAUREL AND THE BURLINGTON COUNTY PROFESSIONAL FIRE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION, I.A.F.F. LOCAL 3091 (EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS)

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #41-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett

Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #43-2024: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CANCELATION OF A GRANT

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #43-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett

Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #44-2024: ESTABLISHING A CASH CHANGE FUND MONETARY AMOUNT AND CUSTODIAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #44-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett

Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #45-2024: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR A FORD EXPLORER THROUGH THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #45-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #46-2024: AUTHORIZATION TO INSTALL A FENCE WITHIN A DRAINAGE EASEMENT AND ACCESS EASEMENT AREA FOR BLOCK 908.04, LOT 2

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #46-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #47-2024: APPROVING CHANGE ORDER #1 PARKING LOT & INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS OF SOUTH CHURCH STREET & LAUREL ACRES PARK DRIVE

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #47-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #48-2024: MOUNT LAUREL TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF SOIL EROSION/RESTORATION PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE FOR THE FALLS GROUP, LLC, BLOCK 304, LOT 1.02, PB#2101

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #48-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #49-2024: MOUNT LAUREL TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE FOR NATIONAL ENERGY PARTNERS, BLOCK 1104, LOT 3.02, ZB#22-D-05

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #49-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman
Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #50-2024: AWARD 2023 LOCAL ROAD PROGRAM – HEMLOCK LANE & 2023 NJDOT MUNICIPAL AID PROGRAM – UNION MILL ROAD

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #50-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #51-2024: MOUNT LAUREL TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LICENSE

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #51-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Pritchett
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #52-2024: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SHARED SERVICES

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #52-2024: Councilwoman Cohen, 2nd Councilman Pritchett
Roll Call 4 yes votes; Councilman Steglik abstained.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,011,063.62

Motion to Move: Councilman Pritchett, 2nd Councilwoman Cohen
Roll Call 5 yes votes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to Move: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilwoman Cohen
Roll Call 5 yes votes

The Township Manager read her appointments.

Municipal Manager Appointments:
Township Engineer – Alaimo
Treasurer – Tara Krueger
Clean Communities Coordinator – Maureen Drinkard
Recycling Coordinator – Maureen Drinkard
Affirmative Action Officer – Jarrid Satterfield
Public Agency Compliance Officer – Jarrid Satterfield

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING

ORDINANCE #1-2024: CALENDAR YEAR 2024 MODEL ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

Clerk read Ordinance as entitled.
Motion to move Ordinance #1-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilman Steglik

Roll Call 5 yes votes

ORDINANCE #2-2024: AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MOUNT LAUREL, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ESTABLISHING AN ANNUAL AND HOURLY SALARY FOR TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS, POSITION HOLDERS AND EMPLOYEES PRESCRIBING THE AMOUNT AND MANNER OF PAYMENT THEREOF

Clerk read Ordinance as entitled.

Motion to move Ordinance #2-2024: Deputy Mayor Moustakas, 2nd Councilwoman Cohen

Roll Call 5 yes votes

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Tammy Bathke, 1 Wood Lark Drive – Spoke about how she has known all of Council for a long time. Thanked the Council and stated how proud she is.

Eddie Rivera, 616 Augusta Circle – Congratulated the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and spoke about how Mount Laurel is a very diverse community.

Azra Baig, South Brunswick – Explained that Mount Laurel is being watched by townships all over. Fozia is an amazing individual.

Owais Lari – Stated that the Pakistan-American Society of South Jersey members are really proud of Council.

Dr. Elias Iliadis – Congratulated the new Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Sadia Janjua – Expressed how proud she is of the diverse council and congratulated the new Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL:

Manager Riculfy – Congratulations to Mayor and Deputy Mayor. Invited everyone to the Community Center for refreshments.

Attorney – Congratulations to Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Councilman Pritchett – Congratulations to Mayor and Deputy Mayor. Thanked everyone for coming and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Councilman Steglik – Congratulations to Mayor and Deputy Mayor. Thanked all the speakers. Thanked Meredith. People of Mount Laurel are so wonderful and understanding. Thanked Council.

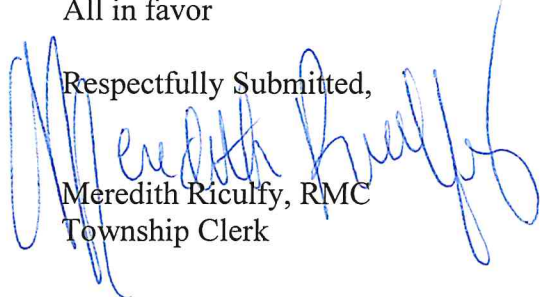
Councilwoman Cohen – Congratulations to Mayor and Deputy Mayor and thanked all residents for their comments. Looks forward to serving for another year. Thanked all staff and departments. January 13th food drive.

Deputy Mayor Moustakas – Thanked everyone for the support. Thanked everyone for coming out.

Mayor Janjua – Thanked everyone for coming out and looks forward to serving the township.

Motion to Adjourn: Councilman Pritchett, 2nd Deputy Mayor Moustakas
All in favor

Respectfully Submitted,


Meredith Riculfy, RMC
Township Clerk