

**Township of Mount Laurel
Regular Council Meeting
February 14, 2022
Mount Laurel Municipal Center**

Mayor Pritchett called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance & Traditional Moment of Silence

ROLL CALL

Councilwoman Karen Cohen – present, Councilwoman Fozia Janjua – present, Councilman Nick Moustakas – present, Deputy Mayor Stephen Steglik - present, Mayor Kareem Pritchett - present, George Morris, Township Solicitor – present, Meredith Tomczyk, Township Manager/Township Clerk - present

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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to Move: Deputy Mayor Steglik, 2nd Councilwoman Janjua
Roll Call 5 yes votes

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,351,097.09

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

**RESOLUTION #63-2022: PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY
2022 AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #63-2022: Deputy Mayor Steglik, 2nd Councilman Moustakas
Roll Call 5 yes votes

**RESOLUTION #64-2022: PROCLAMATION EXPRESSING COMMENDATION TO
MOUNT LAUREL CUB SCOUT PACK 15 FOR THEIR BOOKSMILES CHARITY EVENT**

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #64-2022: Councilman Moustakas, 2nd Councilwoman Cohen
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #65-2022: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OR CANCELLATION OF PROPERTY TAXES BLOCK 1409 LOT 161 QUALIFIER C0147

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #65-2022: Deputy Mayor Steglik, 2nd Councilman
Moustakas
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #66-2022: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MOUNT LAUREL, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A DUPLICATE TAX SALE CERTIFICATE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 99 OF THE PUBLIC LAWS OF 1997 BLOCK 808.02 LOT 12

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #66-2022: Deputy Mayor Steglik, 2nd Councilman
Moustakas
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #67-2022: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MOUNT LAUREL, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A DUPLICATE TAX SALE CERTIFICATE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 99 OF THE PUBLIC LAWS OF 1997 BLOCK 1003 LOT 53

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #67-2022: Deputy Mayor Steglik, 2nd Councilman
Moustakas
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #68-2022: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF MOUNT LAUREL TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE PRICING AGREEMENT

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #68-2022: Deputy Mayor Steglik, 2nd Councilman
Moustakas
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #69-2022: RESOLUTION AWARDDING CONTRACT FOR COMPOST RECYCLING SERVICES TO L & S CONTRACTING COMPANY, INC.

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #69-2022: Deputy Mayor Steglik, 2nd Councilman
Moustakas
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #70-2022: AUTHORIZATION TO INSTALL A FENCE WITHIN A 20' WIDE SANITARY SEWER EASEMENT AREA AND A 6' WIDE MAINTENANCE EASEMENT AREA FOR BLOCK 1102, LOT 20.04

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #70-2022: Deputy Mayor Steglik, 2nd Councilman Moustakas
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #71-2022: RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE 2021 LOSAP PROGRAM CERTIFIED LIST OF ELIGIBLE VOLUNTEER MEMBER

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #71-2022: Deputy Mayor Steglik, 2nd Councilman Moustakas
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #72-2022: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR 2022

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #72-2022: Deputy Mayor Steglik, 2nd Councilman Moustakas
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #73-2022: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE MOUNT LAUREL TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY ("MLTMUA") FOR GRASS CUTTING SERVICES

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #73-2022: Deputy Mayor Steglik, 2nd Councilman Moustakas
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #74-2022: AWARD ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR SERVICES BID

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.
Motion to Move Resolution #74-2022: Deputy Mayor Steglik, 2nd Councilman Moustakas
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #75-2022: AWARD TREE REMOVAL SERVICES BID

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #75-2022: Deputy Mayor Steglik, 2nd Councilman
Moustakas
Roll Call 5 yes votes

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Andrew Gaus, 154 Kettlebrook Drive – Stated that the county is certifying results of the special election. Has concerns about the Council’s action on the ordinance and feels that Mount Laurel could have avoided the election and saved money for the tax payers.

Larry Chatzidakis, 42 Stokes Road – Stated that he has been to many meetings and has never seen public participation been shut down.

Brian Sharp, 19 Biddle Way – Thanked the Council for allowing public participation to continue. Questioned the ordinance from the special election and if additional laws could be passed.

Bob Reillo, 676 Cascade Drive South – Feels that the director of communications is only representing the democrats, not all residents. Believes that there is conflict of interest with her and does not feel that she should continue to be the communications director. Questioned why there was nothing on the Township website regarding the special election and asked if the ordinance would be overturned.

Jim Petruzzi, 194 Knotty Oak Drive – Stated that the ordinance could have been passed at a previous meeting and the special election could have been avoided altogether, saving money for the town. Questioned what will happen with the public employee and asked if residents will be notified.

Jim Hogan, 105 Yorktown Drive – Questioned the ethics of the communications director.

Richard Bakley, 7401 Normandy Drive – Asked about the need for a communications director and suggested that the position be eliminated. Mentioned a flyer that was mailed to residents about the special election and ordinance and believes the information on it is incorrect. Questioned the teller windows and the cost of them.

Nick Ferrara, 21 Coltsneck Terrace – Stated that he does not know why everyone is still required to wear masks. Expressed concern over a lack of transparency. Believes that there is dark money coming in.

Jim Hogan – Discussed how important communication is and asked why nothing about the special election was on the Township website. Feels that the ordinance should have been on the website.

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL

Attorney Morris – A couple of items in executive session.

Deputy Mayor Steglik –Thanked everyone for joining today. Special election had a good turnout. Will of people to have special election. Happy Valentine’s Day.

Councilwoman Cohen – Thanks for comments. Happy Valentine’s Day to all. Thanked 1st responders. Mt. Laurel is a community of people who care.

Councilwoman Janjua – Thanked everyone for coming out and for comments. Thanked boy scouts for collecting books.

Councilman Moustakas – Thanks for coming out and for comments. Happy Valentine’s Day.

RESOLUTION #76-2022: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CLOSED SESSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MOUNT LAUREL TO DISCUSS PENDING OR ANTICIPATED LITIGATION, CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS AND/OR PERSONNEL MATTERS

Township Clerk read Resolution as entitled.

Motion to Move Resolution #76-2022: Councilman Moustakas, 2nd Councilwoman Janjua

Roll Call 5 yes votes

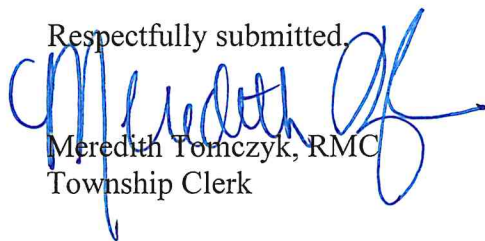
Return to Open: Councilman Moustakas, 2nd Councilwoman Cohen

All in favor.

Motion to adjourn: Councilwoman Janjua, 2nd Councilwoman Cohen

All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Meredith Tomczyk, RMC
Township Clerk