

Upper Pittsgrove Township

February 13, 2024

A regular meeting of the Upper Pittsgrove Township Committee was held in the Township Hall on the above date. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Edward Meschi reading the public announcement stating that adequate notice had been given provided under the “Open Public Meetings Act” with a flag salute and the following present:

Edward Meschi	Committeeman
David Zeck	“
Bruce Bishop	“
Jack Cimprich	“
Michael J. Seery, Sr.	“
Susan DeFrancesco	CFO
Brian Coles	Public Works Superintendent
& Township Visitors	

Bishop moved that the minutes of the January 3, 2024 reorganization and regular meetings minutes be approved as received which motion was seconded by Cimprich adopted unanimously.

The following monies were received from:

Susan DeFrancesco, Tax Collector – Taxes Collected	\$ 710,112.44
Linda Stephens – Zoning Permit	140.00
– COs	100.00
- White Goods	157.00
- Certified Copies	90.00
State of NJ – Reimbursement to Monroeville Fire Department	27,000.000
-1 st Quarter LEA Rebate	4,524.66
- Stormwater Assistance	50,000.00
Sustainable New Jersey – Grant	2,500.00
Pilesgrove Joint Court - Court Costs	497.90
Garden Homes - 2023 License Renewal (2)	200.00
Garden Homes Management – Pad Fees	3,200.00
Camden Iron - Recyclables	629.00
First National Bank of Elmer - Int. on NOW	482.91
First National Bank of Elmer - Int. on MMA	<u>207.89</u>
TOTAL	\$ 799,684.80

The Treasurer’s report showed the following balance as of January 31, 2024:

Current Fund - Checking Account	\$1,829,394.05
Current Fund - Money Market Account	1,380,013.88
Alt. Landfill Closure Escrow Fund	38,787.12
Capital Improvement Fund	992,732.27
COAH Developer’s Fees Escrow Fund	115,859.29
COAH Twp. Contributions	324,535.91
Farmland Preservation Fund	115,859.29
Municipal Alliance Trust Fund	8,085.77
Veterans Memorial Fund	653.44
American Recovery Act	<u>82,160.00</u>
Total	\$4,885,236.00

Cimprich moved that the approved bills listed on the “BILL PAYING LIST” as presented to the Committee be paid which motion was seconded by Zeck and adopted upon a call of the roll.

Bishop - Yes Cimprich – Yes Seery – Yes Zeck – Yes Meschi – Yes

The Clerk read correspondence from the New Jersey Department of Transportation dated January 10, 2024. The letter stated that a Traffic Study would be started for the intersection of Route 77 and Glassboro Road. If the study warranted improvements to the intersection, the Township would be notified.

Seery introduced “RESOLUTION OF UPPER PITTSBORO TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE ENDORSING SUBMISSION OF RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION TO NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FOR RECYCLING YEAR 2023” R-12-2024.

Seery moved that this Resolution be adopted, which motion was seconded by Zeck and adopted upon a call of the roll.

Bishop - Yes Cimprich – Yes Seery - Yes Zeck – Yes Meschi -Yes

Cimprich introduced “RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE SUBMISSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UPPER PITTSBORO FARMLAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM MUNICIPAL PLANNING INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM FY2025 PLANNING ROUND APPLICATION” R-13-2024

Cimprich moved that this Resolution be adopted, which motion was seconded by Seery and adopted upon a call of the roll.

Bishop - Yes Cimprich – Yes Seery - Yes Zeck – Yes Meschi -Yes

Cimprich introduced RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UPPER PITTSBORO TO CANCEL “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN EXPENDITURE OF MONIES FROM THE AMERICAN RECOVERY ACT FUND FOR THE REPAIR OF THE CONVENIENCE CENTER RETAINING WALL, known as Ordinance #2023-1” R-14-2024

Cimprich moved that this Resolution be adopted, which motion was seconded by Seery and adopted upon a call of the roll.

Bishop - Yes Cimprich – Yes Seery - Yes Zeck – Abstain Meschi -Yes

Resident Michelle Hendrickson addressed the Township Committee regarding an issue she has run in to while trying to sell her COAH restricted home with regards to the existing septic system. The Clerk had spoken with TRIAD, whom the Township had contracted with to handle the sale of this home. The Township can use the COAH Developers Fees to upgrade the septic system to the new standards. A lien can be placed on the property which would become due the first sales transaction after the COAH restriction expires. It was made clear that as long as Ms. Hendrickson occupied the home, the Township was not responsible for any repair issues that may be needed.

Zeck made a motion to authorize the Township Clerk to start the process to have the Septic System upgraded. This motion was seconded by Cimprich and adopted upon a call of the roll.

Bishop - Yes Cimprich – Yes Seery - Yes Zeck – Yes Meschi -Yes

Seery introduced “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN EXPENDITURE OF MONIES FROM THE 2024 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE BUILDING MAINTENANCE & REPAIR PROGRAM” known as Ordinance 2024-1.

Seery moved that this ordinance be approved on first reading and that a copy of this ordinance be published in the *South Jersey Times* issue of February 16, 2024 together with a notice of its introduction and a public hearing to be held at the Township Hall on March 12, 2024 at 7:00PM.

This motion was seconded by Zeck and adopted upon a call of the roll.

Bishop - Yes Cimprich – Yes Seery - Yes Zeck – Yes Meschi – Yes

The Mayor opened the meeting to the public for comment. Residents Norma Miller and David Garrison updated their ongoing issue with another Resident Nate Harris’s dogs and cattle. They stated that they did have a court date for Wednesday February 21st. They commended Animal Control Officer for doing his job. Mayor Meschi told the residents that Nate’s sister had been contacted and were hoping some pressure may come from her, as she was listed as an owner of the property. Another Resident, Betty Coombs asked where the funds for a new salt truck may come from. She asked if there were funds available through the Township’s Recreation Fund to defray some costs of school functions. Ms. Coombs requested the Township Committee look into and oppose the “Freedom to Read Act” New Jersey S2421/A3446 via “Jersey Votes No”. The Mayor closed the meeting to the public for comment.

Cimprich introduced the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Upper Pittsgrove that the public shall be excluded from the following portion of this meeting during which time the Township Committee will discuss a subject for which the general nature is Contract Negotiations. It is estimated that the time when, and the circumstances under which, the discussion conducted in closed session can be disclosed to the public is at the conclusion of the issue.

Cimprich moved that this resolution be adopted which motion was seconded by Zeck and adopted upon a call of the roll.

Bishop - Yes Cimprich – Yes Seery - Yes Zeck – Yes Meschi - Yes

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Upper Pittsgrove at a meeting held on the 13th day of February 2024.

Linda R. Stephens, Clerk

Cimprich moved that the next portion of the meeting be opened to the public. This motion was seconded by Zeck and adopted unanimously.

There being no comments from the public and no further business the meeting was adjourned to meet at the call of the Mayor and to hold a Budget Workshop.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda R. Stephens, Clerk