

Upper Pittsgrove Township

April 13, 2021

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
Barry Foote	Public Works Superintendent
Brian Coles	Public Works Foreman
& Township Visitors	

Cimprich moved that the minutes of the March 9, 2021 regular and closed session meetings be approved as received which motion was seconded by Bishop adopted unanimously.

The following monies were received from:

Susan DeFrancesco, Tax Collector – Taxes Collected	\$ 206,845.11
Linda R. Stephens - Zoning Permits	180.00
– CO	50.00
– White Goods	168.00
- Convenience Center Stickers	10.00
- Certified Copies	120.00
- Postage Reimbursement	1.00
- LUB Application Fees	1,250.00
Timothy O’Donnell – Fire Inspection Fees	25.00
Salem County Municipal Alliance – 2021 1 st Quarter	344.93
Pilesgrove Joint Court - Court Costs	1,886.41
Borough of Elmer – Shared Services	6,012.50
Garden State Homes – Pad Fees	3,200.00
R.E. Pierson	2,615.80
Giordano – Recycling	28.60
First National Bank of Elmer - Int. on NOW	399.93
First National Bank of Elmer - Int. on MMA	<u>102.98</u>
TOTAL	\$ 223,240.26

The Treasurer's report showed the following balance as of March 31, 2021:

Current Fund - Checking Account	\$ 1,303,043.54
Current Fund - Money Market Account	297,700.32
Alt. Landfill Closure Escrow Fund	1,914.25
Capital Improvement Fund	887,973.79
COAH Developer's Fees Escrow Fund	91,879.50
COAH Twp. Contribution	324,693.55
Farmland Preservation Fund	68,563.50
Municipal Alliance Trust Fund	7,907.29
Veterans Memorial Fund	<u>653.76</u>
Total	\$2,984,329.50

Seery 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 a letter from the South Jersey Wheelmen regarding marking Township roads for their upcoming ride in September after a brief discussion the Clerk was authorized to send a response stating that only chalk could be used on the roads within Upper Pittsgrove Township.

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing for "ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)" known as Ordinance 2021-1 at 7:00PM as advertised.

The Mayor read the Ordinance by title, stating that it had been published in *South Jersey Times* issue of March 29, 2021 as required.

After hearing no comments for or against this Ordinance, the Mayor declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:05PM.

Meschi moved that this ordinance be finally adopted on second reading and that a notice of its adoption be published in the *South Jersey Times* issue of April 16, 2021. This motion was seconded by Bishop and adopted upon a call of the roll.

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

The Public Hearing on the 2021 Budget was opened at 7:10PM by Mayor Edward Meschi. The Treasurer, Susan DeFrancesco was present to answer any questions regarding the 2021 budget. There being no questions from the members of the public, the Mayor declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:13PM.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Upper Pittsgrove, County of Salem, that the budget herein and before set forth be hereby adopted and shall constitute an appropriation for the purposes stated of the sum set forth as appropriations and authorizations as per attached copy.

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

Bishop - Yes Cimprich – Yes Seery - No Zeck – Yes Meschi - Yes

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing for “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE COMPENSATION TO BE PAID TO THE ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UPPER PITTS GROVE” known as Ordinance No. 2021-2 at 7:15PM as advertised.

The Mayor read the Ordinance by title, stating that it had been published in *South Jersey Times* issue of March 29, 2021 as required.

After hearing no comments for or against this Ordinance, the Mayor declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:16PM.

Zeck moved that this ordinance be finally adopted on second reading and that a notice of its adoption be published in the *South Jersey Times* issue of April 16, 2021. This motion was seconded by Seery and adopted upon a call of the roll.

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

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing for “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE, COUNTY OF SALEM, STATE OF NEW JERSEY ENTITLED ‘ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES’” known as Ordinance No. 2021-3 at 7:20PM as advertised.

The Mayor read the Ordinance by title, stating that it had been published in *South Jersey Times* issue of March 29, 2021 as required.

Matthew Ritter, Esquire spoke on behalf of the Ackerman family. He stated that prohibiting alcohol put the businesses of Upper Pittsgrove at an economic disadvantage because surrounding municipalities might allow alcohol. Mr. Ritter’s other points were: wineries are able to use local restaurants as outlets for their wines, wineries are prime locations for festivals, and passing the Ordinance would not be helping the residents of Upper Pittsgrove Township. Ron Thomas, owner of the Frightened Turtle Winery, LLC stated that winery outlets are permitted and controlled by the State. Dawn Clark, co-owner of A Garden Party stated that it was the goal of A Garden Party to bring people to the Township, have them enjoy the gardens and sip some wine. They supported local business through sourcing locally. John Coombs inquired if Ordinance 2021-3 impacted the fire companies and the Grange. It was explained that they hold their events through either a Catering License Permit, or Social Affairs Permit, and that the Ordinance does

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not impact them. Nor does it affect the existing winery and distillery located within the Township.

After hearing no additional comments for or against this Ordinance, the Mayor declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:36PM.

Zeck moved that this ordinance be finally adopted on second reading and that a notice of its adoption be published in the *South Jersey Times* issue of April 16, 2021. This 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 TO REFUND TO EDWARD AND LYNN SUESS; HOMESTEAD REBATE” R-17-2021.

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

Bishop introduced “RESOLUTION APPOINTING LAND USE BOARD CLASS IV MEMBER AND ALTERNATE #4” R-18-2021.

Bishop 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

Seery introduced “RESOLUTION AWARDED QUOTE FOR LANDFILL WELL WATER TESTING FOR 2021” R-19-2021

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

Seery introduced “RESOLUTION FOR APPLICATION TO THE GOVERNOR’S COUNCIL ON ALOCHOLSIM AND DRUG ABUSE FOR FUNDING FOR THE FISCAL GRANT CYCLE OCTOBER 2020-JUNE 2025 MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE THROUGH THE COUNTY OF SALEM” R-20-2021.

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

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

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Cimprich introduced “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UPPER PITTSBORO, COUNTY OF SALEM, STATE OF NEW JERSEY PROHIBITING THE OPERATION OF CLASS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, AND 6 LICENSED CANNABIS BUSINESSES WITHIN THE GEOGRAPHICAL BOUNDARIES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UPPER PITTSBORO” known as Ordinance 2021-4.

Cimprich 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 April 16, 2021 together with a notice of its introduction and a public hearing to be held at the Township Hall on May 11, 2021 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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to meet at the call of the Mayor.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda R. Stephens, Clerk