

MAPLE SHADE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
NOVEMBER 9, 2023 – 6:30 P.M.

ORDER:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

PUBLIC NOTICE of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, has been given by the Township Council in the following manner:

Notifying the Township Clerk December 22, 2022.

Mailing Notice to the Courier Post, The Central Record and Burlington County Times on December 22, 2022.

Posting Notice on the Official Municipal Bulletin Board on December 22, 2022.

Anyone from the public wishing to speak will be permitted to address comments to the Council during public participation portions only. Those wishing to speak should stand up to the podium, state their name and their address prior to making any comment. Each member of the Public will be given one (1) opportunity and up to five (5) minutes during each Public Portion to address comments to Council. A draft agenda and all resolutions have been posted on the Township webpage and bulletin board in the Municipal Building.

Please place all phones on mute to alleviate disruption of the meeting.

ROLL CALL (6:30 pm)

COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Nunes			x			
Schmidt			x			
Mrs. Volpe			x			
Wiest			X (zoom)			
Kauffman			x			

Resolution No. 2023-R-185 Resolution to Meet in Executive Session for the following:

1. Matters Relating to Litigation, Negotiation, and the Attorney-Client Privilege/Personnel:
Independent Fire Company v. Maple Shade Township

Motion to Close (6:32 pm): Schmidt Second: Volpe All in Favor: yes
Formal action may be taken upon conclusion of Closed Session.

(Mayor of the Township Council then declares the meeting closed and directs that the tape be shut off. At conclusion of closed portion, Mayor of Township Council calls for a motion to reopen the meeting and turn the tape on.)

Motion to Open (6:55 pm): Nunes Second: Volpe All in Favor: yes

PRESENTATION – BEST PRACTICES – CFO, Andriane McKendry reported to Council that our annual Best Practices Inventory 2023 Survey was completed and submitted. The survey was

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broken down into three categories: Core Competencies, Best Practices and Unscored Survey. The Unscored questions were important for future municipal funding. Maple Shade was able to answer the majority in the affirmative guaranteeing 100% State Aid.

ORDINANCES – INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

Ordinance No. 2023-22 An Ordinance of the Township of Maple Shade, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey Amending the Maple Shade Township Code, Chapter 88 Entitled, “Fees and Escrows”

Motion for Introduction:

Comments: none

Roll Call:

COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Nunes	x		x			
Schmidt			x			
Mrs. Volpe		x	x			
Wiest			x			
Kauffman			x			

Publication Date: November 17, 2023

Public Hearing: December 14, 2023

Ordinance No. 2023-23 An Ordinance of the Township of Maple Shade, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey Amending Chapter 16 of the Township Code Regarding the Maple Shade Township Fire Department

Director of Fire Safety Operations, Joe Palumbo, was present to explain the public the ordinance and to answer any questions.

Comments: Deputy Mayor Schmidt explained, “the township is taking this step for public safety. Our neighboring departments have put us on notice that they won’t continue to cover our daytime calls. Because the Independent refuses to accept that the Township supervises and controls the Fire Department, and refuses to work with the mutual aid units, we have no choice, again for public safety, but to take this step.”

Councilwoman Volpe said, “from what we heard at the meeting, while the two officers who attended are working hard, it doesn’t appear the membership supports them. The officers provided a revised ordinance that they said the membership wanted. That ordinance shows that the independent does not respect the Township’s authority. It’s hard to build a fire department when they won’t work with us.”

Motion for Introduction:

Comments:

Roll Call:

COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Nunes			x			
Schmidt	x		x			
Mrs. Volpe			x			
Wiest		x	x			
Kauffman			x			

Publication Date: November 17, 2023

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PUBLIC PORTION (for Consent Agenda Items) - Members of the public wishing to speak will be permitted to address comments or questions to Council regarding resolutions listed under the Consent Agenda only. Those wishing to speak should step up to the microphone and state their name and their address prior to making any comment. Each member of the public will be given one (1) opportunity and up to five (5) minutes during this Public Portion. (No Participation)

Motion to Close: Schmidt Second: Volpe All in Favor: yes

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution No. 2023-R-186 Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Non-Fair and Open Contract for Professional Services with Ronald P. Mondello, Esq.

Resolution No. 2023-R-187 Resolution of the Township of Maple Shade to Support the Submission of an Application for the FY 2024 New Jersey Department of Transportation Safe Routes to School Improvements to North Forklanding Road

Resolution No. 2023-R-188 Authorize Transfer of Appropriations

Resolution No. 2023-R-189 Authorize Execution of Affordability Assistance Agreement with North Forklanding Urban Renewal Associates, LP for Maple Shade Mews

Resolution No. 2023-R-190 Award of Contract to NJ Reliable Coatings, LLC for the Cleaning and Coating of Two Wastewater Plant Final Clarifiers in the Amount of \$17,480.00

Resolution No. 2023-R-191 Authorize Utility Engineering Services for Water System Improvements on County Avenue from Fellowship Road to South Maple Avenue – and Rose Avenue for the Amount of \$139,200.00

Resolution No. 2023-R-192 Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Non-Fair and Open Contract to Willier Electric Motor Repair Co. for the Purchase and Installation of Variable Frequency Drives at the Kings Highway Pump Station

Motion to Approve Consent Agenda:

Second:

Comments: none

Roll Call:

COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Nunes	x		x			
Schmidt			x			
Mrs. Volpe		x	x			
Wiest			x			
Kauffman			x			

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURE LIST - \$955,327.05

CURRENT FUND	\$ 255,456.46
UTILITY FUND	\$ 322,199.39

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GENERAL CAPITAL FUND	\$ 20,165.15
UTILITY CAPITAL FUND	\$ 119,162.00
TRUST FUND	\$ 237,416.03
GRANT FUND	\$ 927.22

Motion to Approve: Comments: none Roll Call:

COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Nunes			x			
Schmidt		x	x			
Mrs. Volpe	x		x			
Wiest			x			
Kauffman			x			

PUBLIC PORTION - Members of the public wishing to speak will be permitted to address their comments to the Council on any municipal topic. Those wishing to speak should step up to the microphone and state their name and their address prior to making any comment. Each member of the Public will be given one (1) opportunity and up to five (5) minutes during this Public Portion.

Heather Talarico, 553 Cutler Avenue, explained the drain mural project. They would like to start with the storm drains around the high school and the one at the municipal building using the students’ ideas and possible student artists. The council needs to approve an ordinance for the project.

Dawn Brynes, 66 South Poplar Avenue, expressed concerns about a sign located at the bar entrance of the VFW Post 2445. Though it’s not on the voting entrance and is covered during the elections, she is offended by the sign and is requesting the two polling districts be moved to a different location.

Motion to Close: Volpe Second: Schmidt All in Favor: yes

STAFF AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS – The Halloween parade was outstanding and attended by many. Congratulations to Captain Hasson on his retirement and please join the celebration for Veteran’s Day Saturday at the Fellowship Memorial, 11:00 am. Have a happy and healthy Thanksgiving holiday.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Operations
 - a. The leaf collection schedule is on the website
 - b. The township received a \$267,000 grant for Front Street
 - c. There will be a repaving project starting on Main Street
 - d. The shredding event resulted in depositing 3,000 pounds of paper
 - e. The NJLM conference is next week, the township offices will be short staffed, please call before you visit to make sure we can take care of your needs.
 - f. Collins Park received its new sign, next will be the Main Street Water Plant
 - g. There was an emergency water main break on Melrose Avenue, will need emergency funds to cover repairs
 - h. November 20, 2023 is the Business Appreciation Event at the town hall
2. Police Report
 - a. The turkey/food drive will be ending November 13

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- b. October 31, the PD assisted with the school parades
 - c. November 2nd the secret service visited the schools for fingerprinting and will be back to complete, the children really enjoyed the program
 - d. November 11th, Scott Wallace was acknowledged as the Veteran of the Year at Yocum School
 - e. DOJ Cop Hiring Grant is \$375,000
 - f. November 8th, the DEA Tack Unit, along with MSPD arrested one person at a house near the high school with drugs and weapon
3. Engineer's Report - CME
- a. CME met with PSE&E in August and will submit application to township
 - b. The hazard tree survey is complete, and meeting can be set up with DPW
 - c. Proposal for Engineering for 2024 NJDOT grant in the amount of \$174,080 for N. Coles/Lanci/Roland loop
 - d. EV Charging Stations – the costs to use the state contract (Flow) are very high, the next step would be to go out for bids.
 - e. Municipal building renovation work is being scoped out.
4. Site Plan – one application
- a. Route 73 South was a tile/stone business and now will be fitness training. Going to Zoning Board.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION TO ADJOURN UNTIL TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR
NOVEMBER 30, 2023, AT 6:30 PM

Motion (7:40 pm): Schmidt Second: Volpe All in Favor: yes

Notice is being forwarded in accordance with The Open Public Meetings Act – 11/7/23.