BOROUGH OF METUCHEN COUNCIL MINUTES February 13, 2023 7:30 PM

The Regular Meeting of the Borough Council was held in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall on Monday, February 13, 2023.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by Mayor Busch.

Adequate Notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act, pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice was sent to the Home News Tribune and Star Ledger on December 21, 2022, posted in Borough Hall, and on file in the Clerk's Office. All requirements of the "Open Public Meetings Act" have been satisfied.

Mayor Busch asked all to rise for the flag salute.

Roll Call

Mayor Busch asked for a roll call.

Present were Councilmembers Branch, Hirsch, Hyman, Kandel, Rasmussen, Council President Delia, and Mayor Busch. Also present were Borough Administrator Melissa Perilstein, Borough Clerk Deborah Zupan, and Borough Attorney Denis Murphy.

Agenda Session

Council President Delia made a motion to open the Agenda Session, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 6-0.

Council President Delia pulled Resolutions 2023-77 to 2023-79 from the New Business Consent Agenda and asked that they be moved to follow the Agenda Session.

With no other actions taken, Council President Delia made a motion to close the Agenda Session, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 6-0.

Police Promotions and Oaths of Office

Council President Delia made a motion to approve Resolutions 2023-77 to 2023-79, second by Councilmember Rasmussen. Mayor Busch asked for a roll call vote

Roll Call: Yeas: Branch, Hirsch, Hyman, Kandel, Rasmussen, Delia

Nays: None

With all in favor, motion carried, 6-0.

RESOLUTION 2023-77

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PROMOTION OF ROBERT BELLUSCIO TO CAPTAIN OF OPERATIONS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Metuchen that Robert Belluscio is hereby promoted to Captain of Operations in the Metuchen Police Department for the Borough of Metuchen, Middlesex County, State of New Jersey in accordance with law, said appointment being effective February 1, 2023.

RESOLUTION 2023-78

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PROMOTION OF PETER KNOLL TO LIEUTENANT

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Metuchen, that Peter Knoll is hereby promoted to Lieutenant in the Metuchen Police Department for the Borough of Metuchen, Middlesex County, State of New Jersey in accordance with law, and said appointment being effective February 1, 2023.

RESOLUTION 2023-79

RESOLUTION APPOINTING JAH-VEL HENRY TO THE BOROUGH OF METUCHEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, at the request of the Chief of Police, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Metuchen deem it in the best interest of the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Metuchen to hire a full-time officer to the Borough of Metuchen Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Jah-Vel Henry has expressed an interest in an appointment to the Borough of Metuchen Police Department as a full-time police officer; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police, Police Command Staff, and Administrator have reviewed the credentials of, interviewed, and the Chief has conducted the necessary background investigation of Jah-Vel Henry; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Metuchen deem it in the best interest of the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Metuchen Borough of Metuchen to appoint Jah-Vel Henry as a full-time police officer of the Borough of Metuchen effective February 14, 2023.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Metuchen that Jah-Vel Henry is hereby appointed to the Borough of Metuchen Police Department as a full-time police officer effective February 14, 2023 at the starting rate of Police Officer 2st Step.

Mayor Busch administered oaths of office to Officer Jah-Vel Henry, Sergeant James A. Keane, Lieutenant Peter Knoll, and Captain Robert Belluscio.

Donation Presentation

Metuchen Custom Cruisers presented a donation check to Metuchen EMS.

MDA 2023 Budget Presentation

Dawn Mackey, Metuchen Downtown Alliance Executive Director, presented the Alliance's budget for 2023.

Public Comment

Mayor Busch opened Public Comment to any members of the public wishing to speak.

Seeing no one wishing to speak, Mayor Busch closed the Public Comment.

<u>Communications Consent Agenda – Items A - E</u>

Council President Delia made a motion to approve Communications Consent Agenda, Items A - E, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 6-0.

- A. Receive and Accept Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes of June 15, 2022
- B. Receive and Accept Historic Preservation Committee Meeting Minutes of May 26, June 22, September 22, and December 1, 2022
- C. Receive and Accept Human Relations Commission Meeting Minutes of September 6, October 4, November 1, and December 6, 2022
- D. Receive and Accept Parade Commission Meeting Minutes of October 17 and November 14, 2022
- E. Receive and Accept Traffic and Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes of November 9 and December 14, 2022

<u>Ordinances – Introduction</u>

Ordinance 2023-02 ORDINANCE TO SET THE MINIMUM AND

MAXIMUM WAGE RANGES FOR CERTAIN BOROUGH EMPLOYEES, AMENDING ORDINANCE

2022-18

Council President Delia made a motion that Ordinance 2023-02 be introduced and be taken up on first reading, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 6-0.

Council President Delia asked that Ordinance 2023-02 be read by title only.

Ms. Zupan read Ordinance 2023-02 by title only.

Council President Delia moved that Ordinance 2023-02 be passed on first reading, be published according to law, and a public hearing be set down for Monday, March 6, 2023, second by Councilmember Rasmussen.

Roll Call: Yeas: Branch, Hirsch, Hyman, Kandel, Rasmussen, Delia

Nays: None

Ordinance 2023-02 was passed on first reading, 6-0, and will be published according to law.

Ordinance 2023-03 ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF METUCHEN

ADOPTING A FURTHER AMENDMENT TO THE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR BLOCK 71, LOT 37.01 & 37.02 WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF METUCHEN, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Council President Delia made a motion that Ordinance 2023-03 be introduced and be taken up on first reading, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 6-0.

Council President Delia asked that Ordinance 2023-03 be read by title only.

Ms. Zupan read Ordinance 2023-03 by title only.

Council President Delia moved that Ordinance 2023-03 be passed on first reading, be published according to law, and a public hearing be set down for Monday, March 6, 2023, second by Councilmember Rasmussen.

Roll Call: Yeas: Branch, Hirsch, Hyman, Kandel, Rasmussen, Delia

Nays: None

Ordinance 2023-03 was passed on first reading, 6-0, and will be published according to law.

Report of Borough Administrator

Ms. Perilstein reminded all residents that the following Monday would be a federal holiday which affects garbage pickup.

Reports of Councilmembers

Council President Delia

- No report.

Councilmember Rasmussen

- The Shade Tree Commission recently welcomed a new member and is now busy compiling information for their annual report to the State. There is a resolution on tonight's agenda to award a contract for Spring planting.
- The Environmental Commission meets Thursday and will be discussing the Sustainable Jersey application.
- Tax preparation appointments are still available at the Senior Center, please visit the Borough website for details.

Councilmember Kandel

- After consultations with the Fire Department and EMS, we are ready to move forward to the design phase of the new Emergency Services Center.

Councilmember Hyman

- The Parade Commission met and discussed ways to improve upon the well-attended Christmas Tree and Menorah lightings for next year. The Memorial Day Parade will be Monday, May 29 at 10:00 a.m. with the theme "Coming Home."

Councilmember Hirsch

- The next meting of the Library Board will be tomorrow, February 14, at the Library at 7:00 p.m. The Metuchen Seed Library will be launched soon. It includes free seed packets of flowers, vegetables, and herbs to anyone who is interested. There will be a Valentine's Day Book Tasting program on February 18, where Teen Advisory Board members will serve a variety of genre menus to book lovers for this program. The Library will host "Local History Day" February 19, presented by the Metuchen-Edison Historical Society. The first author discussion this year is with Anita Bakshi, from Rutgers Landscaping Architecture, who will lead a discussion on "Our Land, Our Stories," with a documentary screening of "The Meaning of the Seed" on February 25.

Councilmember Branch

- Please visit 'Coffee with a Councilmember' at Cai's on March 13.
- In honor of Black History Month, the Human Relations Commission is presenting a community conversation at the Y. The program, to be held on February 23, is about the Montfort Point Marines, the first Black Marine Squad.
- The Arts Council will host a Jazz event at Hailey's Parlor tomorrow, February 14. On March 11 there will be a Windows of Understanding art gallery reception at the Berkshire Hathaway Offices.
- Registration for the Daddy-Daughter Dance and Mother-Son Bowling in now open on the Recreation Department website.

Report of the Mayor

Mayor Busch reiterated Councilmember Kandel's comments about the Fire Department and EMS coming to an agreement regarding the new Emergency Services Center, and stated how much the hard work of both groups is appreciated. The Mayor will be at the Senior Center tomorrow, Valentine's Day, for Bagels and Bingo with the Seniors. Thanks to Rick and Wendi at Recreation and the Senior Center for pulling this together so quickly.

New Business Consent Agenda – Resolutions 2023-80 to 2023-89

Council President Delia moved to approve New Business Consent Agenda Resolutions 2023-80 to 2023-89, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 6-0.

RESOLUTION 2023-80

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2023 TEMPORARY BUDGET

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-19 of the Local Budget Act provides that temporary appropriations shall be made for the purposes and amounts required in the manner and time therein provided.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the following additional temporary emergency appropriations shall be made for the year 2023, effective February 13, 2023:

y appropriations shall be made for the year 2023, effective February 13, 2023:			
Police	OE	20,000.00	
Mayor & Council	S & W	8,000.00	
Uniform Fire Safety	S & W	10,000.00	
Sewer	OE	8,000.00	
Recycling	OE	10,000.00	
Recreation	OE	3,000.00	
Joint Insurance Fund		20,000.00	
Administrative & Executive	S & W	14,000.00	
Financial Administration	S & W	50,000.00	
Fire	S & W	3,000.00	
Municipal Clerk	S & W	8,000.00	
Court	S & W	20,000.00	
Senior Bus	S & W	3,000.00	
Senior Citizen Center	S & W	4,000.00	
Zoning	S & W	5,000.00	
Public Works Administration	S & W	80,000.00	
Buildings & Grounds	S & W	12,000.00	
Forestry	S & W	10,000.00	
Garbage & Trash	S & W	60,000.00	
Parks & Playgrounds	S & W	10,000.00	
Sewers	S & W	15,000.00	
Streets & Roads	S & W	12,000.00	
Police	S & W	400,000.00	
Construction Code	S & W	30,000.00	
Defined Contribution Retirement Plan		4,000.00	
Social Security		60,000.00	
PERS		534,457.00	
PFRS		1,195,117.00	
Streets & Roads	OE	20,000.00	
	TOTAL	\$2,628,574.00	

RESOLUTION 2023-81

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A WINDOW CONTRACT FOR BOROUGH AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Borough of Metuchen has a need to acquire the services of a Borough Affordable Housing Administrative Agent using a non-fair and open, now known as required disclosure process pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer/Qualified Purchasing Agent anticipates that the value of the services rendered will exceed \$17,500.00 but will be under the bid threshold of \$44,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated term of this contract is calendar year 2023; and

WHEREAS, CGP&H, LLC has submitted a proposal dated January 30, 2023 indicating they will perform affordable housing administrative agent services for the Borough of Metuchen; and

WHEREAS, CGP&H, LLC has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that CGP&H, LLC has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Metuchen in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit CGP&H, LLC from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the maximum amount of the contract is \$25,000.00 and the Chief Financial Officer has certified that there are sufficient funds for such contract and is available and is designated from 2023 Temporary Budget and 2023 Adopted Budget Administrative & Executive, Professional Services Account number 3-01-20-701-028 for these services.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Metuchen as follows:

- 1. The Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute an agreement with the CGP&H, LLC., 1249 South River Road, Suite 301, Cranbury, NJ 08512.
- 2. The Business Disclosure Entity Certification be placed on file with this resolution.
- 3. A notice of this action shall be printed once in The Home News Tribune.

RESOLUTION 2023-82

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A WINDOW CONTRACT FOR A SPRING 2023 TREE PLANTING CONTRACT

WHEREAS there exists a need for planting of trees in the Borough of Metuchen, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Metuchen has solicited quotes for tree planting using a fair and open process, with three vendor solicitations issued and one written quote returned; and

WHEREAS, the amount for the tree planting is under the bid threshold as set by New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq, but above \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of Funds is made authorizing the award for a Spring 2023 tree planting in the amount not to exceed \$19,081.00 from the Other Trust – Reserve for Planting Trees, Account Number T-16-56-876-880; and

WHEREAS, this procurement is awarded under N.J.S.A. 19:44A20.4 et seq. using a fair and open process to New Jersey Tree Foundation Inc.., who submitted the lowest, compliant quote for the 2023 Spring Tree Planting Project for the Borough of Metuchen.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Metuchen, in the County of Middlesex as follows:

1. The Chief Financial Officer and Borough Administrator are hereby authorized and directed to approve and forward a Purchase Order to New Jersey Tree Foundation Inc., 576 Leesville Road, Jackson, NJ, 08818-0682.

RESOLUTION 2023-83

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A WINDOW CONTRACT FOR SCBA DECONTAMINATION WASHER FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, there exists a need to acquire a SCBA (Air Pack) decontamination washer for the Fire Department in the Borough of Metuchen, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Metuchen and has solicited written quotes for the purchase of a SCBA (Air Pack) decontamination washer for the Fire Department, using a fair and open process; and

WHEREAS, three written quotes were obtained, and the lowest written quote received to purchase the SCBA (Air Pack) decontamination washer with accessories and installation is under the bid threshold as set by New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq, but above \$17,500.00 and is subject to vendor compliance with N.J.A.C. 10:5-31 et seq and N.J.A.C. 17-27; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of Funds is made authorizing the award for the SCBA (Air Pack) decontamination washer with accessories and installation in the Borough of Metuchen in the amount not to exceed \$33,414.00 from a NJ DCA Volunteer Fire Department Renovation/Decontamination Grant Appropriation G-02-41-788-312.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Metuchen, in the County of Middlesex as follows:

1. The Chief Financial Officer and Borough Administrator are hereby authorized and directed to approve and forward a Purchase Order to Dival Safety Equipment Inc., Mid-Atlantic Fire & Air, a division of Dival Safety Equipment, Inc., 1721 Niagara Street, Buffalo, NJ 14207.

RESOLUTION 2023-84

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD FOR AUTOMOTIVE LUBRICANTS THROUGH STATE CONTRACT

WHEREAS, there exists a need for various automotive lubricants for Public Works fleet vehicles the Borough of Metuchen, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, this can be purchased through State Contract T0097 Automotive Lubricants, Master Blanket Purchase Order 20-FLEET-01343 and

WHEREAS, said contract is in effect from November 20, 2020 through November 19, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the maximum amount for various automotive lubricants for Borough

fleet vehicles for the Borough of Metuchen is \$20,000.00 and funds are anticipated to be available in the 2023 Temporary budget and 2023 Adopted budget as certified by the Chief Financial Officer and that there is sufficient funds for such award and is available and is designated from Account number Streets & Roads-Vehicle Maintenance & Repair, 3-01-20-765-025 for these services; and

WHEREAS, the authorization to purchase goods and services under this award expires on November 19, 2023; and

WHEREAS, public bids are not required when the purchase is under a state contract in accordance with 40A:11-12 of the Local Public Contracts Law.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Metuchen, in the County of Middlesex as follows:

2. The Chief Financial Officer and Borough Administrator are hereby authorized and directed to approve and forward a Purchase Order to David Weber Oil Co., 601 Industrial Road, Carlstadt, NJ, 07072.

RESOLUTION 2023-85

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LIEN REDEMPTION

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector received the necessary amount to redeem the following Tax Sale Certificate on the following property:

Cert #	Block/Lot	Address	<u>Lienholder</u>
20-00006	183/79	59 Carlton Road	Pro Cap 8 FBO Firstrust Bank

RESOLUTION 2023-86

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT OF 2022 TAXES

WHEREAS, the following has made an overpayment of taxes;

Name	Block/Lot	Address	Amount		Year
Johnson A &	215/24	54 Myrtle Ave	\$2,956.87	1 2	2nd qtr. 2022
Zimmerman, J -				refinance	
Trustees					

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the above listed former property owner or agent be refunded property taxes as described in the amount of \$2,956.87.

RESOLUTION 2023-87

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND ADOPTING THE CENTRAL JERSEY MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND'S 2023 SAFETY INCENTIVE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Borough of Metuchen is a member of the Central Jersey Municipal Joint Insurance Fund (CENTRAL JIF); and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the CENTRAL JIF to achieve the best and most practical degree of freedom from accidents and / or injuries; and

- **WHEREAS**, the CENTRAL JIF endeavors to ensure that all of their members' employees, volunteers and public are provided with a safe and healthy environment, free from any recognized hazards; and
- **WHEREAS**, the CENTRAL JIF endeavors to ensure that all of their members are in compliance with applicable safety and health requirements; and
- **WHEREAS**, the CENTRAL JIF's Safety Committee is made up of representatives of the Fund's Municipalities, along with the professionals employed by the Fund; and
- **WHEREAS**, the new Program will assist all the Central JIF members in becoming or maintaining compliance with all Public Employees Occupational Safety and Health (PEOSH) Requirements; and
- **WHEREAS**, the CENTRAL JIF has adopted the new 2023 SAFETY INCENTIVE PROGRAM which should succeed in providing a safe, healthful and pleasant environment.
- **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Borough Council of the Borough of Metuchen, in the County of Middlesex State of New Jersey that the Central Jersey Municipal Joint Insurance Fund SAFETY INCENTIVE PROGRAM be adopted by the Borough of Metuchen.

RESOLUTION 2023-88

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF METUCHEN PLANNING BOARD TO REVIEW A PROPOSED FURTHER AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDED REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR BLOCK 71, LOT 37.01 & 37.02 WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF METUCHEN, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

- **WHEREAS,** pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 40A:12A-1 <u>et seq.</u> (the "LRHL"), Resolution #2015-147 of the Borough of Metuchen Council (the "Borough Council"), declared Block 71, Lot 37.01 within the Borough of Metuchen as a Non-Condemnation "Area in Need of Redevelopment" (the "Redevelopment Area"); and
- **WHEREAS,** the Borough Council, pursuant to Resolution #2020-50, designated the entire Borough of Metuchen, County of Middlesex (the "Borough" or "Rehabilitation Area") an "Area in Need of Rehabilitation" pursuant to the LRHL; and
- **WHEREAS**, in order to facilitate the redevelopment of the Redevelopment Area, the Council adopted Ordinance #2018-24 Adopting the "Redevelopment Plan for Block 71, Lot 37.01 Within The Borough Of Metuchen, County Of Middlesex, State Of New Jersey", ("Original Redevelopment Plan") after review by the Borough Planning Board (the "Planning Board"), pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-7; and
- WHEREAS, based upon the designation of the entirety of the Borough as a Rehabilitation Area and a desire to refine the permitted uses and standards of review within the Original Redevelopment Plan and to include Lot 37.02, Block 71 within the Amended Redevelopment Plan in order to appropriately effectuate the comprehensive rehabilitation and redevelopment of Lot 37.01 and 37.02 within Block 71, the Council adopted Ordinance #2021-15 adopting the "Amended Oakite Site Redevelopment Plan for Block 71, Lots 37.01 & 37.02; and
- **WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-7, a governing body may adopt, revise or amend a redevelopment plan; and
- **WHEREAS**, based upon the determination of the Borough Council to allow certain types of Cannabis facilities to be located within the Borough, consideration has been given to allowing one (1) Class 5 Retail Cannabis Operator to locate within the Oakite Site Redevelopment/Rehabilitation Area, specifically on Parcel A within Lot 37.01 only; and
- WHEREAS, in order to facilitate the overall development, redevelopment, and rehabilitation of the Borough, the Borough Council has determined it is in the Borough's best

interest to adopt this amendment to Section 5.0 of the "Amended Oakite Site Redevelopment Plan Block 71, Lot 37.01 & 37.02" to allow for one (1) Class 5 Retail Cannabis Operator to be located on Parcel A within Lot 37.01 only, which will support and promote the overall development, redevelopment, and rehabilitation of the Redevelopment and Rehabilitation Areas; and

WHEREAS, the Redevelopment Plan provides a more specific plan for the planning, development, redevelopment, and rehabilitation of Parcel A, within Block 71, Lot 37.01 within the Borough for purposes of improving conditions within the Redevelopment and Rehabilitation Areas; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A</u>. 40A:12A-7, the Borough Council hereby refers Ordinance 2023-03, which further amends the "Amended Oakite Site Redevelopment Plan, Block 71, Lots 37.01 & 37.02" to the Planning Board for review and a determination of the Amended Redevelopment Plan's consistency with the Borough's Master Plan.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Metuchen, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey:

- 1. That, pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 40A:12A-7, the Borough Council does hereby authorize the Planning Board to review Ordinance 2023-03 which further amends "Amended Oakite Site Redevelopment Plan, Block 71, Lot 37.01 & 37.02" and to report its findings to the Governing Body within forty-five (45) days hereof.
 - 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

RESOLUTION 2023-89

RESOLUTION INTRODUCING AND APPROVING THE SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT/METUCHEN DOWNTOWN ALLIANCE BUDGET FOR 2023

WHEREAS, by way of Ordinance No, 2016-10, the Borough of Metuchen created a Special Improvement District and designated the Metuchen Downtown Alliance as the District Management Corporation as defined in N.J.S.A. 40:56-66(c) for the Special Improvement District; and

WHEREAS, the Metuchen Downtown Alliance submitted to the Mayor and Council a proposed budget for the Year 2023 for consideration and approval; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Metuchen deem it in the best interest of the Borough to introduce and approve the Metuchen Downtown Alliance proposed budget for 2023 for the Special Improvement District, and to fix the time and place for the holding of a public hearing upon the budget.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Metuchen that the following statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the Metuchen Downtown Alliance Budget for the Special Improvement District for the Year 2023:

GENERAL REVENUE

Special Improvement District Contribution	\$250,000.00
Borough Contribution	\$ 75,000.00
Sustain & Serve Administration	\$ 23,600.00
Contributions	
Surplus Funds from Unrestricted Pandemic Era Grants	\$ 23,800.00
Total General Revenue	\$372,400.00

GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS

Total Program Expenses	\$164,300.00
Total General and Administrative Expenses	\$190,600.00
Replenishment of Reserve	\$ 17,500.00

Total Appropriations plus Addition to Reserve \$372,400.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said Budget shall be published in the Home News Tribune prior to the public hearing to be conducted on March 6, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that at the public hearing on said Budget comments and objections to said Budget for the Year 2023 may be presented by Special Improvement District taxpayers, the Metuchen Downtown Alliance Members, or other interested persons or entities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Metuchen that upon the final adoption of the Special Improvement District/Metuchen Downtown Alliance Budget set forth above, it shall constitute an appropriation for the purposes stated in the sums thereof as appropriations in the amount thereof.

Other New Business

R2023-90

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF THE BILL LIST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,936,983.10

Council President Delia made a motion to approve Resolutions 2023-90, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 6-0.

Appointments

Mayor Busch appointed Council President Delia and Councilmember Kandel to the Cannabis Subcommittee. Mayor Busch also appointed former Councilmember Koskoski as his designee. The other members of the Committee according to Borough Code are Borough Administrator Melissa Perilstein and Police Chief Flaherty.

Executive Session

Council President Delia made a motion to approve Resolutions 2023-91, authorizing going into Executive Session for the reason of Attorney-Client privilege, regarding a discussion about the Emergency Services Center, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 6-0. The Executive Session began at 8:21 p.m.

RESOLUTION 2023-91

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION WHICH EXCLUDES THE PUBLIC

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, P. L. 1975, Chapter 231 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of Metuchen is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of Metuchen wishes to discuss:

Matters Involving Attorney-Client Privilege

Minutes will be kept and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes can be made public.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the public be excluded from this meeting.

At 8:42 p.m. Council President Delia made a motion to return to the Regular Meeting, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 6-0.

Adjournment

Council President Delia made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, 6-0, the meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah Zupan, RMC, Borough Clerk