BOROUGH OF METUCHEN COUNCIL MINUTES
January 17, 2024
7:30 PM

The Regular Meeting of the Borough Council was held in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall on January 17, 2024.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Council President Delia.

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 published in the Home News Tribune on December 19, 2023, posted in Borough Hall, and on file in the Clerk's Office. All requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been satisfied.

Council President Delia asked for a moment of silence to honor the passing of Metuchen High School student Olivia Rodriguez.

Council President Delia asked for all to rise for the flag salute.

Roll Call

Council President Delia asked for a roll call.

Present were Councilmembers Branch, Hyman, Jethwani, Kandel, and Council President Delia. Councilmember Giamboi and Mayor Busch were absent. Also present were Melissa Perilstein, Borough Administrator, and Deborah Zupan, Borough Clerk. Borough Attorney Denis Murphy was absent; Louis Karp attended in his place.

Agenda Session

Councilmember Kandel made a motion to open the Agenda Session, second by Councilmember Branch, with all in favor, motion carried, 5-0.

With no action taken, Councilmember Kandel made a motion to close the Agenda Session, second by Councilmember Branch, with all in favor, motion carried, 5-0.

Swearing In of Police Officers

Councilmember Kandel made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-61, appointing Brandon C. Audet to the Borough of Metuchen Police Department, second by Councilmember Branch, with all in favor, motion carried, 5-0.

Borough Clerk Deborah Zupan administered the Oath of Office for Brandon C. Audet.

RESOLUTION 2024-61

RESOLUTION APPOINTING BRANDON C. AUDET 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, Brandon C. Audet 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 Brandon C. Audet; 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 Brandon C. Audet as a full-time police officer of the Borough of Metuchen effective January 17, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Metuchen that Brandon C. Audet is hereby appointed to the Borough of Metuchen Police Department as a full-time police officer effective January 17, 2024 at the starting rate of Police Officer 2nd Step.

Councilmember Kandel made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-62, appointing Diana Roland to the Borough of Metuchen Police Department, second by Councilmember Branch, with all in favor, motion carried, 5-0.

Borough Clerk Deborah Zupan administered the Oath of Office for Diana Roland.

Chief Flaherty said a few words about each of the new officers.

RESOLUTION 2024-62

RESOLUTION APPOINTING DIANA ROLAND 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, Diana Roland 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 Diana Roland; 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 Diana Roland as a full-time police officer of the Borough of Metuchen effective January 17, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Metuchen that Diana Roland is hereby appointed to the Borough of Metuchen Police Department as a full-time police officer effective January 17, 2024 at the starting rate of Police Officer 1st Step.

Public Comment

Council President Delia opened Public Comment to any members of the public wishing to speak.

Linda LaStella, 242 Amboy Avenue, thanked the new and re-elected elected officials for serving the Borough. Ms. LaStella noted that while Metuchen is a special place to all of us, it was also the home of indigenous people for thousands of years. Ms. LaStella asked that we begin to open every formal Borough gathering with a land acknowledgement, a statement reminding all whose land this had been. Ms. LaStella also requested that we celebrate November as Native American Heritage Month.

Council President Delia noted that Council had asked the Human Relations Commission to research this topic for a Metuchen Land Acknowledgement statement.

Seeing no one else wishing to speak, Council President Delia closed the Public Comment.

Borough Council Meeting Minutes

Councilmember Kandel made a motion to approve Borough Council Meeting Minutes of November 13, 2023, second by Councilmember Branch. Councilmember Jethwani abstained from voting. With all others in favor, motion carried, 4-0.

Communications Consent Agenda – Items A - D

Councilmember Kandel made a motion to approve Communications Consent Agenda Items A through D, second by Councilmember Branch, with all in favor, motion carried, 5-0.

A. Receive and Accept Arts Council Meeting Minutes of October 16, 2023
B. Receive and Accept Human Relations Commission Meeting Minutes of May 2, June 6, and July 11, 2023
C. Receive and Accept Pool Commission Meeting Minutes of November 21, 2023
D. Receive and Accept Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes of October 4 and November 7, 2023.

Ordinances – Public Hearing

Ord. 2024-01	ORDINANCE TO AMEND §110-201 (ESTABLISHMENT; MEMBERSHIP) IN ARTICLE 51 (ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT), IN PART V (ORGANIZATION, POWERS AND PROCEDURE) IN CHAPTER 110 (LAND DEVELOPMENT) OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF METUCHEN TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF ALTERNATE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD TO FOUR ALTERNATE MEMBERS

Councilmember Kandel asked that Ordinance 2024-01 be read by title only.

Ms. Zupan read Ordinance 2024-01 by title only.

Council President Delia opened the public hearing on Ordinance 2024-01.

Seeing no one wishing to speak, Council President Delia closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Kandel made a motion to pass Ordinance 2024-01 on second reading and be published according to law, second by Councilmember Branch.

Council President Delia asked for a roll call vote.

Roll Call:	Yeas:	Branch, Hyman, Jethwani, Kandel, Delia
	Nays:	None

Ordinance 2024-01 was adopted, 5-0.

ORDINANCE 2024-01

Borough of Metuchen
County of Middlesex
State of New Jersey

ORDINANCE TO AMEND § 110-201 (ESTABLISHMENT; MEMBERSHIP) IN ARTICLE 51 (ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT), IN PART V (ORGANIZATION, POWERS AND PROCEDURE) IN CHAPTER 110 (LAND DEVELOPMENT) OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF METUCHEN TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF ALTERNATE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD TO FOUR ALTERNATE MEMBERS

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF METCUHEN:

SECTION 1. § 110-201 (Establishment; Membership) in Article 51 (Zoning Board of Adjustment), in Part V (Organization, Powers and Procedure) in Chapter 110 (Land Development) of the Code of the Borough of Metuchen is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 110-201. Establishment; membership

There is hereby established, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:55-69, a Zoning Board of Adjustment consisting of seven regular members and four alternate members as hereinafter provided.

A. Regular members: Seven residents of the Borough who shall be nominated by the Mayor subject to confirmation, following advice and consent, by the Borough Council in the manner provided for other appointments under the Borough Act, as set forth at N.J.S.A. 40A:60-5(g) and N.J.S.A. 40A:60-6(d). Regular members shall serve for a term of four years

B. Alternate members: Not more than four alternate members to be appointed by the Mayor. Such alternate members shall be designated by the Mayor as "Alternate No. 1," "Alternate No. 2," Alternate No. 3," and Alternate No. 4." Alternate members may participate in discussions of the proceedings, but may not vote except in the absence or disqualification of a regular member. In the event that a choice must be made as to which alternate member is to vote, Alternate No. 1 shall vote, then Alternate No. 2, etc. A vote shall not be delayed in order that a regular member may vote instead of an alternate member. Alternate members shall meet the qualifications pertaining to regular members of the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Alternate members shall serve for a term of two years, except that the terms of no more than two alternate members shall expire in any one year.

SECTION 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 3. If any portion of this ordinance shall be determined to be invalid, such determination shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of said ordinance.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in accordance with law and upon filing with the Middlesex County Planning Board.

Ord. 2024-02 BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING A BOND ORDINANCE FINALLY ADOPTED APRIL 10, 2023 BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF METUCHEN, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR CHANGES THEREIN

Councilmember Kandel asked that Ordinance 2024-02 be read by title only.

Ms. Zupan read Ordinance 2024-02 by title only.

Council President Delia opened the public hearing on Ordinance 2024-02.

Seeing no one wishing to speak, Council President Delia closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Kandel made a motion to pass Ordinance 2024-02 on second reading and be published according to law, second by Councilmember Branch.

Council President Delia asked for a roll call vote.

Roll Call: Yeas: Branch, Hyman, Jethwani, Kandel, Delia
Nays: None

Ordinance 2024-02 was adopted, 5-0.

ORDINANCE 2024-02

Borough of Metuchen
County of Middlesex
State of New Jersey

BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING A BOND ORDINANCE FINALLY ADOPTED APRIL 10, 2023 BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF METUCHEN, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR CHANGES THEREIN

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF METUCHEN, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (the "Borough) (not less than two-thirds of all the members thereof affirmatively concurring), AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The bond ordinance of the Borough, finally adopted April 10, 2023 and entitled, "Bond Ordinance Appropriating $2,913,615 and Authorizing $2,355,000 Bonds or Notes of the Borough for Various Improvements and Purposes Authorized to be Undertaken by the Borough of Metuchen, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey" (the "Original Ordinance"), is hereby amended as follows:

(i) all references in the Original Ordinance to the appropriation or cost of "$2,913,655" are hereby deleted and "$3,383,892" is substituted in lieu thereof.

(ii) all references in the Original Ordinance to the down payment of "$125,000" are hereby deleted and "$595,277" is substituted in lieu thereof.

Section 2. All other details of the Original Ordinance shall remain the same.

Section 3. This bond ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law, constituting Chapter 2 of Title 40A of the New Jersey Revised Statutes.

Ordinances - Introduction

Ord. 2024-03 ORDINANCE AMENDING § 185-23 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF METUCHEN ESTABLISHING A MULTIWAY STOP INTERSECTION (THREE WAY) AT CENTER STREET AND DURHAM AVENUE

Councilmember Kandel asked that Ordinance 2024-03 be read by title only.

Ms. Zupan read Ordinance 2024-03 by title only.

Councilmember Kandel moved that Ordinance 2024-03 be passed on first reading, be published according to law, and a public hearing be set down for Monday, January 29, 2024, second by Councilmember Branch.

Council President Delia asked for a roll call vote.

Roll Call: Yeas: Branch, Hyman, Jethwani, Kandel, Delia
Nays: None

Ordinance 2024-03 was passed on first reading, 5-0, and will be published according to law.

Ord. 2024-04 ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF METUCHEN AND THE COMPOSITION OF THE SENIOR CITIZENS COMMISSION DECREASING ITS MEMBERSHIP FROM ELEVEN (11) MEMBERS TO NINE (9) MEMBERS

Councilmember Kandel asked that Ordinance 2024-04 be read by title only.

Ms. Zupan read Ordinance 2024-04 by title only.

Councilmember Kandel moved that Ordinance 2024-04 be passed on first reading, be published according to law, and a public hearing be set down for Monday, January 29, 2024, second by Councilmember Branch.

Council President Delia asked for a roll call vote.

Roll Call: Yeas: Branch, Hyman, Jethwani, Kandel, Delia
Nays: None

Ordinance 2024-04 was passed on first reading, 5-0, and will be published according to law.

Ord. 2024-05 ORDINANCE AMENDING § 124-28(B)(1) OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF METUCHEN CHANGING THE DESIGNATED OFFICAL TO OBTAIN AND SUBMIT APPLICATIONS FOR PERMITS FOR THE USE OF BOROUGH FIELDS FROM THE BOROUGH CLERK TO THE RECREATION DIRECTOR

Councilmember Kandel asked that Ordinance 2024-05 be read by title only.

Ms. Zupan read Ordinance 2024-05 by title only.

Councilmember Kandel moved that Ordinance 2024-05 be passed on first reading, be published according to law, and a public hearing be set down for Monday, January 29, 2024, second by Councilmember Branch.

Council President Delia asked for a roll call vote.

Roll Call: Yeas: Branch, Hyman, Jethwani, Kandel, Delia
Nays: None

Ordinance 2024-05 was passed on first reading, 5-0, and will be published according to law.

Reports Of Council Members

Council President Delia reported that the Traffic and Transportation Committee met this month and welcomed a new member, and that the Parking Authority met yesterday. He also reported that he had visited the Senior Center to talk about parking changes, and how to use the meters and app.

Councilmember Kandel reported that the Historic Preservation Committee continues to be concerned about the demolition of potentially historic structures and had been discussing potential options to address this matter. He noted that the Pool Commission had recently discussed equipment that is in need of replacement or repair, and that they have been working to make sure Summer 2024 is a great season. The Pool Commission also discussed improving entertainment options at the pool and ways to increase revenue.

Councilmember Jethwani reported on upcoming Library events including an art show at the Library Gallery, a jazz documentary film, and their annual Lunar New Year celebration. Councilmember Jethwani noted that, at the January Library Board meeting, Library Director Hsihsi Chung announced her retirement.

Councilmember Hyman reposted that the first Board of Health had been rescheduled for the following week, and the first Parade Commission meeting was delayed as well due to weather. She reported that the CARES Committee has plans for an exciting year ahead, including an educational campaign through social media, a program for senior citizens on maintaining a healthy mind, purchasing materials for a teen issues collection at the Library. The Committee also met with parents regarding planning for Project Graduation.

Councilmember Branch reported that, along with Councilmember Hyman, he attended a special service at New Hope Baptist Church over Martin Luther King weekend. He thanked Reverend Ownes for planning this interdenominational event every year. Councilmember Branch noted that the Human Relations Commission, Recreation Commission, and Arts Council have all had their initial meetings to discuss programming for the upcoming year.

New Business Consent Agenda – Resolutions 2024-63 to 2024-71

Councilmember Kandel moved to approve New Business Consent Agenda Resolutions 2024-63 to 2024-71, second by Councilmember Branch, with all in favor, motion carried, 5-0.

RESOLUTION 2024-63

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BID AWARD FOR 2023 ROAD PROGRAM

WHEREAS, fourteen (14) bids were received by the Borough Clerk, Borough Engineer, Qualified Purchasing Agent, and Borough Administrator on or before November 22, 2023, for the 2023 Road Program for the Borough of Metuchen: and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has reviewed the letter of recommendation made by the Borough Engineer on said bid, dated November 22, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the maximum amount of award for the 2023 Road Program is $1,953,033.29 for various roads to include Wakefield Drive, Lexington Drive, Concord Avenue, Prospect Street, Mayfield Place, High Street, Waltham Avenue, Beechwood Avenue, Homestead Road, and Penn Avenue parking lot. Funds are available in the 2023 Capital Bond Ordinance 2023-07 as certified by the Chief Finance Officer. Sufficient funds are designated from Capital Bond Ordinance 2023-07, Account C-04-55-939-012 in the amount of $433,615.00, C-04-55-939-013 in the amount of $1,364,418.29 and C-04-939-014 in the amount of $155,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Metuchen, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that the contract for the 2023 Road Program be and the same is hereby awarded to lowest responsible bidder, Top Line Construction Group., 22 5th Street, Somerville, NJ 08876; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and the Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the contract for the same, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the certified check or bid bond of the successful bidder and the next lowest bidders be returned upon the receipt of a fully executed contract and other required documents to:

1. P & A Construction, Inc., P.O. Box 28, Colonia, NJ 07067
2. American Asphalt & Trucking LLC, 818 Summer Avenue, Newark, NJ 07104
3. Fischer Contracting Inc., 10 Short Hills Lane, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076

RESOLUTION 2024-64

RESOLUTION AMENDING CERTAIN POSITIONS AND SALARIES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2024

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Metuchen that the pay of each officer and employee whose pay range is established under Ordinance 2023-25 and amendments thereto and who is not covered by a collective bargaining agreement is hereby set for the calendar year commencing January 1, 2024, as follows:

FULL TIME POLICE COMMAND STAFF:

3.0% increase on 2023 base salary:

Police Chief
Police Captain
Police Lieutenant

FULL TIME/PART TIME OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES:

Adjustment to base salary

Multi-Media & Communication Director

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no officer or employee shall be paid at a rate which is above the maximum rate for any salary range in any of the aforementioned groups; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that unless otherwise provided for all new employees or newly promoted employees shall be paid at the minimum rate of the salary range for the position to which they are hired. However, the Borough Administrator may hire a prospective employee who possesses qualifications for the position at a rate above the minimum rate, but in no case shall a new employee be hired at a rate which is greater than that of a current employee in the same range.

RESOLUTION 2024-65

RESOLUTION GRANTING AUTHORIZATION TO CONTINUE PARTICIPATION IN A COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM WITH OMNIA PARTNERS

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et. seq. authorizes contracting units to enter into Cooperative purchasing Agreements; and,

WHEREAS, in July of 2012 the Borough of Metuchen passed a resolution which authorized the Borough of Metuchen to enter into the cooperative purchasing programs of National Intergovernmental Purchasing Alliance Company ("National IPA"); and,

WHEREAS, the Borough has learned that since the adoption of the aforementioned resolutions and the Borough's participation in these National Cooperative Purchasing Programs that National IPA and US Communities have merged to form OMNIA Partners, Public Sector; and,

WHEREAS, the OMNIA Partners, Public Sector (hereinafter the "Lead Agency") has offered voluntary participation in a Cooperative Purchasing System for purchase of goods and services; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Metuchen wishes to remain members of the OMNIA Partners, Public Sector Cooperative Purchasing program; and,

WHEREAS, Borough Council of the Borough of Metuchen, in the County of Middlesex as follows to participate in the OMNIA Partners, Public Sector Cooperative Purchasing program and authorizes the execution of a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency upon its approval by the Division of Local Government Services.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5)*, the Qualified Purchasing Agent on behalf of the Borough of Metuchen is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that OMNIA Partners, Public Sector Cooperative as Lead Agency is expected to comply with the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et. seq and all of the provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey); and

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

Three (3) certified copies of this OMNIA Partners, 5001 Aspen Grove Drive, Franklin, TN 37067.

RESOLUTION 2024-66

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #1 AND FINAL CONTRACT DECREASE FOR P & A CONSTRUCTION, INC. – 2022 ROAD PROGRAM

WHEREAS, a Roads and Improvement project has been approved in a contract between the Mayor and Council and P & A Construction, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, on December 12, 2023, Colliers Engineering & Design submitted an email to the Borough approving Final Net Change Order decrease to the Borough of **$19,073.29**; and

WHEREAS, the decrease to the Borough for Final Net Change Order is **$19,073.29.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Metuchen that the proper officials are hereby authorized to execute the said attached Final Net Change Order.

RESOLUTION 2024-67

RESOLUTION REPEALING RESOLUTION 2024-48

WHEREAS, Resolution 2024-48 was enacted on January 1, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the resolution as passed did not contain the correct vendor for the services described.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Metuchen, in the County of Middlesex repeals Resolution 2024-48.

RESOLUTION 2024-68

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SOMERSET COUNTY COOPERATIVE CONTRACT FOR RECAPPING TIRES

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

WHEREAS, recapping tires can be purchased through Bid #2-Scoop-Contract #CC-0016-23 year two Recapping Tire & Solid Tire Replacement contract award; and

WHEREAS, the term of the contract is from June 13, 2023 to June 12, 2024, awarded as the first year of a two year contract; and

WHEREAS, the authorization for purchases for recapping of tires only under this award expires on June 12, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer's certification of funds is made authorizing the award for recapping of tires in an amount not to exceed $13,000.00 for the year 2024 from the 2024 Temporary Budget and 2024 Adopted budget appropriation line item Account number Garbage & Trash, Tires 4-01-26-774-185 in the amount of $13,000.00; and

WHEREAS, Somerset County Cooperative shall be responsible for complying with the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of

Metuchen, in the County of Middlesex as follows:

The Chief Financial Officer and Borough Administrator are hereby authorized and directed to approve and forward a purchase order to Barnwell House of Tires Inc, 65 Jetson Lane, Central Islip, NY 11722.

RESOLUTION 2024-69

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SOMERSET COUNTY COOPERATIVE CONTRACT FOR EQUIPMENT AND TOOL RENTAL

WHEREAS, there exists a need to rent equipment for the operation of sewer pump station(s) in the Borough of Metuchen, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, equipment and tool rental can be purchased through Bid #2-Scoop-Contract #CC-0028-22 year two Equipment & Tool Rental; and

WHEREAS, the term of the contract is from October 24, 2023 to November 23, 2024, awarded as the second year of a two year contract; and

WHEREAS, the authorization for purchases under this award expires on November 23, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer's certification of funds is made authorizing the award to rent equipment and tools for the operation of Borough pump station(s) in an amount not to exceed $16,000.00 from the 2024 Temporary Budget and 2024 Adopted Budget Appropriation Line Sewers, Equipment Maintenance & Repair 4-01-26-773-026 in the amount of $16,000.00; and

WHEREAS, Somerset County Cooperative shall be responsible for complying with the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes.

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

The Chief Financial Officer and Borough Administrator are hereby authorized and directed to approve and forward a purchase order to Pumping Services, Inc., 201 Lincoln Boulevard, Middlesex, NJ 08846.

RESOLUTION 2024-70

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF LANDSCAPING/ENGINEERING BOND 62 PELTIER AVENUE – LANDSCAPING ONLY ASHISH MODI

WHEREAS, Thomas J. DiMartino, Borough Zoning Officer, in an inspection made on September 14th, 2023, has confirmed that the landscaping deficiencies have been rectified; and

WHEREAS, Thomas J. DiMartino, Zoning Officer, has confirmed the compliance of all landscaping conditions and has recommended the full release of the Landscaping and Engineering Performance Guarantee in the amount of a cash bond of $7,000.00, back to the Applicant residing at 62 Peltier Avenue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Metuchen that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to release said Landscaping Bonds of a cash bond in the amount $7,000.00 as recommended and directed by the Borough Zoning Officer to Ashish Modi, 62 Peltier Avenue, Metuchen, NJ 08840.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no maintenance bond is required to be posted.

RESOLUTION 2024-71

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF STREET OPENING BONDS

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Borough of Metuchen Ordinance, $500.00 was posted as the required Performance Guarantee by the contractors named below, for work done at the addresses named below; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Public Works advises that said work has been completed in a manner satisfactory to his department; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Public Works advises the release of the monies previously deposited.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by The Borough Council of the Borough of Metuchen that the Chief Financial Officer be and is hereby authorized to release said funds to the contractors listed below:

Permit Number	Address	Contractor
2022-51	85 Highland Avenue	MJS Excavating, Inc. 131 Madison Ave Rahway NJ 07065
2022-76	8 Ohio Avenue	Halecon, Inc. 136 Billian Street Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Appointments

On behalf of Mayor Busch, Council President Delia recommended the following appointments:

Beverley Wilson to Senior Citizen Commission for the unexpired term ending December 31, 2025
Alice Lemire to Senior Citizen Commission for the unexpired term ending December 31, 2025

Councilmember Kandel made a motion to accept the recommendations of appointment, second by Councilmember Branch, with all in favor, motion carried, 5-0.

Adjournment

Councilmember Kandel made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Councilmember Branch, with all in favor, 5-0, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah Zupan, RMC
Borough Clerk