

NOVEMBER 12, 2024

Mayor Rick Adams called the regular meeting of the Township of Bass River Commission to order on November 12, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

Provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act were complied with as notice was published to the *Courier Post* and the *Atlantic City Press* stating the time, date and place of this meeting.

The following Commission Members were in attendance: Commissioner Jane Allen, Deputy Mayor Louis Bourguignon and Mayor Rick Adams.

Mayor Adams led the salute to the flag.

Mayor Adams had meteorologist Joe Martucci speak on current issues affecting the township like the drought and eventually possible flooding. The governing body thanked him for speaking this evening.

Mr. Bourguignon moved, second by Mrs. Allen that the minutes of the meetings of October 15, 2024 be approved. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of the Commission.

Mrs. Allen read the Court Report for October 2024 a copy of which is on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office for public inspection.

ORDINANCE #8 OF 2024

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS RIVER, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 5.16.030 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS RIVER, ENTITLED "CERTIFICATES OF OCCUPANCY FOR RENTAL UNITS" SO AS TO ESTABLISH A NEW CHAPTER ENTITLED "CERTIFICATES OF APPROVAL FOR RENTAL AND RESALE DWELLINGS"

Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mr. Bourguignon that the meeting be opened for the public hearing on Ordinance #8 of 2024. So moved.

Bill Curtin asked for an explanation on the ordinance.

Mrs. Gleghorn explained prior to this ordinance the township was not issuing a Certificate of Occupancy for the resale of homes only for rentals, now with the shared

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service agreement with the Borough of Tuckerton the township will be requiring a certificate of approval for both resale and rental units.

There being no further comments or questions, Mr. Bourguignon moved, second by Mrs. Allen that the public hearing be closed. So moved.

Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mr. Bourguignon that Ordinance 2024-8 be adopted on second and final reading. It was so moved by the following vote: Yes-Allen, Bourguignon, Adams; No – none; Abstain – none; Absent – none.

ORDINANCE #9 OF 2024

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS RIVER, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 15.04 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE, ENTITLED “STATE UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODES”.

Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mr. Bourguignon that the meeting be opened for the public hearing on Ordinance #9 of 2024. So moved.

There being no comments or questions, Mr. Bourguignon moved, second by Mrs. Allen that the public hearing be closed. So moved.

Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mr. Bourguignon that Ordinance 2024-9 be adopted on second and final reading. It was so moved by the following vote: Yes-Allen, Bourguignon, Adams; No – none; Abstain – none; Absent – none.

ORDINANCE #10 OF 2024

AN ORDINANCE BY THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS RIVER AMENDING TITLE 13, CHAPTER 13.04 OFFSHORE MANOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES

Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mr. Bourguignon that the meeting be opened for the public hearing on Ordinance #10 of 2024. So moved.

Township Solicitor explained this ordinance is increasing the hookup fees for the sewer in Off Shore manner.

There being no further comments or questions, Mr. Bourguignon moved, second by Mrs. Allen that the public hearing be closed. So moved.

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Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mr. Bourguignon that Ordinance 2024-10 be adopted on second and final reading. It was so moved by the following vote: Yes-Allen, Bourguignon, Adams; No – none; Abstain – none; Absent – none.

RESOLUTION #80-24

**RESOLUTION BY THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS
RIVER FOR THE TRANSFERS OF FUNDS IN THE
CURRENT YEAR 2024 BUDGET**

Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mr. Bourguignon that Resolution #80-24 be approved as read. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of the Commission

RESOLUTION #81-24

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS
RIVER, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF
NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF
CLAIMS**

Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mr. Bourguignon that Resolution #81-24 be approved as read. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of the Commission.

RESOLUTION #82-24

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS
RIVER, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF
NEW JERSEY, APPOINTING MAYRA VAZQUEZ-
LOPEZ AS COURT CLERK FOR THE BASS RIVER
MUNICIPAL COURT**

Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mr. Bourguignon that Resolution #82-24 be approved as read. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of the Commission.

Mr. Bourguignon moved, second by Mrs. Allen that the commissioners authorize a change order for 2022/2023 DOT project; which is a reduction in cost of \$2,338.70. It was so moved by the unanimous consent.

Mayor Adams stated the commission is working on the landfill fees and need to continue to monitor the costs and where we can go for 2025.

Mr. Bourguignon thanked the State Police for their help on Election night and Fire Chief Tom Wetmore, West Tuckerton and NJ State Forrest Fire Service for their quick service on a brush fire in the township last week.

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Solicitor's Report:

#8 In-Rem Foreclosure had two leftover complaints that had to be refiled, the firm is looking at beginning #9 In-Rem and the commissioners need to let her firm know how to proceed.

The Mayor stated they would have to contact the CFO and if funds are available they would like to proceed with the two leftover and #9.

Ms. O'Connor went on to explain she will be meeting with the Planning Board Attorney, who will be discussing some zoning changes to allow for Cannabis Distribution and lastly she has been in contact with Riggs regarding the damage done on Route 9 property and they are asking for pictures of the property prior to the project beginning.

RESOLUTION #83-24

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS
RIVER, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF
NEW JERSEY PROVIDING FOR AN EXECUTIVE
SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN
PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT**

Mrs. Allen moved, second by Mr. Bourguignon that Resolution #83-24 be approved as read. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of the Commission.

Mr. Bourguignon moved, second by Mr. Adams that the meeting be opened to the public portion of the meeting. It was so moved.

Carol Bitzburger, Gold Decker Road asked why is it taking so long for the County to fix the bridge on Route 542, she went by there today and no one was working, she doesn't understand why something takes so long.

The commissioners agreed with her, but it's a County job and if there is any questions or concerns they have to be addressed to the County.

Bill Errson, asked what the concrete barriers on Merrygold for and as for Off Shore Manor who owns the properties and if something breaks on the sewage pumps who is responsible to fix them.

The Commissioners said they will get information on the barriers and as far as Off-Shore Manor the town is responsible to fix certain parts and private home owners are responsible for other parts, it depends on what is broken. The Township collects fees to be hooked into the sewer and that should offset any expenditures.

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Phil Naylor 111 North Maple Avenue, thanked the Commissioners for the speed limit signs, but asked if we could still look at getting them permanently put in along North Maple Ave.

Harry Cross, Cub Scouts stated he understands that the Township is no longer allowing anyone to stay on the property currently being occupied by the South Jersey Train Group, but they were already given permission for this upcoming weekend to help with light installation and he requesting the township allow his troop to stay there since they were already granted permission.

The Commissioners authorized the troop to stay there overnight, but for next year they would have to re-evaluate.

Evan Manersi, Bass River Buds, Ishmael Road stated he finally received his approval from the State of New Jersey for growing/distribution of cannabis and he knows that the town will eventually seek for a license from his company, but he is asking that for the first year of the license if the commission would maybe consider waiving of the fee, as with every business startup funds are tight. He thanked them in advance for this consideration.

There being no further comments or questions, Mr. Bourguignon moved, second by Mr. Adams that the public portion be closed. It was so moved.

Mr. Bourguignon moved, second by Mr. Adams that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was unanimously approved at 8:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**JENNY GLEGHORN, RMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK**

Approved:

**WILLIAM "RICK" ADAMS
MAYOR**

