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The Regular Meeting of the Governing Body was called to order by Mayor Michele Dale at 6:30 p.m.

Adequate Notice Statement

Mayor Dale read the following statement:

Pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-8) adequate notice of this Regular Meeting was advertised in the Herald News in and The Record in its issue of January 10, 2023, and posted on the bulletin board in the main corridor of the Town Hall and on file in the Office of the Township Clerk.

Please also make note of all fire and emergency exits – located to the left, right and rear of this room – for use in case of an emergency. Thank you.

Agenda No. I

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Dale led all in attendance in a salute to the flag.

Agenda No. II

Roll Call	
Present:	Councilmembers Michael Chazukow, Marilyn Lichtenberg,
	Kevin Goodsir, Matthew Conlon, David Marsden
Absent:	Ada Erik
Also Present:	Mayor Michele Dale, Township Administrator William Senande,
	Township Attorney Ed Pasternak

Agenda No. III

Reading of or Approval of Unapproved Minutes

April 19, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes April 19, 2023 Executive Session Meeting Minutes

Motion by Councilwoman Lichtenberg. Seconded by Councilman Marsden

Moved:	Lichtenberg	Seconded: Marsden
Voted Aye:	Chazukow, Lichtenberg	, Goodsir, Conlon, Marsden
Voted Nay:	None	
Motion carried:		

Agenda No. IV

Meetings

May 17, 2023 Regular Meeting June 14, 2023 Regular Meeting July 12, 2023 Regular Meeting

Agenda No. V

Proclamations

Mental Health Month–Mayor Dale read the proclamation supporting May as Mental Health Month. Debbie O'Brien read a prepared statement with many statistics. Mental health effects everyone directly or indirectly. Young adults ages 18 to 25 in the United States have the highest rate of mental health issues, over 30%. Worldwide someone commits suicide every 40 seconds. Suicide is the second leading cause of death for children ages 10 to 14. The purpose of Mental Health Month is to bring awareness. Helping one person might not change the world but it could change the world for one person.

National Day of Prayer-Mayor Dale read the proclamation announcing May 4th as National Day of Prayer. There will be prayer services at noon at Veterans Park and at 4 p.m. at the Board of Education and at 7 p.m. at the Macopin Middle School.

Presentations None. Agenda No. VI

None.

Agenda No. VII

Executive Session None.

Agenda No. VIII

Discussion Items / Official Communications None.

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Agenda No. IX

Unfinished Business, Final Passage of Ordinances None.

Agenda No. XII

New Business, Introduction of Ordinances, Resolutions

Agenda No. XII 1

~ Ordinance 2023 - 014 ~

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING SECTION 285-12 VACANT AND ABANDONED PROPERTIES TO ADD THE CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION FEES IN THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES

WHEREAS, Chapter 285 "Property Maintenance" Section 285-12 was retitled "Vacant and Abandoned Properties" and amendment removed foreclosures from this section; and

WHEREAS, the amendment did not include the Certificate of Registration Fees in the Vacant and Abandoned Properties; and

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of West Milford, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 285-12 "Vacant and Abandoned Properties is hereby amended to read as follows:

D. Registration of Vacant, Abandoned Properties

- 1) Registration. The responsible party for a vacant, abandoned, residential property shall immediately file a certificate of registration with the Township Clerk after receipt of notice that the property has been determined to be vacant and abandoned or immediately after the responsible party assumes ownership of or responsibility for a property already determined to be vacant and abandoned. A certificate of registration shall remain valid for one year from the date of issuance and renewal shall be required annually that reverts back to the initial registration date if the property remains vacant and abandoned.
- 2). Form of Certificate of Registration. The certificate of registration shall be filed on forms prescribed by the Township Clerk and shall contain:
 - The name, street address, email address, and direct telephone number of a person who resides or maintains an office within the municipality and who is either the responsible party or an authorized agent designated by the responsible party to receive notices and complaints of property maintenance and code violations on behalf of the responsible party;
 - b) The name, street address, and telephone number of the person responsible for maintaining the property, if different; and
 - c) A certificate from a licensed insurance provider evidencing the liability insurance coverage on the vacant and abandoned property.
- 3) Certificate of Registration Amendments. A responsible party for a vacant and abandoned property shall file an amended certificate of registration within 30 days after any change in the information required to be included thereon.
- 4.. Certificate of Registration Fees. The following fees for a certificate of registration shall be paid by the responsible party.
 - a) \$250.00 for the initial registration fee
 - b) \$500.00 for the 2nd year
 - c) \$750.00 for the 3rd year
 - d) \$1,000 for the 4th year, adding an additional \$250.00 each subsequent year
- **SECTION 2.** All ordinances of the Township of West Milford, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.
- **SECTION 3:** If any section, subsection, clause or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid by any court or competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the remaining portion of this ordinance.
- **SECTION 4.** This Ordinance may be renumbered for purposes of codification.
- **SECTION 5.** This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage, approval and publication as required by law.

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Adopted: Effective Date:

Second reading and public hearing for this Ordinance is set for the Regular Meeting of the Township Council scheduled for June 14, 2023. Notice of this public hearing shall be published in the Herald News on or about May 9, 2023.

Motion to introduce Ordinance 2023-014.

Moved:LichtenbergSeconded:ConlonVoted Aye:Chazukow, Lichtenberg, Goodsir, Conlon, MarsdenVoted Nay:NoneMotion carried:

Mayor Dale asked to move Resolution 2023-183 through Resolution 2023-189 and Resolution 2023-195

Agenda No. XII 2

~ Resolution 2023 – 183 ~

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC ,STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING RESOLUTION 2023-108 TO INCREASE THE CONTRACT VALUE NOT TO EXCEED \$30,000 WITH LAWRENCE COHEN, ESQ. OF LAVERY, SELVAGGI, ABROMITIS & COHEN P.C. TO PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD ON NEWARK WATERSHED TAX APPEAL

WHEREAS, by virtue of Resolution 2023-108 adopted March 1, 2023 the Township Council did authorize the engagement of Special Legal Counsel services to be provided by Lawrence Cohen, Esq. of Lavery, Selvaggi, Abromitis & Cohen P.C.; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 2023-108 and the related Professional Services Contract did authorize services in an amount not to exceed \$10,000; and

WHEREAS, the Township Mayor and Council have been advised that the Township's needs related to the matter known as Newark Watershed Tax Appeal necessitates an amendment in an additional amount not to exceed \$20,000; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4 from account 01-201-20-155-502 in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 without prior written consent from the Township Council; and

WHEREAS, a notice of this action shall be published in accordance with the law and said notice to provide that the originally awarded Professional Services Contract and this resolution serving as the Addendum to the Contract are available for public inspection in the office of the Township Clerk and that the Professional Services offered by Lawrence Cohen, Esq. are extended by an additional twelve months or until the conclusion of the legal matter, whichever comes first.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of West Milford, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey that they do hereby authorize the Township Administrator to approve an amendment of \$20,000 to Lawrence Cohen, Esq. for Special Legal Services which amount is in excess of the approved contract amount of \$10,000 bringing the contract total to an amount not to exceed \$30,000 and re-engaging the services of Lawrence Cohen, Esq. for an additional twelve month or until the conclusion of this legal matter whichever comes first.

Adopted: May 3, 2023

Agenda No. XII 3

~ Resolution 2023 – 184 ~

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, IN THE COUNTY OF PASSAIC STATE OF NEW JERSEY AWARDING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITHOUT COMPETITIVE BIDDING TO NEWMARK KNIGHT FRANK VALUATION & ADVISORY, LLC FOR APPRAISAL SERVICES AS TO THE NEWARK WATERSHED PROPERTIES

WHEREAS, there exists a need for professional services to be rendered to the Township of West Milford (hereinafter also, "The Township") as to appraisal services as to the Newark Watershed properties; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to retain the services of Newmark Knight Frank Valuation & Advisory, LLC, located at 80 S. Jefferson Road, Whippany, NJ 07981, to secure such appraisal services for the Township; and

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WHEREAS, in accordance with its proposal dated January 11, 2022, and on file in the Clerk's Office, the Township shall be subject to an appraisal fee of no more than \$15,000.00, inclusive of expenses, and with further details as set forth within the proposal; and

WHEREAS, the Township of West Milford has a need to appoint a Professional Services Contract as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 or 20.5 as appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et. Seq.)requires that the Resolution authorizing the award of contract for Professional Services without competitive bids and the contract itself must be available for public inspections; and

WHEREAS, Newmark Knight Frank Valuation & Advisory, LLC has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that the firm has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of West Milford with the elected officials in the previous one year and that the contract will prohibit the firm of Newmark Knight Frank Valuation & Advisory LLC from making any reportable contribution through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4 from account 01-201-20-161-450 in an amount not to exceed \$15,000 without prior written consent from the Township Council; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Township Council of the Township of West Milford, in the County of Passaic and State of New Jersey, as follows:

- 1. The Township of West Milford hereby awards and authorizes the Mayor and Township Clerk to execute an agreement with Newmark Knight Frank Valuation & Advisory, LLC, located at 80 S. Jefferson Road, Whippany, NJ 07981, for professional services in accordance with its proposal of January 11, 2022 which is on file in the Clerk's Office.
- 2. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a professional service, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law, and such services are performed by a person authorized by law to practice a recognized profession.
- 3. The total fee authorized for this contract is subject to the terms of the proposal and agreement.
- 4. Notice of this action shall be published once in the Township's official newspaper, as required by law.
- 5. A copy of this resolution is on file in the Township Clerk's Office

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Adopted: May 3, 2023

Agenda No. XII 4

~ Resolution 2023 – 185 ~

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING A TITLE TRANSFER FOR ONE (1) 2016 FORD F-350 FROM TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD TO ENTERPRISE FLEET MANAGEMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF SELLING SAME

WHEREAS, the Township of West Milford has owned one (1) 2016 Ford F-350 Pick-up Truck VIN #1FTRF3B67GEC20869; and

WHEREAS, the Township of West Milford wishes to enter into an agreement with Enterprise Fleet Management (EFM) for the purpose of selling said vehicle; and

WHEREAS, EFM requires a clear title for said vehicle to be sold and requires possession of clear titles to effectuate the sale; and

WHEREAS, the Township has possession of said title to be transferred; and

WHEREAS, the transfer is being done in conjunction with the leasing of replacement vehicles.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Council of the Township of West Milford, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey as follows:

- The Township Administrator is hereby authorized to execute an agreement to sell one (1) 2016 Ford F-350 Pick-up Truck VIN# 1FTRF3B67GEC20869 and transfer a title from said vehicle to Enterprise Fleet Management.
- 2. The Township Administrator is authorized to take any other incidental actions to effectuate this transaction.

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Agenda No. XII 5

~ Resolution 2023 – 186 ~

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE INTENT TO PURCHASE FROM ATLANTIC COMMUNICATIONS AS A VENDOR THAT HOLDS A STATE CONTRACT PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12 (A) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PAY-TO-PLAY LAW N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 ET SEQ.

WHEREAS, the Township of West Milford pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12 (a) and N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29 (c) may, by this resolution and a properly executed purchase order and without advertising for bids, purchase goods or services under any contract or contracts entered into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property or Cooperative Pricing contract; and

WHEREAS, the Township of West Milford has a need on a timely basis to purchase goods and services utilizing the State Division of Purchase contract for communications services, purchases and repairs awarded to Atlantic Communications which expenses would exceed the threshold of \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the above referenced vendor has complied with State pay-to-play regulations by completing and submitting a Business Entity Disclosure Certification; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.5 (b), no orders of material shall be undertaken until such time as the funding for the goods or services are certified by the Chief Financial Officer; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Council of the Township of West Milford, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey that the appropriate Township officials be and are hereby authorized to execute purchases through the State Division of Purchase and Property to the above referenced vendor within the budget appropriation established for this purpose.

Adopted: May 3, 2023

Agenda No. XII 6

~ Resolution 2023 – 187 ~

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION AND ACCEPTANCE OF A NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, OFFICE OF LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH STRENGTHENING LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH CAPACITY PROGRAM 2024 GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$274,080

WHEREAS, local health departments are responsible for providing essential services in areas such as emergency response and disaster resiliency, communicable disease investigation and outbreak response, environmental and sanitation inspections, chronic disease prevention and health promotion; and

WHEREAS, the public health priority funding was discontinued in 2011 resulting in a reduced workforce and reduced available services; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Health in an effort to continue to support COVID-19 response initiatives and infectious disease preparedness has provided West Milford Health Department with the Strengthening Local Public Health Capacity Program in the amount of \$274,080 to boost public health capacity during COVID-19 by strengthening communicable disease outbreak preparedness/ response capacity and provide outreach to the vulnerable populations within the township; and

WHEREAS, the award will be effective for the grant period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, and

WHEREAS, the funding enables the Township to continue to support a full-time Infectious Disease Preparedness Generalist, Local Health Outreach Coordinator, and other necessary staff to meet these needs; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of West Milford has determined that there is a need for these grant funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of West Milford hereby authorizes the submission and acceptance of a grant application for the Strengthening Local Public Health Capacity Program 2024 grant in the amount of \$274,080.

Adopted: May 3, 2023

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Agenda No. XII 7

~ Resolution 2023 – 188 ~

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY ACCEPTING A GRANT FROM THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FOR MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2023, the Township Council of West Milford approved the submission of a New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) grant application for funding Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Township requested \$25,000.00 as part of the grant application; and

WHEREAS, the Township was awarded the grant from the NJDEP.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Township Council of the Township of West Milford formally accept the \$25,000.00 grant received for the above stated project.

Adopted: May 3, 2023

Agenda No. XII 8

~ Resolution 2023 - 189 ~

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING RESOLUTION 2023-165 TO INCLUDE LOT 18 AND 20 ACCEPTING THE BIDS FOR THE SALE OF CERTAIN MUNICIPAL LANDS AND PROPERTIES FROM THE TOWNSHIP AUCTION OF APRIL 12, 2023

WHEREAS, by virtue of Resolution 2023-165 adopted on April 19, 2023 the Township of West Milford conducted the sale of municipal properties no longer needed by the Township in accordance with Resolution 2023-140; and

WHEREAS, the Township Clerk reports of the schedule in Resolution 2023-165 that listed Block 2405 with Lot 20 and the bidder and the respective proposal wishes to purchase said lands to include both Lots 18 and 20; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council accepts this bid for Block 2405 Lots 18 and 20.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of West Milford that the proposals set forth in the schedule below are hereby accepted and incorporated herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the terms of such acceptance will be set forth in the Contracts of Sale to be prepared by the Township Attorney as set forth in Resolution 2023-140.

This Resolution shall be effective immediately.

Adopted: May 3, 2023

Block	Lot	Buyer Address	Bid Amount	
2405	18	307 Ridge Road	\$2,550.00	
2405	20	West Milford, NJ 07480	φ2,000.00	

Agenda No. XII 9

~ Resolution 2023 – 195 ~

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A COMPETITIVE BIDDING CONTRACT TO TMP OF NEW YORK, INC. d/b/a TEPLITZ METAL PROCESSING FOR THE MARKETING OF RECYCLABLE SCRAP METAL

WHEREAS, The Township of West Milford advertised for the receipt of sealed competitive bids to be received on April 21, 2023 at 10:00 for the Marketing of Recyclable Scrap Metal as per the Bid Specifications; and

WHEREAS, the Township of West Milford received two (2) bids for this contract; and

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WHEREAS, said bids have been thoroughly reviewed and analyzed by the Director of Public Works and Coordinator of Recycling and Solid Waste and the Township Attorney; and

WHEREAS, the bid received from Teplitz Metal Processing was complete and is a responsive qualified bidder and has satisfactorily worked with the Township as the scrap metal vendor for over (15) fifteen years; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Public Works and the Coordinator of Recycling and Solid Waste do recommend the award of a contract to TMP of New York, Inc. d/b/a Teplitz Metal Processing;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of West Milford, County of Passaic and State of New Jersey that the Mayor and the Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to execute an agreement with TMP of New York, Inc. d/b/a Teplitz Metal Processing, 108 West Nyack Road, Nanuet, NY 10954 for the Marketing of Recyclable Scrap Metal for the period of May 1, 2023 through April 30, 2024 for the Township of West Milford.

Adopted: May 3, 2023

Moved: Conlon Seconded: Goodsir Voted Aye: Chazukow, Lichtenberg, Goodsir, Conlon, Marsden Voted Nay: None Motion carried:

Agenda No. XIII

Consent Agenda

~ Resolution 2023 - 190 ~

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING PASSAGE OF CONSENT AGENDA

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Township Council of the Township of West Milford has reviewed the Consent Agenda consisting of various proposed Resolutions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda are hereby approved:

Resolutions:

a) 2023-190 - Recreation Refund

Adopted: May 3, 2023

Agenda No. XIII a

~ Resolution 2023 – 191 ~

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF RECREATION FEES

BE IT RESOLVED that the following recreational fees upon the report of the Director of Community Services and Recreation be refunded:

COOKING CLASS			
\$45.00	5314 Richmond Road		
φ 4 5.00	West Milford, NJ 07480		
	BOATING SAFETY		
\$140.00	58 Robertson Way		
\$140.00	Lincoln Park, NJ 07035		
PICKLEBALL CLINIC			
\$50.00	18 Winfield Ave.		
\$50.00	Pompton Plains, NJ 07444		
MULTI SQUIRTS			
\$150.00	141 Kitchell Lake Drive		
	West Milford, NJ 07480		

Adopted: May 3, 2023

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Moved: Voted Aye: Voted Nay: Motion carried:	 Seconded: Goodsir Goodsir, Conlon, Marsden
Motion carried:	

Approval of Expenditures

Agenda No. XV

~ Resolution 2023 - 192 ~

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PAYMENT OF BILLS

WHEREAS, the Township Treasurer has submitted to the members of the Township Council a supplemental report listing individual disbursement checks prepared by this office in payment of amounts due by the Township.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Treasurer's report of checks prepared by the Treasurer's Office be approved and issued as follows:

Acct # Account Name		Amount	
1	Current Account	\$502,131.29	
3	Reserve Account	12,854.85	
2	Grants	54,123.57	
6	Refunds	385.00	
1	General Ledger	5,414,344.07	
26	Refuse	251,865.15	
4	Capital	0.00	
19	Animal Control	0.00	
19	Heritage Trust	0.00	
19	Open Space Trust	0.00	
19	Trust	2,050.54	
19 Scala Trust		0.00	
16 Development Escrow		0.00	
19 Tax Sale Trust		0.00	
21 Assessment Trust		0.00	
Special Reserve		29,353.12	
Total		\$6,267,107.59	
Less Refund Resolution		-385.00	
Actual Bills List		\$6,266,722.59	
Other Payments:			
Payroll		563,144.44	
State of NJ, Unemployment		12,838.06	
Treasurer, State of NJ Dog Report		1,273.20	
Enterprise Lease		35,692.36	
Total E	xpenditures	\$6,879,670.65	

Adopted: May 3, 2023

Moved: Goodsir Seconded: Conlon Voted Aye: Chazukow, Lichtenberg, Goodsir, Conlon, Marsden Voted Nay: None Motion carried:

Agenda No. XVI

Appointments and Resignations

Mayor Dale asked to move Resolutions 2023-193 and 2023-194.

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Agenda No. XVI 1

~ Resolution 2023 – 193 ~

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF EDWARD STEINES AS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER §15-50 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of West Milford that they do hereby provide advice and consent to the Mayor's appointment of Edward Steines to the position of Emergency Management Coordinator in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, Chapter §15-50, Section B(1) of the Township Code for a period of three years from June 1, 2023 through May 31, 2026.

Adopted: May 3, 2023

Agenda No. XVI 2

~ Resolution 2023 – 194 ~

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR'S APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL MOSCATELLO AS DEPUTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER §15-50 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE

WHEREAS, Article IX, Chapter §15-50, Section C of the Township Code allows the Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) to appoint a Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator with the approval of the Mayor and the advice & consent of the Township Council; and

WHEREAS, EMC Edward Steines has recommended the appointment of Michael Moscatello to the position of Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of West Milford that they do hereby provide advice and consent along with the Mayor's approval to the Emergency Management Coordinator's appointment of Michael Moscatello to the position of Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, Chapter §15-50, Section C of the Township Code for a period of three years from June 1, 2023 through May 31, 2026.

Adopted: May 3, 2023

Motion by Councilman Conlon to move Resolutions 2023-193 and Resolution 2023-194. Second by Councilwoman Lichtenberg.

Moved: Conlon Seconded: Lichtenberg Voted Aye: Chazukow, Lichtenberg, Goodsir, Conlon, Marsden Voted Nay: None Motion carried:

Agenda No. XV

Reports of Mayor, Council Members, Administrator, and Attorney

<u>Councilman Chazukow</u> –The Greenway subcommittee of the Environmental Commission recently met and is moving forward with the preliminary work being done for phase 1 of the project. They are looking at specific locations for where the trail would go. They are assessing what materials will be needed in order to build bridges over creeks and things of that nature. It's exciting to transition from a concept phase into reality. The EDC is still moving forward with the tourism map project, which could include the Greenway project. As previously discussed, funding for that map is included in the budget but there is a possibility that the County may pay for it. They have had conversations. The Heritage Committee is having an event at the museum on June 3, at 2 p.m. with a local author featuring the life and legacy of Senator William Hughes. The West Milford Museum hours are 1 to 4 p.m. every Saturday.

<u>Mayor Dale</u> – Questioned if the Greenway project was no longer going to go through the Greenbrook Estates Neighborhood. Administrator Senande indicated that the phase one portion is over by the Wallisch Homestead area, so we have not determined that yet.

Mayor Dale opened up the public portion for anyone wishing to speak.

Public Comments None. Agenda No. IX

Seeing no one wishing to speak, Councilman Conlon made a motion to close the public portion. Seconded by Councilman Goodsiir.

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Council Comments None.

Mayor Dale continued with reports.

Agenda No. XV

Agenda No. X

Reports of Mayor, Council Members, Administrator, and Attorney (Continued)

<u>Councilwoman Lichtenberg</u> –Reminded everyone about the National Day of Prayer on Thursday. Scott's Fun Run will take place on May 13, from 9-12 p.m. at the Rec Center. Friends of Wallisch Homestead will be having their annual Art Show and sale in the barn on Saturday May 20 from 10 to 4 p.m. and Sunday May 21 from 11:00 to 3 p.m.

<u>Councilman Goodsir</u> – Registration is open for the Battle of the Paddle at the Department of Recreation. It is a double elimination paddleball tournament Saturday June 24th. Family Frog night June 8th and June 15th at Westbrook Park. There will be a spring skateboarding clinic for ages 7 to 14 at the Mt. Laurel Skate Park for beginner and intermediate levels and registration is now open. The Mountain Warrior Hiking Club is for ages 8 to 17. There are two hikes to choose from, so get out, make new friends and get some exercise. Last Saturday there was a good turnout for Beautification Day. The Elks cooked about 150 hot dogs. The Trout Derby is this Saturday May 6th and it will take place at the lower pond at Bubbling Springs.

<u>Councilman Conlon</u> – The Elks will be cooking hot dogs at Scott's Fun Run. Those involved with Beautification Day should be commended as it was very well run. The planning is underway for the 2023 Autumn Lights Festival scheduled for October 7, from 11 to 6 p.m. There will be more updates in the months to come. Congratulations to Ed Steines and Mike Moscatello on their reappointments. There have been many rumors on social media and around Town about businesses that have been closing. There is a situation where a lease was not renewed and the business is closing and any indication that it is the fault of the Township or the governing body are simply nonsense. West Milford is losing one of its finest dining establishments and we wish them all well moving forward but it is through no fault of the Township. We do our best to be business friendly and to try to cut through the red tape associated with the various levels of government that are involved. There were negative comments made regarding the issues with the Newark Watershed. The Council has been proactive since the beginning trying to hold the responsible parties accountable and even tonight passed a resolution approving professional legal services regarding the Newark Watershed Tax Appeal. The Council has tried to hold them accountable, while trying to hold the line on spending while improving services and increasing efficiency.

Councilman Marsden - No report.

Administrator Senande - No report.

Attorney Pasternak - No report.

Mayor Dale – We will be having a Memorial Day Parade and a ceremony in Veterans Park on May 29th at 11 a.m. Please come out and show your support. There should be such a vast outpouring that there would be an issue with parking. Please be aware at this time of year, motorcycle drivers are back on the roads. The Township is doing a better job of sweeping the streets and getting it done earlier. A resident had requested Mayor Dale ask that people not use blowers to blow grass clippings and gravel into the road as it is the equivalent of black ice for a cyclist. Mayor Dale indicated that when she was a Councilmember years ago, she shared the view that the Township was not business friendly, but in the years since the governing body has worked very hard to rectify the situation by rewriting ordinances and put things in place to provide quicker turn-around times. Not long ago the whole Hewitt area had empty storefronts and now they are filled. Business owners have come forward and said that they were fine on the West Milford end of things but that they were having struggles at the County level and Mayor Dale then made calls on their behalf. Mayor Dale indicated that even when a building is vacant, taxes are still being paid. The issue of rateables ties back to the Highlands Act. We are trying to carve out some green development along the Route 23 corridor. Instead of giving us money for studies, give us the things to implement the infrastructure changes from the studies without putting the burden back on the tax base. We haven't had a budget increase on the municipal level for the last five years. West Milford is only one of three Townships that are 100% in the Highlands. Residents should feel free to reach out to Mayor Dale and administration and the Council directly with concerns and questions about initiatives and what is being done. Litigation matters cannot be discussed but other matters can.

Adjournment

Agenda No. XVII

Moved:	Conlon	Seconded:	Lichtenberg
Voted Aye:	Unanimous voice vote		
Voted Nay:	None		
Motion carried.			

Minutes of: Date of Meeting: Time of Meeting: Minute Page No:

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Approved: May 17, 2023

Respectfully submitted:

Deidre Ellis, Keyboarding Clerk II

MICHELE DALE, MAYOR

WILLIAM SENANDE, TOWNSHIP CLERK