

**GLOUCESTER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 22, 2016
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, CHEWS LANDING NEW JERSEY**

Pledge Allegiance to the Flag

Statement: Mr. Mercado read a statement setting forth the time, date and place of this meeting, that it was properly advertised, posted and filed in the Office of the Township Clerk pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll Call: Mr. Hutchison-8:15 Mr. Carlamere, Solicitor
Mr. Schmidt
Mrs. Stubbs Mr. Cardis, Business Administrator
Mrs. Winters Mrs. DiJosie, Twp. Clerk, RMC
Mrs. Mignone
Mrs. Trotto
Mr. Mercado-vac.

Mr. Lechner, Comm.

Dev.- vac.

Chief Earle, Police

PUBLIC PORTION:

Mrs. Trotto opened the public portion.

Ray Polidoro of Erial asked that more agendas be available at the meetings. He also asked that the chair extend the 30 minute time limit.

Pete Heinbaugh of Morningstar Court questioned the Bill List. He questioned a payment to Pettit for \$2,200.00 out of the 2015 open space fund. Mr. Cardis stated that it was probably for the turf field project.

There being no further comment, the public portion was closed.

PROCLAMATION: The Clerk read the following Proclamation: Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2016 Statewide Crackdown

**RESOLUTIONS:
CONSENT AGENDA**

R-16:08-241

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Township Council of the Township of Gloucester, in the County of Camden, that the following bills are approved by the Township Council in accordance with the provisions of Ordinance 0-82-16 and certified by the Chief Financial Officer that the claims are proper obligation of the township, that adequate funds are available to honor these claims in the account indicated and the claim should be paid:

CURRENT ACCOUNT

Per attached computer readout of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 5,083,288.55

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

Per attached computer read out of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 171,429.31

DEVELOPERS ESCROW

Per attached computer readout of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 17,694.25

TRUST

Per attached computer readout of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 19,515.26

ANIMAL TRUST

Per attached computer readout of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 127.38

MANUAL CHECKS

Per attached computer readout of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 9,853,090.13

Adopted: August 22, 2016

VICE PRESIDENT

COUNCIL

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP CLERK

Mrs. Stubbs made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mr. Mignone. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.

R-16:08-242

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS OF ENCROACHMENT DEPOSITS

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester that the following encroachment deposits be and are hereby authorized to be refunded:

John H. Fennimore APPLICATION: #200477
50 Indiana Ave
Blackwood, NJ 08012 PERMIT: #10657

AMOUNT: \$291.00

ADOPTED: August 22, 2016

VICE PRESIDENT OF

COUNCIL

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP CLERK

Mrs. Stubbs made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mr. Mignone. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.

R-16:08-243

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL INTEREST CHARGED DUE TO INCORRECT POSTING

WHEREAS, the following property in the Township of Gloucester, known as Block 20601, Lot 21.01, and assessed to Duane Little and;

WHEREAS, the homeowner sent payment through his online banking for insurance and was incorrectly posted to taxes and;

WHEREAS, the mortgage company paid adjusted amount of taxes due to misposting and

WHEREAS, the money was transferred to the correct account causing a delinquency on his taxes but was paid once the mortgage company was notified of the correction;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester, the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to cancel the interest due to office error:

Adopted: August 22, 2016

Vice President of Council

ATTEST:

Township Clerk

Mrs. Stubbs made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mr. Mignone. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.

R-16:08-244

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GLOUCESTER CAMDEN COUNTY NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING AN INSTALLMENT AGREEMENT IN LIEU OF IN REM FORECLOSURE PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 54:5-65

WHEREAS. Township Council of the Township of Gloucester did previously authorize foreclosure by summary proceedings In Rem on certain tax sale certificates held by the Township of Gloucester, and

WHEREAS. The property owner of Block 4101 Lots 2 & 3 desires to pay delinquent tax due by way of installment agreement, and

WHEREAS. N.J.S.A. 54:5-65, of the laws of the State of New Jersey authorizes a municipality permit the redemption of a tax lien by installment payments in lieu of foreclosure.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council that the Mayor or Business Administrator of the Township of Gloucester is hereby authorized to enter into an installment agreement with the property owner of Block 4101 Lot 2 & 3 for installment payments on a tax lien certificate held by the Township of Gloucester pursuant to eh laws of the State of New Jersey.

DATED: August 22, 2016

VICE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST

TOWNSHIP CLERK

Mrs. Stubbs made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mr. Mignone. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.

R-16:08-245

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE TOWNSHIP OF GLOUCESTER AND ASPHALT PAVING SYSTEMS,
INC.**

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester, County of Camden, determined that there is a need for Cherrywood Road Improvement Program – Phase 5

WHEREAS, sufficient funds have been provided, and

WHEREAS, the Township Council received bids or quotes

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester that the proper Township Officials are hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Asphalt Paving Systems, Inc. for Cherrywood Road Improvement Program – Phase 5 in the amount of \$256,800.00 which was the lowest bid or quote received.

Adopted: August 22, 2016

VICE PRESIDENT OF

COUNCIL
ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP CLERK, RMC

Mrs. Stubbs made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mr. Mignone. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.

R-16:08-246

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS OF ENCROACHMENT
DEPOSITS**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester that the following encroachment deposits be and are hereby authorized to be refunded:

Ray & Karen Meginniss APPLICATION: #201217
284 Tilford Rd.
Somerdale, NJ 08083 PERMIT: #10651

AMOUNT: \$190.00

ADOPTED: August 22, 2016

VICE PRESIDENT OF

COUNCIL
ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP CLERK

Mrs. Stubbs made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mr. Mignone. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.

R-16:08-247

**RESOLUTION DECLARING DEFAULT OF KEARSLEY III LLC
FOR WOODTHRUSH AVENUE A/K/A/ KEARSLEY III**

WHEREAS, certain subdivision/Site Plan improvements were required to be constructed and installed by Kearsley III, LLC , as a condition of approval of the development known as Woodthrush Avenue a/k/a Kearsley III, and

WHEREAS, posted with the Township of Gloucester, a performance surety, dated for 8th of October 2010, the sum of \$199,464.00 as surety and a performance guarantee for the proper and timely installation and completion of said improvements.

WHEREAS, Kearsley III has not properly performed and completed said improvements as indicated in the report of the Township Engineer, dated July 25, 2016 and attached hereto.

WHEREAS, there presently exists certain improvements remaining to be properly installed and completed by Kearsley III, LLC in the amount of \$182,088.20.

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

1. that the Developer, be and is hereby declared to be in default in performance of the installation of the required improvements for the project known as SD #04-15-P-1038 for the improvements remaining incomplete which total the sum of as indicated in the letter of the Township Engineer, dated July 25, 2016 and attached hereto and made a part hereof.

2. That the appropriate Township Officials of the Township of Gloucester are hereby directed and authorized to take the necessary action to recover the cost of the improvements which have not been properly completed.

Adopted: August 22, 2016

VICE PRESIDENT OF

COUNCIL
ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP CLERK

Mrs. Winters made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mr. Mignone. Roll call Vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Mrs. Trotto opened the public portion.

Richard Cinaglia of Sumter Court talked about the budget and wondered why council was using capital money. Mr. Cardis stated that it was to offset debt service. Mr. Cinaglia stated that it could be used as a line item in the budget. Mr. Cardis stated that it was part of the capital program. Mr. Cinaglia stated that it is not reoccurring revenue and asked how the township will make up the 1.9 million?

Ray Polidoro of Erial spoke about the funding for storms and asked if the township does not use the money, will it be lost. Mr. Cardis explained that the money remains in the account for one year in case any other large bills come in. It is now the reserve account and then it lapses to fund balance. Mr. Polidoro asked if this was a mandate or a municipal choice. Mr. Cardis stated that the township does not have the option. Mr. Cardis stated that the winter storm this year qualified for FEMA money. He also asked if there are any additional bonds that the township is looking at or projects, capital projects for road, drainage, police equipment and what would the amount be. Mr. Cardis stated that based on past history, the capital budget could be 6 million dollars.

Ms. Bowers of the Courts of Stonebridge stated that she is a neighbor of Villari's and it is a terrible experience living next door to the restaurant. She stated that they have live bands and the sound is too loud. She stated that they have already voiced their opinions to the administration. It was stated that Mr. Carlamere is reviewing the noise ordinances of surrounding communities and he has also met with Ken Lechner to review site plan approvals that deal with the deck and the Tiki bar. Mr. Carlamere stated that he has a meeting in the next several days with the Mayor.

Tony Pastore of Aberdeen Drive in Sicklerville asked what the cost of maintaining a grass field is and asked if the township could do a cost comparison. Mr. Cardis stated that he could not produce a document on return of investment. He stated that a lot of the fields could not be maintained properly as the fields have no time to rest. He stated that a decision was made to look into the turf fields. Mr. Pastore asked what the cost is to maintain the turf fields.

Carol Worrell of 501 Tanglewood Drive stated that she also has a problem with the noise from Villari's. It was stated that the sound meter is not calibrated and not working and the meter has been sent out for repairs. Chef Earle stated that there were 3 violations and they have gone to court with the owner and also to mediation. He stated that actions have been taken by the property owner to keep the noise under the township noise ordinance. The Chief stated that he is part of the meetings to be held this week.

Dorset Kelly of Stonebridge Run stated that she has called in the last few weeks after 10:00 pm and it was at 65 decibels. She stated that if the meter is not working they are losing an opportunity to capture the violations. Mrs. Trotto stated that several Council people have gone out to the Stonebridge neighborhood and witnessed the noise first hand. She stated that she appreciates the residents due diligence. Ms. Kelly stated that the meter validates the noise after 10:00 pm. Chief Earle has stated that the police response has been significant to this area and the police respond quite regularly. He stated that the current noise does not violate the current noise ordinance and as soon as the meter comes back, they will be out there to measuring the sound.

David Haag of Highland Village asked if the township notification could include a notification of a township Council meeting.

Jasper Lucas of Tanglewood Drive stated that he also has a problem with Villari's. He stated that it has not changed and the music sounds as loud. He stated that he appreciates the efforts of the township but the monitoring of the noise is not doing anything. He stated that he doesn't expect a resolution to the problem this year and that hopefully something will be done next year.

Ms. Burley stated that she was going to ask the Council to rescind the purchase of the turf, but evidently it has already gone through. She stated that the teams should pay some of these funds. It was stated that the fields were paid for by the Open Space funds. She stated that the residents that attended the July 25th meeting were unhappy with the township. She asked about corner ramps being put constructed in her development and asked were they mandated. She stated that there are an abundance of driveways that could accomplish the same thing. She also talked

about overtime, the concerts and also about turning the senior Center into a daycare. She stated that the township used the cap bank to avoid the 2 % cap.

Sarah Bass Young of Peter Cheeseman Road spoke about Councilman Samuel Siler. She stated that council is doing a wonderful job. She praised the Chief of Police. She stated that she would like every human that is eligible to vote to register.

Joanne Carr of Timberbirch questioned Mr. Cardis about Open Space. She asked if the township uses all the money it collects. Mr. Cardis stated that some years the township spends all the money and some years they don't. There was a discussion about the hockey rinks and the debt service. She asked what else is being accomplished with the open space money? Mr. Cardis stated that the parks are being mowed, irrigation systems are being installed, fertilization is being done, rubber surfacing is being installed, refurbishing of Lake Mathilda and the Gabriel Daveis Tavern as well as Citizens Appreciation Park. Mr. Cardis stated that they go to the open space fund as much as possible. Mr. Cardis discussed the new turf fields and stated that our fields are the cool play fields, which are covered with cork which makes the temperature 35 % cooler. Mr. Schmidt asked how many parks the township is responsible for and Mr. Cardis stated that it is well over 60 parks.

Carol Colinchecko stated that she can't believe the facial expressions from the Council.

Vince Russo of Cobblestone stated that the tax hike brought him to the meetings. He asked Mr. Cardis when was the last tax hike? Mr. Cardis stated that it depends how the question is phrased. He stated that last year the local rate went down a penny because the rateable base was increased. Mr. Cardis stated what the tax increases were for the former years. He stated that the township portion of the tax increase this year was 11 cents, the local school board was 7.6 cents, the county was 3.6 cents and the Regional School Board was 3.9 cents. Mr. Russo also asked about the intersection of Mullen Drive and Sicklerville Road. He asked that there be a turning lane on Sicklerville road into the development at Mullen Drive.

Maureen McLaughlin stated that if the Council knew the taxes were going up, how does Council justify putting out 3 million dollars for the artificial fields. She stated that this money could have been used elsewhere. She also spoke about Point Ariel Park tennis courts. Mr. Cardis stated that these courts have been fixed. She also asked the Council that if they knew the school budgets were going up, what is the township doing to reduce the budget. Mr. Cardis explained that the Governor has changed the way the school budgets are adopted and that they no longer voted on by the residents and they no longer come before Council once they are defeated. She also asked when the school budgets are adopted, and it was stated that they are done in April. She stated that the increase is absurd and the economy is bad at this time. She also asked what the township is doing about the abandoned homes in the township. Mr. Cardis stated that the township has a program in place. Ms. McLaughlin also asked what the Council is doing going forward to keep the taxes down. She stated that Council should have a liaison to the school boards and asked if council would consider doing this. Mr. Carlamere stated that the school boards are an autonomous body and we have no right to send someone to the school board meetings. He stated that the GTMUA allows our council to be a member of the authority. Mr. Cardis asked Ms. McLaughlin when she was a council member. Ms. McLaughlin stated that she was on Council between the years of 2000-2005. Mr. Cardis read the tax increases passed when Ms. McLaughlin was on Council. She stated that the township needs to tighten its belt. Ms. McLaughlin stated that she will participate in the budget workshops when council holds them. Mr. Cardis stated that it is a revenue problem and most of the expenses are statutory.

Grant Schull asked the council what to do to mitigate the tax increase that the residents are facing? He also suggested that the township sell the police "tank". He

also stated that he thinks residents over the age of 65 should stop paying school taxes.

Mr. Williams of Erial stated that someone paid taxes for his kids to go to school. His suggestion, through attrition, is to pass on the jobs in the municipality to other people who are already working.

Dennis Palmer of Braemer Avenue remembered when the open space referendum was on the ballot. He stated that he encouraged everyone to vote for it to save farmland. He stated that the people put their two cents in to have farmland preserved. He stated that this fund is everyone's money and just because the money is there, it doesn't have to be spent.

Ray Helocheck Jr. stated that he is a prospective homebuyer and he has not been able to find a home where he can afford the mortgage and the taxes.

Joanne Carr of Timberbirch stated that the residents are at the meeting because of this year's tax increase. She asked if the taxes were going to go up again next year?

Ms. Carr asked what the estimate is for next year. Mr. Hutchison stated that he is pushing for the taxes to go down next year.

Ray Polidoro of Erial respectfully asked Mrs. Trotto to refrain from saying she does not know about the school budget as he stated that he asked that question at a Council meeting. He stated that the Council knew what the school board budget was. He stated that the open space fund sounds like free money, but is paid for in the resident's taxes.

Ms. Burley of Countryaire stated that the Mayor's campaign promise was that he will end double digit tax increases. She stated that the people are taxed out and the township needs to find ways to save money. Mr. Mignone stated that the sports organizations do give back to the fields. Mrs. Stubbs stated that full day kindergarten will start this year in our district and may alleviate some of the need for day care.

Sam Sweet of Erial asked if the township ever considered getting corporate sponsors for the turf fields. It was stated that the Township is doing that with the Field of Dreams.

There being no further comment, the public portion was closed.

POLLING OF COUNCIL:

Mr. Hutchison thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and apologized for being late. He stated that he also did not want to see the taxes going up. Mr. Hutchison stated that the turf fields, the hockey rinks, the police vehicles were all a lot of money. He stated that the Council has to balance, should we approve this or is it too costly. He stated that he saw the joy that the hockey rink brought to the kids. He stated that the turf fields also had them weighing what they had to do. He stated that this gives the kids something to do, so they don't turn to mischief. He stated that maybe it will make a difference in their lives. He stated that as for the "tank", if it saves one officers life, he thinks the purchase was justified. He stated that these are the decisions that the Council has to make. He stated that this is important to him and he gave his word to the residents to do the best to produce a reduction.

Mr. Schmidt thanked the residents for coming and for their comments. He stated that their comments resonated with Council.

Mrs. Stubbs said that she has heard the suggestions of the residents and wrote them down. She stated that she asked the residents for suggestions because she wants to know what is important to them, because it is the right thing to do. She also asked them to think outside the box as the Council will be doing.

Mrs. Winters thanked the residents for coming to the meeting and for their comments. She stated that she is listening and she does care. She stated that people feel different things are important.

Mr. Mignone thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and he stated that he appreciates the comments of the residents. He asked everyone to have a Happy

