

BOROUGH OF METUCHEN COUNCIL MINUTES

May 16, 2016

7:30 PM

The Regular Meeting of the Borough Council was held in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall on Monday, May 16, 2016.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Cammarano.

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 January 4, 2016, posted in Borough Hall and on file in the Clerk's Office. All requirements of the "Open Public Meetings Act" have been satisfied.

The Invocation was given by Council President Grayzel and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Councilmembers Inzerro, Leibfried, Muldoon, Rasmussen, Wallace, Council President Grayzel and Mayor Cammarano. Also present were Jennifer Maier, Borough Administrator, Denis Murphy, Esq. and Susan Jackson, Borough Clerk.

Agenda Session

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

Council President Grayzel made a motion to amend the agenda to add Ordinance 2016-13, Ordinance to Amend the Code of the Borough of Metuchen, Chapter 185, Entitled Vehicles and Traffic, Section 185-34 – Handicapped Parking, to add a Designated Location on Rutgers Street for introduction and first reading. All are in favor.

Councilman Leibfried asked for an update on the pedestrian crosswalk on Main Street. Has the repairs been completed? Ms. Maier stated that it has been completed.

Councilman Leibfried also would like to suggest a formation of a Grant Writing Committee to help offset some of the budgetary constraints with grants. There was a short discussion between the Council and Mr. Murphy. It was determined to have Mr. Murphy research the formation of a Grant Writing Committee and report back at the next meeting.

With no further actions taken Mayor Cammarano asked for a motion to close the agenda session.

Council President Grayzel made a motion to close the Agenda Session, second by Councilwoman Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 6-0.

Public Comment

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

Steve Reuter, 16 Durham Avenue, Metuchen questioned the status of the vacancy ordinance and if there is any further information on the building next to Friendly's. Ms. Maier gave the current numbers of the residential and commercial properties that have been identified as vacant. She stated that some of those properties are in the process of either being occupied or sold and the percentage of properties that have completed the Vacancy Registration Forms. She also said that those that haven't done anything have been issued violation summons.

Joe Furmato, 125 Durham Avenue, Metuchen had reached out to an Amtrak Official and stated that Amtrak will be painting the trestle sometime this summer and the Amtrak Official would like someone from the Borough to contact him. Mayor Cammarano responded that there has already been contact since last year and that the Borough is already working with them to get the trestle painted. Mayor Cammarano also stated that the bigger issue is to get a truck ban on Main Street and that the Borough is working on getting that accomplished. Mr. Furmato left the phone number of his contact.

Daniel Lebar, 581 Middlesex Avenue, Metuchen stated that Joe Furmato is involved in the Republican Club and is his running mate for one of the Council seats. He spoke about an outreach that he reported on last December in regards to a Home News Tribune feature article on American Institute of Architects Central Jersey Chapter that was offering to partner with Municipalities with a program called Emerging Architects Initiative. He contacted the program and they are interested in working with Metuchen Borough. He hopes that if they reach out to the Borough that we would be willing to work with them. Mayor Cammarano stated that the Borough already work with a number of different schools in the area to have interns come in and work with the various offices.

Mr. Lebar is glad to hear the suggestion of a Grant Writing Committee. He also would like to have the Finance Committee be made public. Mayor Cammarano addressed this suggestion.

Miush Setir, 277 Prestwick Place, Edison is upset about the parking rates increase. Mayor Cammarano stated that the rates are set by the Parking Authority and State Statutes and not by the Borough Council. Mayor stated that the Parking Authority will be meeting Tuesday night in Borough Hall at 7:30 pm if Mr. Setir would like to come and speak with them about the increase.

Don Walker, Bridge Street, Metuchen is concerned about when the paving will be completed on Bridge Street. He would like clarification why the curbs have been lowered at the crosswalks. Ms. Maier addressed both questions stating that there if Mr. Walker would be willing to leave his name and phone number she will call him when she has the dates of the expected completion. The paving is being finalized on New Durham so that they can go back to Bridge Street. The curbs had to be adjusted to allow for handicapped access at the crosswalks.

Lorraine Taurone, 112 Bridge Street, Metuchen asked about the status of the 287 Interchange. Ms. Maier addressed the status of the Interchange. There is a form that needs to go to the NJDOT that is asking for the plans to be reopened and currently Maser is working on the form.

Yvonne Varner, 15 Electric Place, Metuchen is addressing the vacancy of the property next door to her. She has many concerns with wild animals being inside the house, doors and windows are open and/or broken, and unknown people seem to be inside. She wants something done to correct these issues. Mayor Cammarano stated that this will be looked into and follow up with her when there are answers.

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

Communications Consent Agenda – Items A - G

Council President Grayzel made a motion to move Communication Consent Agenda, Items A-G, Councilwoman Rasmussen second the motion, with all in favor, motion carried, 6-0

- A. Receive and Accept Block Party/Street Closing for Annual Metuchen Little League Picnic – June 18, 2016 (Rain Date: June 25, 2016) from 6AM to 4 PM
- B. Receive and Accept Block Party/Street Closing for Bounty Street – Sunday, May 29, 2016 from 9 AM to 9 PM
- C. Receive and Accept Block Party/Street Closing for The Reformed Church of Metuchen from the corner of Lake Avenue and Franklyn Place – Sunday, June 12, 2016 from 9AM to 2PM
- D. Receive and Accept Block Party/Street Closing for Charles Street – Saturday June 11, 2016 from 12PM to 8PM
- E. Receive and Accept Metuchen Pool Commission Meeting Minutes of January 11, 2016, February 22, 2016 and March 14, 2016
- F. Receive and Accept Metuchen Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes of March 1, 2016 and April 5, 2016
- G. Receive and Accept Metuchen Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes of April 12, 2016

Regular Meeting

Council President Grayzel made a motion to approve the Borough Council minutes of April 18, 2016 and May 2, 2016, second by Councilwoman Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 6-0.

Reports of Councilmembers

Mayor Cammarano opened Reports of Councilmembers.

Council President Grayzel –

- On behalf of Councilmembers Leibfried, Wallace and he the Recreation Commission has gone to the Borough parks to assess the conditions. At a recent Recreation meeting Ms. Maier spoke of the Mayor's plan to rehabilitate the parks and bring them up to the standards. The Recreation Commission is very please and has volunteered to reinstitute a program where the members of the Recreation Commission and the Borough Administrator will inspect the parks on an annual basis and give the Council their findings. The Recreation Commission has studied and evaluated the current condition at Oakland Playground and has recommended upgrading the playground equipment and swings, safe-code compliant playground surface, benches, moveable grates and utility covers on the surface of the park, refurbishment of the basketball court and repainting and renovation of the bathrooms. He advised the Recreation Commission that he would bring this before the Mayor and Council for advisement and speak to the County about potential grants to accomplish the recommendations.
- The Arts Council together with the Garden Club and BIL will be sponsoring a special event "Art in the Garden and Auction on Sunday, June 26, 2016. The rain date is July 3, 2016. This will be held from 1 pm to 4 pm. It will begin at St. Luke's and will tour gardens in the immediate vicinity, including Woodwild Park. There will be an auction at 6 pm – 8 pm at the Old Franklin School House. Tickets can be purchase for \$20.00 in advance at the Brass Lantern and Gardenia Florals. The tickets will be \$25.00 the day of the event.

Councilwoman Inserro –

- The Board of Health met two weeks ago. They were introduced to a new County Health Inspector for Metuchen. They discussed update to the dog ordinance that will be taken up in June.
- The rabies clinic was held this past Saturday at the High School. There were about 70-80 dogs vaccinated.
- The Municipal Alliance met on the Thursday and heard a presentation on the program that ran earlier this year at Edgar School from the Well Spring Center for Prevention. This was for the grant program they received for middle schoolers and was very successful. Metuchen had the highest graduation rate of all the municipalities in the County. They are going to bring the families back for three sessions next fall as a follow up.

Councilman Leibfried –

- The Library Board of Trustees met last Tuesday. He would like to encourage residents to go to the library and check out the High School students' art work that is currently on display in the Library Gallery.
- The younger students should take advantage of programs that are offered at the Library. The Coderdojo Club will be meeting on May 21 at 2:00 pm at the Library Community Room.
- Please visit the Library website and consider volunteering or donating to the Friends of the Metuchen Library.
- Pool Commission met last Monday. The Commission would like to thank DPW's Fred Hall and his staff for all their hard work in making sure that the pool is ready to open shortly.
- The annual Fuce 5K run will be taking place on June 19th.
- A reminder that the Junebug Festival events have been shifted to Saturday nights during the month of June. On June 18th Main Street will be closed for Junebug.

Councilman Muldoon –

- Parking Authority will be meeting tomorrow night at 7:30 pm at Borough Hall.
- The new Pearl Street Parking Deck is scheduled to open on June 1st. There is information about the deck as well as getting a permit for a spot in the deck at www.metuchenparking.com.
- Last Tuesday, the Complete Street Visioning meeting was held. He thanked the 100 or so residents who attended the session and gave their input on pedestrian, bike and running issues and concerns, as well as suggestions for improvements that can be made. These will all be compiled and ultimately be used in the development of the Pedestrian and Bike Safety plan which will be the main component of the Borough's Complete Street Implementation Plan.

Councilwoman Rasmussen –

- Shade Tree Commission will be given away 50 Red Maples, some Willow Oaks and Northern Red Oaks at the Farmer's Market opening day. If you are unable to attend and would like a tree please contact Councilwoman Rasmussen at www.drasmussen@metuchen.com
- The Environmental Commission had the first ordering of over 200 composters that have been requested by residents. For more information check the Borough's website for choosing a composter and ordering.
- The composting video is available on the Borough website.
- She reminded the residents the importance of mulching grass and composting and not using pesticides.
- Development Commission will be meeting the 1st week in June.
- The Chamber of Commerce will be having their annual Spring Street Fair this Sunday, May 22nd from 11 am to 5 pm

- The Memorial Day Parade will be May 30th at 10 am. The ceremony will follow at Edgar School at 11:30 am. There is information on the website.

Councilman Wallace – has no report at this time.

Reports of Officers

Denis Murphy, Esq. – has not report at this time.

Jennifer Maier, Administrator – has a report on the budget.

Report of Mayor – has no report at this time.

New Business – Resolutions 2016-115 through 2016-123

Council President Grayzel moved New Business Consent Agenda – Resolutions 2016-115 through R2016-123, second by Councilwoman Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 6-0

RESOLUTION 2016-115

*Borough of Metuchen
County of Middlesex
State of New Jersey*

CALENDAR YEAR 2016

**ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO
ESTABLISH A CAP BANK
(N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)**

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget up to 0% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Metuchen in the County of Middlesex finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2016 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council hereby determines that a 3.5 % increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$419,837.39 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS the Mayor and Council hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor & Council of the Borough of Metuchen, in the County of Middlesex, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2016 budget year, the final appropriations of the Borough of Metuchen shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5 %, amounting to \$ 419,837.39, and that the CY 2016 municipal budget for the Borough of Metuchen be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

RESOLUTION 2016-116

*Borough of Metuchen
County of Middlesex
State of New Jersey*

RESOLUTION FOR CONDUCTING ANNUAL BUDGET EXAMINATION

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination, and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:30-7 was adopted by the Local Finance Board on February 11, 1997, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 thru 7.5 the Borough of Metuchen has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local Government Services, and the Chief Financial Officer has determined that the Borough meets the necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2016 budget year, so now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Metuchen that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a & b and based upon the Chief Financial Officers certification. The governing body has found the budget has met the following requirements:

1. That with reference to the following items, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law and appropriated as such in the budget:

- a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges
- b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
- c. Cash deficit of preceding year
- d. Reserve for uncollected taxes
- e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items

f. Any inclusions of amounts required for school purposes

2. That the provisions relating to limitation on increases of appropriations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.2 and appropriations for exceptions to limits on appropriations found at 40A:4-45.3 et seq. are fully met. (Complies with the "CAP" law.)
3. That the budget is in such form arrangement, and content as required by the Local Budget Law and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4 and 5:30-5.
4. That pursuant to the Local Budget Law:
 - a. All estimates of revenue are reasonable, accurate, and correctly stated
 - b. Items of appropriation are properly set forth
 - c. In itemization, form, arrangement, and content the budget will permit the exercise of the comptroller function within the municipality.
5. The budget and associated amendments have been introduced, publicly advertised, and adopted in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Budget Law, except that failure to meet the deadlines of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 shall not prevent such certification.
6. That all other applicable statutory requirements have been fulfilled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

RESOLUTION 2016-117

*Borough of Metuchen
County of Middlesex
State of New Jersey*

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CANCELLATION OF PORTION OF BALANCE OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BALANCE

WHEREAS, certain General Capital Improvement appropriation balances remain dedicated to projects now completed; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to formally cancel said balance so that the unexpended balance may be credited to Capital Surplus, and unused debt authorizations may be cancelled;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Metuchen, in the County of Middlesex, that the following unexpended and dedicated balance of the General Capital Appropriation be cancelled:

Ordinance No.	Date Authorized	Project Description	Funded Amount Cancelled
02-01, 04-11	2/19/02	Construction of Municipal Building	200,000.00

RESOLUTION 2016-118

Borough of Metuchen

*County of Middlesex
State of New Jersey*

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CANCELLATION OF PORTION OF 2015 EMERGENCY
APPROPRIATIONS**

WHEREAS, Resolution 2015-234 was passed on September 8, 2015, authorizing Emergency Appropriations in the amount of \$350,000.00 and there remain unspent funds that will no longer be needed; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to formally cancel said balances that will no longer be needed,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Metuchen, in the County of Middlesex, that \$200,000 be cancelled from the previously authorized emergency appropriations.

RESOLUTION 2016-119

*Borough of Metuchen
County of Middlesex
State of New Jersey*

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF ON-SITE IMPROVEMENT SURETY AND CASH
PERFORMANCE BOND GUARANTEE – FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH – 270
WOODBIDGE AVENUE – BLOCK 164, LOTS 49, 49.01-49.03**

WHEREAS, First Presbyterian Church, has requested a release of their surety and cash portion performance bond in a letter dated June 10, 2015 for on-site improvements on Block 164, Lots 49, 49.01-49.03 located at 270 Woodbridge Avenue, Metuchen; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer in a letter dated November 25, 2015 and a memo from the Zoning Officer dated November 18, 2015 has reported that the contract has been completed in an acceptable manner; and

WHEREAS, Maser Consulting, P.A. and the Borough of Metuchen Zoning Officer recommends the full release of the Surety Performance Guarantee Bond in the amount of \$18,568.71 which had been posted on August 1, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Maser Consulting, P.A. and the Borough of Metuchen Zoning Officer recommends the full release of the 10% cash portion Performance Guarantee Bond in the amount of \$2,063.19 which had been posted on August 1, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Project Engineer recommends the full release of the performance guarantee in the amount of \$18,568.71 (surety bond) and \$2,063.19 (cash) upon posting of a 2 year maintenance bond in the amount of \$2,578.99 and a Maintenance Inspection fees in the amount of \$500.00.

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 Surety Performance Bond in the amount of \$18,569.00 and 10% cash portion in the amount of \$2,063.19, as recommended and directed by the Borough Engineer and Zoning Official to First Presbyterian Church, 270 Woodbridge Avenue, Metuchen, New Jersey, 08840 upon final approval of the Borough Administrator and Legal Counsel.

RESOLUTION 2016-120

*Borough of Metuchen
County of Middlesex
State of New Jersey*

RESOLUTION AMENDING R2016-106 AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN ELECTRONIC RECYCLERS INTERNATIONAL, INC. AND THE BOROUGH OF METUCHEN FOR THE RECYCLING OF CERTAIN CONSUMER ELECTRONICS

WHEREAS, Electronic Recyclers International, Inc. is proactive in addressed environmental issues such as the proper recycling of consumer electronics; and

WHEREAS, effective January 1, 2011 recycling of certain consumer electronics is mandatory in the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the location of said container will greatly foster the implementation of the recycling programs of the Municipality.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Electronic Recyclers International, Inc. and the Borough of Metuchen are hereby directed to enter into an agreement concerning the recycling of certain consumer electronics in accordance with the attached contract.

RESOLUTION 2016-121

*Borough of Metuchen
County of Middlesex
State of New Jersey*

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT OF ACTING FIRE INSPECTOR/FIRE SUBCODE OFFICIAL

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Metuchen that Robert Latherow (License #003017) is hereby appointed as the Acting Fire Inspector/Fire Sub-code Official for the Borough of Metuchen, effective May 20, 2016 until July 5, 2016 due to illness of the Borough's Fire Inspector/Fire Sub-code Official, Ray Colandrea (License #003372); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough Clerk shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

RESOLUTION 2016-122

*Borough of Metuchen
County of Middlesex
State of New Jersey*

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF METUCHEN AND THE PARKING AUTHORITY OF THE BOROUGH OF METUCHEN TO CONSTRUCT A MULTI-STORY 750 SPACE PARKING STRUCTURE ON THE PEARL STREET PARKING LOT

WHEREAS, by way of Resolution 2009-110, the Borough of Metuchen authorized the submission and execution of a Grant Agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Pearl Street Parking Structure Transit Village Project; and

WHEREAS, by letter dated February 23, 2010, the State of New Jersey Department of Transportation forwarded the Borough of Metuchen a fully executed grant agreement in the amount of \$750,000.00 for the construction of the Pearl Street Parking Structure; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40:11A-1, et seq*, the Borough of Metuchen created a Parking Authority of the Borough of Metuchen which is vested with all of the powers and duties prescribed by such law, including but not limited to, the construction, provision and/or the operation of off street parking project within the Borough of Metuchen; and

WHEREAS, the Parking Authority of the Borough of Metuchen was the owner of the property known as Block 115, Lot 16 and commonly referred to as the Pearl Street Parking Lot; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council in November, 2010 rezoned the Pearl Street parking lot to permit a parking structure, mixed use residential and commercial development and a public square; and

WHEREAS, the Parking Authority determined that the construction of a parking structure, mixed use development and the construction of a public square would benefit the Borough of Metuchen and the Parking Authority; and

WHEREAS, the Parking Authority invited Expressions of Interest and sought proposals from qualified developers and parking operators to develop the Pearl Street Parking lot, including but not limited to the construction of a Parking Garage; and

WHEREAS, after independent evaluations of the proposals received, by way of Resolution 2012-31, the Parking Authority entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Woodmont Properties, LLC and Nexus Parking Systems, LLC for the Project; and

WHEREAS, by way of Resolution 2013-18, the Parking Authority authorized the execution of a Purchase and Sales Agreement with Woodmont Metuchen, LLC for a portion of the property owned by the Parking Authority and for, *inter alia*, the purpose of developing an integrated project that would include residential units, retail/commercial space and a public plaza; and

WHEREAS, on or about June 18, 2013, the Parking Authority entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement with Woodmont Metuchen, for a portion of the property owned by the Parking Authority and for, *inter alia*, the purpose of developing an integrated project that would include residential units, retail/commercial space and a public plaza; and

WHEREAS, by way of Resolution 2013-17, the Parking Authority authorized the execution of a ground lease with Pearl Street Parking Facility, LLC for the property owned by the Parking Authority and for, *inter alia*, the construction, finance, maintenance and management of a parking garage; and

WHEREAS, on or about June 18, 2013, the Parking Authority and Pearl Street Parking Facility, LLC entered into the Agreement for, *inter alia*, the construction of a parking garage structure; and

WHEREAS, as part of said Project, Woodmont Metuchen, LLC and Pearl Street Parking Facility, LLC, applied to the Metuchen Planning Board for Preliminary and Final Major subdivision,

preliminary and final site plan approval and conditional use approval with waivers/exceptions for the construction of the Pearl Street Parking Structure; and

WHEREAS, by way of Resolution 2015-200 of the Borough of Metuchen and pursuant to the Planning Board's Resolution of Approval the Borough of Metuchen entered into a Developer's Agreement with Pearl Street Parking Facility, LLC for construction of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the terms and conditions of the grant agreement between the Borough of Metuchen and the New Jersey Department of Transportation require the Borough of Metuchen to authorize an award of contract to, and agreement for, the construction of the parking structure with the Parking Authority of the Borough of Metuchen.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Metuchen that it hereby authorizes an agreement for the construction of a multi-storied, 750 space, parking structure with the Metuchen Parking Authority; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Metuchen that it hereby delegates the construction of the parking structure and the oversight thereof including any oversight and action required as a recipient of the aforementioned NJDOT Grant to the Metuchen Parking Authority; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Council of the Borough of Metuchen hereby directs and authorizes all Borough officers, employees and agents to effectuate the within Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Council of the Borough of Metuchen, hereby directs and authorizes the Borough Clerk to forward a copy of the within Resolution to the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

RESOLUTION 2016-123

*Borough of Metuchen
County of Middlesex
State of New Jersey*

RESOLUTION APPOINTING METUCHEN BOROUGH COURT ADMINISTRATOR

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Metuchen that Wahjira Williams-Fisher, be and is hereby appointed as the Court Administrator for the Borough of Metuchen; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said appointment shall commence on May 9, 2016.

Budget Introduction

Council President Grayzel made a motion to move R2015-124 be introduced and taken up on first reading, second by Councilwoman Inzerro, with all in favor, the motion carries, 6-0.

Council President Grayzel asked that the Resolution be read by title only.

R2015-124

Municipal Budget for the Borough of Metuchen, County of Middlesex, for the Fiscal Year 2016

Council President Grayzel made a motion that R2015-124 be passed on first reading, published according to law and a public hearing be set for June 20, 2016, second by Councilwoman Inserro.

Ms. Maier gave a budget summary for the 2016 Budget as follows:

Re: 2016 Budget

Attached is the Administrator's recommended budget for calendar year 2016 relying on the most up to date information available at this time. It is submitted in the State format with substantiating documentation from departmental line item budgets and ancillary data. It meets the requirements of both the appropriations and levy caps as shown on the attached summaries.

The 2016 budget I recommend proposes total general appropriations of \$18,745,677.35 for a 2% increase of \$330,619.64 over 2015. The increase in 2016 vs. 2015, excluding grants, is a 10% increase. This figure includes the reserve for uncollected taxes. This budget maintains the current level of services. This budget is \$174,160.90 lower than the amount allowed under the 2% Levy Cap. The proposed reserve for uncollected taxes for 2016 totals \$1,027,153.08 which is an increase of \$143,611.95.

The revenue side of the budget shows an increase in general revenues of \$330,619.64 This number includes anticipation of, (surplus of \$1,300,000), a decrease in grants of \$1,399,782.75, an increase of \$833,000 which is an increase from the Parking Authority of \$633,000 of which \$150,000 is a pass thru for the SID, and \$200,000 from Capital Surplus. "State Aid" will be equal to last year. A summary of revenues appears on sheet 11 of the state budget form. The revenue detail for the summary sheet is contained in the previous pages.

At this time, the projected amount necessary to be raised by taxation to support the municipal budget is \$11,712,207.08. This is a 5.51% increase of \$612,180.70 which equates to 5 tax points over the 2015 rate. The Library tax rate is based on 1/3 of a mil and is increasing by \$27,347.69 which is an increase of .0038 tax points. Any increase in the currently estimated County tax may result in a change in the reserve for uncollected taxes.

The following provides a comparison of the 2015 actual tax rate and the estimated rate for 2016. The School and County rates have been estimated. Once the actual County tax levy is known, the reserve may need to be adjusted accordingly which could affect the local rate. One tax point in 2016 equals \$99,204.50. On the average assessed value of \$193,833.63, the estimated local increase of 5 points equates to a \$94.98 increase.

<u>2016 amt. to be raised</u>	<u>'16 amt. to be raised</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>% of rate '15</u>	<u>% of rate '16</u>
School	\$35,831,211	3.554	3.612	62.99%	62.80%
County \$8,772,000 (est.)	\$8,772,000	.883	.884	15.65%	15.37%
Local	\$11,712,207.08	1.132	1.181	20.06%	20.53%
Library	<u>\$748,641.87</u>	<u>.073</u>	<u>.075</u>	<u>1.30%</u>	<u>1.30%</u>
	\$57,064,059.95	5.642	5.752	100.0%	100.0%

Borough Council Meeting
May 16, 2016

Mayor Cammarano asked if there were any questions from Councilmembers. With none, he stated that the budget will be available on the website as well as in Borough Hall for review. There will be the public hearing and adoption at the June 20th meeting.

Mayor Cammarano asked for a Roll Call vote:

Roll Call: Inserro, Leibfried, Muldoon, Rasmussen, Wallace, and Grayzel voted yes.

Other New Business

Council President Grayzel made a motion to approve R2016-125; authorizing the Payment of the Bill List in the amount of \$127,591.11, second by Councilwoman Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 6-0.

RESOLUTION 2016-125

*Borough of Metuchen
County of Middlesex
State of New Jersey*

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF THE BILL LIST

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Metuchen that the proper warrants be drawn and all bills be paid totaling **\$127,591.11**

I, Rebecca Cuthbert, Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Metuchen do hereby certify that funds are available for the payment of bills for the Borough of Metuchen.

Ordinance – Introduction

Ordinance 2016-13

Council President Grayzel moved Ordinance 2016-13 to be introduced and be taken up on first reading, second by Councilwoman Inserro, with all in favor, motion carried, 6-0.

Council President Grayzel asked that the Ordinance be read by title only.

Borough Clerk read the Ordinance by title only:

Ordinance 2016-13

Ordinance to Amend the Code of the Borough of Metuchen, Chapter 185, Entitled Vehicles and Traffic, Section 185-34 – Handicapped Parking, to add a Designated Location on Rutgers Street

Council President Grayzel moved Ordinance 2016-13 be passed on first reading, be published according to law and a public hearing be set down for Monday, June 6, 2016, second by Councilman Leibfried.

Mayor Cammarano gave a brief explanation for this Ordinance.

Mayor Cammarano asked for a roll call vote.

Roll Call: Inserro, Leibfried, Muldoon, Rasmussen, Wallace and Grayzel voted yes.

Ordinance 2016-13 was passed on first reading and be published according to law, 6-0.

Appointment

Council President Grayzel made a motion to confirm the recommendation of Mayor Cammarano for the following appointments:

Maureen Muenster to the Metuchen Arts Council with a term expiring on 12/12/2018

Second by Councilman Leibfried, with all in favor, motion carried, 6-0

Public Session

Mayor Cammarano opened Public Session to anyone wishing to speak on new items only.

Daniel Lebar, 581 Middlesex Avenue, Metuchen asked that a demonstration be given of the composters available at the Recycling Center. His other item of discussion is about the CSX, Norfolk Southern and Conrail tracks. The overpass near St. Joseph needs repairs and power washing. Mayor Cammarano stated that the composters are available at Public Works Recycling Center for residents to observe and that there has been multiple demonstrations on how to use them. Councilwoman added that there is also a video on the website on how to use the composter.

Seeing no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Cammarano closed the Public Session.

Adjournment

Council President Grayzel made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Councilman Leibfried, with all in favor; the meeting was adjourned at 8:21 pm, 6-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan D. Jackson, RMC
Metuchen Borough Clerk