

## **BOROUGH OF METUCHEN COUNCIL MINUTES**

**May 22, 2023**

**7:30 PM**

The Regular Meeting of the Borough Council was held in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall on Monday, May 22, 2023.

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

Mayor Busch asked all to rise for the flag salute.

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 December 21, 2022, posted in Borough Hall, and on file in the Clerk's Office. All requirements of the "Open Public Meetings Act" have been satisfied.

### **Roll Call**

Mayor Busch asked for a roll call.

Present were Councilmembers Branch, Hirsch, Hyman, Rasmussen, Council President Delia, and Mayor Busch. Councilmember Kandel was absent. Also present were Borough Administrator Melissa Perilstein, Borough Clerk Deborah Zupan, and Borough Attorney Denis Murphy.

### **Agenda Session**

Council President Delia made a motion to open the Agenda Session, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 5-0.

Council President Delia added Resolution 2023-163, authorizing an Executive Session, to the end of the meeting.

Council President Delia added Resolution 2023-164, authorizing an ESCNJ contract for a police vehicle, to the New Business Consent Agenda.

With no other actions taken, Council President Delia made a motion to close the Agenda Session, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 5-0.

### **Public Comment**

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

Carol Savage, 59 Carson Avenue, commented that a tractor trailer had driven down her street, taking down power lines and damaging trees, possibly because detour signs had been incorrectly placed or moved. Ms. Savage also expressed concern for pedestrian safety in town, particularly by the intersection of Woodbridge Avenue and Main Street and suggested better signage for motorists. Finally, Ms. Savage noted that there is a lot of construction being done on Amboy Avenue which is leaving a lot of debris around, and that the contractor should be required to clean up the site.

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

### **Municipal Budget - Introduction**

Borough Administrator Melissa Perilstein gave a presentation outlining the proposed 2023 Municipal Budget.

Council President Delia made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-152, to introduce the Municipal Budget for the calendar year 2023 and to be taken up on first reading, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 5-0.

Council President Delia asked Ms. Zupan to read Resolution 2023-152 by title only.

Ms. Zupan read Resolution 2023-152 by title only.

R2023-152

MUNICIPAL BUDGET FOR THE BOROUGH OF  
METUCHEN, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, FOR  
THE CALENDAR YEAR 2023

Council President Delia made a motion that Resolution 2023-152 be passed on first reading, published according to law, and a public hearing set for Monday, June 26, 2023, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 5-0

Roll Call:               Yeas: Branch, Hirsch, Hyman, Rasmussen, Delia  
                              Nays: None

**Borough Council Meeting Minutes**

Council President Delia made a motion to approve Borough Council Meeting Minutes of February 13, 2023, second by Councilmember Rasmussen. With all in favor, motion carried, 5-0.

**Communications Consent Agenda – Items A - F**

Council President Delia made a motion to approve Communications Consent Agenda, Items A - F, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 5-0.

- A. Receive and Accept Cannabis Subcommittee Report to Council
- B. Receive and Accept Human Relations Commission Meeting Minutes of January 10 and February 7, 2023
- C. Receive and Approve Block Party-Street Closing for Franklyn Place, June 4, 2023
- D. Receive and Approve Block Party-Street Closing for Henry Street, June 3, 2023
- E. Receive and Approve Block Party-Street Closing for Summit Avenue, June 10, 2023
- F. Receive and Approve Block Party-Street Closing for West Walnut Street, June 17, 2023

**Ordinances – Introduction**

Ord. 2023-13

CALENDAR YEAR 2023 ORDINANCE TO  
EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET  
APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO  
ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-  
45.14)

Council President Delia made a motion that Ordinance 2023-13 be introduced and be taken up on first reading, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 5-0.

Council President Delia asked that Ordinance 2023-13 be read by title only.

Ms. Zupan read Ordinance 2023-13 by title only.

Council President Delia moved that Ordinance 2023-13 be passed on first reading, be published according to law, and a public hearing be set down for Monday, June 12, 2023, second by Councilmember Rasmussen.

Roll Call:               Yeas: Branch, Hirsch, Hyman, Rasmussen, Delia  
                              Nays: None

Ordinance 2023-13 was passed on first reading, 5-0, and will be published according to law.

Ord. 2023-14

BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING  
\$16,000,000 AND AUTHORIZING \$15,238,095  
BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH FOR  
THE CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPPING OF A  
NEW EMERGENCY SERVICES CENTER  
AUTHORIZED TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE  
BOROUGH OF METUCHEN, IN THE COUNTY  
OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY

Council President Delia made a motion that Ordinance 2023-14 be introduced and be taken up on first reading, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 5-0.

Council President Delia asked that Ordinance 2023-14 be read by title only.

Ms. Zupan read Ordinance 2023-14 by title only.

Council President Delia moved that Ordinance 2023-14 be passed on first reading, be published according to law, and a public hearing be set down for Monday, June 12, 2023, second by Councilmember Rasmussen.

Roll Call:               Yeas: Branch, Hirsch, Hyman, Rasmussen, Delia  
                              Nays: None

Ordinance 2023-14 was passed on first reading, 5-0, and will be published according to law.

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Ord. 2023-15

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 153,  
ENTITLED "SEWER" OF THE CODE OF THE  
BOROUGH OF METUCHEN SPECIFICALLY  
ARTICLE 3, INCREASING THE SEWER  
CONNECTION FEES

Council President Delia made a motion that Ordinance 2023-15 be introduced and be taken up on first reading, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 5-0.

Council President Delia asked that Ordinance 2023-15 be read by title only.

Ms. Zupan read Ordinance 2023-15 by title only.

Council President Delia moved that Ordinance 2023-15 be passed on first reading, be published according to law, and a public hearing be set down for Monday, June 12, 2023, second by Councilmember Rasmussen.

Roll Call:               Yeas: Branch, Hirsch, Hyman, Rasmussen, Delia  
                              Nays: None

Ordinance 2023-15 was passed on first reading, 5-0, and will be published according to law.

### **Report of Borough Administrator**

There will be a Public Information Session regarding the Emergency Services Building on June 1 from 6 to 8 p.m. Also, the Halsey Lot will be paved starting around June 5. The process will take about a week.

### **Reports of Councilmembers**

Council President Delia

- Thanks to the MDA, there are advertisements for Metuchen at several NJ Transit stations. There are a number of MDA events coming up including the Pre-Prom Party, Downtown Pride, the Downtown Fun House, the Juneteenth celebration, and the Kids' Takeover.

- The Cannabis Subcommittee has submitted its report regarding the Cannabis Retailer application process, which was accepted earlier tonight. One applicant scored high enough to continue in the licensing process.

Mayor Busch announced that Council President Delia was given a prestigious award by Keep Middlesex Moving and thanked him for all he has done to make Metuchen streets safer.

#### Councilmember Rasmussen

- The Environmental Commission met last week and are continuing with their Weed Warrior project and have an upcoming event to remove invasive species in the area. The Commission has been discussing community solar and composting. The Commission is also going to be embarking on a 'Green' business recognition program along with the MDA.
- The Shade Tree Commission was downtown last weekend to prune suckers off the lower parts of Borough trees, and will be expanding this project to other parts of town.
- The Senior Commission currently has an art exhibit at the Library featuring paintings created by the Senior Center members. Please visit the Metuchen Seniors Facebook page, or the Borough website, for upcoming classes and events.

#### Councilmember Hyman

- The Parade Commission and many others are working hard to make sure this year's Memorial Day Parade, specifically the bring home of Staff Sergeant Michael Uhrin's remains, is a success and that it properly honors Staff Sergeant Uhrin. A service at Memorial Park will follow the parade. A winner of the Memorial Day poster contest was chosen; Bryn G., a fourth grader at Campbell School, created the winning design.
- The recent 'Coffee with a Councilmember' event at Beans and Bread, with Council President Delia, was a success.
- Metuchen CARES has a new website featuring information and resources on preventing and overcoming addiction. CARES is also supporting the High School's Project Graduation with donations and lawn signs.

#### Councilmember Hirsch

- The Library will be closed for Memorial Day weekend. A program on Container Gardening is scheduled for May 30, presented by Frederic Primich who is a Rutgers Master Gardener volunteer and a Metuchen resident. "How to Talk to Kids About Racism" will be offered on June 1, to parents and caregivers, from Tabitha and Adam St. Bernard-Jacobs who are educators and parents. This program is funded through the Martin Spritzer Fund to raise awareness for equity, civil rights, and antiracism. The 3rd Cornerstone Jazz Concert in the series will be presented by Grammy nominated Jazz Vocalist Roseanna Vitro and the Jazz Ambassadors which is scheduled for June 11.

#### Councilmember Branch

- There was recently a meeting of a committee of residents to plan a temporary layout for the pocket park, located by the former location of Manasquan Bank. More updates on this soon.
- The Recreation Commission had the Mayor's Bike Tour of Metuchen and Edison yesterday.
- The Arts Council will be hosting the Spring for Spring Dance Festival featuring dancers from Mignolo on June 4.
- The Human Relations Commission will be co-hosting the Downtown Pride event on June 3. Besides the Juneteenth event on June 17, there will be a panel on Hip Hop's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at Suite Metuchen on June 17.

#### **Report of the Mayor**

The pocket park project has been both exciting and overwhelming. There are two phases; the first phase being the pop-up, temporary design, and then the longer term plans. There are a lot of creative minds working to make this a dynamic place to for people to gather and enjoy. We'll soon have an announcement regarding a certain summer series for the Borough.

**New Business Consent Agenda – Resolutions 2023-153 to 2023-161 and 2023-164**

Council President Delia moved to approve New Business Consent Agenda Resolutions 2023-153 to 2023-161 and 2023-164, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 5-0.

**RESOLUTION 2023-153**

**RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2023 TEMPORARY BUDGET**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-19 of the Local Budget Act provides that temporary appropriations shall be made for the purposes and amounts required in the manner and time therein provided.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the following additional temporary emergency appropriations shall be made for the year 2023, effective May 22, 2023:

Recycling	OE	25,000.00
Municipal Court	OE	1,500.00
Street Lighting		40,000.00
Utilities		20,000.00
Public Works Administration	OE	35,000.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$121,500.00</b>

**RESOLUTION 2023-154**

**RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE 2023-24 BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET**

**WHEREAS**, the 2023-2024 school budget for the school district Borough of Metuchen was approved as follows:

General Fund	\$43,066,156
Debt Service	\$ 2,233,604
Total Approved	\$45,299,760

**WHEREAS**, the balance to be raised for the school district taxes on account of the 2022-2023 school tax levy is \$22,204,162.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Metuchen, County of Middlesex, that the school district tax levy for the calendar year 2023 be established as follows:

January 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023 (balance of 2022-2023 levy)	\$22,204,162
July 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 (one-half of 2023-2024 levy)	\$22,649,880
Amount to be raised for school district taxes in 2023	\$44,854,042

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the Middlesex County Board of Taxation.

**RESOLUTION 2023-155**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF CONTRACT TO RENAUD DEAPPOLONIO LLC FOR PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Metuchen has a need to acquire professional legal services to represent the Borough in a recently filed complaint in lieu of prerogative writs against it, using a non-fair and open, now known as required disclosure process pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer/Qualified Purchasing Agent anticipates that the value of the services rendered may exceed \$17,500; and

**WHEREAS**, Renaud DeAppolonio LLC, currently serves as legal counsel to the Borough of Metuchen Planning and Zoning Boards and is also the Borough's Affordable Housing/COAH legal counsel and has the required expertise to represent the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, Renaud DeAppolonio LLC has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Renaud DeAppolonio LLC has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Metuchen in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit Renaud DeAppolonio LLC from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

**WHEREAS**, the maximum amount of the contract is \$10,000.00 and the Chief Financial Officer has certified that there are sufficient funds for such contract and is available and is designated from 2023 Temporary Budget and 2023 Adopted Budget Legal Services Account number 3-01-20-712-027 for these services.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Metuchen as follows:

1. The Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute an agreement with Renaud DeAppolonio LLC, 190 North Avenue E, Cranford, NJ 07016.
2. This contract is awarded as a required disclosure (non-fair and open) "Professional Service" in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5.
3. The Business Disclosure Entity Certification be placed on file with this resolution.
4. A notice of this action shall be printed once in The Home News Tribune.

#### **RESOLUTION 2023-156**

#### **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD AND EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT FOR CONSULTANT SERVICES**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Metuchen has determined that it is necessary to procure recruitment and general management consultant services for the Borough of Metuchen; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Public Contracts Law, *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.1 et seq.*, provides for the utilization of a process called competitive contracting in lieu of public bidding for granting of a competitive contract for consulting services; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to *N.J.S.A.11-4-3(a)*, by way of Resolution No. 2023-117, the Borough Council authorized the use of competitive contracting for the granting of a contract for recruitment and general management consultant services for the Borough of Metuchen; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Metuchen prepared, issued, and publicly advertised a Notice of a Request for Proposals for the provision of granting a competitive contract for recruitment and general management consultant services for the Borough of Metuchen; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough received two (2) proposals for a competitive contract for recruitment and general management consultant services for the Borough of Metuchen; and

**WHEREAS**, Metuchen through a Committee comprised of the Borough Administrator or designee, the Director of Economic Development and the QPA evaluated the proposals submitted based upon the criteria set forth in the RFP and have determined and recommended the award of contract to Jersey Professional Management for the provision of 2023 Consultant Services–Recruitment and General Management Consultant Services in the total amount not to exceed One Hundred Ten Thousand dollars (\$110,000.00) for Recruitment and General Management Consultant Services; and

**WHEREAS**, the maximum amount approved for the provision of Recruitment and General Management Consultant Services for the Borough of Metuchen is \$110,000.00 and funds are available in the 2023 Temporary and 2023 Adopted Budget, Account Public Works Administration, Professional Services 3-01-26-764-028 in the amount of \$100,000.00 and from Administrative and Executive Professional Services 3-01-20-701-028 in the amount of \$10,000.00 as certified by the Chief Financial Officer and that there are sufficient funds for such award in the amount of \$110,000.00: and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Metuchen have determined that it to be in the best interest of Metuchen to authorize the contract for the 2023 Consultant Services–Recruitment and General Management Consultant Services to Jersey Professional Management.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the Borough of Metuchen that it hereby authorizes the award of contract for the 2023 Consultant Services–Recruitment and General Management Consultant Services to Jersey Professional Management.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Council of the Borough of Metuchen that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute an agreement, with Jersey Professional Management, 16 Pearl Street, Suite 210, Metuchen, NJ 08840, consistent with the terms of the within Resolution, the RFP and the proposal submitted to the Borough; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Borough Administrator, and other officials and employees are hereby authorized to take all necessary actions in order to effectuate the terms and provisions of this Resolution and the award and implementation of the contract awarded herein; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the within contract was awarded pursuant to a “Fair and Open Process” pursuant to New Jersey Local Unit Pay-To-Play Law (N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4, et. seq.).

**RESOLUTION 2023-157**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTION A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE HILLSIDE AVENUE BIKEWAY PROJECT**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of Metuchen formally approves the grant application for the above stated project.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as LTPF-2023-Hillside Avenue Bikeway Project-00129 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Borough of Metuchen; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Borough of Metuchen and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

**RESOLUTION 2023-158**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ENTRY INTO A DEVELOPERS' AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF METUCHEN AND 51 HOLLY ROAD ASSOCIATES,  
LLC AND 195 MAIN STREET ASSOCIATES, LLC**

**WHEREAS**, 51 Holly Road Associates is the Developer of property located at Block 158, Lots, 1.01 & 1.02 shown on the Official Tax Map of the Borough of Metuchen, and more commonly known as 195 Main Street ("the Property"); and

**WHEREAS**, 195 Main Street Associates, LLC is the current owner of property located at Block 158, Lots, 1.01 & 1.02 shown on the Official Tax Map of the Borough of Metuchen, and more commonly known as 195 Main Street ("the Property"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Developer filed an application with the Zoning Board of Adjustment for preliminary and final site plan approval with "D(1)" variance and "C" variances and exceptions for the Property (collectively referred to as "the Project"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Metuchen Zoning Board of Adjustment granted the Developer preliminary and final major site plan approval with D(1) variance, C variances and exceptions to permit a three story mixed-use building with an office and thirteen (13) apartment units subject to various conditions of approval and such approval was memorialized by way of Resolution of the Zoning Board of Adjustment dated December 10, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, approval of the Zoning Board was subject to the Developer and Owner ("Developers") entering into a Developers' Agreement with the Borough of Metuchen; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to § 110-254 of the Code of the Borough of Metuchen Developer's Agreements shall be approved by the Council of the Borough of Metuchen; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Metuchen deem it in the best interest of the Borough to enter into the proposed Developers' Agreement with 51 Holly Road Associates, LLC and 195 Main Street Associates, LLC reflecting the approvals, conditions and requirements thereof in the form attached hereto and incorporated herein.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the Borough of Metuchen that it hereby authorizes the entry into and the execution of the proposed Developers' Agreement by and between the Borough of Metuchen and 51 Holly Road Associates, LLC and 195 Main Street Associates, LLC.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Council of the Borough of Metuchen that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute the proposed Developers' Agreement between the Borough of Metuchen and 51 Holly Road Associates, LLC and 195 Main Street Associates, LLC; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Council of the Borough of Metuchen that it hereby authorizes all Borough officials to take all necessary actions in order to effectuate the within Resolution and the terms and conditions of the executed Developers' Agreement.

**RESOLUTION 2023-159**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF METUCHEN  
TAX COLLECTOR TO PREPARE AND MAIL ESTIMATED  
TAX BILLS IN ACCORDANCE WITH P.L. 1994, c.72**

**WHEREAS**, the Middlesex County Board of Taxation has not adopted the Middlesex County Budget for 2023, and the Borough of Metuchen Tax Collector will be unable to mail the Borough's 2023 tax bills on a timely basis; and



**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Metuchen Tax Collector/Chief Finance Officer has computed an estimated tax levy in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.3, and has signed a certification showing the tax levies for the previous year, the tax range, and the range of permitted estimated tax levies.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF METUCHEN, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY ON THE 22ND OF MAY 2023, AS FOLLOWS:**

1. The Metuchen Borough Tax Collector is hereby authorized and directed to prepare, and issue estimated tax bills for the Borough for the third installment of 2023 taxes. The Tax Collector shall proceed on May 23rd, 2023, and take such actions as are permitted and required by P.L. 1994, c.72 (N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.2 and 54:4-66.3).
2. The entire regular estimated tax levy for 2023 is hereby set at \$72,297,568.76.
3. The Special Improvement District tax levy for those properties designated as in the Special Improvement District is hereby set at \$250,000.00.
4. In accordance with law the third installment of 2023 taxes shall not be subject to interest until the later of August 10 or the twenty-fifth calendar day after the date the estimated tax bills were mailed. The estimated tax bills shall contain a notice specifying the date on which interest may begin to accrue.

**RESOLUTION 2023-160**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING PERSON-TO-PERSON AND PLACE-TO-PLACE TRANSFER OF LIQUOR LICENSE FROM WOODMONT METUCHEN LLC TO SATYA BEVERAGES LLC**

**WHEREAS**, an application was filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk on July 26, 2022 for a Person-To-Person and Place-To-Place transfer of Liquor License No. 1210-33-009-009 from Woodmont Metuchen LLC to Satya Beverages LLC, t/a Meximodo, for 99 New Street, Metuchen, NJ 08840; and

**WHEREAS**, the submitted application form was complete in all respects, the transfer fees have been paid, and the license has been properly renewed for the current license term; and

**WHEREAS**, the applicant is qualified to be licensed according to all standards established by Title 33 of the New Jersey Statutes, regulations promulgated there under, as well as pertinent local Ordinances and conditions consistent with Title 33 and a Tax Clearance Certificate has been received; and

**WHEREAS**, the Police Department has reviewed the application and recommends that the transfer be approved.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Metuchen do hereby approve the Person-To-Person and Place-To-Place transfer of Liquor License No. 1210-33-009-009 to Satya Beverages LLC, t/a Meximodo, for 99 New Street, Metuchen, NJ 08840 effective May 23, 2023.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Municipal Clerk is hereby directed to notify the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control of this transfer and to change the generation number of the license to 1210-33-009-010 reflecting said transfer.

**RESOLUTION 2023-161**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ‘CLICK IT OR TICKET’ MOBILIZATION OF  
MAY 22 – JUNE 4, 2023**

**WHEREAS**, there were 694 motor vehicle fatalities in New Jersey in 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 40% of the motor vehicle occupants killed in those traffic crashes were not wearing a seat belt; and

**WHEREAS**, use of a seat belt remains the most effective way to avoid death or serious injury in a motor vehicle crash; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that 135,000 lives were saved by safety belt usage nationally between 1975-2000; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of New Jersey will participate in the nationwide *Click It or Ticket* seat belt mobilization from May 22 – June 4, 2023 in an effort to raise awareness and increase seat belt usage through a combination of high visibility enforcement and public education; and

**WHEREAS**, the Division of Highway Traffic Safety has set a goal of further increasing the seat belt usage rate in the state from the current level of 93%; and

**WHEREAS**, a further increase in seat belt usage in New Jersey will save lives on our roadways.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Borough of Metuchen declares its support for the *Click It or Ticket* seat belt mobilization both locally and nationally from May 22 – June 4, 2023 and pledges to increase awareness of the mobilization and the benefits of seat belt use.

**RESOLUTION 2023-164**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ESCNJ CONTRACT FOR ONE POLICE SUV**

**WHEREAS**, there exists a need to purchase a police SUV for the Borough of Metuchen, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, there exists a need for a police SUV which is available through ESCNJ 20/21-09– Cars, Crossovers, Pickup Trucks, SUV’s and Vans; and

**WHEREAS**, the term of the contract is from September 15, 2020 to September 14, 2022, with a contract extension through September 14, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer’s certification of funds is made authorizing the award to purchase a 2023 Chevrolet Tahoe SSV 4WD from the Capital Bond Ordinance 2023-07, C-04-55-939-011 in the amount of \$58,374.15; and

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

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

The Chief Financial Officer and Borough Administrator are hereby authorized and directed to approve and forward a purchase order to Mall Chevrolet, 75 Haddonfield Road, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002.

**Other New Business**

R2023-162

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF THE  
BILL LIST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,807,761.26

Council President Delia made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-162, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 5-0.

**RESOLUTION 2023-162**

**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 \$3,807,761.26.

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.

**Executive Session**

Council President Delia made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-163, authorizing an Executive Session, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 5-0.

The Executive Session began at 8:35 p.m.

**RESOLUTION 2023-163**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION WHICH EXCLUDES THE  
PUBLIC**

**WHEREAS**, the Open Public Meetings Act, P. L. 1975, Chapter 231 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the Borough of Metuchen is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the Borough of Metuchen wishes to discuss:

**Matters Involving Attorney-Client Privilege**

Minutes will be kept and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes can be made public.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the public be excluded from this meeting.

At 9:02 p.m., Council President Delia made a motion to return to the Regular Meeting, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, motion carried, 5-0.

**Adjournment**

Council President Delia made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Councilmember Rasmussen, with all in favor, 5-0, the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Borough Council Meeting  
May 22, 2023

Deborah Zupan, RMC, Borough Clerk