

**ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP COUNCIL –MARCH 22, 2022
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

The Regular Meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Rockaway was held on Tuesday, March 22, 2022. This meeting was held remotely/electronically using the platform Webex Events and commenced at approximately 6:30PM.

Council President Kritz led those present in the flag salute.

Council President Kritz called for a moment of silence to remember the services and sacrifices of the armed service members who protect our Nation and the first responders who protect our neighborhoods.

Roll Call was taken for attendance.

Present: Councilman Quinn, Councilman Friedlander, Councilman Brookes, Councilwoman Noon, Councilman Salberg, Councilwoman Brookes, Councilman Wojtowicz, Council Vice President Sackett, and Council President Kritz.

Present from Administration: Mayor Jackson, Attorney Iacofano, Ms. Patricia Seger, Mr. Bryan Coward, Ms. Lisa Palmieri, Ms. Allison Ferrante, and Jeffrey Heintzelman.

Council President Kritz stated, “Notice of this meeting was sent to the Daily Record and the Star Ledger, the official newspapers for the Township of Rockaway, on March 14, 2022. Notice was posted on the official bulletin boards of Rockaway Township.”

Council President Kritz stated, “Please be advised that all electronic/remote meetings of the Township Council held on Webex are recorded. Full and complete information concerning public attendance at all Webex meetings is published on the Township website. All members of the public will be provided the opportunity to speak. Please be further advised that during any “public hearing” or “open to the public” sections of the meeting, the Township Clerk will send an “unmute request” to each member of the public and ask if they wish to speak. Once the Township Clerk has sent the unmute request: If you are attending the meeting by telephone, you will be prompted to press *6 to unmute yourself and if you are attending the meeting using your computer, you will receive a pop-up requesting that you unmute yourself. As per Rockaway Township Code 2-5.14, any person desiring to address the Council shall first seek recognition by the presiding officer; and upon recognition by the chair, the person shall give their name and address for the record. Unless further time is granted by the Council, they shall limit their statement to three minutes. Statements shall be addressed to the Council as a body and not to any member thereof. A Councilman shall not direct any question to a speaker addressing the Council, except through the presiding officer. In addition to speaking on the record during Council Meetings, members of the public may submit questions and comments to the Council by emailing questions@rockawaytownship.org by the end of the “Open to the Public” session.”

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

March 5, 2022 – Special (Budget) Meeting

Motion was made by Councilman Friedlander, seconded by Councilman Salberg, to approve the March 5, 2022 Special (Budget) Meeting Minutes.

Roll call was taken.

Yah Votes: 8 (J. Quinn, E. Friedlander, D. Brookes, M. Noon, A. Salberg, R. Brookes, J. Sackett, H. Kritz)
Nah Votes: 0
Abstentions: 1 (P. Wojtowicz)
Motion carries.

The results of the vote were announced. Eight yes votes, one abstention, motion carries.

March 8, 2022 – Regular Meeting

Motion was made by Councilman Friedlander, seconded by Councilman Quinn, to approve the March 8, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Roll call was taken.

Yah Votes: 9 (J. Quinn, E. Friedlander, D. Brookes, M. Noon, A. Salberg, R. Brookes, P. Wojtowicz, J. Sackett, H. Kritz)
Nah Votes: 0
Abstentions: 0
Motion carries.

The results of the vote were announced. Nine yes votes, motion carries.

Council President Kritz stated that he asked Township Attorney to make a brief statement regarding the proposed construction in the Birchwood section as he anticipates that some members of the public may speak to that tonight and hopefully the statement will clear up some possible misconceptions.

Attorney Iacofano stated that the ordinance that is pending to be approved by Council at the April 12th meeting is to amend our land use ordinance to provide for a different use at the particular location, it is not an ordinance that approves a specific use for the location. If passed, it does not mean that any project is approved. He outlined the application process.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

William Degnan, 88 Valleyview Dr. Mr. Degnan stated that he saw information in the ordinance packet about the water supply and adding infrastructure and he asked if we should be able to apply for federal infrastructure grants.

INTRODUCTION OF THE 2022 MUNICIPAL BUDGET:

ORDINANCE TO INTRODUCE:

O-22-09 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

Motion was made by Councilman Quinn, seconded by Councilman Friedlander, to adopt Ordinance O-22-09.

Roll call was taken.

Yah Votes: 9 (J. Quinn, E. Friedlander, D. Brookes, M. Noon, A. Salberg, R. Brookes, P. Wojtowicz, J. Sackett, H. Kritz)
Nah Votes: 0

Motion carries.

The results of the vote were announced. Nine yes votes, motion carries.

RESOLUTIONS:

R-22-44 A RESOLUTION TO INTRODUCE THE 2022 MUNICIPAL BUDGET OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS

Motion was made by Councilman Quinn, seconded by Councilman Salberg, to introduce Ordinance R-22-44.

Roll call was taken.

Yah Votes: 9 (J. Quinn, E. Friedlander, D. Brookes, M. Noon, A. Salberg, R. Brookes, P. Wojtowicz, J. Sackett, H. Kritz)

Nah Votes: 0

Motion carries.

The results of the vote were announced. Nine yes votes, motion carries.

ORDINANCES TO INTRODUCE:

O-22-10 BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$3,613,675, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$3,187,675 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP, FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS OR PURPOSES AUTHORIZED TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY.

Motion was made by Councilman Quinn, seconded by Councilman Wojtowicz, to introduce Ordinance O-22-10.

Roll call was taken.

Yah Votes: 9 (J. Quinn, E. Friedlander, D. Brookes, M. Noon, A. Salberg, R. Brookes, P. Wojtowicz, J. Sackett, H. Kritz)

Nah Votes: 0

Motion carries.

The results of the vote were announced. Nine yes votes, motion carries.

O-22-11 BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$1,279,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,193,800 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP, FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS OR PURPOSES AUTHORIZED TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY, FOR THE WATER SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM OF THE TOWNSHIP.

Motion was made by Councilman Quinn, seconded by Councilman Friedlander, to introduce Ordinance O-22-11.

Roll call was taken.

Yah Votes: 9 (J. Quinn, E. Friedlander, D. Brookes, M. Noon, A. Salberg, R. Brookes, P. Wojtowicz, J. Sackett, H. Kritz)

Nah Votes: 0

Motion carries.

The results of the vote were announced. Nine yes votes, motion carries.

CONSENT AGENDA:

R-22-45 REDEMPTION OF TAX TITLE LIEN C#20-014 AGAINST BLOCK 40202 LOT 11 KNOWN AS 4 OLD LANE

R-22-46 REDEMPTION OF TAX TITLE LIEN C#21-005 AGAINST BLOCK 11507.19 LOT 5 KNOWN AS 322 RICHARD MINE RD / U5.

R-22-47 REDEMPTION OF TAX TITLE LIEN C#16-053 AGAINST BLOCK 21904 LOT 10 KNOWN AS 19 NOKOMIS AVE.

R-22-48 GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE UNITED STATES EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION'S "ENFORCEMENT GUIDANCE ON THE CONSIDERATION OF ARREST AND CONVICTION RECORDS IN EMPLOYMENT DECISIONS UNDER TITLE VII OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964"

R-22-49 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY TO ACCEPT A SUBGRANT AWARD OF THE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2021 OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY ASSISTANCE

R-22-50 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPROPRIATE GRANT APPLICATION BY THE TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY TO THE MORRIS COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST FUND FOR A 2022 GRANT FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE FORD-FAESCH MANOR HOUSE C.1772 OWNED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY

R-22-51 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY, COUNTY OF MORRIS AND STATE OF NEW JERUSEY URGING THE SWIFT PASSAGE OF S-330 AND A-1012 WHICH RESTORES ENERGY TAX RECEIPTS

R-22-52 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN AN AMENDED DEVELOPER'S AGREEMENT TO ACCEPT THE FUTURE DEDICATION OF THE PONDVIEW ONSITE SEWER SYSTEM AT THE PROPERTY DESIGNATED AS BLOCK 11501 LOTS 24, 29, 41, 45, 46 AND 47 AND BLOCK 11502, LOT 2 ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY

R-22-53 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF A PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,402,920.00 UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$701,460.00 BY U.S. HOME CORPORATION D/B/A LENNAR (FORMERLY KNOWN AS COVENTRY PARK AT ROCKAWAY) REGARDING THE PROPERTY DESIGNATED AS BLOCK 22401 LOT 1.01 ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY (GREEN POND ROAD)

R-22-54 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF A PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE PREVIOUSLY POSTED BY A.C. SCHULTES, INC AND REQUIRING THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE FOR ONE YEAR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$387,000.00 APPLICABLE TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE REPLACEMENT OF WELL 10

R-22-56 A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SURPLUS PERSONAL PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE ON AN ONLINE AUCTION WEBSITE

Motion was made by Councilman Salberg, seconded by Councilman Quinn, to approve the consent agenda.

Roll call was taken.

Yah Votes: 9 (J. Quinn, E. Friedlander, D. Brookes, M. Noon, A. Salberg, R. Brookes, P. Wojtowicz, J. Sackett, H. Kritz)

Nah Votes: 0

Motion carries.

The results of the vote were announced. Nine yes votes, motion carries.

APPOINTMENTS:

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT WITH THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE COUNCIL:

Municipal Judge: Gerard Smith

R-22-55 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF THE MUNICIPAL JUDGE FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY

Motion was made by Councilman Quinn, seconded by Councilman Brookes, to appoint Gerard Smith as the Municipal Judge for the Township of Rockaway.

Roll call was taken.

Yah Votes: 9 (J. Quinn, E. Friedlander, D. Brookes, M. Noon, A. Salberg, R. Brookes, P. Wojtowicz, J. Sackett, H. Kritz)

Nah Votes: 0

Motion carries.

The results of the vote were announced. Nine yes votes, motion carries.

Mayor Jackson state that he is very committed to Rockaway Township and its residents and he appreciates his service.

Judge Smith stated that he loves this town and will support it in any way he can, it's his home and his heart. He thanked all for his reappointment.

OLD BUSINESS, NEW BUSINESS, AND REPORTS:

Councilman Brookes said that spring cleanup is starting and so be sure to check website for cleanup dates and not set up items too early. He also said that he is looking forward to spring sports.

Councilman Salberg said that there is nothing new to report on the Board of Commissioners. He said that on Saturday, March 26, Rise Up Rockaway is hosting a spring craft fair from 10 to 3 PM at Holy Trinity Church. He reported that trout stocking has begun, there are amazing trout fishing possibilities, and that streams are closed until opening day on April 9.

Councilman Friedlander reported that the Hibernia branch of the library is open with programs at full capacity. He noted that on April 24, the library festival will take place, with a petting zoo, exhibits and other fun things for all. He said that the Substance Abuse Alliance is holding an event May 19 from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. at the Rockaway Barn and urged all to support this cause. He ended by noting that the Board of Assessment Commissioners meeting is scheduled for March 30.

Councilman Quinn stated that he attended the Planning Board meeting and he looks forward to new developments as long as they're the right developments. He said that Dial-a-Ride is running a trip to Cracker Barrel on March 28 from 10 to noon and provided the phone number. He ended by noting that sports programs are starting up and need volunteers.

Councilwoman Noon stated that on an Easter bunny event will take place at 10 AM, Saturday, April 9 at Copeland Middle School. She also stated that on Saturday, April 23 there will be spring clean ups at Parks Lake, Mt. Hope Pond, and Egberts.

Councilwoman Brookes said that there is an upcoming event, the Junior Knights Beefsteak, on March 26th with a 50/50 raffle and tricky tray event and it should be a good time. She reminded teen drivers to be cautious and aware of kids playing outside as the weather gets nicer. She noted that a Board member Tanya Shields, the Operations Committee Chair, and she is excited to meet Mayor Jackson regarding Pondview as they're open to conversations. She ended by noting that the Superintendent search is still under way.

Councilman Wojtowicz stated that it's time to stock up for allergy season.

Council Vice President Sackett reported that the Citizens' Recreation Committee meeting is on April 5. He said that there have been complaints in White Meadow Lake area about speeding and delivery trucks driving the wrong way, especially on North Lake Shore Drive, and to please be cautious, obey signs, and slow down. He congratulated the fifth and sixth graders on a win at a great three on three lacrosse tournament on Sunday.

Council President Kritz recognized the Fire Department with the recent fire at Rockaway Ridge and said that he believes that if not for the job they did it could have spread to a much larger area. He thanked the Fire Department and the residents who are trying to take care of each other. He reported he is a big supporter of volunteerism and that there is a change in leadership for Rockaway Basketball, with Andrew Maclay is stepping down and Chris Kleiven is taking over. He added that the secretary Michelle Hartsuiker is also stepping down. He reported that softball is underway. He ended by noting that this is the last Webex meeting and he thanked everyone for their patience, and that the in-person meetings are moving to 7 p.m.

Mayor Jackson recognized Jeff Heintzelman, the Fire Chair, in order for him to give a prepared statement on the recent fire at Rockaway Ridge.

Mr. Heintzelman made a statement regarding a fire that occurred in the Township. He called attention to all the fire fighters for the incredible job they did, noting that their training and efforts paid off. He wished the residents who are displaced a speedy recovery in getting their lives back in order.

Mayor Jackson gave recognition to the Fire Department and Police Department for their response. He also thanked mutual aid Fire Departments, American Red Cross, and the Township's Board of Health. He stated that the Township vehicles have been moved in order to provide visitors with seven additional parking spaces at the municipal building. He stated that the Township and Borough are working on incorporating a memorial in honor of General Odierno during renovations at Parks Lake. He said that there are job postings on the Township Facebook page and website.

Ms. Ferrante stated that there are two upcoming construction projects. She continued that Kings Road will be closed, starting at the top (south) adjacent to Mt. Pleasant and work done towards Fleetwood and it could take as much as three to four months, and if there are any questions to please contact the Engineering Department. She noted that the other project is County work on Meridan Road where they are replacing the bridge over Beaver Brook which is a four to five month project.

Ms. Palmieri reported that she will be submitting the budget as approved to the State tomorrow and that it can be put on the April 26 meeting for approval. She added that the two bond ordinances that were introduced tonight will also be on that meeting's agenda. She said that Ray Sarinelli will attend that meeting.

Ms. Seger responded to the resident who asked about Federal money for infrastructure, specifically the sewer system, noting that the Township has received money and the staff is working on receiving more.

Attorney Iacofano stated that he had no report.

Motion was made by Councilman Quinn, seconded by Councilwoman Noon, to adjourn this meeting at approximately 7:13 PM. There was general consensus.

The next Regular Meeting of the Council of the Township of Rockaway is scheduled for April 12, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,



Christina Clipperton
Municipal Clerk

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
J. Quinn	X		X			
E. Friedlander			X			
D. Brookes						X
M. Noon			X			
A. Salberg						X
R. Brookes			X			
P. Wojtowicz			X			
J. Sackett		X	X			
H. Kritz			X			