

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – DECEMBER 6, 2021

Deputy Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and requested the Clerk to call the roll. The following members were present: Keith Cafferty, Robert Lane, Jr., Nicholas Williams, and Tassie D. York. Absent: Mayor Michael Brantley.

Also present were Richard J. Cuttrell, Municipal Clerk; Vito D. Gadaleta, Business Administrator; Gina LaPlaca, Assistant Business Administrator; and Gene Anthony, Township Attorney;

Deputy Mayor Williams announced that the notice requirements of R.S. 10:4-18 have been satisfied by the publication of the required advertisement in The Coaster and the Asbury Park Press on May 27, 2021, posting the notice on the Board in the Municipal Complex, and filing a copy of said notice with the Municipal Clerk. In addition, the meeting agenda is posted on the Township web site (www.neptunetownship.org) and the meeting is being streamed live via townhallstreams.com.

The following items were discussed in open session:

Mr. Anthony stated that Mr. Cafferty asked him to revisit the ordinance to impose an occupancy tax on hotels and motels. A draft ordinance was distributed which is very similar to the draft created about six years ago. Hotels and motels would be taxed at 3% of the amount charged to guests. This does not include bed and breakfast establishments or “Airbnb”. Mr. Cafferty stated the Committee will consider bed and breakfast establishments and “Airbnb” is a separate ordinance because the Township does not currently regulate them. The Committee asked that the draft ordinance be considered for introduction in January.

Mr. Lane stated that Christmas wreaths will be placed in Veterans Memorial Park on December 11th. Wreaths Across America will also be placing wreaths on veterans gravesites.

Ms. York invited everyone to the Winter Festival at Midtown Commons Park on December 18th from 1:00 to 4:00.

Mr. Gadaleta stated that he had a visit from a resident concerned about the amendments to the dumpster ordinance recently adopted by the Committee. The resident will be coming to the open portion of the meeting to comment on the matter.

AUTHORIZE AN EXECUTIVE SESSION AS AUTHORIZED BY THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Mr. Lane offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Ms. York, that it be adopted:

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and,

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune, County of Monmouth, as follows:

1. The Public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matters.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

Personnel – Recommendations for police hirings and promotions.
Personnel – Recommendation for position of Recreation Coordinator and Bookkeeper (two)
Personnel – Recommendation for appointment of Municipal Clerk
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matters will be made public when matters are resolved.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

The resolution was adopted on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, aye; Williams, aye; York, aye; and Brantley, aye.

The Committee entered executive session for discussion on closed session matters.

Mr. Williams stated that a resolution will be on the December 20th meeting to hire four police officers. The Committee has been provided with the recommendations.

The Committee reviewed recommendations for the hiring of a Recreation Coordinator, two Bookkeepers, and the Municipal Clerk. They took action by resolution during the regular portion of the meeting.

In regards to a resolution to appoint a Supervising Special Law Enforcement Officer (SLEO), Mr. Anthony stated that the Labor Attorney is drafting an ordinance amendment that requires the advertisement of certain job openings. The ordinance will be discussed at the December 20th meeting. The Committee took action during the regular business portion of the meeting to table a resolution to appoint a Supervising SLEO.

The Committee returned to the Meeting Room for the regular portion of the meeting.

Deputy Mayor Williams called the regular meeting to order and requested the Clerk to call the roll. The following members were present: Keith Cafferty, Robert Lane, Jr., Nicholas Williams, and Tassie D. York. Absent: Mayor Michael Brantley.

Also present at the dais were Richard J. Cuttrell, Municipal Clerk; Vito D. Gadaleta, Business Administrator; Gina LaPlaca, Assistant Business Administrator; and Gene Anthony, Township Attorney.

After a moment of Silent Prayer and the Flag Salute, the Deputy Mayor asked the Clerk to indicate the fire exits.

The Clerk stated, "Fire exits are located in the rear of the room and to my right. In case of fire you will be notified by bell and or public address system, then proceed to the nearest smoke-free exit"

Deputy Mayor Williams announced that the notice requirements of R.S. 10:4-18 have been satisfied by the publication of the required advertisement in The Coaster and the Asbury Park Press on May 27, 2021, posting the notice on the Board in the Municipal Complex, and filing a copy of said notice with the Municipal Clerk. In addition, the meeting agenda, ordinances, and resolutions are posted on the Township web site (www.neptunetownship.org) and the meeting is being streamed live via townhallstreams.com.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Lane offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Cafferty, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on November 22, 2021. All were in favor.

PROMOTE OFFICERS IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief James Hunt introduced the police officers recommended for promotion to Lieutenant and Sergeant. All were present and stood as the Chief provided the background and experience on each candidate.

The Deputy Mayor requested public comments regarding the resolution. There being no comments, he closed the public comment portion.

Mr. Lane offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Ms. York, that it be adopted:

WHEREAS, the Business Administrator posted for vacancies in the rank of Lieutenant and Sergeant in the Police Department; and,

WHEREAS, the resumes that were submitted for the position were reviewed and interviews subsequently conducted; and,

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police has submitted a recommendation to promote one (1) police officer to the rank of Lieutenant and five (5) police officers to the rank of Sergeant consistent with the Department's Standard Operating Procedure for promotions (Ordinance No. 21-38), pursuant to Police Accreditation Standard 2.3.1; and,

WHEREAS, funds will be provided in the 2021 Municipal Budget in the appropriation entitled Police S&W and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune

that the following police officers are hereby promoted to the rank indicated in the Police Department effective December 7, 2021:

To the rank of Lieutenant:

Sgt. Jason Petillo

To the rank of Sergeant:

Ptl. Aaron Lay
Ptl. Robert O'Heney
Ptl. Thomas Blewitt
Det. Bryan Taylor
Det. Bryan Maher

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief of Police, Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., and Human Resources Director.

The resolution was adopted on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, aye; Williams, aye; and York, aye.

The Oaths of Office were administered by Deputy Mayor Williams. After a brief recess, the meeting reconvened.

COMMENTS FROM THE DAIS

Mr. Lane attended a meeting of the Police Committee where the promotion of officers was discussed. He attended the Chamber of Commerce Small Business Day. Vaccine and booster shots were offered by the Senior Center. The Thanksgiving lunch was a success and two Christmas parties are coming up. The Center received an additional \$1,000 in Title IIIB funding. Medicare open enrollment ends on December 7th and the Senior Center has been offering seminars to help seniors decide. Mr. Lane recognized his Mother who will be turning 80 years old.

Ms. York thanked the Public Works Department for their help in setting up multiple Christmas tree lighting ceremonies. She attended the Chamber of Commerce Small Business Day, the Senior Center Thanksgiving luncheon, and various tree lighting ceremonies. She also presented a proclamation to a Neptune resident who retired after 33 years as a Social Worker.

Mr. Cafferty stated that the Recreation Department held a bingo event attended by Santa Claus. He is very pleased with the variety of events put on by the Recreation Department. The Parking Committee has met a few times and there is still work to be done. He thanked everyone who worked as a member of the Committee.

Mr. Williams stated that with the colder winter weather, there are only about 20 boats still in the water at the marina. Public Works is doing a great job with leaf collection. This year saw a late leaf fall and they dropped all at once. He wished everyone an early happy holidays.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Gadaleta provided an update on Township projects as follows:

He heard from Hovnanian Property Management Company on the status of redevelopment at the former Asbury Park Press site at Route 66 and Jumping Brook Road. It appears the hotel industry is ramping up and a deal at the site is going under contract. They continue to negotiate a possible contract with a gasoline/convenience tenant and a fast food operator is being strongly considered. Further, a large home resource supplier and retailer has visited their site and is currently running numbers in order to provide a possible Letter of Interest. Engineering contract proposals are being reviewed. Further information to follow.

The last six housing units at the Schoolhouse Square Project are being finished with Certificates of Occupancy expected to be issued middle to end of January 2022. That project is located on Embury Avenue in the Midtown Area.

The Township's Engineering Consultant, Leon S. Avakian, has advised that all documentation required by the ACOE, for the Living Shoreline Project at South Riverside Drive, has been submitted to the ACOE. We should expect a response from the ACOE shortly. Again, this would likely be a late Spring project.

The Committee and Planning Board approved changes to the R1 land use regulations to permit residential density guidelines for the parcel of land adjacent to Holy Innocents Church. The Mumford Group, who is under contract with the Diocese of Trenton for purchase of that parcel of land, advises that full engineering for the development of new, single family homes, will be completed by early January followed by a submission to the Planning Board shortly thereafter.

The Gateway Redevelopment Area at Routes 35 and 33 remains on the front burner as the Township Planner continues to work on a redevelopment plan. The Mumford Group, owners of the bulk of the land in the redevelopment area, has completed the architectural and site layout of the project. Final calculations for bulk standards will be available to our Planner by end of this year. In 2022 the Township Committee and Planning Board will address a potential redevelopment plan.

At the last Township Committee meeting representatives of MURC addressed the Committee concerning the M&M Properties development at the former Coca Cola site. Those representatives advised the Committee that MURC would be joining with the Colonial Terrace HOA in their opposition to the approved project and its traffic impacts in the Midtown area. On December 8th, the Planning Board will memorialize the project approval. Once notice of that resolution is provided, there is a 45 day appeal window.

Concerning the OGNED Project at North End Ocean Grove, OGNED advises there will be a further HPC Tech Review Committee meeting this coming Wednesday to discuss architectural concerns. Per HPC Team the only building being looked at, at this time, is the hotel. More to come moving forward.

RESOLUTION TO EMPLOY SUPERVISING SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT ON A PART-TIME BASIS – TABLED

Ms. York offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Cafferty, to table a resolution to “Employ Supervising Special Law Enforcement Officer in the Police Department on a part-time basis”. All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON RESOLUTIONS

Deputy Mayor Williams asked for public comments regarding resolutions presented on this agenda only. The public was permitted to speak one time with a limit of five minutes.

There were no public comments.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-50 - ADOPTED

Mr. Lane offered the following ordinance, moved and seconded by Ms. York, that it be adopted:

ORDINANCE NO. 21-50

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VOLUME I, CHAPTER IV, SECTION 4-4 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE ENTITLED “SOLICITOR, CANVASSER, PEDDLER, HAWKER, ITINERANT MERCHANT OR TRANSIENT VENDOR”

The Deputy Mayor requested comments on the above ordinance. There being no comments, he closed the public hearing.

The ordinance was adopted on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, aye; Williams, aye; and York, aye.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-51 - ADOPTED

Mr. Cafferty offered the following ordinance, moved and seconded by Ms. York, that it be adopted:

ORDINANCE NO. 21-51

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VOLUME I, CHAPTER IV, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE TO ADD SECTION 4-5 TO BE ENTITLED “MOBILE FOOD VENDORS”

The Deputy Mayor requested comments on the above ordinance, and they were as follows:

Richard Williams, 1 Abbott Avenue, asked for confirmation that there are no changes to the previous ordinance and that this amendment simply resolved conflicts with state law. Both Mr. Cafferty and Mr. Anthony confirmed that was true.

There being no further comments, the Deputy Mayor closed the public hearing.

The ordinance was adopted on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, aye; Williams, aye; and York, aye.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-52 - ADOPTED

Ms. York offered the following ordinance, moved and seconded by Mr. Lane, that it be adopted:

ORDINANCE NO. 21-52

CAPITAL ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION OF IMPROVEMENTS TO THE TOWNSHIP'S MUNICIPAL COMPLEX, BY AND IN THE TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$360,000 FROM THE TOWNSHIP'S RECEIPT OF FUNDS FROM THE CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND TO PAY FOR THE COST THEREOF

The Deputy Mayor requested comments on the above ordinance. There being no comments, he closed the public hearing.

The ordinance was adopted on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, aye; Williams, aye; and York, aye.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-53 – ADOPTED

Mr. Cuttrell noted that a correct is being made to this ordinance. The maximum number of hours permitted for bereavement leave is being changed from 26 hours to the correct number of 32 hours.

Mr. Lane offered the following ordinance, moved and seconded by Mr. Cafferty, that it be adopted:

ORDINANCE NO. 21-53

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VOLUME I, CHAPTER IX OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE TO IDENTIFY WORK HOURS AND CONDITIONS FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE TECHNICIANS

The Deputy Mayor requested comments on the above ordinance. There being no comments, he closed the public hearing.

The ordinance was adopted on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, aye; Williams, aye; and York, aye.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-55 - APPROVED

Mr. Lane offered the following ordinance, moved and seconded by Mr. Cafferty, that it be approved:

ORDINANCE NO. 21-55

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VOLUME I, CHAPTER VII OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE BY REMOVING RESIDENT ONLY HANDICAPPED PARKING ZONES ON 7TH AVENUE, MAIN AVENUE, AND HECK AVENUE

The ordinance was approved on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, aye; Williams, aye; and York, aye.

The Clerk announced that the Public Hearing on Ordinance 21-55 will be held at the next Township Committee meeting on Monday, December 20, 2021. The Public Hearing on Ordinance

No. 21-54 (introduced at the November 22nd meeting) will also be held on December 20th.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Cafferty offered the following resolutions of the Consent Agenda, moved and seconded by Mr. Lane, that they be adopted:

RECLASSIFY EMPLOYEE TO THE POSITION OF CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE IN THE CODE/CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, there is a vacancy in the position of Customer Service Representative in the Code/Construction Department; and,

WHEREAS, the Human Resources Director and Tax Collector have made a recommendation to reclassify an existing full-time Bookkeeper to this position at no change in salary; and,

WHEREAS, funds will be provided for the 2021 Municipal Budget in the appropriation entitled Construction Official S&W, and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that Nancy Cole be and is hereby reclassified to the position of Customer Service Representative in the Code/Construction Department at no change in annual salary effective immediately; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., Human Resources Director, Construction Official, and AFSCME Local #1844.

AUTHORIZE THE CANCELLATION OF TAXES AS A RESULT OF THE GRANTING OF A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERANS EXEMPTION (106 MILFORD ROAD)

WHEREAS, the property known as Block 5414, Lot 2, with an address of 106 Milford Road, assessed to Brian & Donna Fromhold, is eligible for a Totally Disabled Veteran Exemption effective August 9, 2021 and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune desires to cancel taxes assessed against this property effective August 9, 2021 in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.32; and,

WHEREAS, the amounts to be cancelled and refunded are as follows:

YEAR	AMOUNT TO CANCEL	AMOUNT TO REFUND
2021	\$ 5,022.72	\$ 1,736.37

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the Tax Collector be and hereby is authorized to cancel and refund taxes as stated herein; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector, Assistant C.F.O. and Auditor.

AUTHORIZE THE CANCELLATION OF TAXES AS A RESULT OF THE GRANTING OF A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERANS EXEMPTION (7 DOUGLAS DRIVE)

WHEREAS, the property known as Block 3705, Lot 45, with an address of 7 Douglas Drive, assessed to Wilbur & Denise Martin, is eligible for a Totally Disabled Veteran Exemption effective July 30, 2021 and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune desires to cancel taxes assessed against this property effective July 30, 2021 in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.32; and,

WHEREAS, the amounts to be cancelled and refunded are as follows:

YEAR	AMOUNT TO CANCEL	AMOUNT TO REFUND
2021	\$ 2,443.20	\$ 1,017.28

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the Tax Collector be and hereby is authorized to cancel and refund taxes as stated herein; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector, Assistant C.F.O. and Auditor.

AUTHORIZE THE CANCELLATION OF TAXES AS A RESULT OF THE GRANTING OF A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERANS EXEMPTION (13 CEDARCREST DRIVE)

WHEREAS, the property known as Block 4004, Lot 1, with an address of 13 Cedarcrest Drive, assessed to Dominick A. & Mary Ann Saltalamaccia, is eligible for a Totally Disabled Veteran Exemption effective November 8, 2021 and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune desires to cancel taxes assessed against this property effective November 8, 2021 in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.32; and,

WHEREAS, the amounts to be cancelled and refunded are as follows:

YEAR	AMOUNT TO CANCEL	AMOUNT TO REFUND
2021	\$ 943.93	\$ 0.00

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the Tax Collector be and hereby is authorized to cancel and refund taxes as stated herein; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector, Assistant C.F.O. and Auditor.

AUTHORIZE THE CANCELLATION OF TAXES AS A RESULT OF THE GRANTING OF A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERANS EXEMPTION (59 TALL PINES DRIVE)

WHEREAS, the property known as Block 3204, Lot 35, with an address of 59 Tall Pines Drive, assessed to John & Nancy Cremen, is eligible for a Totally Disabled Veteran Exemption effective May 21, 2021 and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune desires to cancel taxes assessed against this property effective May 21, 2021 in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.32; and,

WHEREAS, the amounts to be cancelled and refunded are as follows:

YEAR	AMOUNT TO CANCEL	AMOUNT TO REFUND
2021	\$ 6,599.04	\$ 3,866.84

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the Tax Collector be and hereby is authorized to cancel and refund taxes as stated herein; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector, Assistant C.F.O. and Auditor.

AUTHORIZE THE REFUND OF SEWER RENT (7 DOUGLAS DRIVE)

WHEREAS, the properties listed below reflect overpayments; and,

WHEREAS, they have furnished the necessary documentation and have requested a refund,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune, County of Monmouth, that the Tax Collector be and hereby is authorized to refund the Sewer Rent as stated herein:

BLOCK/LOT	ASSESSED TO	ADDRESS	YEAR	AMOUNT
3705/45	MARTIN	7 DOUGLAS DRIVE	2021	473.65

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector, Assistant C.F.O. and Auditor.

AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER OF 2021 BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58 permits the transfer of current year appropriations during the last two months of the fiscal year; and,

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has recommended that the following appropriation transfers be authorized:

OPERATING	TO	From
General Admin S&W	\$9,000.00	
Human Resources S&W		\$29,500.00
Municipal Clerk OE	\$4,500.00	
Tax Assessment	\$3,500.00	
Legal Services	\$250,000.00	
Engineering OE	\$65,000.00	
Engineering Services S&W		\$79,000.00
Planning Board S&W	\$2,000.00	
Planning Board OE	\$6,000.00	
Historic Preservation OE		\$5,000.00
Publicity & Tourism S&W	\$1,500.00	
Publicity & Tourism OE	\$2,000.00	
Emergency Management S&W	\$5,000.00	
Other Public Works S&W	\$25,000.00	
Natural Gas	\$40,000.00	
Telecommunications	\$50,000.00	
Police Department S&W		\$325,150.00
Police Department OE	\$20,000.00	
Emergency Medical Services S & W		\$58,000.00
Municipal Prosecutor S&W	\$50.00	
Streets & Roads S&W		\$58,000.00
Building & Grounds S&W	\$16,000.00	
Solid Waste S&W		\$58,000.00
Environmental/Shade Tree S&W	\$100.00	
Vehicle Maintenance	\$50,000.00	
Snow Removal Trust	\$40,000.00	
Accumulated Absences	\$40,000.00	
Liability Insurance		\$10,000.00
Worker Compensation		\$7,000.00
	\$629,650.00	\$629,650.00

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune, that 2021 Budget Appropriations be transferred as stated herein; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O. and Auditor.

AUTHORIZE AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET TO REALIZE MONIES FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN – LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS

WHEREAS, N.J.S. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and,

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for an equal amount; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget for the year 2021 in the sum of \$215,000.00 which is now available from the American Rescue Plan – Local Fiscal Recovery Funds in the amount of \$215,000.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the like sum of \$215,000.00 is hereby appropriated under the caption of American Rescue Plan LFRF – Premium Pay S&W; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above is the result of funds from the United States

Department of the Treasury Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds as authorized by the American Rescue Plan Act in the amount of \$215,000.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk forward three certified copies of this resolution to the Chief Financial Officer and one copy to the Assistant C.F.O., and Auditor.

EMPLOY PART-TIME SEASONAL/ON-CALL DRIVER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS FOR SNOW PLOWING

WHEREAS, the Township desires to create a pool of individuals with commercial drivers license who would be called upon during major snowfalls to operate snow plows as a supplement to the full-time Public Works staff; and,

WHEREAS, on November 22, 2021, the Township Committee adopted Resolution #21-402 which authorized the employment of individuals as part-time seasonal/on-call Drivers for snow plowing; and,

WHEREAS, the Director of Public Works has forwarded a recommendation to employ an additional worker for this purpose; and,

WHEREAS, funds will be provided in the 2021 municipal budget in the appropriation entitled Streets & Roads S&W, and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the Cesar Cowart be and is hereby employed in the Department of Public Works as a part-time employee on an on-call basis only for snow plowing during major snow/ice events during the 2021-2022 winter season at an hourly rate of \$25.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., Human Resource Director, and the Director of Public Works.

AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF OFFICE FURNITURE FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT RECORDS AND TECH OFFICES THROUGH THE OMNIA PARTNERS PUBLIC SECTOR PURCHASING SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the Police Department has requested the purchase of office furniture, including installation and related services, for the Records and Tech Offices utilizing pricing through the Omnia Partners Public Sector Purchasing System; and,

WHEREAS, the purchase of goods and services by local contracting units is authorized by the Local Public Contracts Laws, N.J.S. 40A:11-12; and,

WHEREAS, the Township of Neptune is authorized pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:34-6.2(b)(3) to use procurement methods by entering into a nationally recognized cooperative agreement; and,

WHEREAS, the OMNIA Partners Public Sector Purchasing System has a nationally recognized cooperative agreement and has awarded Contract No. R191817 to Trendway Corporation for these items and services; and,

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Agent and Chief Financial Officer recommend the utilization of this contract on the grounds that the price reflects a substantial savings; and,

WHEREAS, the cost of these materials and services shall not exceed \$42,788.03; and,

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are available in Ordinance No. 20-13 and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township of Neptune Committee of the Township of Neptune that the purchase of office furniture, including installation and related services, for the Police Department Records and Tech Offices be and is hereby authorized through Omnia Partners Public Sector Purchasing System Contract No. R191817 at an amount not to exceed \$42,788.03; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., Chief of Police, and Auditor.

AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF A FORD BRONCO THROUGH THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF NEW JERSEY PURCHASING PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police has requested the purchase of a 2022 Ford Bronco 4x4 for the Police Department through the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Purchasing Program; and,

WHEREAS, the purchase of goods and services by local contracting units is authorized by the Local Public Contracts Laws, N.J.S. 40A:11-12; and,

WHEREAS, the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Purchasing Program has awarded Contract ESCNJ 20/21-09 to Beyer Ford for this vehicle; and,

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Agent and Chief Financial Officer recommend the utilization of this contract on the grounds that the price reflects a substantial savings; and,

WHEREAS, the cost to purchase this vehicle shall not exceed \$25,854.92; and,

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are available in Ordinance No. 21-35 and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the purchase of a 2022 Ford Bronco 4x4 for the Police Department be and is hereby authorized through the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Purchasing Program Contract ESCNJ 20/21-09, Beyer Ford, at an amount not to exceed \$25,854.92; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., Chief of Police, and Auditor.

The resolutions of the Consent Agenda were adopted on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, aye; Williams, aye; and York, aye.

ESTABLISH PREMIUM PAY FOR LOW AND MODERATE INCOME ESSENTIAL EMPLOYEES UTILIZING FUNDS RECEIVED UNDER THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021

Mr. Cafferty offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Ms. York, that it be adopted:

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) was signed into law on March 11, 2021 and the Township of Neptune has received funding under this program from the United States Treasury and that "ARPA" rules allow for the payment of premium pay to certain employees; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune desires to provide premium pay to certain essential government employees as authorized by "ARPA"; and,

WHEREAS, "Essential Worker/Employees" is "Any work performed by an employee of the state, local or tribal government or workers needed to maintain continuity of operations of critical infrastructure sectors. "Essential Work" is "work involving regular in-person interactions or regular physical handling of items that were also handled by others, but does not include a worker who teleworked from a residence."; and,

WHEREAS, "ARPA" rules encourage municipalities to provide premium pay to low and moderate income employees based upon a limit of 150% of the County or State average income; and,

WHEREAS, the governing body has determined that members of the Township Committee, appointed committee and board members, non-employees, persons making \$100,000.00 or more per year, employees who worked less than 400 hours between March 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021, employees who separated service with the Township prior to December 31, 2021 and employees who worked from home or were on any type of leave that limited their "in office" to less than 400 hours during this timeframe, shall not be entitled to premium pay; and,

WHEREAS, Neptune Township employees have and continue to provide essential government services during the pandemic at the risk of exposure to COVID-19. The Township is losing essential workers to other private and government employers that are paying higher wages or offer work assignments that better protect employees from exposure. There is a legitimate public need to pay premium pay under the terms of this resolution,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the use of Federal "ARPA" funds is authorized for the purpose of providing premium pay to low and moderate income essential employees who meet the following criteria:

- A. Employees who were full-time, (more than 35 hours per week), and earned \$75,000.00 or less in total earnings, are to receive premium pay of \$5.00 per hour for a maximum of 300 hours up to a maximum of \$1,500.00 for essential work provided between March 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021.
- B. Employees who were full-time (more than 35 hours per week), and earned between \$75,000.01 and \$99,999.99 in total earnings, are to receive premium pay of \$5.00 per hour for a maximum of 150 hours up to a maximum of \$750.00 for essential work provided between March 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021.
- C. Employees who were part-time (less than 35 hours per week), and earned less than \$99,999.99 in total earnings, are to receive premium pay of \$5.00 per hour for a maximum of 150 hours up to a maximum of \$750.00 for essential work provided between March 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021.
- D. To be eligible, the recipient must have been continuously employed by Neptune Township from March 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.
- E. Full time employees hired between March 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021 will receive a pro-rata share not to exceed \$750.00.
- F. Members of the Township Committee, appointed committee and board members, non-employees, employees making \$100,000.00 or more per year, employees who worked less than 400 hours between March 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021, employees who separated service with the Township prior to December 31, 2021 and employees who worked from home or were on any type of leave that limited their "in office" to less than 400 hours during this timeframe, shall not be entitled to premium pay.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune hereby instructs the Finance and Human Resources Departments to carry out the terms of this resolution and make the payments contemplated herein at the earliest opportunity within reason; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., and Human Resources Director.

The resolution was adopted on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, aye; Williams, aye; and York, aye.

APPOINT GABRIELLA SIBONI AS TOWNSHIP CLERK AS OF FEBRUARY 1, 2022

Ms. York offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Mr. Cafferty, that it be adopted:

WHEREAS, Section 2-6.1 of the Neptune Township Municipal Code provides for the appointment of the Township Clerk for a three year term, commencing on the date of appointment; and

WHEREAS, the Township's current Municipal Clerk, Richard Cuttrell, is retiring effective February 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has interviewed a number of candidates for the Township Clerk position; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee desires to appoint Gabriella Siboni to the position of Township Clerk after Mr. Cuttrell's retirement;

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose will be available in the 2022 temporary budget and 2022 municipal budget, when adopted, in the appropriation entitled Municipal Clerk S&W and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune, County of Monmouth and State of New Jersey, that Gabriella Siboni is hereby hired and

appointed as a Deputy Clerk effective January 6, 2022; Acting Township Clerk effective January 15, 2022; and Township Clerk, effective February 1, 2022; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Labor Attorney is hereby authorized and directed to prepare a written employment agreement setting forth Ms. Siboni's salary at the rate of \$115,000 per year and providing such other benefits equal to the benefits provided to the Township Department Heads and Directors; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., Assistant Business Administrator, and Human Resources Director.

The resolution was adopted on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, abstain, because he was away on vacation and did not have the opportunity to interview Ms. Siboni; Williams, aye; and York, aye.

EXTEND OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE POSITION OF RECREATION COORDINATOR IN THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Ms. York offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Mr. Cafferty, that it be adopted:

WHEREAS, there is a vacancy in the position of Recreation Coordinator in the Recreation Department; and,

WHEREAS, the position was duly posted and applicants have been interviewed; and,

WHEREAS, the Human Resources Director and Recreation Director have made their recommendation; and,

WHEREAS, funds will be provided in the 2021 municipal budget, in the appropriation entitled Recreation S&W and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that an offer of employment be and is hereby extended to Cory Zarrella for the position of Recreation Coordinator in the Recreation Department at an annual salary of \$37,674.22, on a probationary basis for a period of not less than 90 days and not exceeding one year, contingent upon favorable results of the required pre-employment testing, effective December 13, 2021 and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Recreation Director, Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., AFSCME Local #2792, and Human Resources Director.

The resolution was adopted on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, aye; Williams, aye; and York, aye.

EXTEND OFFERS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE POSITION OF BOOKKEEPER IN THE TAX COLLECTION DEPARTMENT

Ms. York offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Mr. Lane, that it be adopted:

WHEREAS, due to a reclassification of employees, there are two vacancies in the position of Bookkeeper in the Tax Collection Department; and,

WHEREAS, the position was duly posted and applicants have been interviewed; and,

WHEREAS, the Human Resources Director and Tax Collector have made their recommendations; and,

WHEREAS, funds will be provided in the in the 2021 Municipal Budget in the appropriation entitled Revenue Administration S&W, and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that offers of employment be and are hereby extended to Ahmya Crozier and Alexcia Rodriguez for the position of Bookkeeper in the Tax Collection Department, on a probationary basis for a period of not less than 90 days and not exceeding one year, contingent upon favorable results of the required pre-employment testing, effective December 13, 2021, at an annual salary of \$30,000.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Deputy Tax Collector, Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., AFSCME Local #1844, and Human Resources Director.

The resolution was adopted on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, aye; Williams, aye; and York, aye.

AUTHORIZE THE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Ms. York offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Mr. Lane, that it be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the following bills be paid if properly certified:

CURRENT FUND	209,287.55
GRANT FUND	685.00
TRUST FUND	14,206.91
GENERAL CAPITAL FUND	371,409.30
SEWER OPERATING FUND	28,615.83
MARINA OPERATING FUND	435.62
LIBRARY TRUST	1,532.45
BILL LIST TOTAL	\$626,172.66

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Assistant C.F.O.

The resolution was adopted on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, aye; Williams, aye; and York, aye.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Deputy Mayor Williams asked for public comments. The public was permitted to speak one time with a limit of five minutes. Comments were as follows:

Joyce Klein, 105 Mt. Hermon Way, offered thanks for getting the lights fixed in Firemen's Park. Mr. Gadaleta stated the Public Works Department deserves the credit. Ms. Klein noted several problems due to the overhaul of the dumpster ordinance. Major construction jobs require several dumpster loads of debris so the 60 day permit plus the second 60 day extension is not enough time to cover the entire job. Homeowners cannot meet the insurance requirement because homeowners insurance does not allow the Township to be named. The more narrow streets in Ocean Grove do not have 15 feet of clearance that is now required. She asked that these issues be reviewed and the ordinance tweaked.

Andy Levine, 98 Mt. Tabor Way, thanked Mr. Cafferty and Ms. York for leading the Ocean Grove parking discussion. The group found common ground. One suggestion was to do a survey to determine support for permit parking. He supports this idea to bring clarity to the issue. Mr. Williams replied that Mr. Cafferty prepared a report of the group's findings. Mr. Cafferty believes the survey will be a worth while endeavor.

Hank Coakley, Valley Road, stated that the Township should not haul snow from Shark River Hills to the Township Yard. The snow should be dumped in the river. He asked that street names be placed on overpasses. He stated that the sign on Washington Avenue near Neptune Blvd. is difficult to see. Finally, he asked for support in requiring all car lights to be on when it is raining. Mr. Gadaleta does not recall ever hauling snow to the Public Works Yard. The NJDEP will issue a permit to dump snow in waterways in extreme circumstances.

Jason Urig, Urig Contracting, stated that he is a Contractor and has worked on homes in Ocean Grove for 23 years. Previous to the ordinance amendment, a dumpster permit was issued

immediately. Now, it has to be reviewed by the Building, Police, and Engineering Departments. The language prevents dumpsters on many roads in Ocean Grove. He submitted an application on November 18th. It was signed off by the Building and Police Departments in two days, but has been sitting in the Engineering Department for two weeks. He offered his help in making changes to the ordinance.

Michael McGraw, 102 Heck Avenue, stated that his construction project has been delayed three weeks because of the dumpster ordinance amendment. He still does not have an answer as to when his application will be approved. He cannot wait any longer and this process needs to be faster. Mr. Williams stated that he and Ms. LaPlaca will be meeting with the Engineering Department on December 8th.

Richard Williams, 1 Abbott Avenue, stated that Jason Urig is a very good contractor and his opinions should be taken seriously. He supports Andy Levine's position on doing a survey about permit parking and he encourages this to be done swiftly. He invited all to the Ocean Grove Homeowners Association party on December 11th.

Mr. Lane offered a motion, seconded by Ms. York, to adjourn. All were in favor.

Richard J. Cuttrel,
Municipal Clerk