



## STOCKTON BOROUGH COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES June 19, 2023 – 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Aaron Lipsen., called the regular meeting of the Stockton Borough Council to order on June 19, 2023 at 7:04 P.M. Mayor Lipsen announced that this meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this meeting was faxed to the Hunterdon County Democrat and the Trenton Times, was posted on the Borough Website, posted on the door at the Municipal Building and filed with the Borough Clerk.

### **ROLL CALL**

Present: Councilman William Brown, Councilman Peter Folz, Councilman Thomas Hunt, Councilman Ken Kozuhowski, Council President Michael Mann, Mayor Aaron Lipsen, Township Attorney Michael Butler, Deputy Clerk Tiffany Crivelli

Absent: Councilwoman Rebecca Hendricks

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Lipsen led those in attendance in the pledge to the nation's flag.

### **PROCLAMATION**

**Honoring Dr. Cheryl Ann Kennedy, M.D.**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Stockton extends its deepest condolences to the family and friends of Dr. Cheryl Ann Kennedy, M.D. after her untimely passing; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Cheryl Ann Kennedy, M.D. was an active and involved resident of the Borough of Stockton for more than four decades; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Cheryl Ann Kennedy, M.D. shared her home in Stockton Borough with her beloved husband of 50 years John F. Kelly, raised their son Ian Kennedy-Kelly, and enjoyed sharing the beauty of Stockton Borough with their daughter-in-law Amanda Ayre and their grandchildren Quinn, Lila, and Clare; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Cheryl Ann Kennedy, M.D. served the people of New Jersey as a Professor of Psychiatry at Rutgers University New Jersey Medical School and was on the Board of Trustees for Integrity House for 31 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Cheryl Ann Kennedy, M.D. was a lifelong advocate for social justice; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Cheryl Ann Kennedy, M.D. was a longtime supporter of the Stockton School and the Stockton Fire Company; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Cheryl Ann Kennedy, M.D. served the community of Stockton Borough diligently and faithfully as a valued member of the Board of Adjustment and Planning Board for more than three decades; and

**WHEREAS**, Stockton Borough and the State of New Jersey have been enriched by the many decades of advocacy and volunteer work of Dr. Cheryl Ann Kennedy, M.D.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY PROCLAIMED**, by Mayor Aaron Lipsen and the entire Borough of Stockton Council, to honor the extraordinary life and work of Dr. Cheryl Ann Kennedy, M.D.; and

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED**, that the Stockton Borough Council hereby encourage all citizens to participate in the Celebration of Life Honoring Dr. Cheryl Ann Kennedy, M.D. at the Stockton Playground Park on June 25, 2023.

**OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT – PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

Mayor Lipsen opened the floor to public comment.

Pat Slack, Risler Street, inquired about the inspection report for the Stockton School.

Hearing no other members of the public speak up, Mayor Lipsen closed the floor to public comment.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- February 22, 2023 Regular Session – TABLED to a Later Date To be Determined
- March 20, 2023 Regular and Executive Session Minutes – TABLED to July 17, 2023
- April 17, 2023 Regular Session Minutes – TABLED to July 17, 2023
- May 15, 2023 Regular and Executive Session Minutes – TABLED to July 17, 2023

**ORDINANCES**

**Introduction on Ordinance No. 2023-04**

Mayor Lipsen read Ordinance No. 2023-04 by title.

A motion by Hunt, seconded by Folz to introduce Ordinance No. 2023-04 and move forward with a public hearing set for July 17, 2023, was approved by roll call vote.

*Brown: Yes; Folz: Yes; Kozubowski: Yes; Hunt: Yes; Mann: Yes*

**AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY  
PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-5**

WHEREAS, the South Hunterdon Regional School District (the “School District”) is the record owner of real property located at 19 South Main Street in the Borough of Stockton, which property

is more particularly identified as Lot 27, Block 7 of the Stockton Borough Tax Map (the “Property”); and

WHEREAS, the Property is presently improved with a vacant building, playground, and various accessory structures, which collectively were formerly used as a school facility; and

WHEREAS, the School District no longer has any beneficial use for the Property and desires to transfer title of the Property to the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Borough desires to take title to the Property; and

WHEREAS, the Borough is required, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-5, to authorize the acquisition of real property via ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stockton that:

1. The Borough is authorized to acquire from the School District the real property located at 19 South Main Street, Stockton Borough, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, being known as Lot 27, Block 7 on the Stockton Borough Tax Map, together with any and all buildings, structures, and personal property locate thereon.
2. The Mayor, the Borough Clerk, the Borough Deputy Clerk, the Borough Chief Financial Officer, and the Borough attorney are authorized to execute and/or witness any documentation required to effectuate the acquisition of the Property.
3. All ordinances, or provisions thereof, conflicting, or inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict or inconsistency.
4. If any section or provision of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such determination shall not affect the remaining provisions hereof, which shall remain in full force and effect.
5. This ordinance shall take effect after adoption and final publication in accordance with the law.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

A motion by Hunt, seconded by Kozuhowski to adopt Resolution #23-53 was approved by roll call vote.

*Bromm: Yes; Folz: Yes; Kozuhowski: Yes; Hunt: Yes; Mann: Yes*

### **Resolution #23-53**

### **Authorizing a Special Permit for Park Use**

WHEREAS, Ian Kelly Enterprises, LLC, with an address of 6130 Stoney Hill Road, New Hope, PA 18938 (“IKE”), applied for a Special Permit to use the Stockton Borough Park for an event on June 25, 2023; and

WHEREAS, IKE wishes to hold the event to celebrate the life of Ian Kelly’s mother, Dr. Cheryl Kennedy, and proposes to set up a picnic area with food providers and present live music; and

WHEREAS, IKE proposes that there will be more than fifty (50) attendees at the event and therefore, pursuant Ordinance 08-09, the Council must approve the special permit by resolution; and

WHEREAS, IKE has paid the application fee for the special permit.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Council has reviewed the application submitted by IKE for a special permit to use the Stockton Borough Park and grants the special permit subject to the following conditions:
  - a. The requested event may occur in the Stockton Borough Park on June 25, 2023 between the hours of 10:30 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.
  - b. Ian Kelly (347-231-2295 ian.kelly@mac.com) will be the individual managing the event. Ian Kelly will be available for contact for the entirety of the event.
  - c. IKE is permitted to access the Stockton Borough Park from June 22nd until June 26, 2023 (12 midnight), to set-up and break-down the facilities for the event. IKE will be responsible for all equipment and infrastructure set up and break down.
  - d. IKE is responsible for removing all trash and debris from the Stockton Borough Park, and repairing any damage sustained to the Stockton Borough Park, including its buildings, improvements, structures, and equipment, caused as a result of the event.
  - e. IKE shall follow all applicable rules and regulations established by Ordinance 08-09 and listed in the Special Permit Application.
  - f. IKE is permitted to erect up to five (5) tents, no larger than forty (40) feet by sixty (60) feet each. The tent must be erected by a professional company and proof of insurance must be provided to the Borough at least ten (10) days prior to the event.
  - g. Pursuant to Ordinance 08-09, no alcohol is permitted in the Stockton Borough Park.
  - h. IKE can present music during the event between the hours of 10:30 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. The music may be amplified in accordance with all local ordinances and laws.

- i. IKE is permitted to utilize food providers for the event. All food providers shall be used in accordance with the State of New Jersey requirements and fully insured. Proof of same shall be provided to the Borough no later than ten (10) days prior to the event.
- j. The Borough will not provide any utilities for the event. IKE and its vendors will be responsible for providing their own utilities. IKE will be permitted to utilize the electricity provided for in the Park but will be responsible for reimbursing the Borough for its usage.
- k. IKE shall be responsible for providing portable toilet facilities for the event. The portable toilet facilities shall be delivered to the Stockton Borough Park no earlier than June 22, 2023, and removed no later than June 26, 2023. The provider of the portable toilet shall be used in accordance with the State of New Jersey requirements and fully insured. Proof of same shall be provided to the Borough no later than ten (10) days prior to the event.
- l. The only open flames permitted during the event are cooking grills and bug repellent candles.
- m. No fireworks or explosions are permitted during the event.
- n. Pursuant to Ordinance 08-09, no alcohol is permitted to be sold or consumed during the event.
- o. IKE shall provide proof that all applicable insurance coverage, pursuant to Ordinance 08-09, has been secured. Insurance coverage, which shall be per occurrence, shall be provided for the entire period IKE has access to the Park pursuant to this permit (June 22, 2023 – June 26, 2023). Proof of same shall be provided to the Borough no later than ten (10) days prior to the event.
- p. The Borough and IKE have the authority to cancel and rescind the special permit at any time and for any reason. IKE will have no recourse against the Borough should the Borough cancel and rescind the special permit
- q. IKE shall be responsible for securing any and all other approvals/permits outside of the purview of the Borough required to hold the event.
- r. IKE has been in contact with the NJ State Police for parking and traffic maintenance on the day of the event to ensure the safety of the attendees and to lessen the impact on the surrounding community. IKE has contacted the State Police to inform them of the event and the resulting increased traffic in the area.
- s. IKE is permitted to install temporary signs at the entrance to the Stockton Borough Park to advertising the event. The signs must include a statement that no alcohol is permitted in the Stockton Borough Park.

- t. IKE is not permitted to charge a fee to attendees to attend the event. IKE is not permitted to prohibit anyone's access to the Stockton Borough Park during the event. There will be no public parking available at the Park during the event, except for Handicap Placard parking. All other parking will be at the Prallsville Mills public parking areas in accordance with an agreement with the Delaware River Mill Society.
  - u. No more than five hundred (500) attendees may attend the event at one time.
  - v. IKE acknowledges and agrees that it is using the Stockton Borough Park in "as-is" condition and that the Borough makes no representations or warranties regarding the condition of the Stockton Borough Park.
  - w. IKE shall protect, indemnify, and hold harmless the Borough, its officers and directors, employees, officials, volunteers, agents, subcontractors and affiliates and all of the foregoing's respective successors and assigns (collectively, the "Indemnified Parties"), from and against any and all liabilities, losses, damages, costs, expenses (including but not limited to attorney's fees and expenses), causes of action, suits and claims of any nature whatsoever. Such indemnification shall include, but not be limited to, matters arising from, based upon, or relating to (a) Personal Injury or death to, or damage to or loss of property of, loss of use of property, to any person caused in whole or part by the negligence of any Indemnified Party in connection with such Indemnified Party's involvement or participation in the event. This indemnification agreement is not limited to the insurance requirements. This indemnification shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey, without reference to the conflict of law provisions thereof. If any portion of this indemnity shall be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining portion hereof shall not be affected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect.
2. This Resolution shall take effect upon adoption by the Council.

A motion by Brown, seconded by Folz to adopt Resolution #23-56 was approved by roll call vote.  
*Brown: Yes; Folz: Yes; Kozubowski: Yes; Hunt: Yes; Mann: Yes*

**Resolution #23-56**

**Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Fiscal Grant Cycle  
October 2020-June 2025  
FORM 1B**

WHEREAS, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, The Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore, has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Hunterdon.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough of Stockton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Borough Council does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the South Hunterdon Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2024 in the amount of:

DEDR	\$ <u>3,980.00</u>
Cash Match	\$ <u>995.00</u>
In-Kind	\$ <u>2,985.00</u>
2. The Borough Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

A motion by Hunt, seconded by Folz to adopt Resolution #23-57 was approved by roll call vote.  
*Brown: Yes; Folz: Yes; Kozubowski: Yes; Hunt: Yes; Mann: Yes*

**Resolution #23-57**

**ABC License Renewal – Tilch Fine Wines, LLC**

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey has reviewed an application for renewal of a Plenary Retail Consumption License for the twelve-month period ending June 30, 2024 for the following licensed premise:

Tilch Fine Wines, LLC d/b/a Stockton Fine Wines  
15-17 Bridge Street  
Stockton Borough, New Jersey 08559  
License Number 1023-44-002-008

WHEREAS, no timely written objection has been filed with the office of the Stockton Borough Clerk related to this licensed premise; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is qualified to be licensed according to all statutory, regulatory, and local government laws and regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Stockton Borough Council does hereby grant

a one-year renewal to the above listed licensed premise.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Stockton Borough Clerk is authorized to execute a license and to issue the license certificate to Tilch Fine Wines, LLC.

A motion by Mann, seconded by Hunt to adopt Resolution #23-58 was approved by roll call vote.  
*Brown: Yes; Folz: Yes; Kozubowski: Yes; Hunt: Yes; Mann: Yes*

**Resolution #23-58**

**ABC License Renewal – Strackhouse Restaurant, LLC**

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey has reviewed an application for renewal of a Plenary Retail Consumption License for the twelve-month period ending June 30, 2024 for the following licensed premise:

Strackhouse Restaurant, LLC d/b/a The Stockton Inn  
1 Main Street  
Stockton Borough, New Jersey 08559  
License Number 1023-33-001-011

WHEREAS, no timely written objection has been filed with the office of the Stockton Borough Clerk related to this licensed premise; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is qualified to be licensed according to all statutory, regulatory, and local government laws and regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Stockton Borough Council does hereby grant a one-year renewal to the above listed licensed premise.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Stockton Borough Clerk is authorized to execute a license and to issue the license certificate to Strackhouse Restaurant, LLC.

A motion by Kozuowski, seconded by Hunt to adopt Resolution #23-59 was approved by roll call vote.  
*Brown: Yes; Folz: Yes; Kozubowski: Yes; Hunt: Yes; Mann: Yes*

**Resolution #23-59**

**Appointment of Temporary Assistant Sewer Operator and Water Assistant**

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton, Hunterdon County, New Jersey acknowledges a need for a Temporary Assistant Sewer Operator and Water Assistant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stockton Borough Council that the salary for the position of the Temporary Assistant Sewer Operator and Water Assistant is established as follows:



<u>Name</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Michael Schneider	June 1, 2023	\$30.00 per Hour

A motion by Brown, seconded by Hunt to adopt Resolution #23-60 was approved by roll call vote.  
*Brown: Yes; Folz: Yes; Kozubowski: Yes; Hunt: Yes; Mann: Yes*

### **Resolution #23-60**

#### **Appointment of Temporary Meter Reader**

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton, Hunterdon County, New Jersey acknowledges a need for a Temporary Meter Reader.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stockton Borough Council that the salary for the position of the Temporary Meter Reader is established as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Brian Hewitt	June 20, 2023	\$400 per Quarterly Reading of all Residential/Commercial Meters

A motion by Folz, seconded by Brown to adopt Resolution #23-61 was approved by roll call vote.  
*Brown: Yes; Folz: Yes; Kozubowski: Yes; Hunt: Yes; Mann: Yes*

### **Resolution #23-61**

#### **Appointment of Temporary Grounds Maintenance Worker**

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton, Hunterdon County, New Jersey acknowledges a need for a Temporary Grounds Maintenance Worker.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stockton Borough Council that the salary for the position of the Temporary Grounds Maintenance Worker is established as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Brian Hewitt	June 20, 2023	\$20.00 per Hour

A motion by Hunt, seconded by Kozuhowski to adopt Resolution #23-62 was approved by roll call vote.  
*Brown: Yes; Folz: Yes; Kozubowski: Yes; Hunt: Yes; Mann: Yes*

### **Resolution #23-62**

**Authorizing Acceptance of Dedicated Electrical Meter and Electrical Infrastructure Upgrades in Stockton Borough Park**

WHEREAS, Mr. Ian Kelly desires to donate an electric meter and make other certain improvements to the electrical utility infrastructure in the Stockton Borough Park; and

WHEREAS, the improvements contemplated by Mr. Kelly are expected to enhance the quality of the Park and encourage a greater desire for Borough residents and the public to use the Park; and

WHEREAS, Borough officials and residents have long recognized the importance and desirability of providing open spaces and recreational opportunities to Borough residents and the public; and

WHEREAS, the donation of an electric meter and other improvements to the electrical utility infrastructure at the Park will benefit a broad cross-section of Borough residents and the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Council hereby accepts the dedication from Mr Kelly of the electric meter and other improvements made to the electrical infrastructure of the Park subject to the following conditions:
  - a. The electric meter and any other improvement to the electrical infrastructure of the Park shall be made in accordance with any and all applicable local and state laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations, and after Mr. Kelly secures the applicable permits for the work.
  - b. To verify compliance with said laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations, an inspector certified by the State of New Jersey (the “Inspector”) shall inspect the installation of the electric meter and other improvements made to the electrical infrastructure at the Park.
  - c. Upon receiving written confirmation that the installation and improvements are compliant with any and all applicable laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations, the Borough shall accept dedication and maintenance responsibilities of the electric meter and improvements to electrical infrastructure.
2. This Resolution shall take effect upon adoption by the Council.

A motion by Mann, seconded by Hunt to adopt Resolution #23-63 was approved by roll call vote. *Brown: Yes; Folz: Yes; Kozubowski: Yes; Hunt: Yes; Mann: Yes*

**Resolution #23-63**

**Authorizing Acceptance of Dedicated Playground Equipment for Stockton Borough Park**

WHEREAS, Borough officials and residents have long recognized the importance and desirability of providing open spaces and recreational opportunities to the Borough residents and the public; and

WHEREAS, the Borough consistently works toward improving and upgrading the playground located at Stockton Borough Park; and

WHEREAS, the donation of the playground equipment will benefit a broad cross-section of Borough residents and the public; and

WHEREAS, a generous local donor has donated, at his expense, a large swing set along with swing seat bundles and hardware that have been certified to meet applicable requirements; and

WHEREAS, the donor has further donated, at his expense, landscape fabric and has also generously supplemented the Borough's purchase of engineered wood safety fiber that is certified to meet applicable requirements; and

WHEREAS, Niece Lumber has generously donated a packet of concrete (4000 psi); and

WHEREAS, HT Services of Stockton has generously donated the use of its equipment and the time and work of its staff; and

WHEREAS, numerous local volunteers have worked on the project to improve and upgrade the playground.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

3. The Council hereby accepts the dedication of the playground equipment, as detailed above, subject to the following conditions:
  - d. The playground equipment shall be constructed and installed in compliance with the playground safety guidelines of the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission, known as the 2010 edition of the "Handbook for Public Playground Safety" (the "Playground Safety Subcode") as required by N.J.A.C. 5:23-11.1, et seq.
  - e. To verify compliance with the Playground Safety Subcode, and any other applicable law, ordinance, rule, or regulation, a certified building inspector (the "Inspector") shall inspect the site of the proposed installation to certify the site's suitability.
  - f. If the Inspector determines the proposed site is suitable, following the installation of the playground equipment, the Inspector shall issue to the Borough written certification of the

playground equipment's compliance with the Playground Safety Subcode, and any other applicable ordinance, rule, or regulation.

- g. Upon receiving written confirmation that the playground equipment is compliant with the Playground Safety Subcode, and all other applicable laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations, the Borough shall accept dedication and maintenance responsibilities of the equipment.
4. This Resolution shall take effect upon adoption by the Council.

A motion by Hunt, seconded by Folz to adopt Resolution #23-64 was approved by roll call vote. *Brown: Yes; Folz: Yes; Kozubowski: Yes; Hunt: Yes; Mann: Yes*

### **Resolution #23-64**

#### **Authorizing Payment of Municipal Obligations**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stockton find and declare that certain municipal obligations have come due and are now payable; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stockton further find and declare that said obligations have been itemized on the annexed schedules, which are hereby attached and deemed part of this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stockton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey does hereby authorize payment of said municipal obligations, in accordance with the recommendations of the Chief Financial Officer and the Treasurer in the amount of \$166,75213.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Discussion / Update on USDA Letter** – Mayor Lipsen noted that Councilman Brown investigated the wording of the letter to make sure it would not bind the Borough into expenses it could not afford. Mayor Lipsen noted he also spoke with other municipalities which shared the same concerns over the wording, however, they noted positive experiences and excellent communication from all involved. Councilman Brown this would help with the Route 523 erosion and that there is local funding available.

Councilman Hunt stated he believed it was a low risk to submit the letter. Councilman Kozuhowski agreed. Mayor Lipsen stated the infrastructure committee would wait to submit until speaking with Hunterdon County.

- **Discussion / Update on NJ Water Authority Update** – Mayor Lipsen reported the ADA warning strips were installed on Bridge Street. Mayor Lipsen stated the construction on the canal for the bank improvement was slated to begin in the fall.
- **Discussion/ Update on NJDOT** – Mayor Lipsen reported the NJDOT will move forward to repair the bridge surface only and noted no answer was received regarding the sides of the bridge. Mayor Lipsen stated that there is still no start date for the night construction.

- **Discussion / Update on Worman Road** – Mayor Lipsen stated the Engineer has completed the plans and are in the process of putting together supplemental specifications. Mayor Lipsen noted a final estimate should be completed soon.

Deputy Clerk Crivelli stated she spoke with JCP&L who advised they would be on Worman Road sometime in September to address the dead Ash trees.

- **Discussion on Diseased Wildlife** – Mayor Lipsen reported that an incident occurred on Worman Road regarding a rabid coyote and advised residents to be alert when in the area. Mayor Lipsen stated the NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife euthanized the coyote and confirmed it was rabies positive.

Mayor Lipsen also noted there have been rabies positive raccoons in the area. Mayor Lipsen advised the public to avoid attracting wildlife to their residences.

- **Discussion / Update on Stockton School** – Mayor Lipsen noted that several inspections have been completed. Borough Attorney Butler stated he spoke with the Parish attorney regarding access and parking.

Councilman Hunt noted the building inspection was very thorough and that concerns were prioritized as urgent versus phased. Councilman Hunt stated the reports were given to a historical contractor for further advice.

Mayor Lipsen stated there are concerns with having the school brought up to compliance for fire and ADA, noting it may be more expensive. Mayor Lipsen emphasized the need to look into the operating costs and make sure it would not cause a burden on the budget or increase taxes.

Councilman Mann agreed on the need to look into the financial history. Councilman Mann noted potential opportunity for grants and possibility to rent space.

Mayor Lipsen noted the biggest financial concern is the cost of maintaining two municipal buildings.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Discussion on Stockton Playground Park Vandalism** – Mayor Lipsen reported that on June 9<sup>th</sup>, the State Police were called to park for a report of 3 vehicles on the field and noted tire marks on the field.

Councilman Kozuhowski reported the State Police are actively investigating the complaint and cannot comment further at this time.

- **Discussion on Covered Bridge Road Closure** – Mayor Lipsen noted the Covered Bridge in Delaware Township is slated to close on June 22<sup>nd</sup> for repairs. Mayor Lipsen noted this may affect traffic within the Borough, specifically on Woolverton Road.

- **Mayoral Appointment of K. Meltzer as an Alternate Member for the Planning Board**  
– Mayor Lipsen approved the appointment of K. Meltzer to fill the vacancy of Alternate Member for the Planning Board.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

### **MAYORS REPORT, BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMENTS & COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilman Mann stated Stockton Park looks better and thanks all the residents for their help and donations. Mayor Lipsen thanked the volunteers and members of the Community Outreach Committee for all their hard work and time. Mayor Lipsen stated JCP&L repaired the light at the park.

Mayor Lipsen noted the Infrastructure Committee has been working with the NJ Water Association, which saved the Borough \$1,500 with the completion of the DEP Report. Mayor Lipsen noted they NJ Water Association will also continue to advise the Borough on well locations and water management issues.

Mayor Lipsen reported the Infrastructure Committee is scheduling a meeting with the Engineer regarding the Tier A Stormwater obligations. Mayor Lipsen noted he discussed potential shared services for some of the requirements.

Mayor Lipsen reported Hunterdon County cleared the storm drain on Woolverton Road.

Mayor Lipsen thanked Deputy Clerk Crivelli for stepping up in the absence of the Clerk and making sure the Borough completed the Tonnage report for the DEP Grant and working with Comcast regarding the phone and internet. Mayor Lipsen thanks Township Attorney Butler and CFO McDaniel for all their assistance as well.

Councilman Hunt noted after the specifications are received from the Engineer for Worman Road, the Borough will know if additional planning is needed for FEMA. Councilman Mann stated FEMA covers a substantial amount of the costs. Mayor Lipsen noted the Borough would only be responsible for 10% of the cost.

Councilman Folz inquired on who is responsible for the roads and striping. Mayor Lipsen noted it as the Borough

### **OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Mayor Lipsen opened the floor to public comment.

Dennis Burtland, Risler Street, stated his opinion on the potential acquisition of the Stockton School.

Elain Johnson, Ferry Street, inquired about donating paint for the flag pole.

Pat Slack, Risler Street, voiced his concerns over the rates for the meter reader and grounds person. Mr. Slack inquired about the NJDOT update and the sidewalk.

Hearing no other members of the public speak up, Mayor Lipsen closed the floor to public comment.

**NEXT MEETING**

Monday, July 17, 2023 at 7:00 PM Regular Meeting

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion by Brown, seconded by Hunt to approve Resolution #23-65 was unanimously approved by voice vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023 – 65**

**TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**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 governing body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of Stockton Borough, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matter.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
  - a. Litigation – Notice of Violation – Marriage License Application Form

The discussion is anticipated to take approximately 30 minutes. Action may be taken.

3. It is intended at this time that the above-stated subject matter will be made public when the matter has been resolved.
4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

A motion by Hunt, seconded by Kozuhowski to exit Executive Session was unanimously approved by voice vote.

The council was in Executive Session from 8:36 PM– 8:58 PM.

**ACTION ON ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion by Mann, seconded by Kozuhowski to adopt Resolution #23-66 was approved by roll call vote.

*Brown: Yes; Folz: Yes; Kozuhowski: Yes; Hunt: Yes; Mann: Yes*

**Resolution #23-66****Appointment of Deputy Clerk / Deputy Registrar / Recycling Coordinator**

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton, Hunterdon County, New Jersey acknowledges a need and requirement for a Deputy Clerk and Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton, Hunterdon County, New Jersey acknowledges a need for a Recycling Coordinator; and

WHEREAS, Tiffany Crivelli has held the position of Deputy Clerk and Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics within Stockton Borough since January 2022 and has all required certifications; and

WHEREAS, Tiffany Crivelli has the knowledge and training to perform the duties of the Recycling Coordinator.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that Tiffany Crivelli be and is hereby appointed to the position of Deputy Borough Clerk, Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics, and Recycling Coordinator for a term expiring on December 31, 2023

A motion by Kozuhowski, seconded by Brown to adopt Resolution #23-67 was approved by roll call vote.

*Brown: Yes; Folz: Yes; Kozuhowski: Yes; Hunt: Yes; Mann: Yes*

**Resolution #23-67****Establishing a Temporary Salary for the Deputy Clerk / Deputy Registrar**

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton, Hunterdon County, New Jersey acknowledges that the Deputy Clerk and Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics, Tiffany Crivelli, has gone above and beyond her required responsibilities in the absence of the Borough Clerk Monica Orlando since March 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton, Hunterdon County, New Jersey acknowledges that without being asked or compensated, Tiffany Crivelli also obtained the position of the Recycling Coordinator in the absence of one being appointed and the need for the completion of annual tonnage reports.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that Tiffany Crivelli be compensated as follows until clerk services are provided pursuant to a shared services agreement with Delaware Township.

**Salary**

**Effective Date**



\$20,000 annually June 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, or until clerk services are provided pursuant to a shared services agreement with Delaware Township

**Additional Stipends Effective Upon Completion Dates**

Stipend #1 – Upon Completion of Certain Tasks - \$500

Stipend #2 – Upon Completion of Certain Tasks - \$500

A motion by Hunt, seconded by Brown to adopt Resolution #23-68 was approved by roll call vote.  
*Brown: Yes; Folz: Yes; Kozuhowski: Yes; Hunt: Yes; Mann: Yes*

**Resolution #23-68**

**Authorizing a Stipend for the Chief Financial Officer**

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton, Hunterdon County, New Jersey acknowledges that the Chief Financial Officer, Diane McDaniel, has gone beyond her required responsibilities to the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton, Hunterdon County, New Jersey requests Chief Financial Officer, Diane McDaniel, to prepare financial documentation and explore financing of the potential acquisition of the Stockton School.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that Diane McDaniel be compensated as follows:

**Stipend Effective Upon Completion Dates**

Stipend – Upon Completion of Certain Tasks by August 21, 2023 - \$500.00

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Kozuhowski and seconded by Brown to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:56 PM.

---

Tiffany Crivelli, Deputy Borough Clerk

Approved: