

**The minutes of the Regular Public Meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook held on July 18, 2024 at 7:00 PM at the Saddle Brook Municipal Complex, 55 Mayhill Street, Saddle Brook, NJ 07663.**

The Council President called the meeting to order.

The Township Clerk called the roll:

Councilman Cimiluca – present  
Councilman Gierak – present  
Councilwoman Sanchez – present  
Councilwoman Mazzer – present  
Council President Accomando – present

Mayor White – present  
Mr. Schettino – Twp. Attorney – present  
Mr. Klein – Twp. Engineer – present  
Mr. Homsy – Twp. Administrator – present

Council President Accomando – Please rise for the salute to the flag and remain standing in memory of retired police officer Thomas Leider.

The Council President announced that adequate notice of this meeting has been sent to all council members and to all legal newspapers in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.

The Township Clerk announced that the public is hereby advised that any statements made during the meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook may not be privileged or protected, and that persons or entities who take issue with such comments, or are offended by same, may and have in the past sought legal redress through the courts.

Any member of the public who addresses the Council speaks for themselves and not for the Council.

Council President Accomando – Mayor the presentation.

Mayor White – Good evening everyone and thank you for coming. Tonight I'm very proud to announce the promotion of Rebecca Rivero to Police Lieutenant and Irving Gutierrez to Sergeant. These promotions are very well earned. Each of them have taken a promotional examination which is very difficult and they both scored well enough to be considered and that's why they're getting promoted along with the fact that they both have excellent records and they were recommended by our command staff. I want to

congratulate them and their families certainly wish them well in their new positions. I'm very confident that they both are going to do well serving the residents of Saddle Brook with honor and integrity. We also I'm glad to announce many of you already know we do have three new police officers that are finishing the basic Police Academy and I look forward to them joining the ranks of the Saddle Brook Police Department being on the road having more police protection out there and I'm going to count on these two newly promoted police officers to lead by example and show them the way. At this time I'd like to turn it over to Chief Bob Kugler to say a few words.

Chief Kugler – Thank you honorable Mayor, Council Members, Township representatives, officials, friends and family of two very important people tonight. It is my honor to be here it is my privilege. I've been a member of the Police Department for 40 years and I know the history of many if not all of the Police Officers past and present but tonight we honor two individuals. Two Police Officers that earned the right to be here tonight. Sorry Irving but I know Rebecca more than you, I know Rebecca's family, I know her history. I know Rebecca for many years probably her whole life even before she was born because I both went to school with the mother and father. Juan Sanchez and Jackie Waller were two important people members of my class and I know what history you come from but even more than that I know your history in the Saddle Brook Police Department. Irving I know you too. I know you didn't want to leave Hudson County when you came here to Bergen County but I know you made the right choice. Irving is a guy that is always smiling regardless of bad news, good news or anything in between he's always positive and that's a quality of a police officer because there's many times that we come across bad times and good times. I want to congratulate both of you. I want to thank the Mayor and Council for seeing fit to make these promotions happen and if I say anything I want to say this to the two officers that are promoted tonight. You take tonight as a significant time in your life any promotion any significant whether it be birth, marriage, death but a promotion is a positive ceremony and you're deserving of your recognition tonight. You deserve to be promoted and you deserve after this horse and pony show ceremony to go outside and celebrate and have cake have something to drink have something to eat celebrate with your friends and family. After it's all said and done the reality is that the responsibility to be a public servant especially a public servant in law enforcement is a very high value because everybody not only in this room is not only cheering for you they're counting on you and the legacy of a Police Department from the inception till eternity is based upon the activities and the honor or sometimes dishonor of police officers. Tonight is a very proud moment for your families a very proud moment for me I'm sure it's a proud time for each and every one of us here tonight. I want to congratulate soon to be the Lieutenant in the Saddle Brook Police Department Rebecca and soon to be Sergeant Irving. I want to thank you for your service thank you for joining the Saddle Brook Police Department and being part of a great family and I want to thank all of our colleague officers and family and friends for being here tonight to share this moment in time and I want to congratulate you on a well-deserved promotion and may God bless each and every one of you.

Captain Zotollo – I just want to recognize all the officers from our department who came tonight. Thank you for supporting the officers and supporting our Police Department it's really great to see. Thank you to the Mayor and Council for these promotions tonight. Good evening to family and friends who are here to celebrate the promotions of Sergeant Rebecca Rivero and Police Officer Irving Gutierrez. I'll just say briefly because I said I would be brief. They deserve these promotions because I think if you don't take a promotional exam you don't realize what they went through. They dedicated many months and made many sacrifices to give themselves an opportunity to do well on a very difficult exam. It took a commitment for all those months to stay focused because the material we need to study it's not carried in a book pack it's rolled around in a suitcase. It's a lot of material and it's very easy to just go I got to take a break for a couple of weeks however you're not going to be able to compete or succeed that way. They were able to stay focused and stay committed and they accomplished what they set out to do and that was to put themselves in a position for a promotion to further their law enforcement careers and you should be very proud of your accomplishment because it's not easy. I'd like to personally like to congratulate both of you on your upcoming promotion and wish you well on your transition to your new command and supervisory positions with our department. Congratulations.

Mayor White – Rebecca you're first.

Mayor White gives the oath of office to Rebecca Rivero she recites the oath to be promoted to Lieutenant.

Lieutenant Rivero makes a short speech and thanks everyone for their support.

Mayor White gives the oath of office to Irving Gutierrez he recites the oath to be promoted to Sergeant.

Sergeant Gutierrez makes a short speech and thanks everyone for their support.

Council President Accomando – At this point we'll take a five minute break and continue when everyone is finished.

The Council returns to their seats after the break.

Council President Accomando calls the meeting to order.

Mr. Lo Dico calls the role.

Councilman Cimiluca – yes

Councilman Gierak – yes

Councilwoman Sanchez – yes

Councilwoman Mazzer – yes

Council President Accomando – yes

Council President Accomando – Motion to open the meeting to the public for 2024 budget hearing.

Motion: Councilman Gierek

Second: Councilwoman Sanchez

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca – yes

Councilman Gierek – yes

Councilwoman Sanchez – yes

Councilwoman Mazzer – yes

Council President Accomando – yes

Council President Accomando – The meeting is now open for the budget anyone wishing to speak?

Omar Rodriguez of Saddle Brook comes forward. Council President just to be on the same page I don't think I called the Division of Community Affairs Government Services just to let you know there is plenty of mistakes right here on the budget and you have a professional here and I would like since you're going to vote on this good or bad today I would like to bring up a lot of points right here and plenty of mistakes. I would like to bring it up so you have professionals here in attendance but I don't think that with three minutes it doesn't apply to a second reading this is a budget. I don't know if any of you know how many pages are in here any of you by any chance. There are 74 pages 20 items per page. The first question I would like to say how many budget meetings did the Council have?

Mr. Schettino – Through the Chair typically on the public hearing on a budget the public's opportunity to make comments on the budget and they can ask questions but it's typically not a back and forth so my suggestion would be that you take down the questions and when they're done with all their comments and questions and everybody gets an opportunity to ask all their comments and questions then you address it. Of course you can do it otherwise but my recommendation would be not to get in a back and forth.

Council President Accomando – I don't want to get into a back and forth so I don't want to waste his time on questions so if you do have questions he's here to answer any question you have.

Mr. Rodriguez – Mr. Attorney with do all respect to your profession actually the elected body is the one that got to respond not you. They haven't asked for your comments so right now this is not a legality this is not a legal question this is a procedural question. All I've been saying is how many budget meetings because I would have love to attend and try to address some of the mistakes that we're going to see here. Just in case we're going to start with this just to give you an idea how can it be possible (Mr. Rodriguez hands Council President Accomando a copy of the budget he is looking at). The first mistake on

the budget we are saying I'm talking about the ordinance 1715-21 one of the mistakes it says that the minimum pay for labor is \$25,000 and the maximum pay for labor is \$102,500 can someone explain that to me. Who is checking this paperwork we have so many professionals. It doesn't even meet the legal minimum wage.

Council President Accomando – That's a pay scale.

Mr. Rodriguez – That's the basic salary twenty five thousand but then you just read under labor one underneath that what it says 33 hours per hour is the minimum. No matter how you slice it, it is impossible to achieve twenty five thousand dollars so it's outdated. This paperwork needs to be changed and how can it be that the minimum is twenty five and the maximum is a hundred and two thousand dollars. We going to find plenty of mistakes right here this is against the law twenty five thousand dollars doesn't even have the minimum wage. Who's doing the job but this is just the beginning.

Mr. Schettino – Through the Chair I can address that.

Council President Accomando – Sure.

Mr. Schettino – So as is very common with the municipal governments they establish a salary range in the ordinance they set a minimum salary and they set a maximum salary because the employees depending on what level they're at or how many years of employment they have as we all know in any job that you have to get an increase every year. Actually it's a cost saving move because every time you change someone's salary you had to do an ordinance you'd have to reintroduce the ordinance you have to pay for the advertisement you have to have an adoption all that takes time and money and as we know it's human nature when you're getting a raise you'd like it to be put in effect as soon as possible. By having a minimum and a maximum salary ordinance whereas set forth in the budget it allows the Governing Body by resolution at a Council Meeting to vote to establish the salaries of the employees. If the employees are part of the collective bargaining agreement so that they're covered by a contract that allows the salaries to be automatically implemented in accord with the contract. So again this is all common practice in municipalities throughout the State of New Jersey and it's not a mistake has been stated by Mr. Rodriguez.

Mr. Rodriguez – With all respect to the attorney I don't think that he should interfere. I don't think that he's understanding what's going over here. My point is twenty five thousand dollars is impossible to pay any new employee that is no way by no means that you can get me a twenty five thousand dollars under the minimum wage so that is wrong. That's what I'm trying to point out. Another thing that I want to point out the other paper I just gave you and please Mr. Attorney just let me deal with the Council that they are going to vote on this budget thank you very much.

Mr. Schettino – Okay I'm sorry.

Mr. Rodriguez – Excuse me sir I have the floor right now Council President.

Council President Accomando – He's our professional that's what they're here for.

Mr. Schettino – If I may I don't take direction from you I take it from the Council President if he wants me as you saw the first two times I asked him if he would like me to address your question he said yes.

Mr. Rodriguez – Mr. Attorney you just jumped out of the chair.

Mr. Schettino – You know can I when you talk nobody interrupts you just common courtesy. You may not agree with what I say I may not agree with what you say but let's set a good example for the public and let everyone speak without interruption. So as I was saying I don't interrupt you I go through the Council President if he says to me he does not want me to answer the question I won't answer the question but if he tells me to answer the question then I'll answer the question.

Mr. Rodriguez – Council President I'll leave it up there because there's another problem but if anyone including the attorney needs a calculator I just bought a new calculator so they can make the numbers. Can someone just prove it to me that twenty five thousand dollars exists in the Township of Saddle Brook it is impossible no one can be paid otherwise it will be against the law. Another problem Business Administrator under the ordinance 1731-23 that the white collar just got pay raises recently we can see the Business Administrator six thousand dollars on the budget I also saw that how or why this hasn't been amended. This is not the real salary of a Business Administrator six thousand dollars in the paperwork I just gave you. This needs to be addressed because out of which is this coming and I'm going to prove it on the budget itself on the paperwork page by page that we have mistakes and not just to be on that and also was mentioned on the other page I just have you last month it was said that the Business Administrator that I was lying that didn't make three hundred thousand dollars. I just provide you thank you very much. I just gave you the paperwork these are the contracts. If Councilman Cimiluca or anyone else need to use a new calculator they can use it and please come out. This is true and factual Business Administrator three hundred thousand dollars. Now if you allow me these are the problems that we have in the budget. I'm looking at the budget itself and I'm just going to point out five.

Council President Accomando – You're saying that our Business Administrator makes three hundred thousand dollars.

Mr. Rodriguez – No the prior one that it took me a year to complain and complain and it's right there the name and I said that we were paying too much because that Business Administrator in that town in Edison they just found a replacement in less than a month but we keep it right here for a year three hundred thousand dollars. That was not an emergency an emergency is a month or two no more than three but not a year. I'm looking at the 3D in parentheses to why I'm going to point it out this the Town is paying four million

dollars to be exact four million eighty five thousand dollars in health benefits and he's getting out of the employees two hundred and twenty five thousand dollars so of course every year it's going to go up but now number four where it says current fund anticipated revenues we can see anticipated surplus 3.2 million dollars and at one point it was more than five so it's supposedly healthy alright let's just move on. I'm going to go into number twelve please. Can someone from the Council explain to me on 2023 on the first line item we pay a hundred and fifty four thousand dollars now well for 2023 we budget a hundred and twenty thousand but we spend a hundred and fifty four thousand how could it be that now we are budgeting three hundred thousand dollars?

Mr. Wielkotz – Through the Chair. In 2023 under contractual services we spent two hundred and fifty two thousand dollars the budget this year is forty five thousand dollars that's because the 2023 Administrator was not a salary employee she was contracted through a company to provide Business Administrator services and I don't want to get into the long history of Mr. Lo Dico and all that happened and the Town had a big problem Mr. Lo Dico was laying in the hospital and they needed somebody to run the Town. This year the salaries are three hundred thousand because they include all the other administrative and executive salaries plus our full time salaried administrator.

Mr. Rodriguez – I hear that so I assume that contractual service and the two hundred and fifty two thousand was reduced to forty five thousand and last year was two hundred and thirty thousand dollars.

Mr. Wielkotz – Correct. So last year four hundred thousand and change was spent this year we're budgeting three hundred and forty five thousand dollars so we've saved fifty five thousand dollars from 24 to 23.

Mr. Rodriguez – That's another type of discussion I'm going to speak about later. Just as a point of note last year was budget a hundred thousand dollars for computer services contract but unfortunately for some reason or the other I guess we're using a lot of computers we spent a hundred and seventy three thousand dollars as a point of note.

Mr. Wielkotz – Through the Chair. That's because we moved into this building and we had to spend a significant amount of money to set up and start up and now we're in a much bigger building and it's costing more money to provide the services that we have to get from our computer people.

Mr. Rodriguez – If I may I like the concept that we when we just moved in we were going to use more resources equipment but why again in 2024 we are going to project it a hundred and sixty five thousand dollars on a computer service contract?

Mr. Wielkotz – Because you have to pay to service and upkeep and have contracts on the new hardware and software.

Mr. Rodriguez – Is any of the Council members are aware that every time that we are just doing these contracts even though that money be needed on this building is something that every year is going to keep on going up but then again the taxpayers deserve some kind of break so we going to have to look for other avenues in trying to work it out. Then I go to the next page which is 13 under financial administration salaries and wages. We budget last year two hundred and sixty seven thousand but we just spend a total of two hundred and thirty and reserve we got thirty six thousand but we're budgeting again for 2024 three hundred and thirty five thousand can someone of the Council explain the difference? Seeing none Mr. Auditor if you can.

Mr. Wielkotz – There's more people working in the finance department there's another employee. The Township has had some issues over the last couple of years in attracting and keeping people in the finance department. They now have a full complement and that the salaries represent the employees that are now employed by the Township.

Mr. Rodriguez – So in other words we keep the same number of residents in Saddle Brook we move to a bigger Townhall so we need more employees. The work is the same whether you work out of a castle or out of a small parking lot but anyway I'll keep on going. Statements not to respond but I just saw that never we put anything but we are just budgeting twenty one thousand dollars for financial statement or for statements which doesn't catch my eye but there is a bigger issue right there. I'm almost done if we go to number 31 page 31 is dedicated Water Utility Budget. I asked before in the month of April month of May if we have received a letter from the water company if they were increasing the numbers. I couldn't see no letter but in 2023 we had a surplus of half a million dollars. On 2024 can someone from the Council explain the residents the surplus of two hundred and fifteen thousand plus underneath under rent additional it shows three hundred and sixty one thousand dollars. Can someone from the Council anyone? You guys have been avoiding the budget not the professionals the professional just put it together. It's your duty that's your main responsibility as a Council.

Mr. Wielkotz – Through the Chair. The surplus at the end of 2023 in the Water Utility is two hundred and fifteen thousand dollars not five hundred thousand dollars.

Mr. Rodriguez – I just mentioned 2023 the surplus that is showing is four hundred and ninety eight thousand.

Mr. Wielkotz – That's what was used out of the surplus that was at December 31, 2022 that was used in the 2023 budget.

Mr. Rodriguez – Okay.

Mr. Wielkotz – At the end of 2023 there was two hundred and fifteen thousand in surplus in water and we're using the two hundred and fifteen thousand dollars. Now in terms of the rents additional it's not three sixty one it's three eighty one four hundred fifty.



Mr. Rodriguez – Three eighty one.

Mr. Wielkotz – Three eighty one four fifty and we hadn't had an increase we hadn't increased our water rate in four or five or six years.

Mr. Homsy – I think it's 2019.

Mr. Wielkotz – 2019 so almost five years. We have gotten increases for the purchase of water of anywhere from three to five percent a year since 2019. During COVID we didn't raise the rates the Township didn't raise the rates because we did have surplus and we used it judiciously over three or four years in order to not raise the rates specifically because of COVID. There was the State moratorium on selling liens for water utilities so we waited we increased the rates I think it was March or April of this year for this year to supplement the budget to add enough revenue to balance the budget so that the utility users not the taxpayers would pay for the operation of the water utility.

Mr. Rodriguez – If I may translate what the gentleman just said. The utility users all the residents are utility users all of us are utility users and in four or five years the waters might not increase why because we are generating revenue. This is a surplus already of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars that we have.

Mr. Wielkotz – And we're using it.

Mr. Rodriguez – Okay you can use it but then again there is no need to generate revenue because we making money out of the sale of the water. Back in April I was here and I was told that we don't make any dime from the sale of the water. The point I'm trying to make to all the Saddle Brook residents there is no need for a water increase but again they are using it as a revenue to have a surplus to pay other things. Then we should say it the way it is because right now we are not broke we're not a deficit we are just generating.

Mr. Wielkotz – If we didn't raise the rates and we weren't able to balance the utility budget we would have to have taken three hundred eighty one thousand four hundred and fifty dollars from the current fund budget from the taxpayers in order to balance the budget because under the local budget law the budget has to be balanced and again we've had increases in not just water purchases in the water utility just like everybody else we've had increases because of inflation and health insurance and salary increases over the last five from 2019 to 2024 but we didn't raise the rates. We had surplus we utilize that surplus over five years and now the rates had to go up to balance the budget. It's that simple it's not nefarious it's not whatever you think it is it's the way government works.

Mr. Rodriguez – If that's the way the government works I feel sorry then for all seniors that got property tax freezes but they don't have freeze on the water rate increase whether they use the minimum or not they going to be hit with increase.

Mr. Wielkotz – Would you suggest that the taxpayers that don't have a property tax freeze pay additional money to subsidize the water utility so that the users are not paying their fair share? You can't have it both ways.

Mr. Rodriguez – I'm not saying that I have ways to do that actually you should tighten your belt in all points of this budget. There is a lot to do in this budget believe me it is a lot. It's a lot of fat and enough is enough to just go out after the taxpayers for all these bills and trying to hire as many people as they can. If we can just do a more efficient job I believe that the budget could be much much better. Thank you for listening to me have a great day.

Councilman Cimiluca – Just to clarify we are not voting on the budget tonight.

Mr. Wielkotz – You are there's a resolution to amend the budget.

Councilman Cimiluca – To amend it.

Mr. Wielkotz – For two technical issues brought up by the State and the amendment doesn't rise to the point where they need to be advertised and have a separate public hearing so once the public hearing is closed you'll entertain the resolution to amend and once that's adopted you will entertain the resolution to adopt.

Councilman Cimiluca – Two-step process.

Mr. Wielkotz – Correct and not unusual during the technical review by the State they find stuff.

Council President Accomando – Anyone else wish to speak on the budget? Seeing no one motion to close.

Mr. Ascutto of 16 Harley Place comes forward. I don't know if this is the venue to open up this discussion but I have a video I'd like to share with the Council about what I see as an ongoing problem an infestation of rats.

Council President Accomando – This is on the budget but if you have a seat we will give you time to speak on that.

Mr. Ascutto – The only thing I want to mention is that I've been in contact with Tracy from the Saddle Brook Board of Health and also with Lisa from Bergen County Animal Control and as I see it one of the problems is that there are certain people in the neighborhoods that are not maintaining their properties that's another issue but I don't know the extent of the problem itself other than the fact that what my video shows that in my neighborhood on my street that obviously there's a serious problem. I've lived in Saddle Brook for 53 years and I've never ever had a rat problem. So I don't know what the next step is about how to engage other people. I don't know if anybody else is here I was under the

impression that this might be a topic tonight not realizing there's another issue with the budget.

Mr. Homsy – I think the Mayor and I can address that at the public hearing for public comment outside of the budget moment.

Council President Accomando – Do you have time to take a seat?

Mr. Ascutto – That was the understanding that I thought this meeting might be about because I don't know the extent of the problem.

Mr. Homsy – This is our Council meeting and there are a couple of public comment moments and the one right now is just for the budget. There is a general public comment portion which we could respond to your concern

Mr. Ascutto – Okay all right thank you.

Council President Accomando – A second on the motion to close.

Motion: Councilwoman Mazzer

Second: Councilman Gierak

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca – yes

Councilman Gierak – yes

Councilwoman Sanchez – yes

Councilwoman Mazzer – yes

Council President Accomando – yes

Mr. Lo Dico – We have a resolution to amend the budget. It's an amendment which our auditor can explain.

Mr. Wielkotz – There's three technical issues that the State's requiring us to amend the budget so you need to introduce the resolution and adopt the resolution.

TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK

CR# 724-109

RESOLUTION TO AMEND BUDGET

WHEREAS, the local municipal budget for the year 2024 was approved on June 20, 2024 ; and,

WHEREAS, the public hearing on said budget has been held as advertised, and

WHEREAS, it is desired to amend said approved budget,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Township of Saddle Brook, Bergen County, that the following amendments to the approved budget of 2024 be made:

|                            |      |                               |        |           |      |
|----------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--------|-----------|------|
| RECORDED VOTE              |      | { Councilman Cimiluca         | {      |           | {    |
|                            | AYES | { Councilman Gierek           | {      |           | {    |
| Motion-Councilwoman Mazzer |      | { Councilwoman Sanchez        | NAYS { | ABSTAIN { | None |
| Second-Councilman Gierek   |      | { Councilwoman Mazzer         | {      | {         | {    |
|                            |      | { Council President Accomando | {      | {         | {    |

| CURRENT FUND BUDGET  | From          | To            |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| ANTICIPATED REVENUES   |               |               |
| 1. Surplus Anticipated   | 3,200,000.00  | 3,284,375.00  |
| 2. Surplus Anticipation with Prior Written Consent of Director |               |               |
| TOTAL SURPLUS ANTICIPATED                                      | 3,200,000.00  | 3,284,375.00  |
| 5. SUBTOTAL GENERAL REVENUES (Items 1, 2, 3 and 4)             | 6,848,239.15  | 6,932,614.15  |
| 7. TOTAL GENERAL REVENUES (Items 5 and 6)                      | 30,517,359.84 | 30,601,734.84 |

Council President Accomando – Motion to approve the resolution amending the budget.

Motion: Councilwoman Mazzer

Second: Councilman Gierek

Roll Call:

- Councilman Cimiluca – yes
- Councilman Gierek – yes
- Councilwoman Sanchez – yes
- Councilwoman Mazzer – yes
- Council President Accomando – yes

Mr. Lo Dico – Next is the resolution to adopt the 2024 municipal budget.

SECTION 2 - UPON ADOPTION FOR YEAR 2024

Be it Resolved by the COUNCIL MEMBERS of the TOWNSHIP of SADDLE BROOK County of BERGEN that the budget hereinbefore set forth is hereby adopted and shall constitute an appropriation for the purposes stated of the sums therein set forth as appropriations, and authorization of the amount of:

- (a) \$ 22,844,172.69 (Item 2 below) for municipal purposes, and
- (b) \$ - (Item 3 below) for school purposes in Type I School Districts only (N.J.S.A. 18A:9-2) to be raised by taxation and,
- (c) \$ - (Item 4 below) to be added to the certificate of amount to be raised by taxation for local school purposes in Type II School Districts only (N.J.S.A. 18A:9-3) and certification to the County Board of Taxation of the following summary of general revenues and appropriations.
- (d) \$ - (Sheet 43) Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund Levy
- (e) \$ - (Sheet 44) Arts and Culture Trust Fund Levy
- (f) \$ 1,027,948.00 (Item 5 Below) Minimum Library Tax

RECORDED VOTE

Motion-Councilman Gierek  
Second-Councilman Cimiluca

|      |                             |      |      |           |      |
|------|-----------------------------|------|------|-----------|------|
| Ayes | Councilman Cimiluca         | Nays | None | Abstained | None |
|      | Councilman Gierek           |      | None | Absent    |      |
|      | Councilwoman Sanchez        |      |      |           |      |
|      | Councilwoman Mazzer         |      |      |           |      |
|      | Council President Accomando |      |      |           |      |

| SUMMARY OF REVENUES   |   |        |                  |
|---|---|--------|------------------|
| 1. General Revenues   | Surplus Anticipated   | 08-100 | \$ 3,284,375.00  |
|   | Miscellaneous Revenues Anticipated  | 13-099 | \$ 3,400,239.15  |
|   | Receipts from Delinquent Taxes  | 15-499 | \$ 245,000.00    |
|   |   | 07-190 | \$ 22,844,172.69 |
| 2. AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES (Item 6(a), Sheet 11)   |   |        |                  |
| 3. AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR SCHOOLS IN TYPE I SCHOOL DISTRICTS ONLY:   |   |        |                  |
|   | Item 6, Sheet 42  | 07-195 | \$ -             |
|   | Item 6(b), Sheet 11 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-14)   | 07-191 | \$ -             |
|   | TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR SCHOOLS IN TYPE I SCHOOL DISTRICTS ONLY |        | \$ -             |
| 4. To Be Added TO THE CERTIFICATE FOR THE AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR SCHOOLS IN TYPE II SCHOOL DISTRICTS ONLY: |   |        |                  |
|   | Item 6(b), Sheet 11 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-14)   | 07-191 | \$ -             |
| 5. AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION MINIMUM LIBRARY TAX  |   | 07-192 | \$ 1,027,948.00  |
|   |   | 13-299 | \$ 30,601,734.84 |
|   | <b>Total Revenues</b>   |        |                  |

Council President Accomando asks for a motion to approve.

Motion: Councilman Gierek

Second: Councilman Cimiluca

Roll Call:

- Councilman Cimiluca – yes
- Councilman Gierek – yes
- Councilwoman Sanchez – yes
- Councilwoman Mazzer – yes
- Council President Accomando – yes

Council President Accomando – Motion to open to the public.

Motion: Councilman Cimiluca

Second: Councilwoman Mazzer

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca – yes  
Councilman Gierak – yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer – yes  
Council President Accomando – yes

Mayor White – Council President I would like to address the rodent problem the gentlemen brought up. Can we do that first?

Council President Accomando – Can we have him come back up.

Mayor White – Yes.

Mr. Ascutto of Harley Place comes back up. Bergen County Animal Control is aware of the problem and also the people in Saddle Brook.

Mayor White – I know you mentioned about property maintenance and there have been two individuals that were warned in that area and that area does seem to be the problem is isolated to that area.

Mr. Ascutto – That's not necessarily the case.

Mayor White – When I say isolated to that area I don't mean it's just on Harley. I know where you live I've been very involved with this you spoke to my secretary maybe your wife. We have received reports we've been receiving reports for a better part of six months but it started in the north end and then it kind of gradually worked its way south. The major problem when I say isolated that I'm aware of is Harley Place is where we've been getting the complaints along Fairlawn Parkway, Alberta, Nedellec mostly towards the Midland Avenue side so when I say isolated I'm not saying you're the only one that has this problem. Believe me this is a problem I agree and we're trying to address but you brought up specifically about the property maintenance. Yes property maintenance is important because if you have a lot of garbage around the rodents can get inside the garbage pails. If you have a place where they can burrow under like in your case I believe it's under your air conditioner that's obviously something that's not a problem it's under your air conditioner but other people have piles of wood other debris and it attracts them. Food sources attract them as well if you have a bird feeder if you have a bird bath because they need water. So they'll drink the water from the bird bath or free standing puddles. So it's important to keep the property in a good state that it's not harboring and we're not drawing them to that location but as far as what you need to do on your property what I would recommend is you're going to have to hire an exterminator to come in.

Mr. Ascutto – I understand that I completely appreciate what my responsibilities are I know that I've been trying to deal with that alone. I'm trapping the animals myself trying to contact an exterminator to deal with the problem but the problem is bigger than just my block.

Mayor White – I agree.

Mr. Ascutto – When I spoke to Tracy we discussed this and also with Lisa about sending out a letter to our neighbors give them a heads up about what's going on.

Mayor White – We did do that.

Mr. Ascutto – As I understand it the letter that went out was only sent out to people on my block because when the letters went out that day I walked around my entire area and we're the only ones that received a letter. You know my block I'm perpendicular to the Center and you know there's the town store there's the Chinese restaurant I don't know if anybody goes up there to inspect them periodically and make sure they're dealing with their garbage because I know those areas and they're not as clean as they should be. I personally haven't seen any infestation up there but then I don't have a camera there at night to see what's going on. I know for a fact on my block because I have cameras out here to try to find out how to deal with this problem because when the rats that dug under my air conditioner there were two adults and she gave birth to five offspring. Those two individuals within a year can have thousands of offspring we're talking about an exponential growth over a relatively short period of time if these things aren't dealt with immediately and that's my concern. Tracy mentioned to me I think she had a really good idea about bringing up to whomever about having maybe the Town's exterminator if somebody called in like in my case if I was able to call into the Town and say look I have an immediate problem that it was dealt with immediately it might help to reduce the population. I know one thing is that of the five that she gave birth to as far as I can tell and I'm not a hundred percent confident that four of them I trapped or killed in a relatively short period of time but there's one other individual and two adults I can't trap. It will not go in because they're sensitive to it they're not dumb animals they know how to avoid traps so this is a serious problem.

Mayor White – You're taking care of it yourself right.

Mr. Ascutto – I haven't dealt with the adults the adults are still out there and I see them since the 11<sup>th</sup> of July until last night one of the adults keeps showing up to one of the traps that is set by my shed but refuses to go in to feed.

Mayor White – I understand what you're saying as far as notifying the public I do believe it's out there we do have something rat control measures that are on our website. When

we do get calls we have been getting calls and like I said most of the calls are from that immediate area there so but yeah we could go further we could mail a letter to everyone. Mr. Ascutto – I don't know the extent of the problem I just know what my immediate problem is but there is this web page called Anonymous Mothers of Saddle Brook or something like that.

Mayor White – That's a good thing it's not misinformation they're correct and the Town is confirming that when people call.

Mr. Ascutto – The gentleman at the end made a comment which I thought was a good idea maybe there's got to be an open meeting about it about trying to find out what's the extent is it just Alberta is it Harley Place that's one thing.

Mayor White – Well we're doing that behind the scenes if you think I wouldn't be opposed to a meeting but I don't know. I mean let's talk to the Council maybe that's something they might want to do but I don't know if it's necessary I think we have to just get the information have to take it seriously which we are and this is not a problem that's just in Saddle Brook by the way. This problem has happened it started up north right along Ridgewood, Fair Lawn, Fair Lawn was right before us and really our problem from what because I've spoken to exterminators that come out and that have serviced our area and it seems like the problem they're saying the experts are saying that when Fair Lawn was on Route 4 they were digging the road they were changing the drainage and the catch basins on Route 4 that's when the problem came south to us. Maywood's got a problem it's out there. Montclair which is not Bergen County so maybe we shouldn't say that but Maywood is going through the same thing we're going through now and I'm sure other towns are too.

Mr. Ascutto – To piggyback off of what you just said about the extent of these animals moving about from one town to another if the Town decided just to give the letters out to my block and not blocks two or three blocks around my area if those letters might have gone on to them those rats travel at least a hundred to two hundred feet from they're nesting area I know that for a fact. So it's not just Harley Place and that block I'm not convinced that it's not further than that.

Mayor White – I agree with you I just said that.

Mr. Homsy – I apologize I just want to chime in on the letters because I did oversee that with the Health Department and the Public Works Department. The letter did go out to residents on Harley, Graham, Christy, Alberta and Nedellec they were hand delivered and all the complaints we're getting are being tracked and monitored and given to the County to monitor and inspect as best they can within their duties. Then also on top of that Code Enforcement is being very aggressive with property maintenance violations in



those areas. You know engaging those residents that may be in violation on their property with whatever it is and speaking with them, issuing notices, violations if necessary to make sure that they keep their property up to code and clean to prevent this issue but I understand what you're saying but I just wanted to give you some background on what we've been doing.

Mayor White – I agree with you sir.

Mr. Ascutto – I appreciate that I can tell you though that at least in one case my neighbor for example he's been warned several times about cleaning up his property. He just recently received a letter that was sent to Harley Place and he's taken no action since then. Now I realize that he has 10 days to do something.

Mr. Homsy – Yeah early next week is that due date I am familiar with that address and that incident and we're pretty much given authority and preparing to go in with our staff and placing a lien on the property if necessary with the taxes to clean it and abate the issue.

Mr. Ascutto – Thank you.

Mayor White – I do agree with you that perhaps we should put it out for the entire Town that's a mistake and that's on me.

Mr. Ascutto – Thank you.

Andrew Dziedzic of 337 Eighth Street comes forward. I'm running for Council in November I just want to wish everyone a safe, happy and healthy summer.

Thomas Van Winkle of 128 Lincoln Avenue comes forward. I just want to remind you and everyone watching this about the Mayor's Youth Group that we're always accepting registrations for anybody going to grades 4 through 12 resides in Saddle Brook and anybody who is going into 4<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade in September 2024 we have the registration form up there it's on their website the Youth Group website at [sbmyg.weebly.com](http://sbmyg.weebly.com). Looking ahead we'll be getting involved and helping out with different events going forward. That's National Night Out in August and then the Town Picnic later in August on the 24<sup>th</sup>. As we head into the fall we really start to get involved with a lot of different activities in Town all the Halloween and Christmas events. The Mayor's Youth Group as I always say it's a wonderful opportunity for our youth to get involved in community service in Saddle Brook. That's all I have to say thank you.

Sylvia Zottarelli of 236 Lanza Avenue comes forward. First when you refer to a traffic study who does those traffic studies.

Mayor White – The Police Department.

Ms. Zottarelli – Does there have to be accidents involved to request one because where I'm going with the light right up here right by Mayhill when you're coming up Mayhill and you get stuck by ACME I almost got creamed three times this week. The left lane tells you you can make a left and then go right. The right lane you're going to the left and you're staying in your lane then the left lane comes over and if you're not paying attention you're going to get creamed. The signage clearly says once you turn that bend you can go left or right. I think that should be looked into because I did almost get creamed three times this week.

Mayor White – The Town Engineer did look at that and there were some changes made. I don't know Mr. Klein do you want to address that.

Mr. Klein – You're coming on Mayhill from Market?

Ms. Zottarelli – No going toward Market.

Mr. Klein – You're on Mayhill.

Ms. Zottarelli – You get stopped by the light by ACME there's two lanes left and right the right lane can only go right or curve to your left. The left lane you have to curve to your left once you go to your left you can cut over to your right so if you're not paying attention and you made that curve you're going to get creamed.

Mr. Klein – By somebody else in the lane next to you?

Ms. Zottarelli – Yes cutting over because they want to make the right. That lane should in my opinion be strictly left lane and the right lane should be straight or right.

Council President Accomando – They'll still do the same thing.

Ms. Zottarelli – No because you're turning you're not going to cut over to the right that lane is going to be strictly for the light up on Market to make the left.

Council President Accomando – People are still going to do it to try and beat the light.

Ms. Zottarelli – Well alright I'm just saying that's one. The second thing is we're almost four weeks into summer and the racing behind Walmart gets worse every freaking night. Which leads me to my other issue I received a letter that Walmart is looking to I guess expand again there's no time date or meeting on this letter I have no idea it came from an engineer. They're talking about adding a compactor and a loading dock do we not

have a right to come and voice our opinions or here because there's no time or date or acknowledge of anything where to go for this meeting. Of all the issues Walmart has in the back I really think this should be looked into.

Mayor White – They would have to do that in order to do it the right way. I don't know what the letter says.

Ms. Zottarelli – I will show it to you.

Mayor White – I don't know anything about it.

Ms. Zottarelli – All the residents got certified letters it's from Bohler and it's.

Mayor White – Bohler is representing Walmart?

Ms. Zottarelli – I guess so like I said there's no meeting date, time, place nowhere to go voice your opinion. It's telling you what some of their plans are which are very concerning. I live there I deal with the garbage now.

Mayor White – They can't just do it they're going to have to follow procedures like you have in the past

Mr. Schettino – Through the Chair. Just as the Mayor stated by statute if you appear before whether it's the Planning Board or the Zoning Board you have to give notice by certified mail or it can be hand delivered to residents within 200 feet that must state the date, the location and what the application is for. I'm not disputing what you have but that notice would be defective which means they wouldn't be allowed to proceed because the first thing that is done at those meetings is they have to provide proof of notification and not only do they have to give the notice by mail to the residents within 200 feet but they have to put a notice in the newspaper as well and if either of those notices do not have the date, the time, the location and what relief they're seeking the notice is defective even if they approval the approval would be void if challenged and the Board would not allow them to go forward without the proper notification. So again I'm not doubting that they didn't put it in that all I'm saying to you is that notice if that's all they do it's defective and they won't be allowed to pursue their application.

Mayor White – What they might be doing I have a feeling is they may be testing the water because is there any number on there to call because if you recall last time Walmart was going to do that loading dock and there was so much resistance to it they backed away from it. So maybe they don't want to go through all that and pay professionals to draw up plans they want to see what the temperature is before they do it.

Ms. Zottarelli – Understandably but how can they do that if they don't give you an opportunity.

Mayor White – Well maybe there's a number there to call.

Mr. Schettino – Just to be clear if it is a concept where they are not seeking approval they're just presenting something for Board input that would not have to get individual notice on. It's only if they submit a formal application so again if they're going there just not submitting a formal application just like we get the Board's input if we were to pursue something like this that would not get the notices I just described.

Ms. Zottarelli – Okay.

Councilman Cimiluca – Is what you got was it something that was titled notice of meeting or was it a letter from an engineering firm? Generally the letter any kind of notice or letter would come from an attorney not from an engineer.

Mr. Lo Dico – Through the Chair. We just received something too and it's either an environmental or wetlands they're applying to the State it's not us but we were notified as well.

Ms. Zottarelli – Flood hazard area verification and a flood hazard area individual permit for Walmart the proposed takeover addition block lot number Township of Saddle Brook Bergen County and then it has a New Jersey file number that's it.

Mr. Lo Dico – It's an application to the State.

Ms. Zottarelli – It starts off with dear sir or madam and goes into what they want to do.

Councilman Cimiluca – That's not a formal notice that means that they're going to they would have to seek approval from one of the Boards either Planning or Zoning most likely Zoning and that's not the notice so there's no meeting that you haven't been invited to because there is no meeting.

Ms. Zottarelli – I understand that why would we get this though?

Councilman Cimiluca – It might be a State regulation that everyone has to be told of that. I'm not sure about the State regulation but they might have to send it to all the residents in that neighborhood and I'm not sure it's limited to 200 feet it could be 500 feet because there might be wetland issues.

Ms. Zottarelli – Okay and what are we going to do about the racing back there? Are we going to call the property manager again?

Mayor White – I've already gotten complaints I have the Police Department on it.

Ms. Zottarelli – Okay but when you get woken up two, three, four o'clock in the morning it's ridiculous night after night. I just hope something is done thank you.

Jean Chahine of Saddle Brook comes forward. I'm running for Council in the upcoming election I wish everyone a happy summer and thank you.

Omar Rodriguez of Saddle Brook comes forward. One of the ideas I would like to propose is the same way you have minimums and maximums you should have some salary cuts. It's time to start working with that meaning unless it's amended when someone reach a certain pay raise two hundred thousand, two fifty, two twenty whatever it stops that's the most the employee can go but that is not the topic right now. In the budget what I would like to propose in the budget you can see that the Police Department have a budget of almost four million dollars a year however we have a Volunteer Fire Department and we just allocate a hundred and sixty thousand dollars and they spend around one ten one twenty in truck repairs. If it's too much money the other municipalities pay for the Fire Department can we institute a plan that automatically we can increase the budget of twenty or twenty five thousand dollars more a year. That's something to be considered because back in the day when I was sitting there and they present the idea about the LOSAP benefits which is about the only thing that they get I believe that that is the least that we could have done for them. So I throw it up there something for you to entertain for the near future. I still have the calculator for anyone that would like to used it. At the last meeting in June it was said that the health benefits to begin for the audience and the residents whoever is new elected members or new elected Council members get elected in November they will start in January 1<sup>st</sup> with no health benefits. Since Councilman Cimiluca made a case as an attorney trying to defend his benefit at the last meeting and meaning that that's the only reason why he is sitting there because of his medical benefit then I'm going to put entertainment now and I'm going to ask a few questions. The questions are as follows.

Councilman Cimiluca – You can stop there I'm not answering any questions from you.

Mr. Rodriguez – Excuse me sir if you're an attorney you got to know that I have the podium.

Councilman Cimiluca – Okay I'm just telling you you're wasting your time.

Mr. Rodriguez – You took twenty to twenty five minutes to just try and justify your health benefits but what happened is even if it's true that just yourself are in the plan you can change it if elected again. You can include your wife again at any given time no one can stop it. So if you remarry someone else then that new family also will be in your medical plan and the Township of Saddle Brook will have to pay and that's nothing new it just happened not long ago with an elected official that we have to pay medical benefits for life. When you said that your life expectancy is ten years I don't know if you got a magic ball or something that to say that you just got a life expectancy of ten years. What is more of an embarrassment and not on the Council.

Council President Accomando – Mr. Rodriguez.

Mr. Rodriguez – Yes sir.

Council President Accomando – Could you do this at a debate or something instead of at a Council meeting?

Mr. Rodriguez – This is my point because he was for twenty minutes last meeting.

Council President Accomando – I wasn't here at the last meeting.

Mr. Rodriguez – I'm sorry I just want to tell you that he said that he doesn't want to be there because he seen some old people that shouldn't be here in this world basically that's what he said and that's why he doesn't want to live no more than ten years. Who is he to dictate how long he's going to be here. My mom is ninety years old my mom reads with no glasses my mom dance and I'm pretty sure that she's not happy by him saying that she doesn't deserve this world not just the seniors in Saddle Brook but all the seniors around the world. They got a right to live.

Council President Accomando – I don't understand what you're saying.

Mr. Rodriguez – Well you were not here he made a comment at the last meeting that some people ninety something that he doesn't want to reach that age because they don't look good and they basically an embarrassment and that's not the way to say it. If you watch the meeting and we will put it we will say those words because basically what he's trying to say is that trying to justify to say in an arrogant way that his medical benefits it will just cost one nickel to the residents and taxpayers that's why I brought a calculator. Please don't say what school you attended because there's no way on Earth that your medical benefits of one million dollars will cost a nickel to the residents. There is no way unless you got a scientific calculator I don't know from another planet I guess and to say that anyone that wish or don't wish to pay your nickel they can come and you will pay them back the nickel. Shame on you that's arrogance because if you think that you can

pay or afford that payment of a nickel then why don't you pay for the medical insurance yourself you're an attorney or at least relinquish or give up your medical benefits and run with no medical benefits but to take twenty, twenty five minutes and just to justify that that's your worth that that's what you're doing as a Councilman I think it's a shame. In closing I would just like to say that it's not just about elections I've been doing this for many years and all of you have seen me for more than two years coming sitting down bringing some ideas so this is not about an election that I'm here but I believe there is a lot more work that can be done and the reason why I believe I'm running is because I see lately that we are just moving in one direction but no one ask questions no one because they're afraid to ask the topic of question why we got to spend this why we don't do this why not that. Right now the only and it's been affected the only lobby that I've seen from Councilman Cimiluca is all those cannabis stores that we going to be one of the first corridors in the State of New Jersey that have everything related to cannabis. There is no other town not Newark or Paterson or Camden nobody has it like Saddle Brook that we're going to have cultivation, manufacturing, packing, resale but we don't have an ordinance yet in place on how those businesses from what time to what time they're going to open what kind of ventilators they going to use. We don't know nothing but then we're going to have the corridor and thank you Mayor for bringing more police officers because we're really going to need a lot more because we don't know the outcome of with the opening of all these cannabis stores thanks to our Councilman Cimiluca and the rest of course of the colleagues. Thank you and have a wonderful night.

Steve Mariconda of 24 Harrison Avenue comes forward. I just wanted to bring up I don't know if you've heard of Sustainable Jersey they sponsor Green Teams in municipalities around New Jersey. Fair Lawn has a Green Team, Garfield, Maywood and a bunch of other towns and there's the opportunity to get grant money through the PSE&G Foundation for like sustainable projects and stuff. The municipality usually has to apply for this kind of thing but I think it would be a good idea to have environmental or Green Team in our Town. I spoke with the mayor of Fair Lawn I attended their Green Team meeting last month. It seems like just a good idea thank you.

Council President Accomando – Anyone else wishing to speak? Seeing no one motion to close to the public.

Motion: Councilwoman Mazzer

Second: Councilman Gierak

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca – yes

Councilman Gierak – yes

Councilwoman Sanchez – yes

Councilwoman Mazzer – yes

Council President Accomando – yes

## COMMENTS

Mayor White – I want to start out with the budget which we adopted tonight. I worked on the budget along with our professionals, Business Administrator Jimmy Homs, Vince Buono our CFO and our auditor Steve Wielkotz. We did everything that we could to minimize the increase without cutting services including using more surplus than we would have liked to. No one up here wants to raise taxes I can tell you that and as our auditor said there's fixed costs that account for the majority of the increase and prices have risen due to inflation. Garbage, recycling collection, pension contributions, health care they've all gone up. We continue bonding money for essential capital improvements and those projects for which we've been awarded grant money and some of these things we have to get done it's important our sewer system, our infrastructure. Just to address something that Mr. Rodriguez said contrary to what he's saying we haven't hired any new employees we have replaced employees that have left or retired so that's not a true statement. I just want to go over some things that I try to keep myself abreast of what goes on when it comes to I'm not a professional when it comes to the budget I care about it and I know my colleagues do too what causes it why do we pay taxes what causes increases and things like that and I looked at it and it's really six factors and if you look at these six factors several of them have an impact on us and because of what's going on in the economy it's affected it's affected our taxes. The first one is the market value of your house. When your property goes up your market value goes up and like it has all over Town. Property values have increased considerably over the last year and the housing market is at an all-time high so that's one. Number two the cost and this is what I just basically went over when it comes to increases and the rising inflation but the cost of municipal and county programs. Inflation has affected this factor big time I mean the cost of everything has gone up you know it yourself. You go to the gas pump the grocery store you see it and that affects the municipality as well. Most of the spending is fixed cost salary and wages and I want to say that you know our Town employees do an excellent job they really do and layoffs if that's something we would think about which really was never on the table but if you do that you're going to impact services. Also the cost of capital improvements and new construction everything's gone up. So those two right there are two huge things. The cost of our Town's public schools and I've always been a big proponent for education I still am. Good schools are essential and a strong education system attracts professional people, businesses and investments It's well known and I believe that we have good school district. Does it need improving sure everything needs improving but the superintendent and the Board of Education they do a commendable job. They have the right attitude they care they're trying to do their best and I think they're doing a good job. They're improving and making progress again there's always room for improvement but overall the performance is respectable and I think that the students receive a quality education going to Saddle Brook. My three kids all went to Saddle Brook and they're doing fabulously. They went on to college and they're all gainfully employed and doing well. Here's number four and I'm glad Mr. Rodriguez



brought up the cannabis. For example availability of other revenues right now for example the hotels we have two major hotels in Town they pay a hotel tax. It's a considerable amount of money during COVID nobody was staying in the hotels and it hurt. We got hit with that and we got compensated the State gave us money COVID money which helped. I think we're moving forward with selling the old Town Hall we have a resolution on tonight and we had a Planning Board meeting on Monday we've declared the old Town Hall and Police Department 73 and 93 Market Street as an area in need of rehabilitation. We want to sell that property. We want to be part of it in that we want to work with a developer and by declaring it an area in need of rehabilitation it gives us flexibility when it comes to zoning. We can work together to find out what can be built there sell it make money on that and put a nice ratable there. What I'm thinking about I don't know if it can go there but something like the one across the street by Ed's. That helps the taxpayer it helps all of us because now they're paying a share of the taxes and it's always a good thing. The property is sitting there the old Police Station 2006 we moved into the new Police Station that's a long time ago. That's almost 20 years ago just sitting there doing nothing deteriorating. The Town will work with a developer to build something there that's desirable for the Town and the residents. Next year hopefully we'll be generating revenue from cannabis sales. That's a good thing that helps the taxpayer they have to pay two percent on every license they have two percent of their profits and that could mean a considerable amount of money. It could mean close to a million dollars if all of them open up. Number five I'm going through this list tax exempt properties we don't have too many but you know that does affect because the more tax exempt properties you have the rest of the taxpayers have to make up for that. Churches you have the VFW, the American Legion, our senior housing project across from the Senior Center they don't pay taxes they do pay some funds but not taxes. The last thing is when it comes to the taxes is the total value of all the taxable properties. Our tax base determines the tax rate and because we have a lot commercial properties and industrial areas. That really helps the residential homeowner the residential taxpayer because they do pay more taxes than we do than the homeowner does. I think and when you look at that because we have that I know people don't realize it and nobody likes to pay higher taxes but if you compare our taxes to the rest of the County we're it changes year to year but we're in the bottom 10 out of 70 municipalities we're in the bottom 10. Another thing this is the last thing I want to say about the budget there's no frivolous spending. Mr. Rodriguez likes to talk and he looks at the budget he picks it apart the only thing that could even remotely be considered frivolous is special events and we try to get local businesses and professionals to help defray the cost. They sponsor events some of them but I'll give you an example we had The fireworks a couple of weeks ago that cost the Town now let me back up the VFW used to pay for that the whole thing not including the overtime cost from the DPW and the Police Department but they paid for it. Now you know they fall on some hard times they can't afford it anymore. For a while they were paying us half the money and it got to a point where they couldn't pay us. They were generous enough all these years to pay us but they couldn't so we have a decision to make are we going to not do the fireworks that

many residents enjoy that want those fireworks and I'm going to tell you when we didn't do it the one year I think it was COVID we got lambasted people really enjoy those fireworks. So you know what it's a service it's something nice that the Town's offering to people so should we cut it out should we just take it out and say the heck with it. I don't think so I don't think we should discontinue it but you know we want to go with a fine tooth comb and say well we can cut this we and we can cut that you know what there's going to be some unhappy people too. That's all I have to say about the budget. We're awarding the 2024 Road Paving Program tonight through contract. Sampson Street got awarded to Cifelli at a hundred and sixty three thousand and then our 2024 Road Program that Sampson Street was a State grant 2024 Road Program was awarded to AJM at about eight hundred and forty eight thousand. Those streets include Orchard Lane, Sterling Place, Lincoln Avenue, Van Orden Place, Elm Avenue, Ash Avenue, Dyer Place, Nightengale Road. The Garden State Parkway bridge over Saddle River Road will continue with their construction this weekend weather permitting. They need good weather all the way through. Saddle River Road will be closed 6:00 pm Friday July 19<sup>th</sup> until 6:00 am Monday July 22<sup>nd</sup>. There's detours all over the place. This is the second weekend they did it they need to do it two more weekends to complete the project. Public Service Electric and Gas will be replacing gas lines they've been doing it in the south end of Town. Westminster, McKenzie, South Street, Harrop Avenue, Outwater, Madison, North Sixth, Fourth Street, Third Street, Grace, and North Seventh Street and Lanza. Those are the streets they're going to be doing their work very fast but they are doing the gas mains that we're going to pave. They pay for half road we pay the other half. Ordinances is the second reading tonight the State mandates storm water management second reading on the calendar year ordinance through exceed appropriation limit and establish a Cap Bank. Also Congress Street we spoke about at the work session no parking during school hours 7:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday excluding holidays. The west side of Congress from the dead end to the library entrance on the east side from Albany to the house just north of the library entrance so that's going to be if that ordinance passes the first reading. Township events the fireworks which I mentioned were July 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Saddle River County Park. We received many compliments we finally got good weather night we weren't worried about rain. I've been there many times with Chief Kugler over there worrying that we weren't going to get them in because there was a storm coming and we always seem to get them in. I want to thank the Police Department, Fire Department, Ambulance Corps for their assistance. Special thanks to Fire Marshall Mike Seitz, Office of Emergency Management Coordinator Tom Dickman, Captain John Zotollo, DPW Superintendent Bob Hicswa, Fire Chief Dave Mielnicki Ambulance Corps Captain Lou Rodriguez also I'd like to thank Rafael Gonzalez for videotaping and Thomas Van Winkle for taking amazing photos. Last Saturday July 13<sup>th</sup> we had Coffee With a Cop at Starbucks I want to thank Saddle Brook Police and Starbucks for that event. Upcoming events Senior Citizen Chicken Bingo Sunday August the 4<sup>th</sup> call Joe Lecce our Senior Director. National Night Out the Police Department that's Tuesday August 6<sup>th</sup> from six to nine here at the Municipal Complex parking lot. Elton John tribute band it's a makeup

date will be Monday August the 12<sup>th</sup> 7:30 pm here in the parking lot. The Town Picnic is Saturday August the 24<sup>th</sup> from 12 to 3:00 pm Saddle River County Park. The Mayor's Walk is the morning of the picnic 9:00 am to 11:00 am around the pond rain date for both events is Sunday August the 25<sup>th</sup>. We have an 80's Revolution Band that was cancelled last night and rescheduled for Tuesday August 27<sup>th</sup> 7:30 pm here and then the night after that Altered State is a band that was scheduled we did four concerts this year and that's scheduled for Wednesday August 28<sup>th</sup> 7:30 pm. I want to compliment our Summer Recreation Program it's the first time we've ever done it for a month we have 50 children that are enrolled. It's running very well and we have received positive feedback from parents and kids. Andy Gallo, Diane Bonner and the whole recreation staff are doing an exceptional job. We could use more volunteers we started with ten and we're down to five it's hard work but if next year somebody sees it can volunteer it'll be a good thing. I also want to announce that this meeting is being live streamed this is the first time our IT people including Enlacosa Rafael from Enlacosa Video are testing it live streaming to the Town's YouTube channel. I didn't realize but Rafael told me that we have like 3,000 people signed on to our YouTube channel that's a lot. I don't think they're all residents but anyway it's just being tested tonight so we will when we go live and we're all set and ready to go we'll make an announcement and put it out there. I want to announce also the deaths of some longtime residents in Town. Nancy Small, Joe Marcincin and Dolores Pekar my sympathies go out to their families and friends. They all spent many years more than fifty years living in Saddle Brook and were really part of the Town's fabric. Also Police Officer Thomas Lieder my heartfelt condolences to the Lieder family I worked many years with Tommy at the Saddle Brook Police Department he's a good man and will be sorely missed. He died of an apparent heart attack at seventy years old and many people that saw him recently he appeared to be in great physical shape. I guess the lesson here is regular checkups with your doctor early detection is key. Enjoy the rest of your summer thank you.

Councilman Gierek – Good evening I'd just like to congratulate Lieutenant Rebecca Rivera and Sergeant Irving Gutierrez on their promotion Saddle Brook is very proud we have a great Police Department. We had a Flood Committee meeting on Thursday June 27<sup>th</sup> residents in attendance with Pete Lo Dico, OEM Coordinator Tom Dickman, Emily Wong, Gale Sikorski the Mayor and myself. We discussed flooding along the Saddle River. Tom Dickman mentioned the storm hurricane predictions for the year it is very high we're anticipating twenty five named storms eight to thirteen hurricanes and four to seven of those being major. It's something that we're concerned about. We also talked about obtaining a high water vehicle through a program the ten twenty three program and that's something that's going to be coordinated with the Police Department but we're looking to be prepared in the event the worst happens here. The Mayor mentioned the budget we had a huge increase in garbage a hundred percent increase in garbage waste removal. With that type of increase and we're not immune to inflation like the Mayor said we're not spending one more nickel than we have to between that the health care, the pension

obligations, contractual obligations to the employees also the Board of Ed is under the same thing. They're dealing with increased costs. Also the residents passed a referendum a much needed referendum. Schools are very important I've been in education for twenty eight years I'm an administrator in the schools my daughter goes to the school here she's having a great experience at Long School. It's important that we invest in our schools and invest in our community. Nobody likes to pay high taxes nobody wants to pay high taxes spend more money than we need to spend. We happen to be one of the lowest taxed in the County so we're doing the best we can here we'll continue to do the best we can when it comes to this budget. On a different note the fireworks were great thank you to all the people that participated and made that possible. That was very nice. Hope to see everyone at National Night Out on August 6<sup>th</sup> hope to see everybody at the Township Picnic on August 24<sup>th</sup> thank you very much have a good evening.

Councilwoman Mazzer – Thank you Council President I too would like to congratulate Lieutenant Rebecca Rivera and Sergeant Irving Gutierrez on their well-deserved promotion. Thank you for your dedication and service to our Town please stay safe. On a solemn note I'd like to extend my sympathy and prayers to the family of the Lieder family and also longtime friend of our Township Emil Sudol to his wife and family our condolences also. Thank you have a safe summer. Oh by the way I'm running for Council also.

Councilwoman Sanchez – I hope everybody has been enjoying their summer I know it's been a very hot one so I hope everyone is staying cool. I too would like to congratulate Lieutenant Rebecca Rivera and Sergeant Irving Gutierrez on their promotion as well thank you.

Councilman Cimiluca – I'll start off with the promotions and I want to congratulate Becky and Irving. The Sanchez family there must have been something in the water there because I've never seen them not smile and my natural face is a grimace and they're always smiling so God bless them and welcome to I believe the first female lieutenant in Saddle Brook history. Irving I was honored to sit in on interviews way back when he was hired. Mayor Chamberlain asked me to sit in and I did recommend him. I thought then that he would make a great addition to the force and that's been born out. In regard to also the Police Department on a sad note Tommy Lieder passed away I'm friends with a bunch of police officers I didn't get to know Tommy that well I did have some interactions he was always pleasant to me and from speaking to my friends who worked with him he was a pleasure to work with and just an all around good guy. Councilwoman Mazzer brought up Emil Sudol he was involved in the Democratic Club he was also I believe on the Planning Board or Zoning Board I think the Planning Board Emil was a piece of work. He was a good guy and we always had a lot of fun with him and he'll be missed. I was kind of shocked when I heard that he passed. The Mayor mentioned the concerts we had the bad luck of having it rain for two of our concerts so far but we did have the good luck

of being able to cancel them in time so this way we didn't get charged for them and a lot of times what happens is you look at the weather outside and you say it's 8:00 and the concert's supposed to start at 7:30 like why did they cancel this then 8:30 the heavens open up and you know we made the right choice. Relying on the weather man is not really fun and you know it eats at your stomach because you're hoping that they were right but so far they got it right twice. The Road Program they talked about I think that the Town is doing a great job in systematically paving all the roads. I know for years the roads were in horrific shape and sometimes people thought that saving a couple of bucks on the budget was worth losing a kidney when you're driving down some streets. This Council doesn't think that way and believes that public safety and infrastructure improvements are a high priority so along with our engineer I think the Town is moving forward and improving our road conditions. Every year we try to get five or six I don't know the exact number of roads in Town but eventually they'll all be done and then we start over again but we do have a specific Road Program in place. In regard to that we are applying for and have received grants and I believe we have a number of firemen in the audience here Assistant Chief Wenzel and they received a grant for some of their equipment not enough to cover everything but any grant that we get is money that we don't have to spend. The gentleman talked about the rat issue and there is a property maintenance concern so certainly if you have a property maintenance concern we do have a maintenance officer can't see everything so if you've got a problem make sure you contact the Town because we'd like to get input from everyone so we appreciate the gentleman who spoke over here Harley Place is three blocks from my house so I've had a similar issue not as bad but a similar issue on my property but please be sure to contact the Town if there are any property maintenance issues and we will look after it. There was one in particular that received some notification about and if you go past that particular property you'll see that it's been rectified. In terms of cannabis Mayor I'd like to correct you but in a good way you said two percent of the profits it's actually two percent of the revenues and I believe that all most if not all of the companies that are going to be operating in Saddle Brook potentially operating in Saddle Brook somebody talked about the fact that we don't have ordinances in place well no one's been totally approved yet and they're not going to open up until we have an ordinance which specifies certain things that they must comply with but I believe at least two of the three have also voluntarily the two percent is required by the State they have voluntarily agreed to pay an additional two percent of their revenue to the Town so it's a total of four percent so for every million dollars that they take in not profit but whatever they take in we get forty thousand times that by ten it's four hundred thousand dollars which does a lot to help us. In terms of again a gentleman came up and talked about pot alley or whatever he called it. I think everybody drives up and down Route 17 and if you go on Route 17 Rochelle Park has one of the largest dispensaries in the area if not the. I bet that most people who drive on Route 17 in Rochelle Park do not even know that dispensary is there. It's not a head shop it's not something where it's a methadone clinic and that's the misinformation that's getting out there. It's legal in New Jersey and Saddle Brook is taking advantage of the legality. Lastly every time the

individual comes up here he never fails to disappoint. I know that they had a debate on about two weeks ago and each side if you listen to Fox it's how many lies Biden told and if you listen to CNN it's how many lies Trump told well I counted about five or six just in the five minutes he was up here. When someone comes up and their sole mission to come up here is not to benefit the Town but to try and get elected especially when that person was a drain on Saddle Brook that person was as he proudly says was Council President four times in eight years it was the most divisive time in Saddle Brook politics and maybe we'll get to that again the next four months I think we've got four months until the election so I'm assuming he's going to come up here and it'll be must see TV again for some people. He'll come up see him yell and point fingers and direct it to me. I'm part of a team there's three people running and it's good to see Mr. Dziedzic, Mr. Chahine here good luck to you. It's tough to run somebody mentions who's a tough guy and who's not a tough guy you know it's tough to get out there in the public and put yourself out there and run. It's easy to sit behind a computer and just type some stuff. Lastly a couple of days ago or last week there was an assassination attempt on the president and thank God it was a failed attempt but what shocks me is that there are people out there that are upset that the shooter missed. They're looking to see somebody die and the fact that there's so much hate in some people's heart it just baffles me that people can be like that so you know just be kind to each other that's all I have to say.

Council President Accomando – I just want to say as far as the budget goes we all live in Town we pay taxes here we don't want to raise taxes we raise your taxes our taxes go up also. Unfortunately, utilities go up, pays go up, everything goes up. We've curbed it for many years by using surplus unfortunately the surplus is running out and we as well as well we are residents we have to pay our taxes are going up. Unfortunately, that's just our percentage we still don't get the County's percentage yet we don't have the school budget yet so I don't know how much more our taxes will go up. Like the Mayor said in order to have a good school system you have to pay for it. In order to have a safe Town which we relatively are safe even though you hear stuff like Councilman Cimiluca said people are sitting behind a computer and they talk nonsense. Anybody can be a tough guy behind a computer anybody can be a tough guy with a TV on but listen when it comes down to it we don't want to screw nobody. We don't want to jeopardize anything we live in Town; our kids hang out together, we go to restaurants together, we go to church together. We're bad people just for sitting up here because we are the one percent that want to try and make a difference so I applaud these two gentlemen here for wanting to get involved with politics because it looks great from back there but sitting up here looking out there every one of those people that sit out there are looking at you like you're a bad guy and we're not bad people we're just trying to do what's right for the residents and ourselves as well. I just want to give a thanks to our professionals, the Mayor for doing a great job they did with the budget and keeping a tight grip on it because they really did keep a grip on it regardless of what people say and do at that podium. I want to congratulate Rebecca and Irving as a law enforcement officer we all strive to get rank it's not easy sometimes when

you go against eighty other people and only one position it's hard so I wish them the best in their new roles and I wish nothing but success for both of them. Jim thank you for coming up with regard to the rat problem. I get a mouse in my house it's like the end of the world. I couldn't imagine having a rat so it doesn't go unheard we listen to you we're going to try and do the best we can to help you and the other residents out. Thank you for your concern. The racing at Walmart I don't know I'm sure the Mayor knew about it this is the first I heard about it. I usually hear about it I haven't heard anything all summer about it.

Mayor White – I think there was an incident this past weekend.

Council President Accomando – Mr. Mariconda left but I just want to tell him a green team I think that's a great idea maybe something we could implement with the Town. He's at every meeting and this is the first time he left without being applauded for something so I just want to thank Steve. Mayor the fireworks were absolutely beautiful this year I think it's the best it's been since I've been here in twenty two years. National Night Out is August 6<sup>th</sup> come out and support your first responders they do a great job. Not just the Police, Fire, EMT's and the Ambulance Corps. I spoke earlier everybody's concerned with the cannabis coming to Town that's regulated by the State so they can't do anything illegal. My problem as a father and resident is every time I go down the street there's a new vape shop open. They're not regulated they can sell whatever they want because nobody's going in there to look at them. It's a proven fact that vape shops sell illegal weed but nobody wants to spend the time or the resources to shut them down. Me I would like to if we don't I believe we do have some type of ordinance but I'd like to implement an ordinance to limit not only how many but the times of business hours and the age eighteen and over twenty one listen you can't get alcohol until you're twenty one so I don't know why we can't put an age limit of twenty one on a vape store. I just wanted to leave you with we're doing the best we can for everybody out there. We're not here to line our pockets because believe me we do this for almost for free. The money we get it goes back to Rec, Little League, fundraisers so we're legitimately here trying to do the best we can for the Town and I just want to assure you that no one's here trying to pull the wool over your eyes and just that's all I really have to say. Have a good summer and to all you outside workers stay cool been there done that stay healthy thank you.

Mr. Lo Dico – Next on the agenda are ordinances.

# ORDINANCES

## 1. ORDINANCE # 1752-24 SECOND READING

### **AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK AMENDING CHAPTER 173 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK ENTITLED STORMWATER MANAGEMENT**

Council President Accomando asked that a motion is in order that the Township Clerk proceed to give same ordinance a second reading.

Motion: Councilman Cimiluca

Second: Councilwoman Mazzer

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes  
Councilman Gierak - yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer - yes  
Council President Accomando - yes

The Township Clerk then reads the ordinance by title on second reading:

### **AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK AMENDING CHAPTER 173 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK ENTITLED STORMWATER MANAGEMENT**

Council President Accomando – A motion is in order that the Public Hearing on this ordinance be opened.

Motion: Councilman Gierak

Second: Councilwoman Mazzer

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes  
Councilman Gierak - yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer - yes  
Council President Accomando - yes

Council President Accomando: Announces that the public hearing on this ordinance is open and that all persons interested may now have the opportunity to be heard.

Council President Accomando – Seeing No one.

Council President (after all persons have had an opportunity to be heard) states motion is in order that the hearing on this ordinance be closed.



Motion: Councilman Gierek

Second: Councilwoman Mazzer

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes  
Councilman Gierek - yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer - yes  
Council President Accomando - yes

Council President then directs the Township Clerk to read the resolution regarding final passage.

Township Clerk then reads the resolution as follows:

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook that the ordinance entitled:

**CR# 724-111**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK AMENDING CHAPTER 173 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK ENTITLED STORMWATER MANAGEMENT**

does now pass on second and final reading and that the Township Clerk be directed to advertise said Ordinance or Title thereof, in the press, together with a notice of the date of passage of said ordinance according to law.

Motion: Councilwoman Mazzer

Second: Councilman Gierek

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes  
Councilman Gierek - yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer - yes  
Council President Accomando - yes

## **2. ORDINANCE # 1753-24 SECOND READING**

**CALENDAR YEAR 2024 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)**

Council President Accomando asked that a motion is in order that the Township Clerk proceed to give same ordinance a second reading.

Motion: Councilman Gierak

Second: Councilwoman Sanchez

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes  
Councilman Gierak - yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer - yes  
Council President Accomando - yes

The Township Clerk then reads the ordinance by title on second reading:

**CALENDAR YEAR 2024 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)**

Council President Accomando – A motion is in order that the Public Hearing on this ordinance be opened.

Motion: Councilman Cimiluca

Second: Councilman Gierak

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes  
Councilman Gierak - yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer - yes  
Council President Accomando - yes

Council President Accomando: Announces that the public hearing on this ordinance is open and that all persons interested may now have the opportunity to be heard.

Council President Accomando – Seeing No one.

Council President (after all persons have had an opportunity to be heard) states motion is in order that the hearing on this ordinance be closed.

Motion: Councilman Cimiluca

Second: Councilman Gierak

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes  
Councilman Gierak - yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer - yes  
Council President Accomando - yes

Council President then directs the Township Clerk to read the resolution regarding final passage.

Township Clerk then reads the resolution as follows:

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook that the ordinance entitled:

**CR# 724-112**

**CALENDAR YEAR 2024 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)**

does now pass on second and final reading and that the Township Clerk be directed to advertise said Ordinance or Title thereof, in the press, together with a notice of the date of passage of said ordinance according to law.

Motion: Councilwoman Mazzer

Second: Councilman Gierek

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes  
Councilman Gierek - yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer - yes  
Council President Accomando - yes

### **3. ORDINANCE # 1754-24 – FIRST READING**

Council President: The next order of business is the introduction of

**BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE IMPROVEMENT OF CAMBRIDGE AVENUE IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$400,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO APPROPRIATE A STATE GRANT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.**

be passed and adopted on first reading.

Motion: Councilwoman Mazzer

Second: Councilman Cimiluca

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes  
Councilman Gierek - yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer - yes  
Council President Accomando - yes

Council President: Direct the Township Clerk to read the resolution regarding passage and adoption on first reading.

Clerk: Then reads the resolution as follows:

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL THAT:**

**CR# 724-113**

**BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE IMPROVEMENT OF CAMBRIDGE AVENUE IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$400,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO APPROPRIATE A STATE GRANT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.**

heretofore passed on first reading, be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on the August 1, 2024 at 5:30 PM, or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached at the Municipal Complex, 55 Mayhill Street and that at such time and place all persons interested be given an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance according to law, with a notice of its introduction and passage on first reading and of a time and place when and where said ordinance will be further considered for final passage.

Motion: Councilman Cimiluca

Second: Councilwoman Sanchez

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes

Councilman Gierak - yes

Councilwoman Sanchez – yes

Councilwoman Mazzer - yes

Council President Accomando - yes

#### **4. ORDINANCE # 1755-24 – FIRST READING**

Council President: The next order of business is the introduction of

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWNSHIP CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK, CHAPTER 196 – VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC**

be passed and adopted on first reading.

Motion: Councilwoman Mazzer

Second: Councilman Cimiluca

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes  
Councilman Gierak - yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer - yes  
Council President Accomando - yes

Council President: Direct the Township Clerk to read the resolution regarding passage and adoption on first reading.

Clerk: Then reads the resolution as follows:

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL THAT:**

**CR# 724-114**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWNSHIP CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK, CHAPTER 196 – VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC**

heretofore passed on first reading, be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on the August 15, 2024 at 7:00 PM, or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached at the Municipal Complex, 55 Mayhill Street and that at such time and place all persons interested be given an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance according to law, with a notice of its introduction and passage on first reading and of a time and place when and where said ordinance will be further considered for final passage.

Motion: Councilwoman Mazzer

Second: Councilwoman Sanchez

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes  
Councilman Gierak - yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer - yes  
Council President Accomando - yes

The Township Clerk reads the following:

**All items listed with an asterisk (\*) are considered routine and non-controversial by the Township Council and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Council member(s) so requests it, in which case the item(s) will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda. The one motion signifies adoption of all resolutions, receive and file letters, correspondence, reports and approval of minutes and applications.**

Motion: Councilwoman Sanchez

Second: Councilwoman Mazzer

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes  
Councilman Gierak - yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer - yes  
Council President Accomando - yes

## **\* MINUTES**

**THE FOLLOWING IS NOT PART OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

### **MAY 2, 2024 SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING**

Motion: Councilwoman Mazzer

Second: Councilman Cimiluca

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - yes  
Councilman Gierak - yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – abstain  
Councilwoman Mazzer - yes  
Council President Accomando - yes

**MAY 16, 2024 REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING**

**JUNE 6, 2024 SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING**

**\* RESOLUTIONS**

**TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK  
RESOLUTION**

**CR# 724-115**

*Whereas*, the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Division of Local Government Services has made grant funding available via the American Rescue Plan Firefighter Grant Program; and

*Whereas*, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Saddle Brook has applied for and been selected for a grant award from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approximately \$43,000.00 to carry out a project to provide the Saddle Brook Fire Department with turnout gear and personal protective equipment; and

*Be it therefore RESOLVED*,

1. That the Township of Saddle Brook does hereby authorize the application for such a grant; and,
2. Recognizes and accepts that the Department may offer a lesser or greater amount and therefore,  
upon receipt of the grant agreement from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, does further authorize the execution of any such grant agreement; and also, upon receipt of the fully executed agreement from the Department, does further authorize the expenditure of funds pursuant to the terms of the agreement between the Township of Saddle Brook and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

*Be it further RESOLVED*, that the persons whose names, titles, and signatures appear below are authorized to sign the application, and that they or their successors in said titles are authorized to sign the agreement, and any other documents necessary in connection therewith:

Mayor Robert D. White

Business Administrator Jimmy Homs

Motion: Councilwoman Sanchez

Second: Councilwoman Mazzer

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca – yes

Councilman Gierak – yes

Councilwoman Sanchez – yes

Councilwoman Mazzer – yes

Council President Accomando – yes

**TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK**

**COUNTY OF BERGEN**

**CR# 724-116**

WHEREAS, the Township of Saddle Brook desires to constitute the 2024 Temporary Capital Budget of said municipality by inserting therein the following project.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Township of Saddle Brook as follows:

Section 1. The 2024 Temporary Capital Budget of the Township of Saddle Brook is hereby constituted by the adoption of the schedule to read as follows:

Temporary Capital Budget of the  
Township of Saddle Brook  
County of Bergen, New Jersey  
Projects Scheduled for 2024  
Method of Financing

| <u>Project</u>               | <u>Est. Costs</u> | <u>Grants</u> | <u>Budget Appr. Fund</u> | <u>Capital Imp. Fund</u> | <u>Bonds</u> | <u>Self-Liquidating Bonds</u> |
|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Improvement of Cambridge Ave | 400,000           | 216,000       |                          |                          | 184,000      |                               |

Section 2. The Clerk be and is authorized and directed to file a certified copy of this resolution with the Division of Local Government Services Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey, within three days after the adoption of this project for 2024 Temporary Capital Budget, to be included in the 2024 Permanent Capital Budget as adopted.

Motion: Councilwoman Sanchez

Second: Councilwoman Mazzer

**ROLL CALL:**

Councilman Cimiluca - yes  
Councilman Gierek - yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez - yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer - yes  
Council President Accomando - yes



**TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK  
RESOLUTION**

**CR# 724-117**

**WHEREAS**, The Township Clerk advertised for the receipt of sealed bids for surplus vehicles, and,

**WHEREAS**, bids were received and opened on July 10, 2024 at 10 AM at the Municipal Complex, and,

**WHEREAS**, the opened bids were as follows:

|   |   |                                  |
|---|---|----------------------------------|
| <b>1997 GMC YUKON<br/>VIN# 1GKEK13R1VJ744728</b>            | <b>JERSEY ONE<br/>Liberty Motors</b>      | <b>\$478.00<br/>\$401.00</b>     |
| <b>1998 LEXUS ES<br/>VIN # JT8FB28G4W5036479</b>            | <b>LIBERTY MOTORS<br/>Jersey One</b>      | <b>\$611.98<br/>\$378.00</b>     |
| <b>2001 FORD CROWN VICTORIA<br/>VIN # 2FAFP71W71X182452</b> | <b>LIBERTY MOTORS<br/>Jersey One Auto</b> | <b>\$616.99<br/>\$408.00</b>     |
| <b>2004 FORD CROWN VICTORIA<br/>VIN# 2FAFP71W74X179653</b>  | <b>LIBERTY MOTORS<br/>Jersey One Auto</b> | <b>\$717.99<br/>\$428.00</b>     |
| <b>2007 DODGE CHARGER<br/>VIN # 2B3LA43H97H845293</b>       | <b>LIBERTY MOTORS<br/>Jersey One Auto</b> | <b>\$703.99<br/>\$558.00</b>     |
| <b>2010 SUBARU LEGACY<br/>VIN # 4S3BMBJ64A3219197</b>       | <b>LIBERTY MOTORS<br/>Jersey One Auto</b> | <b>\$716.99<br/>\$508.00</b>     |
| <b>2013 FORD TAURUS<br/>VIN# 1FAHP2L80DG191482</b>          | <b>LIBERTY MOTORS<br/>Jersey One Auto</b> | <b>\$1,111.99<br/>\$708.00</b>   |
| <b>2015 FORD EXPLORER<br/>VIN# 1FM5K8AR9FGA16110</b>        | <b>LIBERTY MOTORS<br/>Jersey One Auto</b> | <b>\$3,333.99<br/>\$1,528.00</b> |

**BOLD INDICATES HIGH BIDDER**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook that the bids for the various vehicles are awarded as follows:

**JERSEY ONE AUTO SALES, 495 TONNELE AVE, JERSEY CITY, NJ 07307**

|                       |                               |                 |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>1997 GMC YUKON</b> | <b>VIN# 1GKEK13R1VJ744728</b> | <b>\$478.00</b> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|

and,

**LIBERTY MOTORS, 1705 KENNEDY BLVD., JERSEY CITY, NJ 07305**

|                                 |                               |                   |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>1998 LEXUS ES</b>            | <b>VIN# JT8FB28G4W5036479</b> | <b>\$611.98</b>   |
| <b>2001 FORD CROWN VICTORIA</b> | <b>VIN# 2FAFP71W71X182452</b> | <b>\$616.99</b>   |
| <b>2004 FORD CROWN VICTORIA</b> | <b>VIN# 2FAFP71W74X179653</b> | <b>\$717.99</b>   |
| <b>2007 DODGE CHARGER</b>       | <b>VIN# 2B3LA43H97H845293</b> | <b>\$703.99</b>   |
| <b>2010 SUBARU LEGACY</b>       | <b>VIN# 4S3BMBJ64A3219197</b> | <b>\$716.99</b>   |
| <b>2013 FORD TAURUS</b>         | <b>VIN# 1FAHP2L80DG191482</b> | <b>\$1,111.99</b> |
| <b>2015 FORD EXPLORER</b>       | <b>VIN# 1FM5K8AR9FGA16110</b> | <b>\$3,333.99</b> |

and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Township Clerk is hereby authorized to return the 10% bid deposit to the unsuccessful bidders.

Motion: Councilwoman Sanchez

Second: Councilwoman Mazzer

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca – yes  
Councilman Gierak – yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer- yes  
Council President Accomando – yes

**RESOLUTION  
TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK**

**CR# 724-118**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Saddle Brook has determined that the following vehicles are no longer needed and desires to sell the following surplus vehicles and equipment as listed and given to the Township Council,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook that the Township Clerk is hereby authorized to conduct a public sale of surplus vehicles and various equipment and advertise said sale in the legal newspaper of the Township.

| <b>YEAR</b> | <b>VEHICLE</b>                   |                        |
|-------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 2014        | Ford F550 UTILITY TRUCK          | VIN# 1FDUF5HT3EEA26576 |
| 1994        | INTERNATIONAL SEWER<br>JET TRUCK | VIN# 1HTSCACR9RH599949 |

Motion: Councilwoman Sanchez

Second: Councilwoman Mazzer

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca – yes  
Councilman Gierak – yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer – yes  
Council President Accomando – yes

**TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK  
RESOLUTION**

**CR# 724-119**

**BE IT RESOLVED** BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY THAT THE PROPER WARRANTS BE DRAWN AND THAT THE ATTACHED BILLS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THOSE BILLS NOT APPROVED BY A MAJORITY OF THE COUNCIL, BE PAID TOTALING **\$3,175,697.31** PROVIDING FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE AND ALL BILLS SUBMITTED COMPLY WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 ET. SEQAND ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE STATUTES.

**THESE ARE BILLS PAID THROUGH OFF LINE CHECKS.**

Motion: Councilwoman Sanchez

Second: Councilwoman Mazzer

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca – yes  
Councilman Gierak – yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer – yes  
Council President Accomando – yes

**TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK  
RESOLUTION**

**CR# 724-120**

**BE IT RESOLVED** BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY THAT THE PROPER WARRANTS BE DRAWN AND THAT THE ATTACHED BILLS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THOSE BILLS NOT APPROVED BY A MAJORITY OF THE COUNCIL, BE PAID TOTALING **\$1,291,867.13** PROVIDING FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE AND ALL BILLS SUBMITTED COMPLY WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 ET. SEQ AND ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE STATUTES.

Motion: Councilwoman Sanchez

Second: Councilwoman Mazzer

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca – yes  
Councilman Gierak – yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer – yes  
Council President Accomando – yes

**TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK  
RESOLUTION**

**CR# 724-121**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Saddle Brook has approved an application for U-Haul,

**WHEREAS**, the developer of the said property needs for the Township to execute a TWA agreement in support of the infrastructure for said site;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook hereby authorizes the Township Clerk to execute the attached TWA agreement with regard to the U-Haul site.

Motion: Councilwoman Sanchez

Second: Councilwoman Mazzer

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca – yes  
Councilman Gierak – yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer – yes  
Council President Accomando – yes

**TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK  
RESOLUTION**

**CR# 724-122**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Saddle Brook advertised for bids for Sampson Street Improvements and,

**WHEREAS**, 7 bids were received and opened on July 16, 2024, and

**WHEREAS**, in a letter dated July the Township Engineer has recommended to award the contract to Cifelli & Son General Contr., Inc, 81 Franklin Avenue, Nutley, NJ 07110 in the amount of \$163,785.00

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook that it hereby awards the bid to Cifelli & Son General Contr., Inc. in the amount of \$163,785.00 after review by the Township Attorney and providing funds are available.

Motion: Councilwoman Sanchez

Second: Councilwoman Mazzer

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca – yes  
Councilman Gierak – yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer – yes  
Council President Accomando – yes

**TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK  
RESOLUTION**

**Prepared by Peter Lo Dico  
July 16, 2024**

**CR# 724-123**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Saddle Brook advertised for bids for the 2024 Road Program and,

**WHEREAS**, 7 bids were received and opened on July 16, 2024, and

**WHEREAS**, in a letter dated July the Township Engineer has recommended to award the contract to AJM Contractors, 300 Kuller Road, Clifton NJ 07011 in the amount of \$847,758.00

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook that it hereby awards the bid to AJM Contractors in the amount of \$847,758.00 after review by the Township Attorney and providing funds are available.

Motion: Councilwoman Sanchez

Second: Councilwoman Mazzer

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca – yes  
Councilman Gierak – yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer – yes  
Council President Accomando – yes

**\* CORRESPONDENCE**

**1. ROBERT KLEIN, TWP. ENG.**

**RE: CHANGE ORDER #1 MINUS \$35,588.01  
ENG 2-PAX MUNDUS**

**TO: JIMMY HOMSI, BUS. ADM.**

**DATE: MAY 24, 2024**



One Harmon Plaza, Suite 600  
Secaucus, NJ 07094  
O: (201) 624-2137  
F: (201) 624-2136

May 24 2024

James Homsy - Administrator  
Township of Saddle Brook  
55 Mayhill Street  
Saddle Brook, New Jersey 07663

Re: Township of Saddle Brook  
Saddle Brook Firehouse No. 2 Structural Repairs  
Change Order No. 1 - FINAL  
Our File# 0257-T-110

Dear Mr. Homsy,

Please be advised that this office is recommending approval of attached Change Order No. 1 - Final. This change order is for adjustment of as-built unit quantities.

|                             |                      |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| • Original Contract         | \$ 319,175.00        |
| • <u>Change Order No. 1</u> | <u>- \$35,588.01</u> |
| • Amended Contract Total    | \$ 283,586.99        |

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call our offices at (201) 624-2137.

Sincerely,  
REMINGTON & VERNICK ENGINEERS, INC.

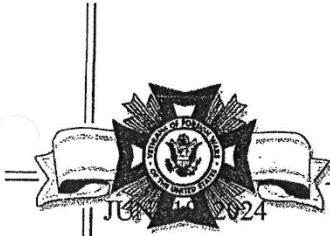
Robert J. Klein, PE, CME  
Project Manager

cc: Mayor Robert White  
Pete Lo Dico  
Frank Barrale  
Vincent Buono

C-1

2. L. VERILE, VFW POST 3484  
TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

RE: 2024 MEMORIAL DAY PARADE  
DATE: JUNE 2024



*Romaine - Sinniger*  
*Post 3484*

VFW POST 3484  
SADDLE BROOK  
44 MARKET ST  
SADDLE BROOK, NJ.07663

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

ON BEHALF OF THE SADDLE BROOK VFW POST 3484 I WOULD LIKE TO  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT FOR OUR 2024 MEMORIAL DAY PARADE.

THE DAY WAS A GREAT SUCCESS AND WE COULD NOT DO IT  
WITHOUT YOU. THE WEATHER WAS GREAT, THE TURNOUT WAS GREAT.

I THANK YOU AND/ OR YOUR ORGANIZATION FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT AND WITH YOUR HELP WE CAN KEEP IT GOING FOR A LONG  
TIME TO COME.

BEST REGARDS

  
LOU VERILE

COMMANDER, VFW POST 3484

ROMAINE SINNIGER

SADDLE BROOK ,NJ

44 Market Street  
Saddle Brook, NJ 07663-4832  
201-843-9540

C-2

7/18/24

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3. R. KLEIN, TWP. ENG  
TO: J. HOMSI, BUS. ADM.

RE: BID AWARD-SAMPSON ST. IMPROVEMENTS  
DATE: JULY 17, 2024



One Harmon Plaza, Suite 600  
Secaucus, NJ 07094  
O: (201) 624-2137  
F: (201) 624-2136

July 17, 2024

Jimmy Homs, Township Administrator  
Township of Saddle Brook  
55 Mayhill Street  
Saddle Brook, New Jersey 07663

Re: Township of Saddle Brook  
MA - 2024 - Sampson Street Improvements  
Recommendation to Award  
RVE File No. 0257-T-114

Dear Mr. Homs,

We have tabulated the bids received on Tuesday, July 16, 2024 for the above captioned project and find the lowest bidder to be Cifelli & Son General Contr. Inc., 81 Franklin Avenue, Nutley, NJ 07110 in the amount of \$163,785.00; representing items #1-32 on the base bid.

It should be noted that Marini Bros. Constr. Co. Inc. made a mathematical error on their bid submission but it has no effect on the lowest bid being awarded to Cifelli & Son General Contr. Inc.

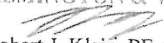
A copy of the tabulation and original bid documents are enclosed for your review.

Therefore, in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq, the contract should be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, which appears to be Cifelli & Son General Contr. Inc.

This award recommendation is contingent upon review and approval of bids by the Township Attorney's office and the availability of funds as certified by the Finance Department.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (201) 624-2137.

Sincerely,  
REMINGTON & VERNICK ENGINEERS, INC.

  
Robert J. Klein, PE, CME  
Township Engineer

cc: Mayor White  
John Schettino  
Pete Lo Dico  
Frank Barrale  
Vincent Buono

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2024 JUL 17 AM 10:23

7/18/24

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4. R. KLEIN, TWP. ENG  
TO: J. HOMSI, BUS. ADM.

RE: BID AWARD-2024 ROAD PROGRAM  
DATE: JULY 18, 2024



One Harmon Plaza, Suite 600  
Secaucus, NJ 07094  
O: (201) 624-2137  
F: (201) 624-2136

July 17, 2024

Jimmy Homs, Township Administrator  
Township of Saddle Brook  
55 Mayhill Street  
Saddle Brook, New Jersey 07663

Re: Township of Saddle Brook  
2024 Road Program  
Recommendation to Award  
RVE File No. 0257-T-114

Dear Mr. Homs,

We have tabulated the bids received on Tuesday, July 16, 2024 for the above captioned project and find the lowest bidder to be AJM Contractors, 300 Kuller Road, Clifton, NJ 07011 in the amount of \$847,758.00; representing items #1-61 on the base bid.

It should be noted that Marini Bros. Constr. Co. Inc. made some mathematical errors on their bid form but it has no effect on the lowest bidder being awarded to AJM Contractors.

A copy of the tabulation and original bid documents are enclosed for your review.

Therefore, in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, NJS 40A:11-1 et seq, the contract should be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, which appears to be AJM Contractors.

This award recommendation is contingent upon review and approval of bids by the Township Attorney's office and the availability of funds as certified by the Finance Department.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (201) 624-2137.

Sincerely,  
REMINGTON & VERNICK ENGINEERS, INC.

Robert J. Klein, PE, CME  
Township Engineer

cc: Mayor White  
John Schettino  
Pete Lo Dico  
Frank Barrale  
Vincent Buono

C-4

2024 JUL 17 PM 10:20

7/18/24

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## \* APPLICATIONS

***NONE***

## \* REPORTS

1. MUNICIPAL COURT MONTHLY REPORT – MAY 2024
2. BERGEN COUNTY SANITARIAN MONTHLY REPORT – MAY 2024
3. BERGEN COUNTY SANITARIAN MONTHLY REPORT – JUNE 2024
4. BERGEN COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL – MAY 2024
5. HOTEL ROOM TAX MONTHLY REPORT – JUNE 2024
6. GRANT WRITER REPORT – MAY 2024
7. GRANT WRITER REPORT – JUNE 2024
8. DPW MONTHLY REPORT – JUNE 2024
9. CONSTRUCTION CODE OFFICIAL'S MONTHLY REPORT – MAY 2024
10. PROPERTY MAINTENANCE MONTHLY REPORT – MAY 2024
11. FIRE PREVENTION OFFICIAL MONTHLY REPORT – MAY 2024
12. FIRE PREVENTION OFFICIAL MONTHLY REPORT - JUNE 2024
13. TAX COLLECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT – MAY 2024
14. TAX COLLECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT – JUNE 2024
15. WATER BILLING MONTHLY REPORT – MAY 2024
16. WATER BILLING MONTHLY REPORT – JUNE 2024

## OLD BUSINESS

Mayor White – I just want to speak directly to Mr. and Mrs. Ascuitto and Mrs. Zottarelli. I want to thank you for coming tonight I want to let you know I am very concerned about what's going on in your situation and I'm going to do everything that I can to resolve it and help you with this problem. I just want you to know that I care and that's the one thing and everybody up here we care we really do. I would rather you be annoyed with me or say well he didn't meet my satisfaction he couldn't get it done if it's because I failed or whatever that's not right with me but I would rather you think that than that I don't care because I do care and we're going to work on that and you brought up a lot of excellent points so it will resolve trust me and if you ever need to talk to me directly my door is always open. I'll come by you and talk to you and look at the problem just have to schedule an appointment you know and I'm available I'm around all the time so anyway with that said I also want to mention that Mr. Cimiluca I do believe I'm positive that we have an ordinance that regulates the operation of cannabis facilities. I know as you said we can amend it or add to that if we want to put on further restrictions but it is heavily regulated by the State and Mr. Rodriguez mentioned about police officers that we need to hire more

police officers we are going to in the near future hire police officers and I want to make sure that we have the maximum amount that is called for but the ordinance says and the State requires them to have their own security. He's made mention of a couple of things I've heard come back to me. He didn't say it here tonight but I just want people to know that these cannabis retail locations they're not bars they're not smoking lounges you can't consume on the premises people purchase and they leave. You're not going to have people wandering around if they get high if they want to purchase it and get high in their car well there going to be in big trouble especially if they get stopped by the police. They're not going to sit there and do it they're going to take it away that's important to note. I also want to thank Steve Mariconda he's been coming to all the meetings he actually came to the Planning Board meeting this week and he's you like to get him involved in in something because he's very interested in the Town and what we do and his idea about and environmental commission or green team is good and we should really consider that. Lastly I just want to Emil Sudol I failed to mention him he passed away recently he's a good friend of ours and him and I had our battles but he was a good guy and we ended it amicably so we'll miss you Emil thank you.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **NO NEW BUSINESS**

Council President Accomando – Open the meeting for agenda items only.

Motion: Councilwoman Mazzer

Second: Councilman Gierak

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca – yes

Councilman Gierak – yes

Councilwoman Sanchez – yes

Councilwoman Mazzer – yes

Council President Accomando – yes

Council President Accomando – Anyone wishing to speak on agenda items? Seeing no one motion to close.

Motion: Councilman Cimiluca

Second: Councilwoman Mazzer

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca – yes

Councilman Gierak – yes

Councilwoman Sanchez – yes

Councilwoman Mazzer – yes

Council President Accomando – yes

Councilman Gierak – I just want to mention Emil Sudol as well. I was witness to some of those battles between the Mayor and Emil he’s a great guy very interesting, good person. Also I guess I’ll be the last one to declare that I’m running for reelection. Everyone else is doing that so I figured I’ll put that out as well. One other thing I want to mention is my friend Tommy Johnson a captain in the Police Department is going to be retiring effective August 1<sup>st</sup> so I just wanted to mention that to everybody. Tommy worked 29 years with the Police Department and I know we have the August meeting to recognize Tommy but I know a lot of residents know Tommy and I just want to mention that he’s going to be a great loss for our police Department thank you.

Council President Accomando – Motion to adjourn.

Motion: Councilwoman Mazzer

Second: Councilman Gierak

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca – yes  
Councilman Gierak – yes  
Councilwoman Sanchez – yes  
Councilwoman Mazzer – yes  
Council President Accomando – yes

Meeting adjourned at 9:21 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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Peter Lo Dico, RMC, CMC  
Township Clerk

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Todd J. Accomando  
Council President

Approved: September 19, 2024