

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF ESSEX
FELLS, ESSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Held at the Essex Fells Municipal Building in said Borough on December 19, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Present

Mayor Edward A. Davis
Councilman Michael Cecere
Councilman BJ D'Avella
Councilman Greg Hindy
Councilman John King
Councilwoman Maggie O'Connor
Councilman William Sullivan

Absent

Also Present

Borough Administrator/Borough Clerk Francine T. Paserchia
Borough Attorney James Parisi

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order. He stated that in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Law (Chapter 231, Public Laws of 1975) notice of this meeting was transmitted to The Progress and The Star Ledger and was filed with the Borough Clerk and is posted on the Bulletin Board of the Borough Hall.

Mayor Davis led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Invocation.

Councilman King moved, Councilman Sullivan seconded approval of the minutes of December 5, 2023

And was carried on call of the roll:

<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>Absent</u>
BJ D'Avella	None	None
Greg Hindy		
John King		
Maggie O'Connor	<u>Abstain</u>	
William Sullivan	Michael Cecere	

Mayor Davis asked the Clerk to report on written communications.

The Clerk reported receipt of the following:

A. Written:

November 2023 Department Reports:

- Construction Department Cash Receipt & Permit Fee Log Report
- Police Department and Municipal Court Report

Mayor Davis said if there were no objections to the above, they will be placed on file. Hearing no objection, it was so ordered.

Public Comment

A. Davidson 2 Wootton Road

Police Vehicle – Insurance

Councilman King moved, Councilman Sullivan seconded, approval of the following resolutions on consent:

2023-167

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A 2023 FORD UTILITY POLICE INTERCEPTOR AWD VEHICLE FROM KOCH 33 FORD FOR THE ESSEX FELLS POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Borough of Essex Fells wishes to purchase a 2023 Ford Utility Police Interceptor AWD Vehicle for use by the Essex Fells Police Department; and

WHEREAS, said vehicle can be supplied by Koch 33 Ford under the Cranford Cooperative Contract; and

WHEREAS, Public bids are not required when the purchase is made under a cooperative contract in accordance with N.J.S.A 40A:11-12 of the Local Public Contracts Law; and

WHEREAS, the maximum amount of the contract is \$46,389.00 and the Borough's Chief Financial Officer has certified that the funds are available; and

WHEREAS, The Borough Council wishes to authorize a contract for the purchase of the vehicle.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Essex Fells, in the County of Essex and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. A contract is hereby awarded to Koch 33 Ford for the purchase of a 2023 Ford Utility Police Interceptor AD Vehicle in an amount not to exceed \$46,389.00.
2. The contract is awarded in accordance with the unit pricing, terms and conditions contained in the Cranford Cooperative Contract for an amount not to exceed \$46,389.00.
3. Any and all Municipal Officials are hereby authorized to take whatever actions may be necessary to implement the terms and conditions of this resolution.

2023-168

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A 2024 FORD F350 REGULAR CAB 4X4 PICKUP TRUCK FROM CIOCCA FORD OF FLEMINGTON FOR THE ESSEX FELLS PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Borough of Essex Fells wishes to purchase a 2024 Ford F350 Regular Cab 4X4 Pick Up Truck for use by the Essex Fells Public Works Department; and

WHEREAS, said vehicle can be supplied by Chiocca Ford of Flemington under MCCPC Cooperative Contract #15-C, Item 12; and

WHEREAS, Public bids are not required when the purchase is made under a cooperative contract in accordance with N.J.S.A 40A:11-12 of the Local Public Contracts Law; and

WHEREAS, the maximum amount of the contract is \$53,307.25 and the Borough's Chief Financial Officer has certified that the funds are available; and

WHEREAS, The Borough Council wishes to authorize a contract for the purchase of the vehicle.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Essex Fells, in the County of Essex and State of New Jersey as follows:

- A contract is hereby awarded to Ciocca Ford of Flemington for the purchase of a 2024 Ford F350 Regular Cab 4X4 Pick Up Truck in an amount not to exceed \$53,307.25.
- The contract is awarded in accordance with the unit pricing, terms and conditions contained in MCCPC Cooperative Contract #15-C, Item 12 for an amount not to exceed \$53,307.25.
- Any and all Municipal Officials are hereby authorized to take whatever actions may be necessary to implement the terms and conditions of this resolution.

2023-170

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS
PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A 401:4-58**

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A 40A:4-58, transfers may be made between appropriation accounts in the General Budget in the last two months of the fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, such transfers are made to cover expenses in accounts in excess of that anticipated and from accounts having expenses in less amounts than anticipated;

	<u>TRANSFER OUT</u>	<u>TRANSFER IN</u>
CURRENT FUND		
COLLECTION OF TAXES - O/E		\$ 5,000.00
LEGAL - O/E		\$ 19,000.00
FIRE - S&W		\$ 3,325.00
PHONES		\$ 600.00
SEWER SERVICES		\$ 97,400.00
FICA		\$ 9,000.00
EMPLOYEE GROUP HEALTH	\$ 36,000.00	
POLICE - S&W	\$ 50,000.00	
FIRE - O/E	\$ 3,325.00	
STREETS AND ROADS - S&W	\$ 30,000.00	
ELECTRIC & GAS	\$ 15,000.00	
TOTAL	\$ 134,325.00	\$ 134,325.00

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Essex Fells, County of Essex, New Jersey, in accordance with N.J.S.A 40A:4-58 that transfers between budget appropriation accounts as listed above are authorized and that certified copy of this resolution adopted by not less than a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the full membership of the governing body shall be transmitted to the Chief Financial Officer.

2023-171

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Essex Fells that the following Personnel action is hereby authorized;

1. The following named person/employee of the Borough of Essex Fells, in the title, at the rate of pay, on the effective date set forth opposite his/her name:

Name:	Title:	Rate of Pay:	Effective Date:
Bill Kimmel	Substitute Plumbing Inspector	\$30/hourly	December 1, 2023

Authorization for Payment of Bills

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Essex Fells that;

WHEREAS, the bill list as attached has been presented by the Chief Finance Officer for payment.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Essex Fells that the bill list as presented is approved.

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Fund No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Current	3-01	\$339,516.04
Current	2-01	\$0
Borough Capital	C-04	\$22,819.88
Water	3-05	\$97,747.42
Grant	04	\$0
Water Capital	C-06	\$53,254.21
Animal Control	T-10	\$0
Trust	T-11	\$26,040.95
Payroll	T-13	\$135,066.41

And was carried on call of the roll:

<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Michael Cecere	None	None
BJ D’Avella		
Greg Hindy		
John King		
Maggie O’Connor	<u>Abstain</u>	
William Sullivan	None	

Councilman King moved, Councilman Sullivan seconded, approval of the following resolution

2023-169

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has received funds from a property owner(s) or other party of interest for redemption of a Tax Sale Lien(s), and

WHEREAS, lien holders are entitled to payment for redemption of the Tax Lien(s) upon receipt of funds by the Tax Collector, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Essex Fells in the County of Essex and State of New Jersey that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to redeem said lien(s) and return applicable premiums in the following amount(s):

Certificate 22-00002

Block 8.03- Lot 5

Owner: Faloni, James J. & Cindy L.
Address: 42 Stewart Road

TOTAL TO REDEEM CERTIFICATE: \$39,177.35
REFUND OF PREMIUM: \$40,700.00

Check to be issued to: Christiana T C/F CE1/FIRST TRUST
Mailing Address: PO Box 5021
Philadelphia, PA 19111-5021

Certificate 22-00003

Block 10.04 - Lot 4

Owner: Scanlon, Caitlin E. & Ramos, Peter
Address: 210 Roseland Avenue

TOTAL TO REDEEM CERTIFICATE: \$998.59
REFUND OF PREMIUM: \$900.00

Check to be issued to: Christiana T C/F CE1/FIRST TRUST
Mailing Address: PO Box 5021
Philadelphia, PA 19111-5021

And was carried on call of the roll:

<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>Absent</u>
BJ D'Avella	None	None
Greg Hindy		
John King		
Maggie O'Connor	<u>Abstain</u>	
William Sullivan	Michael Cecere	

On motion made by Councilman King seconded by Councilwoman

O'Connor and approved unanimously by the Council, the meeting adjourned at
7:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Francine T. Paserchia
Municipal Clerk