January 1, 2021

The Mayor and Common Council convened in open session in the Hackettstown Municipal Building, 215 Stiger Street, Hackettstown, New Jersey at 1:00 PM on Wednesday, January 1, 2021. The meeting opened with the Invocation by Rev. Dr. Frank L. Fowler, III, and with the salute to the Flag.

The Oath of Office was administered by Assemblyperson John DiMaio to Mayor Gerald DiMaio for a three year term expiring December 31, 2023, and by Mayor DiMaio to Councilperson Eric Tynan for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2023.

Mayor DiMaio announced that adequate notice of the time, place and manner of this remote public Council meeting, being conducted via teleconference, including the means by which the public may observe and participate, has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by:

1. Posting said notice on the municipal building bulletin board and front window of the Municipal Building;
2. Emailing said notice to the press and all others who have requested it;
3. Posting on the official Town website; and
4. Transmission to residents via nixel notification.

Roll Call Vote: Present – Mayor DiMaio, Councilpersons Becker, Engelau, Kunz, Lambo

and Tynan

Absent – Councilperson Sheldon

Mayor DiMaio appointed Fred Tillou to the position of Fire Chief with a term expiring December 31, 2021, Anthony Levesque to the position of Deputy Fire Chief with a term expiring December 31, 2021, Charles Scott Tillou to the position of First Assistant Fire Chief with a term expiring December 31, 2021 and Thomas Buchanan to the position of Second Assistant Fire Chief with a term expiring December 31, 2021.

Motion was made (Kunz) and seconded (Lambo) to confirm Mayor DiMaio’s appointment of Fred Tillou to the position of Fire Chief with a term expiring December 31, 2021, Anthony Levesque to the position of Deputy Fire Chief with a term expiring December 31, 2021, Charles Scott Tillou to the position of First Assistant Fire Chief with a term expiring December 31, 2021 and Thomas Buchanan to the position of Second Assistant Fire Chief with a term expiring December 31, 2021.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Becker, Engelau, Kunz, Lambo and Tynan

Mayor DiMaio appointed Mark Peck, Esquire to the position of Town Attorney with a term expiring December 31, 2023, Paul Sterbenz, PE, PP to the position of Town Engineer with a term expiring December 31, 2023, John Mooney to the position of Town Auditor with a term expiring December 31, 2021, Daniel Bloch to the position of Town Planner with a term expiring December 31, 2021, Matthew Moench to the position of Town Prosecutor with a term expiring December 31, 2021, Chirag Mehta to the position of Deputy Town Prosecutor with a term expiring December 31, 2021, Roger Skoog to the position of Deputy Town Prosecutor with a term expiring December 31, 2021 and John Draikiwicz to the position of Bond Counsel with a term expiring December 31, 2021.

Motion was made (Lambo) and seconded (Becker) to confirm Mayor DiMaio’s appointment of Mark Peck to the position of Town Attorney with a term expiring December 31, 2023, Paul Sterbenz to the position of Town Engineer with a term expiring December 31, 2023, John Mooney to the position of Town Auditor with a term expiring December 31, 2021, Daniel Bloch to the position of Town Planner with a term expiring December 31, 2021, Matthew Moench to the position of Town Prosecutor with a term expiring December 31, 2021, Chirag Mehta to the position of Deputy Town Prosecutor with a term expiring December 31, 2021, Roger Skoog to the position of Deputy Town Prosecutor with a term expiring December 31, 2021 and John Draikiwicz to the position of Bond Counsel with a term expiring December 31, 2021.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Becker Engelau, Kunz, Lambo and Tynan

Motion was made (Kunz) and seconded (Lambo) to adopt the following resolution:

Resolution

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Hackettstown require the services of a Town Attorney, Town Engineer, Auditor, Town Planner, Town Prosecutor, Deputy Town Prosecutors and Bond Counsel, and;

WHEREAS, funds will be made available in the 2021 municipal budget to pay for the aforesaid services, and;

WHEREAS, NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq., establishes certain procedures for agreements for professional services.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that;

1. The appointments of the following for the terms indicated is hereby approved.

Town Attorney 3 year term $100,000

Town Engineer 3 year term $20,000

Town Auditor 1 year term $39,710

Town Planner 1 year term $10,000

Town Prosecutor 1 year term $20,000

Deputy Town Prosecutors 1 year term $

Bond Counsel 1 year term $5,000

1. The services of the above appointees were engaged without competitive bidding as “professional services” as defined in the Local Public Contracts Law because such services are performed by persons authorized by law to practice a recognized profession, regulated by law, and it is not possible to obtain competitive bids.
2. Services of the above appointees were engaged using the fair and open process of the Pay to Play law.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Becker, Engelau, Kunz, Lambo and Tynan

Mayor DiMaio appointed Paola J. Reilly to the position of Deputy Town Clerk/Administrator with a term expiring December 312, 2021 and Scott Armstrong to the position of Certified Public Works Manager with a term expiring December 31, 2021.

Motion was made (Lambo) and seconded (Engelau) to confirm Mayor DiMaio’s appointment of Paola J. Reilly to the position of Deputy Town Clerk/Administrator with a term expiring December 312, 2021 and Scott Armstrong to the position of Certified Public Works Manager with a term expiring December 31, 2021.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Becker, Engelau, Kunz, Lambo and Tynan

Motion was made (Lambo) and seconded (Tynan) to appoint Matthew Engelau to the position of Acting Mayor for 2021.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Becker, Kunz, Lambo and Tynan

Abstain – Engelau

Motion was made (Engelau) and seconded (Lambo) to appoint Leonard Kunz to the position of Alternate Acting Mayor for 2021.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Becker Engelau, Lambo and Tynan

Abstain – Kunz

Motion was made (Kunz) and seconded (Lambo) to adopt the following resolution:

Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED that the following banks be designated as official depositories for Town funds for 2021: Fulton Bank, Wells Fargo, Valley National, Bank of America, JP Morgan Chase, First Hope Bank, TD Bank, PNC Bank and State of New Jersey Cas Management Fund.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Becker, Engelau, Kunz, Lambo and Tynan

Mayor DiMaio appointed Robert Salus to the position of Recreation Commission Member with a term expiring December 31, 2025, Jean Lobby to the position of Public Library Trustee with a term expiring December 31, 2025, Erikka Bahnuk to the position of Public Library Trustee (Mayor’s Alternate) with a term expiring December 31, 2021, Jeff Saunders to the position of Historic Preservation Commission Class A Member with a term expiring December 31, 2024 and Lynn Scully to the position of Historic Preservation Class C Member with a term expiring December 31, 2023.

Motion was made (Lambo) and seconded (Engelau) to appoint Donald Farino, Esquire to the position of Public Defender with a term expiring December 31, 2021.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Becker, Engelau, Kunz, Lambo and Tynan

Motion was made (Lambo) and seconded (Becker) to appoint Gregory Gianforcaro, Esquire to the position of Deputy Public Defender with a term expiring December 31, 2021.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Becker, Engelau, Kunz, Lambo and Tynan

Motion was made (Lambo) and seconded (Engelau) to adopt the following resolution:

Resolution

WHEREAS, 40A:-4-19 Local Budget Act provides that (where any contract, commitments or payments are to be made prior to the final adoption of the 2021 budget) temporary appropriations be made for the purposes and amounts required in the manner and time therein provided;

WHEREAS, the date of tis resolution is within the first thirty days of 2021; and

WHEREAS, the total appropriations in the 2020 budget, less appropriations made for capital improvement fund, debt service and relief of the poor (public assistance) are as follows:

General $9,921,276.40

WHEREAS 26.25 percent of the total appropriations int eh 2020 budget less appropriations for capital improvement fund, debt service and relief of the poor (public assistance) in the said 2020 budget is as follows:

General $2,604,335.06

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the Town of Hackettstown, County of Warren that the temporary appropriations be made and that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Chief Financial Officer for her records.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Becker, Engelau, Kunz, Lambo and Sheldon

Motion was made (Engelau) and seconded (Kunz) to adopt Roberts Rules of Order for 2021.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Becker, Engelau, Kunz, Lambo and Sheldon

Mayor DiMaio asked if anyone from the public would like to speak.

No one from the public wished to speak at this time.

The Benediction was given by Rev. Dr. Frank Fowler, III.

Motion was made (Engelau) and seconded (Tynan) to adjourn this meeting at 1:24 PM.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Becker, Engelau, Kunz, Lambo and Tynan

This is to certify that the This is to certify that all

ordinances and resolutions proper notices, postings and

contained herein have been filings required by the Open

approved by me in accordance Public Meetings Act (Chapter

with law. 231, P.L. 1975) were provided

for this meeting.

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Gerald DiMaio, Jr., Mayor William Kuster, Jr., Town Clerk