

MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 5, 2025

Mayor Ferro calls the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

STATEMENT OF NOTICE AS REQUIRED BY P.L. 1975, C231 IS READ.

I hereby announce that pursuant to the Open Public Meeting Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in the annual meeting notice which was transmitted to the Asbury Park Press and the Trenton Times, posted on the public announcements bulletin board in Town Hall and filed in the Office of the Township Clerk on December 20, 2024.

ROLL CALL: Committeeman Eric Davis – absent, Committeeman Chris Morris – present, Committeeman Tara Zabrosky – present, Committeeman Jeff Ziner – present and Mayor Al Ferro – present. Also, in attendance: Brian Chabarek, Esq. - Township Attorney, Kevin Abernethy – Township Administrator and Kathleen Hart - Municipal Clerk.

Resolution 25-64 Authorizing the Holding of an Executive Session, at Which the Public Shall be Excluded was moved by C/Ziner; second by DM/Morris.

Municipal Clerk read Resolution 25-64 Authorizing the Holding of an Executive Session, at Which the Public Shall be Excluded into the record.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: DM/Morris, C/Zabrosky, C/Ziner, M/Ferro
NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: C/Davis

Time In: 7:04 p.m.

Motion to adjourn Executive Session was moved by C/Zabrosky; second by C/Ziner with an All in Favor.

Time Out: 7:44 p.m.

Mayor Ferro calls the meeting to order 8:00 p.m. followed by a flag salute and a moment of silence.

Municipal Clerk read, the following statement:

All attendees and participants agree to conduct themselves in a manner appropriate for public gathering. Individual speakers should be advised that no right of privacy protects a person’s public comments made in a public forum. Accordingly, all participants bear responsibility for their own statements and commentary.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Resignation received from Leonard Datello, Zoning Board of Adjustment Alternate 1 Member, effective immediately.
2. Resignation received from Ken Simels, Parks and Recreation Commission Member, dated January 14, 2025, effective immediately.
3. Resignation received from Renee Randazzo, Parks and Recreation Commission Member, effective December 31, 2024.
4. Letter received from the Monmouth County Historical Commission, dated January 30, 2025, announcing the grant award of \$10,000 for the Thomas Baird Housing Siding, Phase III.

ORDINANCES:

SECOND READING
ORDINANCE 25-01

CALENDAR YEAR 2025 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

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EXPLANATORY STATEMENT: This Ordinance authorizes an increase to 3.5% over the previous year’s final appropriations.

Affidavit of Publication Presented

Mayor Ferro opens the public hearing at 8:02 p.m.

No public comment.

Mayor Ferro closes the public hearing at 8:02 p.m.

Motion to adopt was moved by DM/Morris; second by C/Ziner.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: DM/Morris, C/Zabrosky, C/Ziner, M/Ferro

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: C/Davis

SECOND READING

ORDINANCE 25-02 ORDINANCE ACCEPTING CONSERVATION EASEMENT FOR A PORTION OF BLOCK 57.01, LOT 27.02 LOCATED AT 15 PINE DRIVE

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT: This Ordinance accepts a Conservation Easement for a portion of Block 57.01, Lot 27.02 upon recording of the Deed of Conservation Easement.

Affidavit of Publication Presented

Mayor Ferro opens the public hearing at 8:03 p.m.

No public comment.

Mayor Ferro closes the public hearing at 8:03 p.m.

Motion to adopt was moved by C/Ziner, second by C/Zabrosky.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: DM/Morris, C/Zabrosky, C/Ziner, M/Ferro

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: C/Davis

RESOLUTIONS: CONSENT RESOLUTION POSTED ON BULLETIN BOARD.

ALL MATTERS LISTED UNDER ITEM “CONSENT AGENDA” ARE CONSIDERED ROUTINE BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE AND WILL BE ENACTED BY ONE (1) MOTION IN THE FORM LISTED BELOW. THERE WILL BE NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION ON THESE ITEMS, IF DISCUSSION IS DESIRED OF ANY ITEM, THAT ITEM WILL BE CONSIDERED SEPARATELY.

- 25-65 Payment of Vouchers – February 5, 2025
- 25-66 Resolution Appointing Member to the Open Space Preservation Council
- 25-67 Resolution Changing the Location of the Millstone Township Committee Meeting Scheduled February 19, 2025 and Amending Resolution 24-241 Which Established the 2025 Annual Schedule of Meetings for the Millstone Township Committee
- 25-68 Resolution Directing Tax Collector to Cancel Real Estate Taxes on Block 49, Lot 10
- 25-69 State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Program Enabling Resolution for Supplemental Funding Request
- 25-70 Resolution Authorizing the County of Monmouth Mosquito Control Division to Conduct Aerial Mosquito Control Operations Within the Township of Millstone
- 25-71 Resolution in Support of the Request Made of the State of New Jersey by the Millstone Township School District for the Restoration of State Aid to Support a Full-Day Kindergarten Program
- 25-72 Resolution Opposing Senate Bill S2347
- 25-73 Resolution Appointing Full-Time DPW Laborer Without CDL – Jacob MacWhorter
- 25-74 Resolution Appointing Full-Time DPW Laborer Without CDL – Joseph Colamarino

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Motion to adopt was moved by DM/Morris, second by C/Ziner.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: C/Zabrosky, C/Ziner, DM/Morris, M/Ferro
NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: C/Davis

APPOINTMENT TO BE MADE BY THE MAYOR

Mayor’s appointment to the Millstone Township Park and Recreation Commission

BE IT RESOLVED that Justin Andrillo is hereby appointed to the Millstone Township Recreation Commission as a regular member to fulfill the unexpired term of Ken Simels, term ending December 31, 2026.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES:

1. Reorganization Meeting Minutes – January 7, 2025

Motion to adopt was moved by C/Ziner, second by C/Zabrosky.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: C/Ziner, C/Zabrosky, M/Ferro
NAYS: None ABSTAIN: DM/Morris ABSENT: C/Davis

2. Regular Meeting Minutes – January 15, 2025

Motion to adopt was moved by C/Zabrosky, second by C/Ziner.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: C/Zabrosky, C/Ziner, M/Ferro
NAYS: None ABSTAIN: DM/Morris ABSENT: C/Davis

3. Executive Meeting Minutes – January 15, 2025

Motion to adopt was moved by C/Zabrosky, second by C/Ziner.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: C/Zabrosky, C/Ziner, M/Ferro
NAYS: None ABSTAIN: DM/Morris ABSENT: C/Davis

APPLICATIONS FOR A PARADE/DEMONSTRATION/PUBLIC ASSEMBLY LICENSE:

- 1. Cars & Coffee of NJ - Car Show: Sunday car shows to take place on 4/27, 5/18, 6/29, 7/13, 7/27, 8/10, 8/24, 9/14, 9/28, 10/12, 10/26 (rain dates included) from 8:00am – 11:00am on Rike Drive in the Moto Industrial Park, (has received permission from Association).

Motion to approve was moved by DM/Morris, second by C/Ziner with an all in favor.

APPLICATION FOR A RAFFLE LICENSE:

- 1. Millstone Township PTO, Off-Premise 50/50 Raffle, RA# 331A to be held on April 25, 2025 at Millstone Elks Lodge, 22 Burnt Tavern Road, Millstone Twp., NJ.

Motion to approve was moved by C/Zabrosky, second by C/Ziner with an all in favor.

- 2. Millstone Township PTO, On-Premise Merchandise Raffle, RA#334, to be held on April 25, 2025 at Millstone Elks Lodge, 22 Burnt Tavern Road, Millstone Twp., NJ.

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Motion to approve was moved by C/Ziner, second by C/Zabrosky with an all in favor.

LIAISON REPORTS:

DM/Morris discussed the \$10,000 grant award received from the Monmouth County Historical Commission for the Thomas Baird House, Siding Phase III. The Township will be submitting a grant application for Millstone Park called Rest and Reflect. The grant is for additional seating up to 22 benches and the planting of up to 100 trees to help provide shade on the walking trails. DM/Morris acknowledges the resignations of Ken Simels and Renee Randazzo. Ken Simels was on the Parks and Recreation Commission for fifteen years and Renee Randazzo had five years of service. Ms. Randazzo was very instrumental in putting together Millstone Day and the Winter Wonderland. We are looking for more volunteers for the Parks and Recreation Commission. If you are interested, please complete a Talent Bank Application that is on the Township website.

M/Ferro would like a Certificate of Appreciation to be presented to Ken Similes and Renee Randazzo for their achievements and presented at a Township Committee meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Change in meeting location for February 19, 2025 Township Committee meeting which will be held at the Performing Art Center located at 5 Dawson Court to discuss the Reassessment of your property by local officials.
2. Monmouth County Mosquito Madness Tire Pick-up Program – February 1 through March 31, 2025. Monmouth County will pick up to 10 tires. Please call (732) 542-3630 to make arrangements.
3. Kevin Abernethy asks if anyone sees any birds that may look suspicious to please call 877-927-6337 or email the health department at health@co.monmouth.nj.us to prevent any outbreak of the bird flu.
4. Monmouth County is sponsoring the 2025 Paper Shredding events throughout the County. The three closest ones are:
 - April 26, 2025 Freehold Boro located at the Freehold Race Track, 130 Park Ave
 - May 31, 2025 Millstone Township from 9:00am to 1:00pm at the Millstone Park located at 4 Red Vally Rd.
 - July 14, 2025 Howell Township from 4:00pm to 8pm at Memorial/Adelphia School, 485 Adelphia Rd., Freehold

OLD BUSINESS:

1. The Township Administrator asking residents to slow down as there have been numerous accidents. The issue with passing school buses has dropped dramatically but is still not perfect and he has asked the State Troopers to bring in an additional team to monitor and enforce traffic violations. Also, weather has been an issue with many accidents occurring. Please slow down.

COMMENTS FROM THE DAIS:

C/Zabrosky mentioned that Marianne Heyesey, Environmental Commission and Shade Tree Commission Secretary, husband passed away and offered condolences from the Township Committee.

M/Ferro mentions a post that was put on Facebook by a resident in town mentioning the application for a warehouse to be built at the intersection of Millstone Rd. and Rte. 33. Her comment was that it would be ridiculous to consider, as the intersection could not handle the traffic and should not even be considered and the township needs new leadership. The Mayor asks Ms. Florio to attend the next Township Committee meeting to discuss her comments.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR: (Limited to ½ Hour)

M/Ferro opens the meeting to the public at 8:22 p.m.

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Michael Holzer, 174 Sweetmans Lane, introduced himself and discussed a project he is planning at a farm he owns at the corner of Stagecoach Road and Charleston Springs. He is working on plans to have an apple orchard and to construct a processing facility to create hard cider, including a tasting room. He has a small apple orchard farm on Sweetmans Lane. He intends to go to the Monmouth County Agricultural Board seeking approval.

Ryan Walker, 11 Pine Drive, expressed that Millstone Township is missing out on Agritourism which will protect the town and make this town glorious. The Mayor asked him if he thinks the town needs new leadership based on the Facebook post that he read. Mr. Walker advised that he feels that some farm establishments that are trying to establish agritourism are being penalized by the Township. The Mayor points out to Mr. Walker that everyone needs to follow the Township's Master Plan and Zoning Ordinances. Mr. Walker feels that the town should provide more guidance and make it easier for farmers.

M/Ferro closes the meeting to the public at 8:37 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn: Moved by DM/Morris; second by C/Ziner. All in Favor.

Time Out 8:38 p.m.

Audio of the meeting is available in the Municipal Clerks Office.

February 5, 2025 Township Committee Meeting Minutes approved at a Township Committee meeting held on March 5, 2025.

Kathleen Hart, RMC
Municipal Clerk