

**MINUTES OF THE  
BOROUGH OF MAGNOLIA  
438 W. EVESHAM AVENUE  
MAGNOLIA, NJ 08049  
WORK SESSION MEETING  
FEBRUARY 15, 2024**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** Mayor Cowling-Carson called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT ANNOUNCEMENT:**

Mayor Cowling-Carson read the following statement, "This meeting is being conducted in full compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Law" and notices were sent to the Courier-Post and The Central Record. In addition, the notice was posted on the official bulletin board located at Borough Hall."

**FLAG SALUTE:** Mayor Cowling-Carson lead in the salute to the flag.

**ROLL CALL:** Jenai Johnson, Municipal Clerk, called the roll, which resulted in the following members present: Mayor BettyAnn Cowling-Carson; Councilman Tony DePrince; Councilwoman Mary Martz; Councilwoman Shawn Parker; Councilwoman Shelley Wilson. Absent: Councilwoman Paula Bonamassa; Councilman Steve Whalen.

**ORDINANCES:**

*FIRST READING/INTRODUCTION*

ORDINANCE NO. 03-2024 AMENDING CHAPTER 112, ENTITLED "CERTIFICATES OF OCCUPANCY", OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF MAGNOLIA.

Mayor Cowling-Carson read by title. Councilwoman Martz motioned to approve on first reading. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wilson and carried upon the call of roll.

Ayes: DePrince; Martz; Parker; Wilson. Absent: Bonamassa; Whalen.

*FIRST READING/INTRODUCTION*

ORDINANCE NO. 04-2024 AMENDING CHAPTER 210 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF MAGNOLIA ENTITLED "ZONING".

Mayor Cowling-Carson read by title. Councilwoman Martz motioned to approve on first reading. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wilson and carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: DePrince; Martz; Parker; Wilson. Absent: Bonamassa; Whalen.

*FIRST READING/INTRODUCTION*

ORDINANCE NO. 05-2024 AMENDING CHAPTER 112, ENTITLED "CERTIFICATES OF OCCUPANCY", OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF MAGNOLIA.

Mayor Cowling-Carson read by title. Councilwoman Martz motioned to approve on first reading. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Parker and carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: DePrince; Martz; Parker; Wilson. Absent: Bonamassa; Whalen.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

RESOLUTION 2024-67 AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF BILLS. Mayor Cowling-Carson read by title. Councilwoman Martz motioned to approve. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wilson and carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: DePrince; Martz; Parker; Wilson. Absent: Bonamassa; Whalen.

RESOLUTION 2024-68 AUTHORIZING REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT OF PROPERTY TAXES. Mayor Cowling-Carson read by title. Councilwoman Martz motioned to approve. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Parker and carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: DePrince; Martz; Parker; Wilson. Absent: Bonamassa; Whalen.

RESOLUTION 2024-69 AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF A POLICE ISSUED HAND GUN TO HARRY MOORE. Mayor Cowling-Carson read by title. Councilman DePrince motioned to approve. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Martz and carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: DePrince; Martz; Parker; Wilson. Absent: Bonamassa; Whalen.

RESOLUTION 2024-70 APPROVING PROPOSAL FROM BACH ASSOCIATES FOR CDBG YEAR 2023 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF S. WALNUT AVENUE, AND AUTHORIZING PROJECT TO BE BID. Mayor Cowling-Carson read by title. Councilman DePrince motioned to approve. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Parker and carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: DePrince; Martz; Parker; Wilson. Absent: Bonamassa; Whalen.

RESOLUTION 2024-71 APPROVING PROPOSAL, OPTION 1, FROM BACH ASSOCIATES FOR FY 2024 NJDOT PROGRAM FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF W. MADISON AVENUE AND GLOUCESTER AVENUE, AND AUTHORIZING PROJECT TO BE BID. Mayor Cowling-Carson read by title. Councilwoman Wilson motioned to approve. Motion was seconded by Councilman DePrince and carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: DePrince; Martz; Parker; Wilson. Absent: Bonamassa; Whalen.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**PUBLIC SAFETY**-Councilman DePrince reported that he had received notification from the County that it was again time to update the EOP, which will now occur every second year. Councilman DePrince stated that Jay Villari from Camden County would be offering ICS II Class at no cost. Councilman DePrince reported that the ambulance had been ordered, but was potentially being cancelled due to the expected time of delivery, which was significantly delayed.

**PLANNING/ZONING, CODES, LICENSING & STREET LIGHTING**-Councilwoman Martz reported on various properties that were in the court process for maintenance issues.

**PUBLIC EVENTS & RECREATION**-Councilwoman Parker reported that a Recreation Committee meeting was being held on the 25<sup>th</sup>, and the pickle ball event was planned for the 26<sup>th</sup>. It was also noted that the Easter Egg Hunt was scheduled for March 30<sup>th</sup>, and plans were occurring.

**COMMUNITY/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE & COMPLIANCE, & COMMUNITY CENTER**-Councilwoman Wilson reported that she had not new items to report upon.

**MAYOR**-Mayor Cowling-Carson reported that she wished to apply for additional funds for Albertson under the \$25,000 Open Space grant, or potentially Tabner Park. Mayor Cowling-Carson stated that she had been contacted by Tarkill, who had greatly expanded their soccer and lacrosse programs. She reported that they had expressed the need for funding for equipment and she suggested that the governing body consider financial options, such as a local recreation tax.

Mayor Cowling-Carson stated that the swings in the park needed to be raised, as they were not usable at present. Brief discussion occurred, and it was also decided that Councilwoman Wilson would complete application for 2024 Open Space Grant for the purchase of basketball indoor equipment for the community center.

ENGINEER-Mark R. Basehore reported that CDBG Applications would be due in early March, and he would be requesting a resolution at the first March meeting for support of the application.

SOLICITOR-Dan Long reported that he was working on the Handicap Parking Ordinance, and attempting to include all modifications necessary at present. Mr. Long also noted that he was working on drafting an Ordinance to address improper behavior in the park, in which the Borough would retain all fines.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Councilman DePrince opened the floor to Chief Matt Wolf and Deputy Chief Michael Brennan, who provided a detailed quotation and presentation regarding the acquisition of a new fire vehicle. It was discussed that the Borough would benefit from purchasing a Hose/Pump E1 Model vehicle.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There were no members of the public in attendance, who wished to comment during the open portion of the meeting.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Councilman DePrince motioned to enter closed session at 8:17pm, for matters relating to personnel within the Magnolia Police Department. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wilson. It was anticipated that the executive session would be approximately 30 minutes. Hearing none opposed, motion was carried.

Council woman Martz motioned to re-enter open session at 9:03PM. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wilson at carried upon the call of roll.

**ACTION AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

No action was taken as a result of executive session.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Councilwoman Wilson motioned to adjourn at 9:03PM. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Martz, and hearing none opposed, meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jenai Johnson  
Municipal Clerk