MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL - TOWNSHIP OF EDISON

May 8, 2024

A Regular Meeting of the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Complex. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Council Vice President Harris followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Councilmembers Brescher, Coyle, Harris, Patil, Poyner and Shmuel.

Councilmember Patel was absent.

Also present were Township Clerk Russomanno, Deputy Township Clerk McCray, Township Attorney Burns, Business Administrator Alves-Viveiros, CFO Vallejo, Water Supervisor Freda and Cameraman Bhatty

The Township Clerk advised that adequate notice of this meeting, as required by the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975, has been provided by an Annual Notice sent to The Home News Tribune, The Star Ledger, Criterion Sentinel and Desi Talk on December 12, 2023 and posted in the Main Lobby of the Municipal Complex on the same date.

This meeting is available on the following link:

https://cablecast.edisonnj.org/CablecastPublicSite/show/3502?site=1

Clerk read into record:

RESOLUTION R.230-052024

WHEREAS, emergency medical services is a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, emergency medical services has grown to fill a gap by providing important, out of hospital care, including preventative medicine, follow-up care, and access to telemedicine; and

WHEREAS, the emergency medical services system consists of first responders, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, emergency medical dispatchers, firefighters, police officers, educators, administrators, pre-hospital nurses, emergency nurses, emergency physicians, trained members of the public, and other out of hospital medical care providers; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating the Emergency Medical Services Week; and

NOW THEREFORE, be it proclaimed that the Mayor and Township Council of the Township of Edison, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, in recognition of this event do hereby proclaim the week of May 19 through 25, 2024,

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE WEEK

The 50th Anniversary of EMS Week theme is EMS WEEK: Honoring Our Past. Forging Our Future. The Mayor and the Township Council of the Township of Edison encourage the community to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

Council Vice President Harris opened for Public Comment on the Resolution of Recognition.

Lois Wolke, she personally thanked the EMS for their being there for her in 1973. She thanked all the volunteers and appreciates their service.

Joyce Ship-Freeman, she thanked them for their service and energy all you do and stand for.

Hearing no further comments from the public Councilmember Poyner made a motion to close the public hearing, which was seconded by Councilmember Patil and duly carried.

Councilmember Patil, thanked everyone, you have saved thousands of lives and it's important to help you financially.

Councilmember Coyle, thank you for all the time you take away from your families. He has seen so many of you grow up through the ranks. He also thanked the families for their time and sacrifice.

Councilmember Poyner, thank you all for your volunteer hours.

Councilmember Brescher, echoed what council colleagues said. A lot of people don't understand our volunteers are a part of our community.

Council Vice President Harris, you are all amazing what you put into the jobs you do.

Hearing no further comments, on a motion made by Councilmember Poyner seconded by Councilmember Patil and duly carried.

A motion was made by Councilmember Patil seconded by Councilmember Poyner adopt this Resolution.

AYES - Councilmembers Brescher, Coyle, Patil, Poyner, Shmuel and Council Vice President Harris

ABSENT: Council President Patel

NAYS - None

COUNCIL PRESIDENT REMARKS:

Council Vice President Harris, announced upcoming events throughout the Township.

CALENDAR YEAR 2024 MUNICIPAL AND SOLID WASTE BUDGET

a. Introduction of Calendar Year 2024 Municipal Budget

On a motion made by Councilmember Poyner seconded by Councilmember Shmuel the 2024 Municipal Budget for Introduction.

AYES - Councilmembers Brescher, Coyle, Patil, Poyner, Shmuel and Council Vice President Harris

ABSENT: Council President Patel

NAYS - None

b. Introduction of Calendar Year 2024 Solid Waste Budget

Councilmember Brescher questioned surplus, why wouldn't we use that money instead of us bonding for $1,400,000.

Ms. Alves-Viveiros, said we are using $300,000 of the surplus.

On a motion made by Councilmember Coyle seconded by Councilmember Poyner the 2024 Solid Budget for Introduction.

AYES - Councilmembers Brescher, Coyle, Patil, Poyner, Shmuel and Council Vice President Harris

ABSENT: Council President Patel

NAYS - None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On a motion made by Councilmember Poyner seconded by Councilmember Patil and duly carried, the Minutes of the Worksession of December 11, 2023, Regular of December 13, 2023, Combined December 27, 2023 and Re-organization of January 4, 2024 accepted as submitted. Councilmember Shmuel abstained

from December 11th, 13 and 27, 2023 he was not a Councilmember. Councilmember Harris was absent for the December 13, 2023, Councilmember Brescher, Patel and Patil were absent for the December 23, 2023.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
ORDINANCES FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION AND PUBLIC HEARING

The following Ordinance, which was introduced by Title on March 27, 2024 passed on first reading, published according to law for further consideration at this meeting, was read by the Township Clerk:

O.2213-2024 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDINGCHAPTER 37, "ZONING," BY AMENDING THE FOLLOWING SUBSECTIONS: §37-62, SIGN REGULATIONS TO ADD LANGUAGE PERTAINING TO OFF-PREMISE / BILLBOARD GUIDELINES**

(The above Ordinance O.2213-2024 can be found in its entirety in Ordinance Book #29)

Council Vice President Harris declared the Public Hearing opened for O.2213-2024.

None

Hearing no further comments, on a motion made by Councilmember Coyle seconded by Councilmember Patil and duly carried, this Public Hearing was closed.

Councilmember Poyner thanked the subcommittee and legal team and administration as well these regulations substantially more defined. To set the environment to resident

On a motion made by Councilmember Patil seconded by Councilmember Coyle the Ordinance was adopted.

AYES - Councilmembers Brescher, Coyle, Harris, Patil, Poyner, Shmuel and Council Vice President Harris

ABSENT: Council President Patel

NAYS - None

The following Ordinance, which was introduced by Title on April 10, 2024 passed on first reading, published according to law for further consideration at this meeting, was read by the Township Clerk:

O.2214-2024 **ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 25, SECTION 11.1(C) "WAIVERS" TO PROVIDE FOR A REDUCED TREE FUND CONTRIBUTION FOR CERTAIN RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES AND AMENDING CHAPTER 25, SECTION 13 "TREE FUND" TO DESIGNATE PROJECTS THAT ARE ELIGIBLE FOR TREE FUND EXPENDITURES.**

(The above Ordinance O.2214-2024 can be found in its entirety in Ordinance Book #29)

Council President Harris declared the Public Hearing opened for O.2214-2024.

None

Hearing no further comments, on a motion made by Councilmember Poyner seconded by Councilmember Shmuel and duly carried, this Public Hearing was closed.

On a motion made by Councilmember Coyle seconded by Councilmember Patil, the Ordinance was adopted.

AYES - Councilmembers Brescher, Coyle, Harris, Patil, Poyner, Shmuel and Council Vice President Harris

ABSENT: Council President Patel

NAYS - None

NEW BUSINESS:
PROPOSED ORDINANCES PUBLIC HEARING SET DOWN FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2024.

O.2219-2024 **ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAPBANK**

On a motion made by Councilmember Shmuel seconded by Councilmember Poyner this Ordinance was passed on first reading and ordered published according to law for further consideration and Public Hearing at the next Regular Meeting of the Township Council to be held on Wednesday, May 22, 2024.

AYES - Councilmembers Brescher, Coyle, Harris, Patil, Poyner, Shmuel and Council Vice President Harris

ABSENT: Council President Patel

NAYS - None

O.2222-2024 **ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE"REDEVELOPMENT PLAN – JOHN STREET AND THOMAS PLACE" (BLOCK 692.E, LOTS 8.B, 9.A, 12, 13 AND 14), PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1, ET SEQ.**

On a motion made by Councilmember Poyner seconded by Councilmember Shmuel this Ordinance was passed on first reading and ordered published according to law for further consideration and Public Hearing at the next Regular Meeting of the Township Council to be held on Wednesday, May 22, 2024.

AYES - Councilmembers Brescher, Coyle, Harris, Patil, Poyner, Shmuel and Council Vice President Harris

ABSENT: Council President Patel

NAYS - None

O.2223-32024 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 14 "BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION" BY AMENDING SECTION 14-7 "ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS (EVCS) IN NEW AND MODIFIED DEVELOPMENTS REQUIRED**

On a motion made by Councilmember Poyner seconded by Councilmember Patil this Ordinance was passed on first reading and ordered published according to law for further consideration and Public Hearing at the next Regular Meeting of the Township Council to be held on Wednesday, May 22, 2024.

AYES - Councilmembers Brescher, Coyle, Harris, Patil, Poyner, Shmuel and Council Vice President Harris

ABSENT: Council President Patel

NAYS - None

PUBLIC COMMENTS AS TO PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

Council President Harris opened the meeting to the public for comments on Proposed Resolutions R.225-052024 through R.244-052024.

Charlie Kratovil, Resolution R.229-052024 what do we get of the cost of $5,000 and feels it a conflict.

Ms. Alves-Viveiros replied public announcements and the Illuminator.

Joel Bassoff, Resolution R.229-052024 feels this is a Political Consulting firm. He also expressed his opinion regarding the information in the Illuminator and feels taxpayers shouldn't be paying for. Council should vote this down.

Joyce Ship-Freeman, regarding Resolution R.229-052024 expressed her opinion. Resolution R.239-052024 Charge Order, why. Resolution R.243-052024 Walt Stochel does an outstanding job.

Ms. Alves-Viveiros said flooring anticipated flooring not projected.

Walter Stochel, Resolution R.243-052024 thanked the Mayor and Administration and is looking forward to council positive consent. He gave a brief overview of the Commission.

Maryann Hennessey, echoed the statements made on Resolution R.229-052024 also asked who does the media report to in the administration. She asked what areas does Resolution R.237-052024 cover.

Ms. Alves-Viveiros said the entire office. This covers various Township building.

Lois Wolke, also echoed all the speakers concerns on Resolution R.229-052024. She feels the mayor has enough staff and therefore no need to hire this company.

Cristo, also expressed his opinion on Resolution R.229-052024.

There were no other comments from the public regarding Proposed Resolutions. On a motion made by Councilmember Coyle seconded by Councilmember Shmuel and duly carried, the public hearing was closed.

Councilmember Brescher, had asked on Monday for information on Resolution R.229-052024 since he did receive the information he will not be supporting.

Councilmember Patil added this council has disagreed on the mailer.

Councilmember Coyle said he will not be voting to table. The Illuminator expresses the Mayor and Administration accomplishments, and feels it's a great communicator.

Councilmember Poyner said he feels it's under utilized.

Councilmember Shmuel suggested letting the residents add to the Illuminator.

Ms. Alves-Viveiros said the administration is looking to adding more content.

Councilmember Harris expressed her concerns that the Illuminator contains a lot of information which is old news. She would like to see something more up to date.

Councilmember Brescher requested Resolution R.229-052024 be pulled for separate vote.

The following Resolutions R.225-052024 through R.228-052024 and R.231-052024 through R.244-052024 were adopted under the Consent Agenda on a motion made by Councilmember Patil and seconded by Councilmember Poyner.

RESOLUTION R.225-052024

APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EDISON FOR THE PERIOD ENDING May 1, 2024

WHEREAS, the Director of Finance of the Township of Edison has transmitted to the Township Council a Report of Disbursements made through, May 1, 2024.

FUND	**AMOUNT**
Current	$20,686,233.91
Affordable Housing	1,654.00
Capital	60,488.84
Cash Performance	234,456.60
CDBG	287,610.53
Developers Escrow	24,568.75
Dog (Animal Control)	7,655.50
Federal Forfeited	0.00
Employee Tax	0.00

Grant Funds	17,655.32
Law Enforcement	0.00
Open Space	0.00
Park Improvements	0.00
Payroll Deduction	0.00
Sanitation Fund	36,618.20
Self-Insurance	0.00
Sewer Utility	45,245.55
Street Opening	33,710.00
Tax Sale Redemption	158,492.45
Tree Fund	0.00
Tree Planting	0.00
Trust	43,215.67
Edison Water Utility	517,820.36
Edison Landfill Closure Trust	0.00
TOTAL	$22,158,425.68

/s/ Lina Vallejo
Chief Financial Officer

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison, that the above-referenced disbursements report is hereby approved.

RESOLUTION R.226-052024

Authorizing refund for redemption of tax sale certificates

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector of the Township of Edison, Donna Bobik, reports and advises that at various sales of land for delinquent taxes held by the Edison Township Collector of Taxes, Middlesex County, New Jersey, the attached listing of tax sale certificates were sold; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector further reports that the said tax sale certificates have been redeemed thereof, and further advises that the purchasers of said property are legally entitled to a refund of monies paid at the time of redemption.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison, that the aforementioned recitals are incorporated herein as though fully set forth at length.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison, that the appropriate official of the Township is hereby authorized to draw checks to the noted parties in the amounts specified on the attached listing, totaling **$465,064.23.**

RESOLUTION R.227-052024

Authorizing refund for Sewer overpayments

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector of the Township of Edison, Donna Bobik, reports and advises that on various properties located within the Township of Edison, overpayments of sewer that have been made due to erroneous or duplicate payments, and

WHEREAS, applications have been made to the Tax Collector for refunds of the said overpayments, and the Tax Collector advises that the requesters are entitled to refunds as provided the attached listing; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison, that the aforementioned recitals are incorporated herein as though fully set forth at length.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison that the appropriate official of the Township is hereby authorized to draw checks to the noted parties in the amounts specified on the attached listing totaling **$189.77.**

RESOLUTION R.228-052024

RESOLUTION AWARDING CONTRACT/PURCHASE ORDER TO BRT TECHNOLOGIES FOR TAX ASSESSEMENT SOFTWARE AND POSTCARDS

WHEREAS, the Township needs to renew the maintenance and support for the Tax Assessment Software for the period of July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025 for the Tax Assessor's Office as well as the procurement of postcards; and

WHEREAS, BRT TECHNOLOGIES, 22 Birchwood Lane, Mantua, NJ 08051, submitted a quote in the estimated total amount of $45,793.60; ($26,098.00 for software and $19,695.60 for postcards); and

WHEREAS, to mitigate potential increases in postage, the total amount of this purchase shall not exceed

$47,000.00; and

WHEREAS, this shall be awarded as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A.

19:44A-20.5 et. Seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Agent has determined and certified in writing that the value of the acquisition will exceed $17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, prior to contract execution, the vendor will have completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that they have not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Edison in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit the vendor from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council accepts Edison Township's recommendations as described herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Edison, as
follows:

1. The Mayor, or his designee, is hereby authorized to execute a contract/purchase order(s) and any other necessary documents, in the amount of $47,000.00, with BRT TECHNOLOGIES, 22 Birchwood Lane, Mantua, NJ 08051 as set forth above.

2. This contract is awarded pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et. seq, and without competitive bidding under the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(dd).

3. The Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value shall be placed on file with this resolution.

4. The Township Clerk shall advertise notice of this action in a legal newspaper pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq. and in compliance with the Local Public Contracts Law guidelines.

CERTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

I hereby certify that funds in the amount of **$47,000.00** are available for the above in Account No. **4-01-20-0150- 000-029**.

/s/ Lina Vallejo
Chief Financial Officer

RESOLUTION R.230-052024

Proclamation

EMS WEEK
TO DESIGNATE THE WEEK OF MAY 19 - 25, 2024,
AS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE WEEK

WHEREAS, emergency medical services is a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, emergency medical services has grown to fill a gap by providing important, out of hospital care, including preventative medicine, follow-up care, and access to telemedicine; and

WHEREAS, the emergency medical services system consists of first responders, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, emergency medical dispatchers, firefighters, police officers, educators, administrators, pre-hospital nurses, emergency nurses, emergency physicians, trained members of the public, and other out of hospital medical care providers; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating the Emergency Medical Services Week; and

NOW THEREFORE, be it proclaimed that the Mayor and Township Council of the Township of Edison, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, in recognition of this event do hereby proclaim the week of May 19 through 25, 2024, as

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE WEEK

The 50th Anniversary of EMS Week theme is EMS WEEK: Honoring Our Past. Forging Our Future. The Mayor and the Township Council of the Township of Edison encourage the community to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities

RESOLUTION R.231-052024

RESOLUTION AWARDING CONTRACT/PURCHASE ORDER TO JOHNSTON COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE MAINTENANCE/PURCHASE OF IT SECURITY AND TELEPHONE EQUIPMENT

WHEREAS, there is a need for the maintenance/purchase of IT security and telephone equipment for the Township of Edison; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11 et seq., authorizes contracting units to establish a cooperative pricing system and to enter into cooperative pricing agreements for its administration; and

WHEREAS, the Union County Cooperative Pricing System hereinafter referred to as the "Lead Agency" has offered voluntary participation in a cooperative pricing system for the purchase of goods and services; and

WHEREAS, JOHNSTON GP, INC. /JOHNSTON COMMUNICATIONS, 36 Commerce Street, Springfield, NJ 07081, has been awarded Bid No. UCCP 24-2021 Telephone/Associated Services Systems-Equipment, Installation, Maintenance Services, UCCP 8-2022 IT Infrastructure, Fiber Optic Network Advanced Applications and Services, and UCCP 23-2021 Electronic Network Equipment, Security and Cabling through State Coop #8UCCP; and

WHEREAS, the total amount of this Contract/Purchase Order(s), in the amount not to exceed $55,000.00 cannot be encumbered at this time; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-11.10 funds for Open-End Contracts shall be committed at the time an order is placed and shall not exceed the unit price; and

WHEREAS, no amount shall be chargeable or certified until such time as goods or services are ordered or otherwise called for. Prior to incurring the liability by placing the order, the certification of available funds shall be made by the Chief Financial Officer or Certifying Financial Officer. It shall be the responsibility of the official responsible for issuing the purchase order to notify and seek the certification of availability of funds of the Chief Financial Officer or Certifying Finance Officer, as appropriate (N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.5(b)); and

WHEREAS, the Township Council accepts Edison Township's recommendations as described herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Edison, as follows:

1. The Mayor, or his designee, is hereby authorized to execute a contract/purchase order(s) in the amount not to exceed $55,000.00 and any other necessary documents, with JOHNSTON GP, INC. /JOHNSTON COMMUNICATIONS, as described herein.

This contract is authorized pursuant to the authority set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11 et seq. of the Local Public Contracts Law, Bid Nos. UCCP 24-2021, 8-2022, & 23-2021, through State Coop #8UCCP.

RESOLUTION R.232-052024

RESOLUTION AWARDING CONTRACT/PURCHASE ORDER TO SHI INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION FOR THE RENEWAL OF THE HOSTING AND LICENSING FOR THE SPATIAL DATA SYSTEM FOR THE TOWNSHIP

WHEREAS, there is a need for the renewal of municipal software hosting and licensing for the Spatial Data Logic system for the Township of Edison; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11 et seq., authorizes contracting units to establish a cooperative pricing system and to enter into cooperative pricing agreements for its administration; and

WHEREAS, the Bergen County Cooperative Purchasing Alliance, Cooperative Pricing System #11-BCCP has offered voluntary participation in a cooperative pricing system for the purchase of goods and services for which Edison is a member; and

WHEREAS, SHI INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION, 290 Davidson Avenue, Somerset, NJ 08873 has been awarded Contract # BC-BID-22-24; Computer Equipment & Peripherals; and

WHEREAS, the Township intends to award hosting and licensing for the period of 6/30/24-6/29/25 in the amount of $114,700.00; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council accepts Edison Township's recommendations as described herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Edison, as follows:

1. The Mayor, or his designee, is hereby authorized to execute a contract/purchase order(s) and any other necessary documents in the amount not to exceed $114,700.00, with SHI INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION, 290 Davidson Avenue, Somerset, NJ 08873, the approved Bergen County Cooperative Pricing System vendor through this resolution, which shall be subject to all the conditions applicable to the current Bergen County Cooperative Pricing System Contract as set forth above.

2. This contract is authorized pursuant to the authority set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11 et seq. of the Local Public Contracts Law, Bid No. BC-BID-22-24 through State Coop #11-BCCP, under Computer Equipment & Peripherals.

CERTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

I hereby certify that funds in the amount of **$114,700.00** will be available for the above in Account No. 4-01-22-0195-000- 059.

/s/ Lina Vallejo

Chief Financial Officer

RESOLUTION R.233-052024

RESOLUTION TO RELEASE STREET OPENING ESCROW

WHEREAS, the Township Department of Public Works advises the following have deposited Escrow Funds for Street Opening Permits; and

WHEREAS, notification has been received stating that all work has been inspected and restored as per the requirements of the Road Opening Permit; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EDISON, that the Finance Department is hereby authorized to release Street Opening Escrow Funds, under reference number STO0000855, to the following:

Permit Number: DEV-24-0710
Opening Location: 3 BELVIDERE AVE
Block/Lot: 546.10/5
Applicant's Name & Address:
PIN OAK BUILDERS, LLC
45 ROXY AVE
EDISON, NJ 08820
Initial Deposit Date: 03/19/2024
Deposit Amount: $1,440.00
Paid by & refunded to:
PIN OAK BUILDERS, LLC
45 ROXY AVE
EDISON, NJ 08820

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Edison forwards a certified true copy of the resolution to the Director of Finance.

RESOLUTION R.234-052024

RESOLUTION TO RELEASE STREET OPENING ESCROW

WHEREAS, the Township Department of Public Works advises the following have deposited Escrow Funds for Street Opening Permits; and

WHEREAS, notification has been received stating that all work has been inspected and restored as per the requirements of the Road Opening Permit; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EDISON, that the Finance Department is hereby authorized to release Street Opening Escrow Funds, under reference number STO0000770, to the following:

Permit Number: DEV-23-0608
Opening Location: 1906 LINCOLN HIGHWAY / STONY RD
Block/Lot: 1143/27.01
Applicant's Name & Address:
DAN NIRO
P.O.BOX: 105
BOUND BROOK, NJ 08805
Initial Deposit Date: 05/09/2023
Deposit Amount: $1,800.00
Paid by & refunded to:
DAN NIRO
P.O.BOX: 105
BOUND BROOK, NJ 08805

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Edison forwards a certified true copy of the resolution to the Director of Finance.

RESOLUTION R.235-052024

RESOLUTION TO RELEASE STREET OPENING ESCROW

WHEREAS, the Township Department of Public Works advises the following have deposited Escrow Funds for Street Opening Permits; and

WHEREAS, notification has been received stating that all work has been inspected and restored as per the requirements of the Road Opening Permit; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EDISON, that the Finance Department is hereby authorized to release Street Opening Escrow Funds, under reference number STO0000848, to the following:

Permit Number: DEV-24-0701
Opening Location: 668 DENVER BLVD
Block/Lot: 498/18.02
Applicant's Name & Address:
GAURAV MITTAL
668 DENVER BLVD
EDISON, NJ 08820
Initial Deposit Date: 02/29/2024
Deposit Amount: $4,600.00
Paid by & refunded to:
GAURAV MITTAL
183 WESTGATE DR
EDISON, NJ 08820

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Edison forwards a certified true copy of the resolution to the Director of Finance.

RESOLUTION R.236-052024

RESOLUTION TO RELEASE STREET OPENING ESCROW

WHEREAS, the Township Department of Public Works advises the following have deposited Escrow Funds for Street Opening Permits; and

WHEREAS, notification has been received stating that all work has been inspected and restored as per the requirements of the Road Opening Permit; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EDISON, that the Finance Department is hereby authorized to release Street Opening Escrow Funds, under reference number STO0000847, to the following:

Permit Number: DEV-24-0700
Opening Location: 999 WOOD AVE
Block/Lot: 852/2
Applicant's Name & Address:
HARSHI CONSTRUCTIONS LLC
1 WREN CT
EDISON, NJ 08820
Initial Deposit Date: 02/23/2024
Deposit Amount: $8,400.00
Paid by & refunded to:
HARSHI CONSTRUCTIONS LLC
1 WREN CT
EDISON, NJ 08820

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Edison forwards a certified true copy of the resolution to the Director of Finance.

RESOLUTION R.237-052024

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING BID AND AWARDING A CONTRACT TO ABSOLUTE FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS FOR FIRE ALARM INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES

WHEREAS, bids were received by the Township of Edison on March 21, 2024 for Public Bid No. 24-08-23R, Fire Alarm Inspection and Maintenance Services; and

WHEREAS, ABSOLUTE FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS, 51 Suttons Lane, Piscataway, NJ 08854, submitted the lowest legally responsible, responsive bid for the items as listed on the spreadsheet; and

WHEREAS, the initial contract shall be for one (1) year from execution of the contract with options to renew for two (2) one (1) year renewals at the mutual agreement of both parties at the same prices, conditions, requirements and terms of the contract, subject to and contingent upon appropriation of sufficient funds for each renewal year; and

WHEREAS, the total amount of the first year and the succeeding renewal year shall not exceed $200,000.00 and cannot be encumbered at this time; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-11.10 funds for Open-End Contracts shall be committed at the time an order is placed and shall not exceed the unit price; and

WHEREAS, no amount shall be chargeable or certified until such time as goods or services are ordered or otherwise called for. Prior to incurring the liability by placing the order, the certification of available funds shall be made by the Chief Financial Officer or Certifying Financial Officer. It shall be the responsibility of the official responsible for issuing the purchase order to notify and seek the certification of availability of funds of the Chief Financial Officer or Certifying Finance Officer, as appropriate (N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.5(b)); and

WHEREAS, the Township Council accepts Edison Township's recommendations as described herein and as submitted on the summary spreadsheet.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Edison, as follows:

1. The bids have been reviewed, and the bid submitted by ABSOLUTE FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS, for Fire Alarm Inspection and Maintenance Services, is determined to be the lowest legally responsible, responsive bid as listed on the spreadsheet.

2. The Mayor, or his designee, is hereby authorized to execute a contract in the amount not to exceed $200,000.00 for the first year and any succeeding renewal year and any other necessary documents, with ABSOLUTE FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS as described herein.

RESOLUTION R.238-052024

RESOLUTION AWARDING CONTRACT/PURCHASE ORDER(S) TO FIRE AND SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES FOR ANNUAL FIRE EXTINGUISHER INSPECTION & RELATED SERVICES

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11 et seq., authorizes contracting units to establish a cooperative pricing system and to enter into cooperative pricing agreements for its administration; and

WHEREAS, the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey hereinafter referred to as the "Lead Agency" has offered voluntary participation in a cooperative pricing system for the purchase of goods and services; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for annual fire extinguisher inspection & related services for the Township of Edison; and

WHEREAS, FIRE AND SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES, 217 Halls Mills Road, Lebanon, NJ 08833 has been awarded ESCNJ 20/21-23 Annual Fire Extinguisher Inspection & Related Services under NJ State approved coop #65MCESCCPS; and

WHEREAS, the total amount of this contract, not to exceed $55,000.00, cannot be encumbered at this time; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-11.10 funds for Open-End Contracts shall be committed at the time an order is placed and shall not exceed the unit price; and

WHEREAS, no amount shall be chargeable or certified until such time as goods or services are ordered or otherwise called for. Prior to incurring the liability by placing the order, the certification of available funds shall be made by the Chief Financial Officer or Certifying Financial Officer. It shall be the responsibility of the official responsible for issuing the purchase order to notify and seek the certification of availability of funds of the Chief Financial Officer or Certifying Finance Officer, as appropriate (N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.5(b)); and

WHEREAS, the Township Council accepts Edison Township's recommendations as described herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Edison, as follows:

1. The Mayor, or his designee, is hereby authorized to execute a contract/purchase order(s) and any other necessary documents in the amount not to exceed $55,000.00, with FIRE AND SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES, the approved Educational Services Commission of New Jersey vendor through this resolution, which shall be subject to all the conditions applicable to the current Educational Services Commission of New Jersey cooperative pricing system contract as set forth above.

2. This contract is awarded pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11 et seq. of the Local Public Contracts Law, and ESCNJ 20/21-23 Plumbing Time and Material through State Co-Op #65MCESCCPS.

RESOLUTION R.239-052024

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER # 1 WITH ALLSTATE OFFICE INTERIORS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF FLOORING AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS

WHEREAS, Resolution R.298-052023 authorized state contract numbers 81751 and 23-FOOD-18184 under G2005 – Carpet & Padding, Vinyl & Sheet Flooring, Mats & Matting, and Supplies & Installation with ALLSTATE OFFICE INTERIORS, 113 North Gold Drive, Robbinsville, NJ 08691, for the purchase and installation of flooring at various locations in Edison Township in the amount of $201,542.28; and

WHEREAS, ALLSTATE OFFICE INTERIORS, has also been awarded State Contract Number 23-FOOD-47764 under G2005 – Carpet Floor Covering, Supplies and Installation - Statewide; and

WHEREAS, Change Order #1 is needed to purchase additional materials to finish the flooring projects in the total amount of $10,603.86; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the authority set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12 of the Local Public Contracts Law, public bidding is not required when the purchase is under a state contract; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council accepts Edison Township's recommendations as described herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Edison, that Change Order #1 to the contract with ALLSTATE OFFICE INTERIORS is hereby authorized in the amount of $10,603.86, for a total amended contract amount of $212,146.14.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Edison, as follows:

1. This contract is authorized pursuant to the authority set forth in N.J.S.A 40A:11-12 of the Local Public Contracts Law, and State Contract, Nos. 81751, 23-FOOD-18184, and 23-FOOD-47764 under G2005

CERTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

I hereby certify that funds in the amount of **$10,603.86** are available for the above in Account No. **C-04-22-2163-103-001** for a total amended contract amount of $212,146.14.

/s/ Lina Vallejo
Chief Financial Officer

RESOLUTION R.240-052024

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING BID AND AWARDING A CONTRACT TO RARITAN GROUP INC., FOR THE FURNISHING OF WATER UTILITY SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT

WHEREAS, bids were received by the Township of Edison on April 12, 2024 for Public Bid No. 24-02-21 Water Utility Supplies and Equipment; and

WHEREAS, RARITAN GROUP INC., 301 Meadow Road, Edison, NJ 08817, submitted the sole, legally responsible, responsive bid for various brands as listed on the spreadsheet; and

WHEREAS, the initial contract shall be for two (2) years from execution of the contract with options to renew for two (2) one (1) year renewals upon mutual agreement of both parties at the same prices, conditions, requirements and terms of the contract, subject to and contingent upon appropriation of sufficient funds each renewal year; and

WHEREAS, the total amount of the contract shall not exceed $900,000.00, and cannot be encumbered at this time; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-11.10 funds for Open-End Contracts shall be committed at the time an order is placed and shall not exceed the unit price; and

WHEREAS, no amount shall be chargeable or certified until such time as goods or services are ordered or otherwise called for. Prior to incurring the liability by placing the order, the certification of available funds shall be made by the Chief Financial Officer or Certifying Financial Officer. It shall be the responsibility of the official responsible for issuing the purchase order to notify and seek the certification of availability of funds of the Chief Financial Officer or Certifying Finance Officer, as appropriate (N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.5(b)); and

WHEREAS, the Township Council accepts Edison Township's recommendations as described herein and as submitted on the summary spreadsheet.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Edison, as follows:

1. The sole bid has been reviewed, and the bid submitted by RARITAN GROUP INC., for Water Utility Supplies and Equipment is determined to be the sole, legally responsible, responsive bid as listed on the spreadsheet and stated herein.

2. The Mayor, or his designee, is hereby authorized to execute a contract in the amount not to exceed $900,000.00, and any other necessary documents, with RARITAN GROUP INC.

RESOLUTION R.241-052024

Authorizing park rental fees to be waived for tax-exempt organization.

WHEREAS the Edison Recreation Department has fees for park rentals and,

WHEREAS the Edison Sheltered Workshop will be hosting their annual client picnic in Yelencsics Park, Edison, on May 17, 2024 and,

WHEREAS the Edison Sheltered Workshop provides occupational training for individuals with disabilities and they provide independent living skills and employment readiness skills; and

WHEREAS, the Edison Sheltered Workshop is requesting to have their fees waived; and

NOW THREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison that authorization be given to waive said fees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison that the rental fees for use of Yelencsics Park shall be waived.

RESOLUTION R.242-052024

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REIMBURSEMENT TO THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY TREASURER

WHEREAS Middlesex County Treasury made a payment in the amount of $573 to the Edison Police Department after a plea agreement without knowing the Edison Police Department had already collected the $573 during the initial investigation of the incident.

NOW; THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Edison, that the Chief Financial Officer of the Township of Edison shall refund the amount of $573.00 to the Middlesex County Treasurer, which represents the amount of over payment.

Vendor ID	Vendor Name	Vendor Address	Reason	Amt.	Req. #
MIDDLE40	Middlesex County Treasurer Prosecutors Office	25 Kirkpatrick St–3rd FL New Brunswick, NJ 08901	Over Payment	$573.00	R4-02584

RESOLUTION R.243-052024

Explanation: This Resolution fulfills the Township Council's responsibility as to the establishment of the Dismal Swamp Commission/Peter J. Barnes Wildlife Preservation Commission by offering it advice and consent to the re-appointing of Walter Stochel as a Resident of Edison to the Peter J. Barnes Wildlife Preservation Commission.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Edison, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, that it accordance with Dismal Swamp Preservation Act, P.L. 2009, c 132 as codified at N.J.S.A. 40:D-88.1 et seq. (the"Act"); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Council hereby re-appoints Walter Stochel as a Member to the Dismal Swamp Commission/Peter J. Barnes Wildlife Preservation Commission per N.J.S.A. 40:55D-88.4(a) (1) for a five (5) year term effective, expiring on May 8, 2029.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon adoption of said Resolution, the Township Clerk, is hereby directed to forward a certified copy of said Resolution to (i) Metuchen Borough clerk; (ii) South Plainfield Borough clerk; (iii) John Pulomena, Middlesex County Administrator, for distribution of all Middlesex County Freeholders, and to (iv) Senator Patrick Diegnan.

RESOLUTION R.244-052024

WHEREAS, St. James Episcopal Church, has requested a waiver of Electrical Permit fees at 2131 Woodbridge Avenue.

WHEREAS, under the building code, St. James Episcopal Church as a non-profit tax exempt organization, is entitled to a waiver of fees due to the Township of Edison, except the DCA fee; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison feels that it would be appropriate to waive any applicable fees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township of Edison, that it does hereby waive any Electrical Permit fees, except the DCA fee, due to the Township of Edison as a result of the application being submitted by St. James Episcopal Church.

AYES - Councilmembers Brescher, Coyle, Patil, Poyner, Shmuel and Council Vice President Harris

ABSENT: Council President Patel

NAYS - None

The following Resolutions will be voted upon separately:

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RESOLUTION R.229-052024

THIS RESOLUTION AWARDS A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT TO VISION MEDIA MARKETING, INC. TO PROVIDE PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTING SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council ("**Municipal Council**") of the Township of Edison ("**Township**") has determined that it is in its best interests and those of Township residents to engage a consulting firm for public relations and communications services, and the Township is authorized pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law, *N.J.S.A.* 40A:11-1 *et seq.* ("**Local Contracts Law**") to contract for "professional services" as it may require; and

WHEREAS, Vision Media Marketing, Inc., 854 8th Street, Secaucus, NJ have an excellent reputation in the area of public relations and communications consulting and have sufficient staff to handle the requirements of the Township; and

WHEREAS, for these reasons the Mayor and the Municipal Council recommend the Consultant to provide public relations and communications consulting services and seek to enter a contract for services with the Consultant for the period of April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025 in accordance with their proposal attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Local Contracts Law, more specifically *N.J.S.A.* 40A:11-5, allows for the awarding of a contract for "professional services" without public advertising for bids; and

WHEREAS, prior to the execution of the Services Contract, the Consultant will have completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification, which certifies that no individual with a ten percent (10.0%) interest or larger in the Consultant has made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee of the Municipal Council in the previous year, and that the Services Contract will prohibit an individual with a ten percent (10.0%) interest or larger in the Consultant from making any reportable contributions through the term of the Services Contract, pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 19:44A-20.5, *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Services Contract is not awarded through a "fair and open process" pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 19:44A-20.5, *et seq.*;

and

WHEREAS, the services under the Services Contract may include, but are not limited to, public relations and communication consulting services; and

WHEREAS, compensation for the Consultant's services included under the Services Contract shall be rendered at a rate of

$5,000.00 per month, and in an amount not to exceed $60,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Local Contracts Law requires that contracts awarded without competitive bid be authorized by resolution of the municipal governing body and that notice of the award of such contract be publicly advertised.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Services Contract with Vision Media Marketing, Inc., 854 8th Street, Secaucus, NJ for public relations and communications consulting services as stated herein.
2. The Services Contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a "professional service" under the provisions of the Local Contracts Law, more specifically *N.J.S.A.* 40A:11-5, because the services in question are of a specialized, technical and professional nature.
3. No payments in excess of the "not-to-exceed" amount of $60,000.00 will be approved, unless such services/expenditures are negotiated and agreed upon in advance of service delivery.
4. Any modification to the Services Contract shall be in writing and signed by both parties, and upon obtaining said signatures shall immediately become a part of the contract.
5. The Mayor of the Township may, upon ten (10) days written notice, and without cause, terminate the Services Contract.
6. The Services Contract shall, for all purposes, be deemed a New Jersey contract and the provisions of the Services Contract shall be governed and interpreted according to the laws of the State of New Jersey.
7. The Consultant shall notify the Business Administrator of the Township when eighty percent (80%) of the "not-to-exceed" amount is attained.
8. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A motion was made by Councilmember Brescher seconded by Councilmember Patil to **TABLE** this Resolution.

AYES - Councilmembers Brescher, and Patil

ABSENT – Council President Patel

NAYS – Councilmember Coyle, Poyner, Shmuel and Council Vice President Harris

MOTION FAILED

On another motion made by Councilmember Coyle, seconded by Councilmember Poyner to adopt this Resolution.

AYES – Councilmember Coyle, Poyner, Shmuel and Council Vice President Harris

ABSENT -Council President Patel

NAYS – Councilmember Brescher and Patil

Motion passed Resolution R.229-052024 was adopted.

ORAL PETITIONS AND REMARKS

Council President Harris opened the meeting for public comment.

Joel Bassoff, asked about the status of repealing the Ordinance regarding the 3-4 stories in Clara Barton, and warehouse ordinance. He also asked when will the March 11th Worksession meeting be restored for residents to view. He stated according to local finance law, the budget is late.

Councilmember Brescher asked the attorney for the update on the 3-4 story ordinance. He is asking for the options.

Mr. Burns explained the resolution is being sent to the Planning Board to review the issue and to be done properly.

Lois Wolke, said this is the third time she is asking for an update on the racist flyer. She asked who made the decision to air the Council Meeting at 10:30p. Why is the time changed to air Council Meeting when for years it has been aired at 7:00pm. She thanked Councilmember Harris for her support on the Council Meeting aired issue. Please be considerate and fair to senior citizens to view the Council Meeting at the old scheduled time.

Mr. Bruns explained there is little the administration can do for the Attorney General to act.

Council Vice President Harris, asked Administration to consider changing the time.

Ms. Alves-Viveiros replied all content for TV is being reviewed.

Christo expressed his opinions on the police department on the January issue and his personal issues.

Nina Carlson asked for support of the Union Workers on Strike on Talmadge Road.

Richard Lord read a quote by a superior judge regarding the first and fourth amendment rights. He said the Police in this Town had not rights to do what they did in January with the bus situation of immigrants.

Diana Joffe, asking for an update on Inman Avenue situation she has reported several times.

Anthony DeAmorin expressed concerns about public safety and the racist flyer. He feels this is done deliberately to air the meetings at a later time.

Maryann Hennessey, disappointed on the Media other ways to solve the problem. She supports what Lois said regarding the airing of meeting on TV and adding her opinion. We don't supply enough transpiration for Seniors. She referred to a comment Councilmember Harris said on Monday regarding losing revenue perhaps we should relook at Cannabis. If you want to look at Cannabis don't do it in the south end of Town. She feels the south end is always getting dumped on.

Joyce Ship-Freeman, reported on Avenue C is a whole lot of traffic blocked at that street since the new owners of the store on the corner. Disappointed in the answers the Council President addresses to residents.

Councilmember Brescher when asking for information his council colleagues don't support him. He asked the Business Administrator to inform the Mayor, he will have a discussion on his ability to be Public Safety Director.

Charlie Kratovil, New Brunswick Today, asked the Councilmembers if they believe it was appropriate or inappropriate behavior by the police on the January issue. He shared emails with Councilmembers regarding a response from the Business Administrator. He discussed his OPRA request on the January issue.

Councilmember Patil, replied he feels they should have been treated with respect. It is a humanity issue.

Akhtar Nasser, applauded by the video on the immigrant issue, perhaps we should have some re-training. He asked about the status of 3-4 Story of Clara Barton let's move forward. He passed out information regarding a sidewalk issue.

Councilmember Patil said he believes this Council should be approving the sidewalk waiver.

Councilmember Coyle, asked for Hank Bignell to be at the next Monday meeting to clarify pre-existing sidewalks.

Resident of Woodbrook Corners regarding a neighbor signature for a Zoning permit form. He asked if we can amend this form.

Councilmember Patil explained the situation about Woodbrook Corners Master Deed and asked if can we change the process if the neighbor doesn't sign the form.

Another resident from Woodbrook Corners expressing the same concerns.

Christo, rebutted Anthony DeAmorin comments.

Hearing no further comments from the public Councilmember Poyner made a motion to close the public hearing, which was seconded by Councilmember Shmuel and duly carried.

Having no further business to discuss, on a motion made by Councilmember Shmuel seconded by Councilmember Poyner, the meeting was adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

_____ _____

Margot Harris
Council Vice President

Cheryl Russomanno, RMC
Municipal Clerk