

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
FEBRUARY 13, 2024
6:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: THE STRATFORD REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING FOR FEBRUARY 13, 2024

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND PRAYER:

STATEMENT OF ADVERTISEMENT:

Notice of this meeting has been provided to the Courier Post and The Retrospect and is posted on the Borough Hall Bulletin Board stating the time and the place of the meeting.

ROLL CALL:

MAYOR LINDA HALL	STUART PLATT, BOROUGH SOLICITOR
COUNCIL PRESIDENT MICHAEL TOLOMEO	RON MORELLO, CHIEF POLICE EXECUTIVE/OEM
COUNCILMAN PATRICK GILLIGAN	JOHN D. KEENAN JR, BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR
COUNCILWOMAN TINA LOMANNO	BILL BRAY, BOROUGH CLERK
COUNCILWOMAN DAWN MARTIN	
COUNCILMAN STEPHEN GANDY	
COUNCILMAN JIM KELLY	

PUBLIC PORTION FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: (5 min per person)

Motion to go to open public portion on agenda items only:

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Voice Vote: _____

Motion to close public portion on agenda items:

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Voice Vote: _____

REPORTS:

ORDINANCE & PROPERTY	Councilman Patrick Gilligan
FINANCE & REVENUE	Councilwoman Tina Lomanno
POLICE	Councilman James Kelly
EMERGENCY SERVICES	Councilman Michael Tolomeo
PUBLIC WORKS & LIGHTING	Councilman Stephen Gandy
PUBLIC EVENTS	Councilwoman Dawn Martin

OLD BUSINESS:

ORD. 24:1 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

Motion to open the public hearing on ORD. 24:1: _____ Second: _____ Voice Vote: _____

Motion to close the public hearing on ORD. 24:1: _____ Second: _____ Voice Vote: _____

Motion to adopt ORD 24:1 _____ Second: _____ RCV: _____

NEW BUSINESS:

ORD. 24:02 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2.12.150 RATES OF COMPENSATION

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Motion to Introduce ORD. 24:2 on First Reading by Title Only

Motion: _____ Second: _____ RCV: _____

ORD. 24:03 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING 2024 SALARIES AND SALARY RANGES

Motion to Introduce ORD. 24:3 on First Reading by Title Only

Motion: _____ Second: _____ RCV: _____

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTIONS 24:X39 THROUGH 24:XX WILL BE DONE AS A CONSENT AGENDA

Council can at this time request to remove any of the resolutions from the consent agenda and they can be voted on separately.

RES. 24:39 APPOINT CROSSING GUARD – OSCIAK

RES. 24:40 AUTHORIZE GRANT APPLICATION –NJ SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITIES

RES. 24:41 AUTHORIZE GRANT APPLICATION – NJ HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY DISTRACTED DRIVER GRANT

RES. 24:42 AUTHORIZE GRANT APPLICATION – CCPO DWI CHECKPOINT GRANT

Motion: _____ Second: _____ RCV: _____

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Animal checks		through		
Manual checks		through		
Payroll checks		through		and
Payroll checks		through		
Automated checks		through		
Various electronic transfers and potential interim payments to				

Motion: _____ Second: _____ RCV: _____

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

GOOD AND WELFARE:

Motion to open the meeting to the public for Good and Welfare: (5 min per person)

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Voice Vote: _____

Motion to close the public portion for Good and Welfare:

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Voice Vote: _____

ADJOURN:

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Voice Vote: _____

ORDINANCE 24:01
ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION
LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK
(N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A:4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget to 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford in the County of Camden, finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY2024 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council hereby determines that a 3.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$191,406.35 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Stratford, in the County of Camden, a majority of the full authorized membership of the governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY2024 budget year, the final appropriations of the Borough of Stratford shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$191,406.35 and that the CY2024 municipal budget for the Borough of Stratford be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced to be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

ATTEST:

Mayor Linda Hall

Date

Bill Bray, RMC
Borough Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PENDING ORDINANCE

The ordinance published herewith was introduced and passed upon first reading at the Regular Meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Stratford, in the County of Camden, State of New Jersey, held on the 9th day of January, 2024. It will be further considered for final passage after public hearing thereon, at the meeting of the Governing Body to be held via electronic video conference provided by ZOOM or in the Borough Hall, in the Borough of Stratford on the 13th day of February, 2024 at 6:30 PM. To attend the meeting visit, <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/6553784906> or enter Meeting ID: 655 378 4906 in the Zoom application.

Copies of the ordinance will be made available during the week prior to and up to and including the date of such meeting at the Clerk's Office in the Borough Hall to the members of the general public who shall request the same.

Bill Bray, RMC
Borough Clerk

**RESOLUTION 24:39
APPOINTMENT OF CROSSING GUARD**

WHEREAS, the Mayor & Borough Council of the Borough of Stratford finds that for the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Municipality, that the appointment of Crossing Guards to serve school crossing and other functions that Crossing Guards may serve in accordance with 40A:14-146.14 & 40A:9-154.1

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor & Borough Council of the Borough of Stratford to appoint:

Gabrielle Osciak – Crossing Guard – Effective 2/21/2024

CERTIFICATION

I, Bill Bray, Borough Clerk, do hereby certify the foregoing Resolution to be a true and complete copy of a Resolution duly adopted at a public meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Stratford held on February 13, 2024.

BILL BRAY, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK

RESOLUTION 24:40
SAFE AND SECURE GRANT PARTICIPATION

WHEREAS, the Borough of Stratford wishes to apply for funding of approximately \$22,575.00 for a project under the State of New Jersey Safe and Secure Police Officer Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the Stratford Borough Council has reviewed the accompanying application and has approved said request; and

WHEREAS, the Subaward number is 24-0432; and

WHEREAS, the Subaward period is between April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the project is a joint effort between the Department of Law and Public Safety and Stratford Borough for the purpose of funding a full-time police officer; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Stratford authorizes that fringe benefits will be provided as matching funds to the grant, and;

WHEREAS the borough of Stratford Accepts the Safe and Secure Grant and funding received under the program.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council to authorize to accept the State of New Jersey Safe and Secure Police Officer Grant and authorize the application and execute all required documents to obtain the Safe and Secure Grant Funding.

CERTIFICATION

I, Bill Bray, Borough Clerk, do hereby certify the foregoing Resolution to be a true and complete copy of a Resolution duly adopted at a public meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Stratford at a meeting held on February 13, 2024.

BILL BRAY, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK

RESOLUTION 24:41

**APPROVING APPLICATION FOR 2024 DISTRACTED DRIVER GRANT WITH THE NEW
JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY AND TRAFFIC SAFETY IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$7,000.00**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Stratford Police Department will apply for the 2024 Distracted Driver Grant in the amount of \$7,000.00 with the New Jersey Department of Highway and Traffic Safety; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by Mayor and Council is supportive of the Stratford Police Department's application for the 2024 Distracted Driver Grant in the amount of \$7,000.00 with the New Jersey Department of Highway and Traffic Safety.

CERTIFICATION

I, Bill Bray, Borough Clerk, do hereby certify the foregoing Resolution to be a true and complete copy of a Resolution duly adopted at a public meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Stratford held on February 13, 2024.

BILL BRAY, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK

RESOLUTION 24:42

APPROVING APPLICATION FOR 2024 CAMDEN COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE DWI CHECKPOINT GRANT

WHEREAS, the Borough of Stratford Police Department will apply to the Camden County Prosecutor's Office for a DWI Checkpoint Grant #AL-24-45-04-07 in the amount of \$1,960.00; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Stratford Police Department would receive said grant in the amount of \$1,960.00;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Mayor and Council are supportive of the Stratford Police Department's application for the Camden County Prosecutor's Office DWI Checkpoint Grant #AL-24-45-04-07 in the amount of \$1,960.00.

CERTIFICATION

I, Bill Bray, Borough Clerk, do hereby certify the foregoing Resolution to be a true and complete copy of a Resolution duly adopted at a public meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Stratford held on February 13, 2024.

**BILL BRAY, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK**