

**BOROUGH OF FOLSOM
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
September 10, 2024**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:52 PM

SALUTE TO THE FLAG LED BY MAYOR GLENN SMITH

OPENING STATEMENT: *Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the directives of the "Open Public Meetings Act", pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice of this meeting has been advertised in the Hammonton Gazette and Atlantic City Press and has been posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board showing the time and place of said meeting.*

ROLL CALL: Councilpersons: Conway, Porretta, Whittaker, Norman, Hoffman and Blazer

Also present: Mayor Glenn Smith, Clerk Patti Gatto, Solicitor Angela Costigan, and CJ Kaenzig from Polistina & Assoc.

APPROVAL OF THE WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES August 13, 2024

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Councilman Norman and seconded by Councilman Hoffman

There was a roll call vote with ayes all with the exception of Councilman Porretta's abstention.

APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES August 13, 2024

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Councilman Hoffman and seconded by Councilman Norman

There was a roll call vote with ayes all with the exception of Councilman Porretta's abstention.

Borough of Folsom

PROCLAMATION FOR TREE CITY USA

WHEREAS, Tree City USA status is awarded for work by a community during a calendar year; **and**

WHEREAS, in order to complete Tree City status, Folsom Environmental Commission is required to complete an application which includes a Proclamation by the Mayor, **and**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Folsom meets the required four standards which include: celebrating Arbor Day, having a tree Ordinance, maintaining a tree board or department (shade tree commission), and spending \$2 per capita, **and**

WHEREAS, trees are beneficial to any community and there are benefits to becoming designated a Tree City USA, and trees help encourage pride in our community and help beautify it, **and**

WHEREAS, being a designated and recognized Tree City can reduce costs for energy, stormwater management, and erosion control, as well as help beautify our Borough,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor of Folsom Borough approves of the Folsom Environmental application in the Arbor Day Foundation Tree City, USA, and join over 3,400 Tree Cities across America.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: *No comments*

CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE:

Annual Shred Day is schedule for September 28, 2024 FROM 9:00AM – 12:00PM

Next E-Waste Drop-off Day is September 14, 2024 from 8:00AM to 1:00PM

ORDINANCES:

**BOROUGH OF FOLSOM
ORDINANCE #07-2024**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF FOLSOM,
CHAPTER 151 ADDING SECTION 16 TITLED BUTTERFLY WAYSTATIONS**

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of Folsom wishes to address and encourage the establishment of butterfly waystations within the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Council recognizes the need to have butterfly waystations within the Borough and within the State of New Jersey to preserve butterflies; and

WHEREAS, the Council wishes to establish procedures for the placement and maintenance of butterfly waystations within the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey legislature has established definitions and findings relative to monarch butterfly waystations in the State which are equally applicable to all butterflies within the State at N. J. S. A. 13:1B-15-163 and 164; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:48-2, a municipality may amend an ordinance as it deems necessary and proper for good government, order and protection of personal property and for the preservation of public health, safety and welfare of its inhabitants.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Borough of Folsom that:

Section 1-Chapter 151 is amended to add new section 151.16 Titled BUTTERFLY WAYSTATIONS as follows:

A. Definitions.

BUTTERFLY WAYSTATION means a habitat that provides milkweed plants, nectar resources and shelter needed to sustain butterflies as they migrate through the state.

NATIVE MILKWEED means milkweed native to the Northeast Region of the United States and is the following type:

- a. Common Milkweed
- b. Swamp Milkweed
- c. Butterfly Milkweed
- d. Poke Milkweed

LOCATED means in resident's backyards only. No butterfly stations are permitted in front or side yards.

- B. Butterfly Waystations are permitted to be established in community gardens and in resident gardens within the Borough.
- C. Butterfly Waystations must only include native milkweed and flowering plants.
- D. Butterfly Waystations that are established in resident gardens must only be located and planted in back yards.
- E. VIOLATIONS. Any person who violates the provisions of this chapter shall be subject to the following:
 - a. First offense: \$100.00
 - b. Second offense \$250.00
 - c. Third and subsequent offense- \$500.00

Section 2. Repealer

Any and all other ordinances inconsistent with any of the terms and provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 3. Severability.

In the event that any section, paragraph, clause, phrase, term, provision or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, such judgment shall not effect, impair or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the section, paragraph, clause,

term, provision or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in such judgment shall be rendered.

Section 4. Effective Date

This ordinance shall take effect upon proper publication and in accordance with law

A motion to approve Ordinance#7-2024 was made by Councilman Hoffman and seconded by Councilman Norman

There was a roll call vote with ayes all.

**BOROUGH OF FOLSOM
ORDINANCE 08-2024**

AMENDING THE SALARY ORDINANCE TO INCLUDE PLANNING/ZONING BOARD SECRETARY POSITION OF THE BOROUGH OF FOLSOM, COUNTY OF ATLANTIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Folsom, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1. The annual salaries and compensation for the various Borough officials, officers, and employees of the Borough of Folsom, listed below, shall be as follows for calendar year 2024:

Salaried Positions			
Borough Clerk/Administrator	\$25,000	-	\$ 75,000
Chief Financial Officer	\$4,000	-	\$75,000
Council Member	\$1,700	-	\$3,000
Code Enforcement	\$1,800	-	\$15,000
Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator	\$300	-	\$5,000
Deputy Borough Clerk	\$15,000	-	\$45,000
Emergency Management Coordinator	\$500	-	\$6,000
Mayor	\$2,200	-	\$3,900
Municipal Administrative Assistant	\$15,000	-	\$40,000
Tax Assessor	\$6,500	-	\$35,000
Tax Collector	\$6,500	-	\$35,000
Zoning Official	\$1,800	-	\$15,000
Planning/Zoning Board Secretary	\$1,000		\$7,000
Hourly Positions:			
Conflict Zoning Official	\$15.00	-	\$50.00
Part-time Laborer	\$15.00	-	\$35.00

Public Works Laborer	\$15.00	-	\$35.00
Superintendent of Public Works	\$15.00	-	\$45.00

SECTION II. The salaries and wages hereby established shall be on a bi-weekly basis with the exception of Mayor and Council, which shall be quarterly, unless otherwise specified.

SECTION III. The provisions of this Ordinance shall be retroactive to January 1, 2024, and shall apply to employees continually employed since January 1, 2024.

SECTION IV. Any Ordinance or part of an Ordinance inconsistent with this Ordinance is hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION V. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon final passage and publication according to law.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced and passed on the first reading at a regular meeting of the Borough Council in the Borough of Folsom, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey, held on September 10, 2024 Said Ordinance was approved for final adoption at a public hearing held in the Borough of Folsom Municipal Building, 1700 12th St., Folsom, NJ on October 8, 2024 at 6:00 P.M.

A motion to approve Ordinance#8-2024 was made by Councilman Porretta and seconded by Councilman Norman

There was a roll call vote with ayes all.

RESOLUTIONS:

BOROUGH OF FOLSOM

RESOLUTION #2024-70

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF FOLSOM VIGOROUSLY OPPOSING THE INDUSTRIAL OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

WHEREAS, Governor Phil Murphy continues to push for approval of two massive offshore wind turbine projects at the Jersey Shore (Atlantic Shore Offshore Wind and Offshore Wind 1, LLC) spanning more than 100,000 acres of undeveloped ocean adjacent to and which will be starkly visible from the public's beaches and coastline (collectively "Industrial Offshore Wind Project"); and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's Energy Master Plan is the result of only the governor's executive orders and not a policy debated, examine, approved

WHEREAS, the facts set forth as below establish that the proposed Industrial Offshore Wind Project on public property will industrialize the Atlantic Ocean and New Jersey Shore

("Shore") in exchange for extreme electricity rate hikes, significant damage to the environment and marine life, the degradation of the Shore, significant job loss, devastation of the State's fishing and tourism industries, millions in lost State tax revenue, and enormous financial cost to the State's residents.

1. The Industrial Offshore Wind Project turbines include up to 300 massive wind turbine structures, each as high as the Eiffel Tower (1,000ft+) and almost as wide as tall (900ft+). The closest turbine structures will be located approximately 8.5 miles from the coast and clearly visible to residents and tourists who live or travel to the Shore for the environment, unspoiled views, and way of life. The turbines will be among the largest, tallest, and closest-to-a-coastline ever built. In 2006-08, when the areas were designated for offshore wind energy, proposed tower heights were approximately 200 to 400 feet, and rotor diameters were under 328 feet. By analogy, when the plan was hatched essentially 300 single-family houses were to be built at the Shore and it is now a proposal for a cityscape comprised of 300 immense and imposing skyscrapers.

2. An independent analysis concludes that the cost of the Industrial Offshore Wind Project will exceed \$100 billion and raise electric customer rates by 55% for residential customers, 70% for commercial customers, and 85% for industrial customers. For context, in 2024 wholesale power purchase prices are roughly \$55 dollars per megawatt-hour, whereas the Board of Public Utilities recently approved contracts for offshore wind with a price of \$144 per megawatt-hour. In addition, the costs associated with transmission upgrades to distribute the electricity are forecast to increase progressively from \$1 per megawatt-hour to roughly \$40 per megawatt-hour by 2047.

3. Studies establish that the Industrial Offshore Wind Project will convert a pristine public natural and economic resource into a mammoth industrial eyesore in exchange for a catastrophic loss in tourism revenue, jobs, and property values, and, therefore, will be a significant economic burden imposed upon all State residents. A 2024 study prepared by Tourism Economics, an Oxford Economics Company ("Oxford Report"), establishes that the Offshore Wind Project will cause losses for the Long Beach Island municipalities of approximately 835,000 annual visitors, \$450.2 million in tourism spending, a total economic impact (loss) of \$668.2 million, and a total loss of State and local tax revenue of \$80.3 million. Studies further show at least 25% of beachgoers would switch beaches to avoid the visual blight caused by the Industrial Offshore Wind Project. Moreover, as admitted by the federal government, the fishing industry will be diminished by the resultant navigational hazards, habitat conversion, fish aggregation, migration disturbances, and space-use conflicts.

4. Studies establish that the testing, construction, and operation of the Industrial Offshore Wind Project, though sold as green energy, has and will significantly damage the environment. There is little doubt it has and will continue to negatively impact the behavior of marine fish and mammals, including causing confusion, compelling them to swim ashore, and preventing them from diving and feeding (since the start of sonar surveying and seismic testing an unprecedented number of marine mammals have washed ashore and died). There is also no question it will cause significant environmental and wildlife damage onshore.

5. Studies support the conclusion that the Industrial Offshore Wind Project will not reduce global warming or CO2 emissions. In fact, Harvard University found that the installation of scores of wind turbines in concentrated areas will actually raise surface temperature, especially in the immediate area of the turbines. The Harvard researchers concluded, "[t]he direct climate impacts of wind power are instant, while the benefits of reduced emissions

accumulate slowly. If your perspective is the next 10 years, wind power actually has – in some respects – more climate impact than coal or gas.” Further, the Oxford Report establishes that offshore wind energy production is the most expensive form of renewable energy produced on a large-scale.

6. The Industrial Offshore Wind Project fails to include any ongoing funding for the ultimate removal/decommissioning and/or replacement of the turbines, which means at the end of their useful life the companies could decline to remove them and either go out of business or file for bankruptcy. The State’s residents, therefore, will likely be forced to either live with over 200 decaying Eiffel Towers in their ocean off their Shore or pay the costs associated with removing them.

7. The sole conclusion is that the Industrial Offshore Wind Project is designed to be funded by all State residents and businesses, significantly higher electricity rates and significant loss of jobs and tax revenue, will cause environmental and wildlife devastation, will irreparably damage the tourism, fishing industries, and overall State economy in the form of higher overhead energy costs, will not produce actual green energy, and the State’s residents will be left to pay for the removal of or live with the massive, decaying turbines. Indeed, if it is built, the State’s residents will trade their priceless and pristine natural and hard-earned economic resources for a significantly higher cost of living and significantly lower quality of life and environment, and, incredibly, without the purported green energy benefits.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the FOLSOM COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FOLSOM, County of ATLANTIC, State of New Jersey, and in accordance with the foregoing Recitals, which are incorporated herein by reference, that the BOROUGH OF FOLSOM vigorously supports legitimate green and renewable energy projects, but vigorously opposes the non-green Industrial Offshore Wind Project due to its real and present threat to the health, environmental, and financial health, welfare, and safety of all State residents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the BOROUGH OF FOLSOM will petition the leaders in the state legislature to put a halt to all work on offshore wind projects and will ask the legislative leaders to empanel a body of lawmakers, energy experts, environmentalists and electric generation experts, consumers, fisherman and other stakeholders to develop a practical, effective, long-term energy plan for New Jersey’s future, and;

ALSO, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the BOROUGH OF FOLSOM is encouraging all other **municipal and county** elected officials to examine the financial and environmental impact of the governor’s wind turbine plan and its impact on homeowners and businesses, and to call on the state legislature to put a halt to ALL offshore wind projects until such time as an energy panel, described above is formed and develops a practical, effective, long-term energy plan for New Jersey’s future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Senate President Scutari, Assembly Speaker Coughlin, *Senator Vince Polistina*, *Assembly representatives Donald Guardian and Claire Swift*, Governor Murphy, and the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

A motion to approve Resolution #2025-70 was made by Councilman Norman and seconded by Councilman Porretta

There was a roll call vote with ayes all.

Joe Berenato – (Mays Landing Rd.) gave his opinion on the wind mills.

Consent Agenda: All matters listed under Consent Agenda, are considered to be routine by this Borough Council and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

BOROUGH OF FOLSOM

RESOLUTION 2024-76

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE LETTER OF RESIGNATION FROM DEPUTY CLERK/
REGISTRAR-/PLANNING/ZONING BOARD SECRETARY, AND TAX CLERK, SUSAN
CARROLL**

WHEREAS, after ELEVEN (11) years of dedicated service to the Borough of Folsom as Planning/Zoning Secretary, Deputy Clerk/ Registrar and Tax Clerk, Susan Carroll has submitted her letter of resignation dated August 24, 2024;

WHEREAS, the Borough of Folsom wishes to record its deep appreciation for the contributions of Susan Carroll in all her positions throughout her tenure and also for the guidance and assistance she has given to the Borough of Folsom residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Folsom, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey does hereby memorialize the acceptance, with deep regret the letter of resignation from Susan Carroll as Deputy Clerk/Registrar, Planning/Zoning Secretary and Tax Clerk effective September 6, 2024;

**BOROUGH OF FOLSOM
RESOLUTION 2024-77**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF FOLSOM TO AWARD THE
BID “IMPROVEMENTS AT FALCON’S NEST PARK”
CONTRACT NO. 35**

WHEREAS, bids were accepted on September 4, 2024 at 10:00 AM at the Borough Hall in the Borough of Folsom; and

WHEREAS, all bids were opened and announced to those in attendance; and

WHEREAS, the apparent lowest responsible Bidder, as determined by the Borough Engineer, is and

WHEREAS, the amount of the Bid submitted by **Angerman Company, LLC**, is \$96,500.00

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Folsom that Angerman Company, LLC is hereby awarded the contract for the Improvements at Falcon's Nest Park Contract No. 35 for the amount of \$96,500.00

Award of this contract is subject to the certification of availability of funds

- The duration of the contract is sixty days from the contractor's receipt of the written notice to proceed.

**RESOLUTION 2024-78
BOROUGH OF FOLSOM**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CHANGE ORDER TO THE RESURFACING OF
FENIMORE DRIVE, LENAPE TERRACE & MOHAWK DRIVE-CONTRACT 31**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Folsom in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40a:1-1 et seq, previously awarded and entered into a contract for the NJDOT Municipal Aid Road Program with **THINK PAVERS HARDCRAPING, LLC**. for the resurfacing of Fenimore Drive, Lenape Terrace & Mohawk Drive, in the Borough of Folsom; and

WHEREAS, the reduction in the contract quantities for the project in the amount of \$6,078.17; and

WHEREAS, the adjustment of the quantities of the Road Program project does not substantially change the quality or character of the work to be provided by the Contractor; and

WHEREAS, the net decrease in the Contract is \$6,078.17 and the execution of a change order will not cause the originally awarded contract price to be exceeded by more than twenty percent (20%); and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Folsom, in the County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey that:

A change order is approved for the NJDOT Municipal Aid Road Program project to include a reduction in quantities with a total decrease of \$6,078.17 for a resulting total Contract amount of \$195,352.83; and

The Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to enter into an execute on behalf of the Borough and amendatory contract covering the approved changed order, such amendatory contract to be in a form satisfactory to the Borough Attorney.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-79
BOROUGH OF FOLSOM**

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE
Stephen Sebastian**

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Folsom having received notification from Stephen Sebastian by way of text message as to his intent to resign from the Public Works Department laborer position effective August 2, 2024; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Folsom, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey that the resignation from Stephen Sebastian is hereby accepted.

**RESOLUTION 2024-80
BOROUGH OF FOLSOM**

A RESOLUTION HIRING A DEPUTY CLERK

WHEREAS; there is a vacancy in the office of Deputy Clerk, and

WHEREAS; the position was advertised and interviews conducted by Municipal Clerk/Administrator, and

WHEREAS; Kayla Veltman was determined to be qualified for the position of Deputy Clerk; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Kayla Veltman is hereby appointed to the position of Deputy Clerk, effective September 10, 2024, with the said amount of compensation to be \$24.00 per hour with a \$1.00 increase per hour after the 60-day probationary period along with favorable reviews;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Deputy Clerk position is not to exceed 28 hours per week;

**RESOLUTION 2024-81
BOROUGH OF FOLSOM**

A RESOLUTION HIRING A PLANNING BOARD SECRETARY

WHEREAS; it is a necessity for the Borough to hire a Planning/Zoning Board Secretary, and

WHEREAS; the position was advertised and interviews conducted by Municipal Clerk/Administrator, and

WHEREAS; Nadine Erwin was determined to be qualified for the position of Planning/Zoning Secretary; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Nadine Erwin is hereby appointed to the position of Planning Board Secretary, effective September 10, 2024, with the said amount of compensation to be \$5,500.00 per year;

A motion to approve Resolutions #2024-76 thru #2024-81 was made by Councilman Porretta and seconded by Councilman Hoffman

There was a roll call vote with ayes all

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: *Angela reminded residents that there will be public comment at our next council meeting on Ordinance #07-2024.*

MAYOR'S REPORT: *Mayor Smith reminded everyone that the 8th St. Bridge will close on September 16, 2024. Glenn reported that after several phone calls he is happy to report that all three bridges on Rt 54 have been repaired along with the pipe trench near the Old Kerr Pipe building.*

FIRE REPORT: *No report*

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

NJDOT FY 2023 Resurfacing of Erie Road, Cherokee Road, Mohawk Drive & Seneca Lane

Arawak completed all milling and paving for the project last week. They will complete all remaining work, including driveway aprons, striping, and turf repairs within the next few weeks.

NJDOT FY 2024 Resurfacing of Fenimore Drive, Lenape Terrace & Mohawk Drive

We have prepared the final pay estimate and change order forms, and recommend issuing final payment to Think Pavers in the amount of \$7,915.14 for Payment Application No. 3 - Final. We will conduct the final site inspection and closeout with NJDOT over the next few weeks.

NJDCA LRIG FY 2023-2024 Improvement's at Falcon's Nest Park

The Borough received bids for Contract No. 35: "Improvements at Falcon's Nest Park" on Wednesday, September 4. Two contractors submitted bids for the project, and Angerman Company, LLC was the lowest responsive bidder at \$96,500.00. We have recommended awarding the contract to Angerman Company, LLC. They anticipate being able to start the work in mid-to-late October.

South Pinewood Drive Concrete Curbing

LC Concrete has completed all work associated with the concrete curbing on South Pinewood Drive. We have recommended issuing final payment to LC Concrete in the amount of \$9,180.00.

ACIA CDBG FY 2024 Grant

Grant recipients have been announced for the FY 2024 Community Development Block Grant. The Borough was not selected.

COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Conway: *EFC will work with the scouts again to clean up streets on October 5, 2024. Greg asked what streets would Council liked to see cleaned up. Greg thanked Sue for all her years of service. Greg reported that no street lights were out.*

Councilman Norman: *Al asked Clerk Gatto to call the County to clean up 14th St. Bridge. Clerk Gatto stated she already called.*

Councilman Porretta: *No report.*

Councilman Whittaker: *Jim reported that Atlantic County is planning a wild urban interface drill with the New Jersey Forest Fire Assistance near 8th Street at the end of October.*

Councilman Hoffman: *No report*

Councilman Blazer: *No report*

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: NO COMMENTS

PAYMENT OF BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF: \$392,595.45 and \$24,174.62

A motion to approve payment was made by Councilman Norman and seconded by Councilman Whittaker

There was a roll call vote with ayes all

Mayor Smith reminded the public that all other monthly reports are on file in the minute book.

Please visit the Borough of Folsom website at folsomborough.com for updated Borough information and the Borough of Folsom Facebook page.

The next regular meeting of Mayor and Council will be held on Tuesday, **October 8, 2024** starting with a workshop meeting at 6:00 pm and continuing immediately thereafter with the regular meeting in Borough Hall, 1700 12th Street, Folsom, NJ

With no other discussion the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Gatto
Municipal Clerk

DRAFT

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