

**TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD COMMITTEE MEETING
OFFICIAL MINUTES
MAY 14, 2025**

This is a regular meeting of the Township of Mansfield Committee. This meeting is being held in compliance with the "OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT," because adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by notifying the Express Times NJ Zone and The Daily Record, and by posting notice of such meeting in the Municipal Building and by filing of said notice with the Township Clerk of the Township of Mansfield. Formal action may be taken at this meeting.

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:33 pm by Mayor Watters who read the "Sunshine Statement" indicating the meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mr. Hayes, Mr. Mc Guinness, Mrs. Mora Dillon, Mayor Watters

Absent: Mr. Farino

Also, present were Township Attorney Michael Lavery, Township Engineer Richard Quamme, Chief J. Michael MacDonough, Acting DPW Supervisor Harry Appleby, Jr., Asst. CFO JoAnn Fascenelli, and Deputy Clerk Illena Raffaele.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG: Mayor Watters led the flag salute.

PROCLAMATION: Mr. Hayes read the Proclamation for Military Appreciation Month 2025 into the Public Record.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 23, 2025 – EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Mc Guinness, seconded by Mr. Hayes made a motion to approve the Executive Session meeting minutes from April 23, 2025.

RECORDED VOTE

Aye: Hayes, Mc Guinness, Mora Dillon, Watters

Nay: XXXXXX

Absent: Farino

Abstain: XXXXXX

April 23, 2025 – REGULAR SESSION

Mr. Hayes, seconded by Mr. Mc Guinness made a motion to approve the Regular Session meeting minutes from April 23, 2025.

RECORDED VOTE

Aye: Hayes, Mc Guinness, Mora Dillon, Watters

Nay: XXXXXX

Absent: Farino

Abstain: XXXXXX

FINANCE & EMPLOYEE'S REPORT - Mrs. Fascenelli reported the following:

- Rockport Train Memorial video is on the website and DPW has cleaned up the memorial area in preparation for the 100th memorial anniversary. The Committee was asked to decide on a plaque commemorating the event.
- Attended the SWAC meeting and NJDEP meeting
- The Township donated 365 gently used and new bras to the For the Girls organization.

- Adjacent property owner to Block 601.03 Lot 55 is interested in purchasing the parcel. Committee by ways of a unanimous roll call vote decided to proceed with auction the parcel starting the minimum reserve at half of the assessed value.

ENGINEER'S REPORT -

Snyder Road Section 2 Project – Bid opening is Tuesday, May 20th at 10am and as of today's date there are four potential bidders.

PUBLIC PORTION

Mayor Watters opened the Public Portion of the meeting for public comments.

Seeing no one else wishing to comment, the Public Portion was closed.

ORDINANCE -INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

Mr. Hayes, seconded by Mr. Mc Guinness made a motion to introduce Ordinance 006-2025.

RECORDED VOTE

Aye: Hayes, Mc Guinness, Mora Dillon, Watters
 Nay: XXXXXX
 Absent: Farino
 Abstain: XXXXXX

ORDINANCE 006-2025

**ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
 AMENDING ORDINANCE #018-2024, AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, WARREN
 COUNTY, NEW JERSEY APPROPRIATING \$700,000.00 FROM THE GENERAL CAPITAL RESERVE FUND
 FOR THE PURPOSE OF PURCHASING A FIRE TRUCK**

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of this Ordinance is amend Ordinance #018-2024, an Ordinance of the Township of Mansfield, Warren County, New Jersey appropriating \$700,000.00 from the General Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of purchasing a fire truck

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Warren, State of New Jersey as follows:

SECTION 1: Ordinance 018-2024 is hereby amended to correctly reflect the that appropriation of \$700,000.00 for the purchase of a fire truck will be charged from line account, **C-04-44-230-0097-5000**, and will not be appropriated from line account, C-04-44-230-0097-2000.

SECTION 2: The \$700,000.00 originally appropriated from line item account C-04-44-230-0097-2000 will be placed back into said line item account, C-04-44-230-0097-2000 as this is a road maintenance account and was erroneously used as the line item account for the appropriation of funds of the fire truck.

SECTION 3: If any provisions of the Ordinance or application thereof, under any circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect any of the provision or application of this Ordinance that can be given effect with the valid provision(s) or application and to this end, the provisions of the Ordinance are severable.

SECTION 4: All other Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5: This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and publication according to law.

Mr. Mc Guinness, seconded by Mr. Hayes made a motion to introduce Ordinance 007-2025.

RECORDED VOTE

Aye: Hayes, Mc Guinness, Mora Dillon, Watters
Nay: XXXXXX
Absent: Farino
Abstain: XXXXXX

ORDINANCE 007-2025

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPROPRIATING \$51,649.00 FOR THE MT. BETHEL CHURCH RENOVATION PROJECT

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of this Ordinance is authorize the appropriation of \$51,649.00 for the Mt. Bethel Church Renovation Project

WHEREAS, there is a need for ongoing improvements to the Mt. Bethel Church Renovation Project; and

WHEREAS, the Temporary Chief Financial Officer for the Township has determined that the sum of \$51,649.00 should be appropriated to be used for the Mt. Bethel Church Renovation Project from the Warren County Municipal and Charitable Conservancy Trust Fund Grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Warren, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The amount of \$51,649.00 is hereby appropriated from the Warren County Municipal and Charitable Conservancy Trust Fund Grant.
2. There is no debt incurred by this Ordinance.
3. This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication as provided by law.

Mr. Hayes, seconded by Mr. Mc Guinness made a motion to introduce Ordinance 008-2025.

RECORDED VOTE

Aye: Hayes, Mc Guinness, Mora Dillon, Watters
Nay: XXXXXX
Absent: Farino
Abstain: XXXXXX

ORDINANCE 008-2025

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPROPRIATING \$150,000.00 FOR MUNICIPAL BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS AND \$500,515.00 FOR THE VARIOUS ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of this Ordinance is authorize the appropriation of \$150,000.00 for municipal building improvements and \$500,515.00 for the Various Road improvement project.

WHEREAS, the sum of \$650,515.00 is presently available in the General Capital Reserve Account; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for improvements to the municipal building and for road improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Temporary Chief Financial Officer for the Township has determined that the sum of \$150,000.00 should be appropriated to be used for municipal building improvements and that the sum of \$500,515.00 should be appropriated to be used for the various road improvement projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Warren, State of New Jersey as follows:

- 1. The amount of \$150,000.00 is hereby appropriated from the General Capital Reserve Account for Municipal Building Improvements.
- 2. The amount of \$500,515.00 is hereby appropriated from the General Capital Reserve Account for the various road improvement projects.
- 3. There is no debt incurred by this Ordinance.
- 4. This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication as provided by law.

Mr. Mc Guinness, seconded by Mr. Hayes made a motion to introduce Ordinance 009-2025.

RECORDED VOTE

Aye: Hayes, Mc Guinness, Mora Dillon, Watters
Nay: XXXXXX
Absent: Farino
Abstain: XXXXXX

ORDINANCE 009-2025

**ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
CANCELING THE BALANCE OF CAPITAL ORDINANCE #2017-09**

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of this Ordinance is to cancel the balance of Capital Ordinance 2017-09

WHEREAS, Capital Ordinance 2017-09 adopted on July 26, 2017 appropriated \$37,096.39 for municipal building improvements; and

WHEREAS, this fully funded Ordinance exists on the balance sheet of the General Capital Fund; and

WHEREAS, the fund creating this ordinance for improvements to the municipal building has been researched and has been determined that the balance is no longer needed and should be canceled.

Ordinance #2017-09
Improvement to Municipal Building C-04-44-215-1709-0000 \$4,633.79

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that the balance of \$4,633.79 from Capital Ordinance 2017-09 is hereby canceled to the Capital Reserve Fund.

Mr. Hayes, seconded by Mr. Mc Guinness made a motion to introduce Ordinance 010-2025.

RECORDED VOTE

Aye: Hayes, Mc Guinness, Mora Dillon, Watters
Nay: XXXXXX
Absent: Farino
Abstain: XXXXXX

ORDINANCE 010-2025

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY CANCELING THE BALANCE OF CAPITAL ORDINANCE #CA-2014-03

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of this Ordinance is to cancel the balance of Capital Ordinance CA-2014-03

WHEREAS, Capital Ordinance CA-2014-03 adopted on October 22, 2014 appropriated \$90,000.00 for road construction for a portion of Jane Chapel Road; and

WHEREAS, this fully funded Ordinance exists on the balance sheet of the General Capital Fund; and

WHEREAS, the fund creating this ordinance for improvements to the municipal building has been researched and has been determined that the balance is no longer needed and should be canceled.

Ordinance #CA-2014-03

Road Construction Jane Chapel C-04-44-215-1403-9000 \$6,313.29

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that the balance of \$6,313.29 from Capital Ordinance #CA-2014-03 is hereby canceled to the Capital Reserve Fund.

Mr. Mc Guinness, seconded by Mr. Hayes made a motion to introduce Ordinance 011-2025.

RECORDED VOTE

Aye: Hayes, Mc Guinness, Mora Dillon, Watters
Nay: XXXXXX
Absent: Farino
Abstain: XXXXXX

ORDINANCE 011-2025

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY CANCELING THE BALANCE OF CAPITAL ORDINANCE #CA-2015-02

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of this Ordinance is to cancel the balance of Capital Ordinance CA-2015-02

WHEREAS, Capital Ordinance CA-2015-02 adopted on July 22, 2015 appropriated \$155,000.00 for Watters Road preservation; and

WHEREAS, this fully funded Ordinance exists on the balance sheet of the General Capital Fund; and

WHEREAS, the fund creating this ordinance to stabilize and preserve Watters Road and the associated retaining wall due to erosion has been researched and it has been determined that the balance is no longer needed and should be canceled.

Ordinance #CA-2015-02

Watters Road Preservation C-04-44-215-1502-9031 \$6,335.22

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that the balance of \$6,335.22 from Capital Ordinance #CA-2015-02 is hereby

canceled to the Capital Reserve Fund.

Mr. Hayes, seconded by Mr. Mc Guinness made a motion to introduce Ordinance 012-2025.

RECORDED VOTE

Aye: Hayes, Mc Guinness, Mora Dillon, Watters
Nay: XXXXXX
Absent: Farino
Abstain: XXXXXX

ORDINANCE 012-2025

**ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
CANCELING THE BALANCE OF CAPITAL ORDINANCE #CA-2018-01**

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of this Ordinance is to cancel the balance of Capital Ordinance CA-2018-01

WHEREAS, Capital Ordinance CA-2018-01 adopted on September 12, 2018 appropriated \$41,000.00 for HVAC Design and System Evaluation; and

WHEREAS, this fully funded Ordinance exists on the balance sheet of the General Capital Fund; and

WHEREAS, the fund creating this ordinance for HVAC design and HVAC system evaluation has been researched and it has been determined that the balance is no longer needed and should be canceled.

Ordinance #CA-2018-01

HVAC Design & System Evaluation C-04-44-226-0098-9001 \$32,900.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that the balance of \$32,900.00 from Capital Ordinance #CA-2018-01 is hereby canceled to the Capital Improvement Fund.

Mr. Mc Guinness, seconded by Mr. Hayes made a motion to introduce Ordinance 013-2025.

RECORDED VOTE

Aye: Hayes, Mc Guinness, Mora Dillon, Watters
Nay: XXXXXX
Absent: Farino
Abstain: XXXXXX

ORDINANCE 013-2025

**ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
CANCELING THE BALANCE OF CAPITAL ORDINANCE #CA-2015-03**

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of this Ordinance is to cancel the balance of Capital Ordinance CA-2015-03

WHEREAS, Capital Ordinance CA-2015-03 adopted on September 23, 2015 appropriated \$105,191.14 for improvements to various Township roads and streets; and

WHEREAS, this fully funded Ordinance exists on the balance sheet of the General Capital Fund; and

WHEREAS, the fund creating this ordinance to improve various streets and roads within the municipality with milling and paving has been researched and it has been determined that the balance is no longer needed and should be canceled.

Ordinance #CA-2015-03
Road Construction or Reconstruction C-04-44-215-1503-9000 \$10,418.19

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that the balance of \$10,418.19 from Capital Ordinance #CA-2015-03 is hereby canceled to the Capital Improvement Fund.

Mr. Hayes, seconded by Mr. Mc Guinness made a motion to introduce Ordinance 014-2025.

RECORDED VOTE

Aye: Hayes, Mc Guinness, Mora Dillon, Watters
Nay: XXXXXX
Absent: Farino
Abstain: XXXXXX

ORDINANCE 014-2025

**ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
CANCELING THE BALANCE OF CAPITAL ORDINANCE #CA-2018-02**

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of this Ordinance is to cancel the balance of Capital Ordinance CA-2018-02

WHEREAS, Capital Ordinance CA-2018-02 adopted on September 12, 2018 appropriated \$63,000.00 for improvements to improvements to the municipal building; and

WHEREAS, this fully funded Ordinance exists on the balance sheet of the General Capital Fund; and

WHEREAS, the fund creating this ordinance for flooring replacement in the Police Department and window replacement throughout the municipal building has been researched and it has been determined that the balance is no longer needed and should be canceled.

Ordinance #CA-2018-02
Police Department Flooring C-04-44-226-0099-9001 \$4,004.00
Window Replacement C-04-44-226-0099-9002 \$31,950.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that the balance of \$35,954.00 from Capital Ordinance #CA-2018-02 is hereby canceled to the Capital Improvement Fund.

Mr. Mc Guinness, seconded by Mr. Hayes made a motion to introduce Ordinance 015-2025.

RECORDED VOTE

Aye: Hayes, Mc Guinness, Mora Dillon, Watters
Nay: XXXXXX
Absent: Farino
Abstain: XXXXXX

ORDINANCE 015-2025

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY CANCELING THE BALANCE OF BOND ORDINANCE 2016-11

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of this Ordinance is to cancel the balance of Bond Ordinance 2016-11

WHEREAS, there exists a fully-funded ordinance on the balance sheet of the General Capital Fund; and

WHEREAS, the fund creating this ordinance for the acquisition of an ambulance, the refurbishment of a fire truck, and soft costs has been researched and it has been determined that the balance is no longer needed and should be canceled.

Ordinance #2016-11

Acquisition of an Ambulance	C-04-44-215-1611-9201	\$32,258.01
Refurbishment of a Fire Truck	C-04-44-215-1611-9200	\$10,580.00
Soft Costs	C-04-44-215-1611-7150	\$ 3,130.21

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that the balance of \$45,968.22 from Bond Ordinance #2016-11 is hereby canceled to the Capital Surplus.

RESOLUTIONS (TAKEN SEPARATELY)

Mr. Mc Guinness , seconded by Mr. Hayes made a motion to adopt Resolution 131-2025.

RECORDED VOTE

Aye: Hayes, Mc Guinness, Mora Dillon, Watters
Nay: XXXXXX
Absent: Farino
Abstain: XXXXXX

RESOLUTION 131-2025

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF MUNICIPAL OBLIGATIONS

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Warren, finds and declares that certain municipal obligations have come due and are now payable; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee further finds and declares that said obligations have been itemized on the annexed schedules, which are hereby deemed part of this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Warren, State of New Jersey does hereby authorize payment of said municipal obligations, in accordance with the recommendations of the Temporary Chief Financial Officer and the Deputy Treasurer, from the following accounts and in the following amounts:

BILLS LIST	
CURRENT- 4-01	\$ 345.50
CURRENT- 5-01	\$ 1,347,178.43
FEDERAL AND STATE GRANT FUND	\$ 919.54
DEVELOPER'S ESCROW	\$ 18,287.95

DOG FUND	\$ 60.00
MANDATORY DEVELOPMENT FEES	\$ 1,400.00
TOTAL	\$ 1,368,191.42

Mr. Hayes, seconded by Mr. Mc Guinness made a motion to adopt Resolution #132-2025.

RECORDED VOTE

Aye: Hayes, Mc Guinness, Mora Dillon, Watters
Nay: XXXXXX
Absent: Farino
Abstain: XXXXXX

RESOLUTION 132-2025

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, COUNTY OF WARREN,
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF CONTRACT WITH JERSEY PROFESSIONAL
MANAGEMENT – TEMPORARY CFO**

WHEREAS, the Township of Mansfield executed a contract with Jersey Professional Management by adoption of Resolution #077-2025 on February 26, 2025 for temporary Chief Financial Officer services; and

WHEREAS, the Township seeks to extend the contract with Jersey Professional Management for temporary Chief Financial Officer services by means of a Professional Service Agreement through August 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Temporary Chief Financial Officer has certified to the Township Committee that there are sufficient funds available under Finance S/W Consultant: 5-01-20-130-0000-1103, \$8,000.00 and Finance Prof Services: 5-01-20-130-0000-4128, \$56,000.00; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Warren, and the State of New Jersey, hereby authorize the Mayor and Township Clerk to execute the attached proposal to extend the contract with Jersey Professional Management as a professional service agreement for temporary Chief Financial Officer services through August 31, 2025. A copy of the proposal, which outlines the services to be provided, schedule of work to be performed, and related fees is available in the Township Clerk's office for public inspection.

CONSENT AGENDA – PUBLIC PORTION

Mayor Watters opened the Public Portion of the meeting for comments on the Consent Agenda. Seeing none, the Public Portion for Consent Agenda was closed.

CONSENT AGENDA/RESOLUTIONS

The following Resolutions #133-2025 through #136-2025 as filed in the Township Clerk's Office, were adopted on motion by Mr. Hayes and seconded by Mr. Mc Guinness.

RECORDED VOTE

Aye: Hayes, Mc Guinness, Mora Dillon, Watters
Nay: XXXXXX
Absent: Farino
Abstain: XXXXXX

RESOLUTION 133-2025

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO ACF GREENSCAPES, INC. FOR SPRING CLEAN UP OF TOWNSHIP PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the Township of Mansfield executed a contract with ACF Greenscapes, Inc. on May 24, 2023 for lawn moving and trimming services on Township property; and

WHEREAS, this contract failed to include the spring and fall clean- up service that ACF Greenscapes, Inc would provide; and

WHEREAS, ACF Greenscapes, Inc. completed a “spring clean-up” of Township property; and

WHEREAS, ACF Greenscapes has submitted an invoice in the amount of \$885.00 to the Township for the “spring clean-up” service; and

WHEREAS, the Finance department requires authorization to pay such invoice as this service was not originally stipulated in the current contract; and

WHEREAS, ACF Greenscapes will complete a fall clean-up service for a cost of \$1,460.00 in November; and

WHEREAS, the Finance department will require authorization to pay such invoice when received.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Warren, and the State of New Jersey, that the Finance department is authorized to pay the invoice submitted by ACF Greenscapes, Inc. in the amount of \$885.00 for spring clean-up services and is authorized to pay the invoice of \$1,460.00 that will be submitted for the fall clean-up services.

RESOLUTION 134-2025

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY SUPPORTING RESTORATION OF ENERGY TAXES TO MUNICIPALITIES

WHEREAS, taxes on gas and electric utilities were originally collected by the host municipalities to be used for local purposes and to compensate the public for use of their rights of way; and

WHEREAS, when the State made itself the collection agent for these taxes, it promised to dedicate the proceeds to municipal property tax relief; since, just as municipalities collect property taxes for the benefit of school districts, counties and other entities; the State is supposed to collect Energy Taxes for the benefit of municipal governments; and

WHEREAS, for years State budget makers have diverted funding from Energy Taxes to fund State programs; and instead of being spent on local programs and services and used to offset property taxes, the money has been spent as successive Legislatures and Administrations have seen fit; and

WHEREAS, while the State may need to have the right to override the statutory dedication of these revenues to local governments, in order to deal with emergencies and crises that may occur; current State policymakers should not exercise that right automatically; and

WHEREAS, while that right should be the exception, it has become the rule; and

WHEREAS, by keeping flat funding of the appropriation for CMPTRA year-over-year, State Budget makers have been able to continue collecting Energy Taxes, while keeping additional revenue that should have been returned to provide property tax relief; and

WHEREAS, in SFY 2023, the State did provide some much-needed relief in the allocation of \$75 million of new funds identified as the Municipal Relief Fund; and

WHEREAS, in SFY 2024, the state allocated \$150 million in Municipal Relief Funds, however, in SFY 2025 and, as proposed in SFY 2026, no allocation will exist; and

WHEREAS, in SFY 2024 the Energy Tax Receipts Program should have received over \$350 million to restore municipalities back to 2008 levels, however, the State's diversion of Energy Taxes has continued to grow causing more a financial gap; and

WHEREAS, the cumulative impact of years of flat funding and underfunding has left many municipalities with serious needs and burdensome property taxes; and

WHEREAS, local elected officials are in the best position to decide the best use of these resources, which were always intended to fund local programs and services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Warren, and the State of New Jersey, calls for immediate restoration of funding diverted from Energy Taxes intended for local use; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we, respectfully, call on State policy makers to end the diversion of our municipal resources to cover State spending and to provide us with this important tool to relieve the worst-in-the-nation property tax burden borne, for too long, by the people of New Jersey; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution is forwarded to Assemblyman John Di Maio, Assemblyman Erik Peterson, Senator Douglas Steinhardt, the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs Jacquelyn Suarez, the State Treasurer Elizabeth Maher Muoio, the Lieutenant Governor Tahesha Way, the Governor of the State of New Jersey Phil Murphy, and the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

RESOLUTION 135-2025

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL SERVICES OF BOSWELL ENGINEERING FOR GRANT PREPARATION/SUBMISSION NOT TO EXCEED \$7,500.00

WHEREAS, the Township Committee appointed Boswell Engineers as the Township's Engineers at the 2025 Reorganization Meeting on January 2, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer seeks authority to undertake engineering services to prepare and submit FY2026 NJDOT Municipal Aid Grant application, FY2025 NJDOT Local Aid Infrastructure Fund Grant application, and FY2026 NJDCA Local Recreation Improvement Grant application for the Township and has submitted a proposal dated May 6, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Township's Temporary Chief Financial Officer, as required by N.J.A.C. 5:30-1, has certified that there are available funds in line item account #5-01-20-165-0000-4360 for the purpose of awarding a contract to said entity; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council now desires to approve the proposed services, as outlined in attached proposal.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Warren, and the State of New Jersey, as follows:

- 1. That the Township Committee hereby authorizes engineering services to include grant preparation and submission in a proposal for those services dated May 6, 2025 and not to exceed \$7,500.00; and
- 2. That the Township Committee hereby authorizes the Mayor and Township Clerk to execute any and all documents necessary for the completion of this proposal.

RESOLUTION 136-2025

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, COUNTY OF WARREN,
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE OF MUNICIPAL
LIEN – BLOCK 1303, LOT 10**

WHEREAS, on November 29, 2023, the Township held its annual Tax Sale for delinquent 2022 taxes; and

WHEREAS, Block 1303, Lot 10, known as North NJ Invest 3, LLC did not sell, and was subsequently struck off to the Township of Mansfield as Lien #23-00006; and

WHEREAS, on May 14, 2025, Municipal Lien 23-00006 was redeemed and now the Township can release the Lien Certificate to the redeemer; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Warren, and the State of New Jersey, that the following Tax Sale Certificate, held by the Township, having been paid and satisfied in full pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:5-59; the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to endorse same for cancellation, affix the Township Seal, and return the same to the Tax Collector for delivery to the property owner or legal representative pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:5-55.

<u>Tax Sale Certificate Number</u>	<u>Block/ Lot</u>	<u>Original Certificate Amount</u>
23-00006	1303/10	\$708.13

RICE NOTICE DISCUSSION

Attorney Lavery stated that the employee, Mr. Petrocelli has elected to have the matter regarding his position in the Department of Public Works discussed in the Public portion of the meeting. Attorney Lavery discussed the legal ramifications of the Rice Notice.

Mrs. Mora Dillon stated the Committee is not satisfied with his performance.

Mayor Watters closed the hearing.

COMMITTEE PERSON COMMENTS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Hayes, seconded by Mr. Mc Guinness , made a motion to adopt Resolution #137-2025 for an Executive Session of the Township Committee.

RECORDED VOTE

Aye: Hayes, Mc Guinness, Mora Dillon, Watters

Nay: XXXXXX

Absent: Farino

Abstain: XXXXXX

Mr. Lavery announced the following to be discussed in Executive Session:

Attorney Client Privilege

Police Vehicle Donation

Lead Law – Low Environmental

Brantwood Ter. – Bike Path

Personnel

Department of Public Works

Temporary Chief Financial Officer

Potential Litigation

Meadows at Mansfield

Contractual

Old DPW Building – Lease Renewal

RESOLUTION 137-2025

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield is authorized, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 to exclude the public from that portion of this meeting for purposes of discussing specific matters as permitted by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12; and;

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield intends to discuss certain matters which are deemed confidential pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, in Executive Session; and

WHEREAS, at this time the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield cannot determine the time when the discussion to be held in Executive Session will be made public, but will disclose the minutes of the Executive Session when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, that this meeting shall be adjourned to an Executive Session and the public will be excluded in order that the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield may discuss the items listed below:

Attorney Client Privilege

Police Vehicle Donation

Lead Inspection Law

Brantwood Ter. – Bike Path

Potential Litigation

Meadows at Mansfield

Personnel

Department of Public Works

Temporary Chief Financial Officer

Contractual

Old DPW Building – Lease Renewal

At approximately 7:56 p.m., the Committee went into Executive Session.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

On a motion by Mr. Hayes, seconded by Mr. Mc Guinness, the Township Committee voted to return to public session at approximately 8:45 p.m.

RECORDED VOTE

Aye: Hayes, Mc Guinness, Mora Dillon, Watters

Nay: XXXXXX

Absent: Farino

Abstain: XXXXXX

Mr. Lavery announced the following discussed in Executive Session:

Attorney Client Privilege

Police Vehicle Donation

Lead Inspection Law

Brantwood Ter. – Bike Path

Potential Litigation

Meadows at Mansfield

Personnel

Department of Public Works

Temporary Chief Financial Officer

Contractual

Old DPW Building – Lease Renewal

Copies of these minutes will be available at such time the Committee determines there is no longer a harm to the public interest. There was no official action resulting from Executive Session.

Mr. Hayes, seconded by Mrs. Mora Dillon made a motion to donate the former Mansfield EMS squad vehicle to Warren County Vo Tech.

RECORDED VOTE

Aye: Hayes, Mc Guinness, Mora Dillon, Watters

Nay: XXXXXX

Absent: Farino

Abstain: XXXXXX

Mrs. Mora Dillon, seconded by Mr. Mc Guinness made a motion to terminate Department of Public Works employee, Mr. Pasqualino Petrocelli.

RECORDED VOTE

Aye: Hayes, Mc Guinness, Mora Dillon, Watters

Nay: XXXXXX

Absent: Farino

Abstain: XXXXXX

There being no further business, Mr. Hayes made a motion to adjourn. All present were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:51 p.m.

Attest,



Wendy Barras, R.M.C.
Township Municipal Clerk