

**GLOUCESTER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 27, 2020
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, CHEWS LANDING NEW JERSEY**

Pledge Allegiance to the Flag

Statement: Mr. Mercado read a statement setting forth the time, date and place of this meeting, that it was properly advertised, posted and filed in the Office of the Township Clerk pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll Call:	Mr. Hutchison	Mr. Carlamere, Solicitor
	Mr. Owens	Mr. Cardis, Business Administrator
	Mrs. Stubbs	Mrs. Power, Township Clerk, RMC
	Mrs. Winters	Mr. Lechner, Community Development
	Mr. Mignone	Deputy Chief Minosse, Police
	Mrs. Trotto-abs.	Mr. Chadwell, Engineer
	Mr. Mercado	

PUBLIC PORTION:

Mr. Mercado opened the public portion.

Jason Stock of Trinity Lane expressed concerns regarding his inability to obtain his veteran deduction on his property taxes because he is not on the deed or mortgage.

Ray Polidoro of Erial inquired as to the purpose of Ordinance O-20-09. Mr. Mercado explained the parcel will be purchased and repurposed for non-profit use.

There being no further comment, the public portion was closed.

WAIVE THE READING AND ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF:

Regular Sessions: June 8, 2020
June 22, 2020

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Mr. Owens. Roll call vote: Mrs. Stubbs abstained from June 22, 2020. All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0.

ORDINANCES: INTRODUCTION – FIRST READING

O-20-09

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS TAX BLOCK 7504 LOT 10 ON THE TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GLOUCESTER AND LOCATED AT 236 TAYLOR AVENUE AND AUTHORIZING ACQUISITION BY CONTRACT NEGOTIATION

WHEREAS, Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1 et seq. the Township of Gloucester may acquire any real property by contract negotiation, and

WHEREAS, Certain real property currently owned by Gloucester Township EMS Alliance Inc., a Non-Profit Corporation, State of New Jersey, and previously owned and serviced by the Glendora Rescue Squad, and is adjacent to property owned by the Township of Gloucester and designated for recreation, has become available for acquisition by the Township of Gloucester, and

WHEREAS, The Township Council of the Township of Gloucester has determined it is in the best interest of the Township of Gloucester that premises block 7504 lot 10, located at 236 Taylor Avenue, be acquired for public purpose and benefit to the residents of the Township of Gloucester.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester, in the County of Camden, New Jersey as follows:

SECTION 1. Pursuant to the powers vested in the Township of Gloucester, under N.J.S.A. 40A:12-5, and 12-3(b) and 12-2, the Township of Gloucester has determined to acquire lands and premises situate in the Township of Gloucester, County of Camden, New Jersey, known and designated on the Official Tax Map of the township of Gloucester as follows:

Block 7504, Lot 10

SECTION 2. It is found and determined that it is necessary to acquire these lands and premises and it is further found that this acquisition is the lawful performance of a proper function of the municipality.

SECTION 3. The proper officials of the Township of Gloucester shall be and they are hereby authorized and directed to acquire said lands by contract negotiations.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and

publication as required by law, and upon final approval of the Mayor of the Township of Gloucester.

Introduced: July 27th 2020

Mayor
David Mayer

President of Council
Orlando Mercado

Township Clerk, RMC
Nancy Power

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt on first reading, to have a second reading and public hearing on August 10, 2020 and to advertise by synopsis, seconded by Mrs. Winters. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0.

RESOLUTIONS: CONSENT AGENDA

R-20:07-148

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Township Council of the Township of Gloucester, in the County of Camden, that the following bills are approved by the Township Council in accordance with the provisions of Ordinance 0-82-16 and certified by the Chief Financial Officer that the claims are proper obligation of the township, that adequate funds are available to honor these claims in the account indicated and the claim should be paid:

CURRENT ACCOUNT

Per attached computer readout of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 739,371.29

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

Per attached computer read out of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 15,992.99

TRUST

Per attached computer readout of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 47,926.12

ANIMAL

Per attached computer readout of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 505.77

DEVELOPERS ESCROW

Per attached computer readout of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 23,922.25

MANUAL CHECKS

Per attached computer readout of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 167,284.74

Adopted: July 27, 2020

ATTEST:

President of Council
Orlando Mercado

Township Clerk, RMC
Nancy Power

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mr. Owens. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0.

R-20:07-149

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDING OF TAXES

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester to authorize the refunding of the following credit balances:

BLOCK	LOT	NAME AND ADDRESS	YEAR	AMOUNT	REASON
15703	4	Chante Thomas 4 Del Sol Place Sicklerville, NJ 08081	2020	1,143.84	Overpayment
18102	9.02	Eric Began 3 Diana Dr. Sicklerville, NJ 08081	2020	1,714.73	Overpayment

ADOPTED: July 27, 2020

President of Council
Orlando Mercado

Township Clerk, RMC
Nancy Power

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mr. Owens. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0.

R-20:07-150

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS OF ENCROACHMENT DEPOSITS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester that the following inspection fee escrow encroachment deposit is hereby authorized to be refunded:

John Valenti
289 S. Blackhorse Pike
Mt. Ephraim, NJ 08059

APPLICATION: 217254
ESCROW: 216107
PERMIT: 11068

ESCROW AMOUNT: \$450.00

ADOPTED: July 27, 2020

President of Council
Orlando Mercado

ATTEST:

Township Clerk, RMC
Nancy Power

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mr. Owens. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0.

R-20:07-151

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TAX COLLECTOR TO GRANT SENIOR CITIZEN, DISABLED, OR VETERAN DEDUCTION FOR THE YEAR 2020 AS INDICATED AND TO ADJUST ANY BALANCE

WHEREAS, the following applicants are the owners of a residential property located in the Township of Gloucester, and,

WHEREAS, they have properly filed an application for a Senior Citizen, Disabled, or Veteran Deduction with proof of eligibility, and

WHEREAS, the Assessor has reviewed and approved said application and adjusted the records for 2020,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester that the Tax Collector is authorized to grant said deduction and/or adjust any resulting balances for the year 2020 and refund any balances for the amounts indicated.

Block	Lot	Name	Comment	Amount of Deduction
9901	12	Anita Clark	Add Widow of Vet Deduction 2020	250.00
12512	9	Elizabeth Cerrone	Add Widow of Vet Deduction 2020	250.00
13306	1 C0802	Algeron Johnson	Add Veteran Deduction 2020	250.00
14201	26	Betty Thompson	Add Senior Deduction 2020	250.00
16108	4	Loran Crider	Add Veteran Deduction 2020	250.00

ADOPTED: July 27, 2020

President of Council
Orlando Mercado

Township Clerk, RMC
Nancy Power

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mr. Owens. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0.

R-20:07-152

RESOLUTION TO ALLOW DISABLED VETERAN OR OTHER EXEMPTIONS AND CREDITS FOR TAX YEAR 2020 THIRD QUARTER AND TO AUTHORIZE THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CREDIT TAXES AND REFUND ANY OVERPAYMENTS

WHEREAS, the following names are owners and residents of property in the Township of Gloucester, and

WHEREAS, they have made proper application for Total and Permanent Service-Connected Disability tax exempt status on their property designated with the block and lots listed below and,

WHEREAS, they have submitted proper evidence of Total and Permanent Disability rating from the U.S. Veterans Administration in accordance with State Regulations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester that the Tax Collector is authorized to grant said exemption, credit property taxes as stated 2020 third quarter and refund any resulting credit balances.

Block	Lot	Name	Comment	Amount to be Credited
801	46	George Daniels	Add Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption	3 rd Qtr. Tax – 1,741.03
3204	25	John Nejman	Add Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption	3 rd Qtr. Tax – 1,985.12
5809	7	Muhammad Asgar	Add Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption	3 rd Qtr. Tax – 2,184.54

8001	3	Ruth Tiernan C5201	Add Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption	3 rd Qtr. Tax – 1,489.28
11105	9	Angel Reyes	Add Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption	3 rd Qtr. Tax – 2,315.26
14903	11	Scott Humphrey	Add Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption	3 rd Qtr. Tax – 3,298.14
15204	36	Darryle Crawley	Add Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption	3 rd Qtr. Tax – 2,845.85
15703	4	Chante Thomas	Add Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption	3 rd Qtr. Tax – 1,185.41
16106	21	Joseph Burkel IV	Add Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption	3 rd Qtr. Tax – 1,758.52
17403	28	Danielle Giddings	Add Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption	3 rd Qtr. Tax – 2,440.61
18304	41	Syrien Maceno	Add Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption	3 rd Qtr. Tax – 3,024.42
18304	63	Jamil Abdu-Rahman	Add Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption	3 rd Qtr. Tax – 2,665.36
18306	6	Frank Gray	Add Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption	3 rd Qtr. Tax – 2,917.22
19002	4	Alexander Reineck	Add Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption	3 rd Qtr. Tax – 2,716.21
19401	5	Michael Louise	Add Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption	3 rd Qtr. Tax – 2,068.45
20202	12	Jose Rios	Add Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption	3 rd Qtr. Tax – 1,837.92
20505	29	Sean Smith	Add Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption	3 rd Qtr. Tax – 2,516.96

ADOPTED: July 27, 2020

President of Council
Orlando Mercado

Township Clerk, RMC
Nancy Power

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mr. Owens. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0.

R-20:07-153

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE FOR BERTUCCI'S RESTAURANT IN THE TOWNSHIP OF GLOUCESTER

WHEREAS, the following has made application for renewal of a Retail Consumption Liquor License in the Township of Gloucester:

NAME	TRADING AS	LICENSE NO.
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WHEREAS, application for renewal has been properly advertised by the Alcoholic Beverage Control, and

WHEREAS, no written objections have been filed, and

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester has no objections and furthermore is not aware of any circumstances or provisions of law or local ordinance which would prohibit the renewal of Retail Consumption Liquor License in the Township of Gloucester,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester, County of Camden that the application for renewal of Retail Consumption Liquor License is hereby granted and that the Township Clerk is hereby authorized to execute the necessary documents and certificates effective July 28, 2020.

Adopted: July 27, 2020

President of Council
Orlando Mercado

Township Clerk, RMC
Nancy Power

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mr. Owens. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0.

R-20:07-154

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GLOUCESTER ADOPTING THE 3- YEAR CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF CAMDEN

WHEREAS, The Township of Gloucester and the County of Camden wish to establish a cooperative means of conducting certain eligible Community Development and Affordable Housing activities, and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40:8A-1 et seq. (Interlocal Services Act), permits any local unit of the State to enter into a contract with any other local unit or units for joint provision within their jurisdictions of any service which any party to the agreement is empowered to render within their jurisdiction, and

WHEREAS, the Township of Gloucester and the County of Camden desire to enter into a legally binding Consortium Agreement (hereinafter, the "Agreement") providing for participation as a Consortium in undertaking housing assistance activities funded by the HOME Investment Partnership Program (hereinafter, the "HOME Program") as authorized by the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Gloucester will propose certain activities to be carried out under the HOME Program through Federal Fiscal Year 2023 and this Agreement will run from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024: and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid activities are in the best interest of the Township of Gloucester and the County of Camden.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester that the 3 – Year Consortium Agreement be authorized and executed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor or designee is hereby authorized to execute the 3 – Year Consortium Agreement, and any additional documents necessary to effectuate the purpose of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its enactment.

ADOPTED: July 27, 2020

President of Council
Orlando Mercado

Township Clerk, RMC
Nancy Power

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mr. Owens. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0.

**RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GLOUCESTER
APPROVING THE 2020-2024 HUD CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND THE FY2020-2021
ONE YEAR ACTION PLAN**

WHEREAS, under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD, is authorized to extend financial assistance to communities in the elimination or prevention of slums and urban blight or activities which will benefit low and moderate income individuals and families, or other urgent community development needs; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Gloucester is required by HUD to prepare a Five Year Consolidated Plan to identify needs and develop strategies to address those needs; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Gloucester is further required to prepare annually an Action Plan for each of the five years included in the Consolidated Plan, said Action Plan to describe the amount of funding to be received from HUD and the Township's plans for using that funding; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Gloucester has completed a Five Year Consolidated Plan for the period 2020 through 2024 and offered said Plan for public display and comment for the prescribed period; and

WHEREAS, HUD has advised the Township of Gloucester that its allocation for FY 2020 is \$306,188; \$10,000 in prior year funds and the Township anticipates \$50,000 in program income for a total of \$366,188; and the Township, has developed an Annual Action Plan for the use of those funds and has offered said Plan for public display and comment for the prescribed period; and

WHEREAS, The Township Council of the Township of Gloucester has reviewed the CDBG Program Five Year Consolidated Plan for 2020 through 2024 and the Annual Action Plan for 2020, both as presented by the Grants Office;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester that:

Section 1. The Five Year Consolidated Plan for the CDBG Program for the period 2020 through 2024 is hereby, in all respects, approved.

Section 2. The Annual Action Plan for 2020 for the CDBG Program is hereby, in all respects, approved.

Section 3. The Mayor of the Township of Gloucester, on behalf of the Township Council, is hereby authorized to provide such assurances and certifications as required by HUD and any supplemental or revised data which HUD may request in connection with the review of this application.

Adopted: July 27, 2020

President of Council
Orlando Mercado

Township Clerk, RMC
Nancy Power

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mr. Owens. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0.

GT E-GOV ACCESS:

JD Cannon of Crestview Avenue asked the following question:

1. *I am interested in becoming involved in attending township meetings and possibly joining or engaging with committee functions.*

Mr. Mercado stated he will reach out to Mr. Cannon.

Jen O'Donnell of New Brooklyn Road asked the following questions:

1. *Does GT own the building known as Erial Ambulance at 1 Woodshire Drive?*

Mr. Mercado stated yes.

2. *Does AMR pay GT anything to utilize that building?*

Mr. Mercado stated no.

3. *Who pays the utilities?*

Mr. Mercado stated Gloucester Township pays the utilities.

Sam Sweet of Elizabeth Place asked the following questions:

1. *Has the NIKE Base been sold yet? If so, for how much and when?*

Mr. Mercado stated no.

2. *Has a closing been scheduled?*

Mr. Mercado stated there is an agreement of sale with the buyer who has placed \$1 million in escrow.

3. *If not and Gloucester Township still owns it, why is there advertising on it for new homes?*

Mr. Mercado stated since there is escrow, there is no harm in the developer advertising.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Mr. Mercado opened the public portion.

Jason Stock of Trinity Place asked why AMR does not pay rent. Mr. Cardis explained the termination of GT EMS contract and new contract and business model of AMR. Mr. Stock expressed his displeasure with tax payers covering the rent and utilities for that building.

Robert Engle of Garwood Road spoke of the legacy of the rescue squad and asked council to please keep this in mind once a determination was made for the buildings.

Ray Polidoro asked council if AMR waives charges for individuals who cannot pay. Mr. Cardis explained that verbiage cannot be placed in a contract. Mr. Polidoro asked for emergency response times for cardiac issues in the southern end of town. Mr. Mercado did not have those figures.

Paul Krugg of Blackwood Estates questioned salary increases in the 2020 budget. Mr. Cardis explained the increases also include new personnel and additional staffing. Mr. Krugg questioned an increase in police department uniform appropriations. Mr. Mercado explained those funds were part of the settled contract with the police officers. Mr. Krugg asked council to take into consideration productivity and level of service when determining salary increases.

Sam Sweet of Erial inquired about the capital budget. Mr. Cardis explained the capital budget has not been worked on or completed as of yet. Mr. Sweet questioned a rumor regarding another tax increase in November. Mr. Mercado stated he will follow up with Mrs. Mosquera. A discussion was held regarding the budget subcommittee meeting held on June 1st.

Jason Stock of Trinity Place questioned capital purchases. A discussion was held. Mr. Stock expressed his unhappiness with the purchase of the building on Taylor Avenue.

There being no further comment, the public portion was closed.

POLLING OF COUNCIL:

Mr. Hutchison thanked everyone for coming out this evening during the pandemic.

Mr. Owens thanked everyone for coming out tonight and thank the police department and first responders. Mr. Owens reminded residents to fill out the 2020 Census.

Mrs. Stubbs thanked everyone for coming out.

Mrs. Winters thanked everyone for their comments, questions, and concerns. Mrs. Winters urged residents to wear their masks and be conscious of their surroundings.

Mr. Mignone thanked everyone for coming out.

Mr. Mercado thanked everyone for attending this evening.

ADJOURN

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Owens. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Power
Township Clerk, RMC

Council President
Orlando Mercado