

BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK
WORK MEETING
March 28, 2013
8:00 p.m.

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council was called to order by Municipal Clerk Keith Kazmark at 8:02 p.m. Statement of Compliance was read.

Whereas, Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of the State of New Jersey requires at the commencement of every meeting a Statement of Compliance be read by the presiding officer.

Now, Therefore Be Advised that the meeting requirements for this meeting have been met by the publishing an annual notice in The Record of Hackensack and Herald News of Woodland Park and by posting such notice in the office of the Borough Clerk as well as in a public place within the Municipal Building and by notifying interested citizens. Said notice was posted on January 1, 2013.

Governing Body members Caramagna, Castiglia, Conboy, Vuoncino and Colletti were present. Councilman Pettigano was absent. Also present were Mayor Mola, Borough Clerk Keith Kazmark, Borough Attorney Brian Giblin and Borough Engineer Pete Ten Kate.

Public Hearing:

Mary Ann Tomko, Donor Avenue, expressed her concerns regarding the snow parking and requested the prior requirements for snow parking be brought back.

Joe Strahlendorff, Donor Avenue, expressed his opinion on the wording on the snow ordinance signs.

Work Meeting Agenda Items:

1 – 2013 Municipal Budget – Capital Improvement Requests – Police, Fire, DPW & Recreation – Police Chief Johnson discussed purchasing in-car video recorders. He further stated that Elmwood Park is one of six municipalities out of seventy in the County that do not have in-car recording systems. Police Chief stated that in-car recording also protects Officers from exaggerated or unwarranted complaints. He further discussed the cost of the system and the mechanics on how it functions. Councilman Conboy inquired if the recordings are accessible through OPRA and if the use of the equipment needs to be approved through the PBA. He further asked if the recordings can be used in a disciplinary case regarding an officer. Chief Johnson acknowledged that the recordings can be used in such cases should one arise. Councilman Vuoncino stated with the constant changes in technology, it may be more favorable to lease versus purchasing. Mayor Mola stated if purchasing the equipment the amount can be bonded, however, if the equipment is leased the cost must come out of the Police operating expenses. Police Chief Johnson stated that the amount for the in-car recording system is \$92,000. Mr. Kazmark stated that the Council's decision is based on the recommendations of the Department Heads and how much would the Council be willing to bond. Chief Johnson answered as to questions about the 911 console. Discussion ensued to the auto attendant on the phone system. The auto attendant allows non-emergency calls be sent to a menu which allows emergency or 911 calls to be the priority for the dispatchers. Chief Johnson then discussed the functions of the 911 console. Fire Chief Scott Muttell discussed the items which the Fire Department would like to purchase. He further discussed the fire gear which is needed and the life expectancy of the gear. Chief Muttell discussed Letter #4 and the rust issues on that truck that needs to be addressed. He further stated there are four major rust areas that need to be addressed, and other areas that could be removed from the proposal. Councilman Colletti stated he had the opportunity to inspect the truck and confirms the expansion of the rust. Councilman Vuoncino inquired about the prevention of rust in the future. Chief Muttell proposed a \$200 increase to LOSAP. Mayor Mola discussed LOSAP falls in cap whereas the other items discussed are out of cap and can be bonded. Councilman Vuoncino asked Chief Muttell what the priorities are amongst the items requested. Chief Muttell stated that the gear would be the priority and the truck repairs would be second. He followed up by stating that a new truck would cost approximately \$1,000,000. Discussion further ensued as to the life expectancy for other fire equipment. Mr. Kazmark requested a spreadsheet listing the equipment including the usable life for each. Ms. Puglisi discussed the different options for the gym floor. She stated that the best option is to resurface the floor which will cost \$33,000. Mayor Mola inquired as to the funding coming from the Trust Account. Councilman Conboy discussed the efforts to build up the Trust Account. The second item being requested is the upgrade of the Senior kitchen. Mr. Kazmark stated that the County now requires shared service agreements with all municipalities that the County utilizes space for senior programs. He further stated that a conversation took place discussing the kitchen being utilized primarily by the seniors and inquired about funds from the County being used to partially if not fully upgrade the kitchen. Mr. Kazmark asked that Council wait until he has had the

opportunity to meet with the County. Mr. Karcz discussed his request for a bucket loader, sweeper and two lawn mowers. The cost for all three items is \$600,000. Mr. Kazmark asked Mr. Karcz to furnish him with quotes for the items requested.

2 – ORDINANCE

- a. **Winter Parking Ordinance** – Mr. Karcz discussed the winter parking ordinance and addressed the questions by residents. Mr. Kazmark discussed another option pertaining to the verbiage of the signs stating specific days of the week. He further stated making the verbiage permanent to replace the temporary signs that are now being utilized. Mr. Karcz suggested the creation of a sub-committee for simplifying the ordinance. Further discussion of the Winter Parking Ordinance will be carried to the April 11, 2013 Work Session.
- b. **Fournier Crescent Parking Ordinance** – Councilman Colletti inquired about feedback during the trial period. Mr. Kazmark stated all feedback has been positive. Chief Johnson stated he received a complaint from a person who received a summons who stated the gaps between the signs are too large. Mr. Kazmark stated that Officer Barone approached him regarding the installation of more signs, Mr. Kazmark stated that he is reluctant to do so being there is no right away and the signs are being placed on front lawns. The ordinance will be introduced at the April 4, 2013 Regular Meeting.
- c. **Chapter 20 – Parks and Recreational Areas** – Mr. Kazmark stated that the ordinance has been introduced and the second reading is on the April 4, 2013 Regular Meeting.

3 – Email from David Hollenbeck of PSE&G regarding municipal support for “Energy Strong”. – A resolution supporting the “Energy Strong” initiative will be placed on the April 4, 2013 Regular Meeting.

4 – DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

- a. **Municipal Court – February 2013** – Approved without discussion
- b. **Recreation Department Report – March 2013** – Approved without discussion
- c. **Library Minutes – February 25, 2013** – Approved without discussion

5 – COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Castiglia reported progress.

Councilman Caramagna discussed his attendance at the Board of Education regarding the school budget.

Councilman Conboy reported progress.

Councilman Vuoncino reported a significant savings regarding the NJ SEM Program.

Councilman Colletti reported progress.

Mayor Mola discussed a complaint from a resident on Gilbert Avenue regarding the parking problem around Gilbert Avenue School.

6 – EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- a. **Personnel – Police Department**
- b. **Litigation – Borough of Elmwood Park vs. Ingrasselino (NO BACK UP)**
- c. **Stipulation of Settlement – Baldecchi Realty Co. Inc. vs. Elmwood Park**
- d. **Market Street & Boulevard Easements (NO BACK UP)**

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act P.L. 1975, Chapter 231 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body wishes to discuss:

Personnel – Police Department
Litigation – Borough of Elmwood Park vs. Ingrasselino
Stipulation of Settlement – Baldecchi Realty Co., Inc. vs Elmwood Park
Market Street & Boulevard Easements

Minutes will be kept and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes can be made public.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the public be excluded from this meeting.

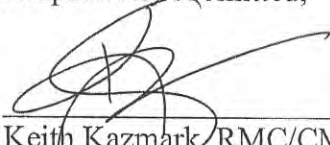
A motion was made by Councilman Vuoncino and seconded by Councilman Conboy to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried by the members present.

Personnel – Police Department
Litigation – Borough of Elmwood Park vs. Ingrasselino
Stipulation of Settlement – Baldecchi Realty Co., Inc. vs Elmwood Park
Market Street & Boulevard Easements

A motion was made by Councilman Conboy and seconded by Councilman Castiglia to return to the public session. Motion carried by the members present.

A motion was made by Councilman Castiglia and seconded by Councilman Caramagna to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by the members present. Meeting was adjourned at 10:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Keith Kazmark, RMC/CMC/MMC
Borough Clerk

Minutes were approved by the Mayor and Council at the Regular Meeting of May 16, 2013.