

BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK

WORK MEETING

May 8, 2014

8:00 p.m.

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council for May 8, 2014 was called to order by Municipal Clerk Keith Kazmark at 8:00 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, 2014.

Governing Body members Colletti, Dombrowski, Martino, Pettigano, Vuoncino and Caramagna were present. Also present were Mayor Mola, Borough Clerk Keith Kazmark, Borough Attorney Randazzo, and Wayne Borough Engineer Nordan Murphy.

Public Hearing:

Thomas Conboy, Tuella Avenue, discussed the attention paid to the Recreation Commission since the beginning of the year. He further discussed the meetings between the Governing Body and the Commission and the proposed Recreation Ordinance. Mr. Conboy asked the Council to meet again regarding the ordinance.

Mr. Kazmark discussed with the Governing Body the Financial Disclosure procedure that needs to be followed. He further stated that the Clerk's office will be open Tuesday, May 13, 2014 for late night voter registration and anyone needing assistance with the procedure for filing may speak with Deputy Clerk Barbara Dispoto at that time. Mr. Kazmark also stated that employees of the Clerk's office are not permitted to file a financial disclosure statement for any employee or board member.

Work Meeting Agenda Items:

1 – ENGINEERING REPORT:

- a. **Monthly Status Report** – Mr. Murphy is awaiting approval from the Council to move forward on the Pump Station #6 project. Mr. Kazmark stated the bond ordinance has been prepared and is schedule to be introduced at the May 15, 2014 Regular Meeting. Councilman Colletti discussed the cost of the project and whether the cost can be reduced. Mr. Murphy stated there is a section of the main that may be able to be re-used after inspected. If the main is able to be utilized the costs can be reduced considerably. However, there is a cost to analyze the main to determine if the main can be re-used. Discussion ensued to the force main and the gravity feed. Councilman Dombrowski discussed Boswell's report regarding the pump station and Alaimo's report stating they are both in agreement with the rehabilitation that is needed. Councilman Colletti inquired about future sewer back-ups and the capacity of the system. Councilman Vuoncino verified with Mr. Murphy that the proposal includes contingencies. He also inquired if Alaimo verified the capacity numbers that were included in Boswell's report. Discussion ensued to the part of town that the pump station is responsible for. Councilman Martino inquired if during construction how the resident would be affected. Mr. Murphy stated bypasses will be utilized and residents will not be affected during the construction. Mr. Murphy will report back to the Governing Body with more information regarding increasing the capacity of the pump station in the event of another storm such as Superstorm Sandy. Mr. Murphy reported on an email he received from the DOT regarding the striping of the intersection of Route 46 and Boulevard. Mr. Murphy stated the submission deadline that the Safe Route to School grant has been extended. Discussion ensued regarding the grant. Councilman Dombrowski inquired about Gilbert Avenue between East 54th and the Boulevard for the grant application. Councilman Colletti inquired about the possibility of open space grant funds expiring. Mr. Murphy stated the \$100,000 grant from 2012 will expired in December 2014. Mr. Murphy will research the plans that were submitted for the 2012 grant and present the Governing Body with Alaimo's cost proposal. The Governing Body authorized Mr. Murphy to report back to the Council with a proposal for English Avenue Park Improvements. Mr. Murphy stated he will reach out to the County and see if there is any flexibility with the deadline.
- b. **2014 Road Program** – Mr. Murphy discussed the list of streets and the projected cost of the work including soft costs is approximately \$600,000. Mr. Kazmark stated that a decision should be made so that the project can move forward and work completed in time. Some discussion ensued regarding roads listed. Mr. Murphy stated the projected costs do not include the roadway which is the responsibility of Altair. Mr. Kazmark asked the Governing Body to authorize the process for bonding to begin and introduce at the June 5, 2014 Regular Meeting and adopting at the June 19, 2014 Regular Meeting. The Governing Body agreed to move forward in the financing of the Road Program.

2 – Rejection of Recycling Bids – Mr. Kazmark discussed the opening of recycling bids and the need to reject all bids upon the advice of the Borough Attorney. He further discussed the reasons why each of the bids are being rejected. A resolution will be placed on the May 15, 2014 Regular Meeting agenda rejecting all bids and authorizing the Borough to advertise a re-bid for curbside recycling.

3 – Memorandum from Officer Barone regarding a request for a handicap parking space – Mr. Kazmark discussed the recommendation by Officer Barone and the Elmwood Park Police Department to deny the request for a handicap parking space. Mr. Kazmark will send a letter to the requester explaining the denial.

4 – REQUESTS FROM THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:

- a. **Request to hang 5K Run/Walk Banner across Market Street** – Accepted without discussion. Mr. Kazmark will email Mr. Wareka to notify him of the approval.
- b. **Planting of Holiday Tree** – Mr. Kazmark discussed the new proposed location for the holiday tree. Discussion ensued to the size of the tree to be planted. Councilman Dombrowski stated he is in agreement with the Chamber of Commerce's desire to plant a holiday tree, however he is not in agreement with the location. He further stated he feels it will be a hindrance to the children where the children play catch and run around during baseball games. Councilman Dombrowski would like the Chamber of Commerce to reconsider the location. He will reach out to Mr. Wareka to discuss the holiday tree and the concern regarding the location.

5 – REQUEST FOR BONDING:

- a. **Supplemental Bonding – Improvements to Fleischer's Brook and Underground Storage Tanks** – Mr. Kazmark discussed the reason the supplemental bond is necessary for \$115,000. The Governing Body authorized Mr. Kazmark to move forward on the bonding process for the Improvements to Fleischer's Brook and the Underground Storage tanks. The bond ordinance will be introduced at the May 15, 2014 Regular Meeting and adopted at the June 5, 2014 Regular Meeting.
- b. **Improvements to Sanitary Pump Station No. 6** – As discussed in the Engineer's report, the bond ordinance will be introduced at the May 15, 2014 Regular Meeting and adopted at the June 5, 2014 Regular Meeting.

10 – Request from the Communication Operators for Uniform Allowances – Mr. Kazmark asked for this item to be discussed in Executive Session. The Mayor and Council agreed without discussion.

6 – ORDINANCES:

- a. **Recreation and Parks Department Ordinance** – Mr. Kazmark's discussion regarding the Recreation and Parks Department Ordinance was held over to this work session. Councilman Dombrowski discussed the powers of the Recreation Commissioners under the State statute and his concerns with the extent of those responsibilities. Discussion ensued as to the Recreation Commission hiring employees and the starting salary. Discussion ensued as to the process of drafting the ordinance. Councilman Vuoncino stated that items which exist in the statute are not addressed in the draft ordinance and the gap which exists between the two. Discussion ensued as to pace of the process and the lack of attendance of many Recreation Commissioners at the meeting while discussing the draft ordinance. Discussion ensued regarding the difference between the State statute and the draft ordinance. Councilman Colletti stated he is concerned that in the future decisions regarding Parks and Recreation may become politically motivated. Mayor Mola discussed the Recreation Commissioners and the Recreation Director should have input regarding the ordinance. Councilman Dombrowski stated the members of the Recreation Commission were invited to attend the meeting to offer their input. Councilman Caramagna stated the Mayor and Council are responsible for taxpayer funds and feel that the Council should have the decision making power regarding the Recreation Department. Councilman Pettigano discussed the processes he took regarding the investigation of the differences between a Commission and an Advisory Board with other municipalities in the State. Discussion ensued regarding conflicts of interest regarding Commissioners that are affiliated with sport organizations. A voice vote was taken with Councilman Caramagna, Dombrowski and Pettigano voting yes for the introduction of the ordinance at the May 15, 2014 Regular Meeting. Councilman Colletti and Vuoncino voted no, Councilman Martino abstained. Motion carries.

7 – DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

- a. **Police Department – April 2014** – Accepted without discussion.
- b. **Department of Public Works Report – April 2014** – Accepted without discussion.
- c. **Recreation Department – April 2014** – Accepted without discussion.
- d. **Board of Recreation Minutes – March 24, 2014** – Accepted without discussion.

8 – COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Pettigano reported the status quo with the Recreation Department and the Department of Public Works are continuing to fill potholes in the Borough.

Councilman Vuoncino is currently in the process to set up a meeting with the PBA to discuss the upcoming negotiations. Councilman Vuoncino asked Mr. Kazmark to circulate the current PBA Contract for review prior to the beginning of the negotiations. Councilman Vuoncino stated he will meet with the Ambulance Corps to discuss the formation of a committee that will review the accident with the ladder truck and to review their guidelines. Councilman Colletti stated the Ambulance Corps. was asked to be a part of the committee. Councilman Vuoncino stated he was unaware of the Ambulance Corps. being involved in the committee. To avoid a quorum, Councilman Martino stated he would not attend the meetings so that Councilman Vuoncino, the Ambulance Liaison could attend the meeting.

Councilman Dombrowski discussed the coyote situation in the Borough and commended the Police Department and the Health Department on their combined effort dealing with the situation.

Councilman Caramagna discussed the prior Planning Board meeting where Langan's application was heard to have a day care center located on the ground floor of Riverfront 2. He stated that it was said that the location is for retail zoning only and a daycare center is not permitted. Councilman Caramagna then inquired if the zoning is different at the location of the new Korean Church. Councilman Caramagna stated he continues to learn by being a part of the Planning Board.

Councilman Martino had no report.

Councilman Colletti stated a meeting will take place on May 15, 2014 regarding the accident with the ladder truck and what the committee will accomplish.

Mr. Randazzo discussed the application before the Planning Board for the improvements to the intersection of Market Street and Boulevard.

Mayor Mola stated the application for a grant for the Boulevard was approved for \$149,000. He discussed the sections of the Boulevard that will be resurfaced. Mayor Mola stated in the spring of 2016 Route 4 from Paterson to Fort Lee is going to be paved. He further discussed a parking problem at the marina in which vehicles are being parked on the grass and beyond the signs that state no parking beyond this point.

9 – **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- a. **Personnel – Tax Department**
- b. **Personnel – Court Department**
- c. **Personnel – Police Department**
- d. **Personnel – Health Department**
- e. **Personnel – Building Department**

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 – Tax Department
Personnel – Court Department
Personnel – Police Department
Personnel – Health Department
Personnel – Building Department

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 Dombrowski and seconded by Councilman Pettigano to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel – Tax Department
Personnel – Court Department
Personnel – Police Department
Personnel – Health Department
Personnel – Building Department

A motion was made by Councilman Martino and seconded by Councilman Pettigano to return to the public session. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Martino and seconded by Councilman Pettigano to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Keith Kazmark, RMC/CMC/MMC
Borough Clerk

Minutes approved at the July 17, 2014 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council.