

**BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK**  
**WORK MEETING**  
**October 8, 2015**  
**8:00 p.m.**

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council for October 8, 2015 was called to order by Assistant Municipal Clerk Marlene DiStefano at 8:00 p.m. The 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, 2015.

Council Members Caramagna, Colletti, Martino, Vuoncino and Dombrowski were present. Councilman Pettigano was absent. Also present were Mayor Mola, Borough Clerk Keith Kazmark (arrived at 9:30 pm), Borough Attorney Randazzo and Borough Engineer Nordan Murphy.

**Public Hearing:**

Carrie Paretti, Hamilton Ave., spoke regarding the Recreation After School Program. Ms. Paretti is concerned the children are being held at Gantner Avenue School too long after they are dismissed from class while waiting for the bus. Ms. Paretti was advised that Municipal Clerk, Keith Kazmark will address with Ms. Puglisi, Recreation Director, the issue to see what can be done to resolve it.

Daniel Golabeck, Godwin Ave., spoke in regard to a newsletter he received regarding the 13% increase in school taxes. He claimed an incorrect number was published and he would like it corrected. He stated it places the Board of Education in an undue bind and it is unfair to the Board.

Tom Conboy, Tuella Ave., addressed the Council regarding the recreation scoreboard for soccer. Mr. Conboy wanted to know why it is still not up. Mr. Conboy asked if there are plans ready for review for the proposed hockey rink. The Borough Engineer, Nordan Murphy, replied, that there is nothing at this time. Lastly, Mr. Conboy questioned an OPRA Request which he said was submitted to the Clerk's office last week regarding the Building Department. He was advised by the Council Members to ask Mr. Kazmark when he arrives to the meeting. Upon Mr. Kazmark's 9:30 pm arrival, Mr. Conboy addressed the OPRA Request question and Mr. Kazmark advised him that there was an OPRA request pending and it may take time to respond to due to the fact that the information requested is almost a decade old.

**Work Meeting Agenda Items:**

**1 – ENGINEERING REPORT:**

- a. **Monthly Status Report** – Mr. Murphy discussed the 2015 Community Development Block Grant and that the Borough recently received the agreement from the County for the grant in the amount of \$184,235 to improve portions of Summit Avenue, North Street, Franklin Street and Gall Avenue. Alaimo Engineering will issue a proposal for design and construction management of the project. Mr. Murphy spoke regarding the 2016 CDBG Application and how they are in the process of preparing the application for improvements to Lee Street and Orchard Street, from River Drive to Speidel Avenue. The application is due on Friday, October 9, 2015. County Open Space Grant Application was submitted to the County on August 31, 2015. Alaimo Engineering submitted a copy of the authorizing resolution to the County on September 21, 2015, completing the application submittal process. The County needs additional documentation from the Council in order to complete the process. The Council requested the balance in the Trust Fund. Borough Clerk Kazmark will speak to Ms. Puglisi regarding the balance. Alaimo is in the process of completing the 2016 NJDOT Municipal Aid Grant Application for Boulevard Improvements - Section 10 – Phase 2. Mr. Murphy stated PSE&G will utilize Tilcon to complete the milling and paving of streets where PSE&G installed new gas mains and services. They intend on starting the milling on or about October 14, 2015, once the streets north of Broadway are milled, they will start milling the work zone identified as CF-15. PSE&G intends on completing final pavement restorations to work zone CF-16 in the spring of 2016. The Council would like to see a three year contract commitment to ensure the roads settle properly. The NJDOT will paint the requested supplemental striping after the completion of striping for another project on Route 46. As of now the work has not yet been completed and Alaimo Engineering has not yet received an updated schedule from the NJDOT. The final Inspection report for the water tank was issued to the Borough. They are in the process of reviewing the report and will issue a letter with recommendations on how the Borough should proceed. The notice to proceed for the force main element of the project was issued on July 22, 2015



and a contract completion date of November 20, 2015 has been established. The contractors have found a utility box 18 inches deep and they are not sure what it is or who it belongs to. Mr. Murphy will advise the Council. The design phase for the pump station improvements is almost complete. Soil borings have been completed and they are waiting for the final report to verify subsurface soil conditions and possible dewatering requirements for the modification of the wet well.

Alaimo is in the process of submitting the permit application to the NJDEP for the pump station improvements. Alaimo received the endorsed documents from the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission (PVSC) and are now prepared to submit the application to the DEP. The Borough must submit an application fee of \$8,052.00 with the application when submitted to the State. AJM has completed all the items on the punch list for the 2014 Road Program and are coordinating with Alaimo in regarding the paving of some road related to the PSE&G Energy Strong project. The improvements to Iozia Terrace, Franklin Street and Court Street are almost completed. The items remaining are the punch list, stripping and construction of ADA curb ramps. The notice to proceed for the English Avenue Park improvement project was issued on August 21, 2015 with a completion date of December 19, 2015 has been established. The contractor started site clearing operations, but is not following the initial project schedule he submitted. Alaimo contacted the contractor via email to request an updated construction schedule and are waiting for his response. The notice to proceed for the 2015 Road Program was issued on September 21, 2015 and a completion date of November 20, 2015 has been established. The Boulevard Improvements – Section 8, 9 & 10 Project has been advertised and bids will be received on Tuesday, October 6, 2015.

- b. **Bid Tabulation – Boulevard Section 8, 9 and 10** – Two bids were receive for Boulevard Section 8, 9 & 10. The two bids were from AJM Contractors and Smith-Sondy Construction. Mr. Murphy suggested we go with AJM, they were the lower bidder. The Council raised concern due to the fact that AJM has not yet completed a project they were previously contracted for. A resolution will be placed on the October 15, 2015 Regular Meeting agenda.
- c. **Memo from Boswell Engineering regarding Fleischer’s Brook Interlocal Agreement** – After some discussion, the Council decided to place a resolution on the October 15, 2015 Regular Meeting agenda awarding the services to Boswell Engineering,
- d. **Revised proposal from Boswell Engineering for Remediation Fees and Costs** – Borough Clerk Kazmark advised nothing could be done to reduce the fees. A resolution will be placed on the October 15, 2015 Regular Meeting agenda.

2 – **2015 Best Practices Check List** – CFO Roy Riggitano discussed the 2015 Best Practices Check List and explained his response to each of the items on the check list in detail.

3 – **PSE&G Audit Access Proposal** – Borough Clerk Kazmark explained the proposal and advised the Council to move forward with the audit as it is no cost to the municipality. Council President Dombrowski abstained from any vote regarding this proposal.

4 – **Green Communities Program – Recycling/Solid Waste Containers** – Aaron Klein gave a presentation explaining the waste container program. Discussion ensued regarding advertising and who will benefit from the revenue of the containers. No decision was made regarding this matter.

5 – **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- a. **Library Board Minutes – July 20, 2015** – Council President Dombrowski questioned Borough Attorney Randazzo about issues of ownership of the Library which he had with the Library Attorney. Discussion ensued regarding Library Property and ownership of responsibility.
- b. **Recreation Advisory Board Minutes – June 22, 2015 and July 27, 2015** – Accepted without discussion.
- c. **Municipal Court – September 2015** – Accepted without discussion.

6 – **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilman Vuoncino discussed his concerns with the Library project.

Councilman Dombrowski reported progress

Councilman Caramagna spoke to Elmwood Park Memorial High School Principal, Mr. Warner, about bulletproof windows on the first floor classrooms, he commented on the updated bathrooms and mentioned all was good. He visited with the Bergen County Italian American Heritage Association and it was all very nice.

Councilman Martino reported progress.

Councilman Colletti reported progress.

Mayor Mola discussed flooding concerns.

**8 – EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- a. **Litigation – John Buonanno vs. Borough of Elmwood Park**
- b. **Personnel – Finance 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:

**Litigation – John Buonanno vs. Borough of Elmwood Park**  
**Personnel – Finance 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 Martino and seconded by Councilman Vuoncino to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried by the members present.

**Litigation – John Buonanno vs. Borough of Elmwood Park**  
**Personnel – Finance Department**

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

A motion was made by Councilman Martino and seconded by Councilman Caramagna to adjourn. Motion carried by the members present.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Keith/Kazmark, RMC/CMC/MMC  
Borough Clerk

*Minutes approved at the November 5, 2015 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council.*