

**BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK
WORK MEETING**

April 23, 2015

8:00 p.m.

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council for April 23, 2015 was called to order by Municipal Clerk Keith Kazmark 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 Colletti, Dombrowski, Pettigano, Vuoncino and Caramagna were present. Councilman Martino arrived at 8:14 p.m. Also present were Mayor Mola, Borough Clerk Keith Kazmark, Borough Attorney Giuseppe Randazzo and Borough Engineer Nordan Murphy.

Public Hearing:

No one wished to be heard.

Work Meeting Agenda Items:

1 – Discussion with Michael Kauker regarding Neighborhood Commercial Zone Ordinance – Mr. Kauker discussed the ordinance and the revisions made which were requested by the Mayor and Council. Discussion ensued confirming the parking and the buffer area that would be allowed with the new ordinance. Councilman Colletti inquired about requirements within the ordinance pertaining to the green buffer zones. Discussion then ensued to the allowable uses for the properties. Inquiries consisted of House of Worship and one or two bedroom apartments. Discussion then ensued as to tax retables' for properties that take advantage of the ordinance. Mayor Mola inquired if the buffer zone can be used for parking. Mr. Kauker stated the request would need to go the Zoning Board to get a variance. Mr. Kauker will forward to Borough Clerk Kazmark the final changes so that the Council can review the draft ordinance. The ordinance will be introduced at the May 7, 2015 Regular Meeting.

2 – ENGINEERING REPORT:

a. Preliminary Construction Cost Estimates – 2015 Road Program – Mr. Murphy discussed the streets which have been removed from the list and further discussed the preliminary cost estimates. He discussed the concerns he and Mr. Karcz have regarding placing curbs along the north side of Gilbert Avenue. The possibility of ponding could happen if curbs are installed and could cause icing in the winter time. Borough Clerk Kazmark was directed to have CFO Roy Riggitano to start the bonding process with Bond Council for introduction at the May 7, 2015 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council. Mr. Murphy will present to the Council at the May 14, 2015 Work Session a proposal for the 2015 Road Program.

b. Tabulation of Bids – Improvements to Iozia Terrace, Franklin Street & Court Street – Mr. Murphy discussed the bid tabulations. He is recommending, upon approval from Bergen County Community Development to award the bid to at the May 7, 2015 Regular Meeting to Crossroads Pavement Management, LLC.

3 – Request from the Elmwood Park Fire Department for a new vehicle – Borough Clerk Kazmark stated the vehicle would be paid for by funds from the Fire Prevention Trust Fund. Council President Dombrowski inquired if a Ford Explorer could be purchased instead of a Ford Expedition. Discussion ensued. A resolution will be placed on the May 7, 2015 Regular Meeting agenda to purchase the Ford Expedition.

4 – Request from the Elmwood Park Police Department for a new vehicle – Borough Clerk Kazmark stated the vehicle was budgeted for in the recent adopted municipal budget. A resolution will be placed on the May 7, 2015 Regular Meeting agenda.

5 – RESOLUTIONS:

a. Request for Handicap Parking Space – 116B Iozia Terrace – Accepted without discussion. A resolution will be placed on the May 7, 2015 Regular Meeting agenda.

b. Request for Refund – Soccer Program – Recreation Department – Accepted without discussion. A resolution will be placed on the May 7, 2015 Regular Meeting agenda.

c. Request from Police Department to Change Status of Crossing Guard from substitute to full time – Accepted without discussion. A resolution will be placed on the May 7, 2015 Regular Meeting agenda.

- d. **Request by Fire Company #2 to conduct door to door fundraiser** – Accepted without discussion. A resolution will be placed on the May 7, 2015 Regular Meeting agenda.
- e. **Resolution Opposing the Municipal “User-Friendly” Budget** – Borough Clerk Kazmark explained to the Council the process and stated he does not find it cumbersome. The Council decided not to oppose by resolution the “User-Friendly” Budget.
- f. **Release Road Opening Bond – 93 Rudolph Avenue** – Accepted without discussion. A resolution will be placed on the May 7, 2015 Regular Meeting agenda.

6 – **Discussion with Elmwood Park PBA regarding Outside Service Fees** – Discussion held over until the May 14, 2015 Work Session.

7 – **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- a. **Municipal Court Comparison Report to Surrounding Municipalities** – Accepted without discussion.
- b. **Municipal Court Report – March 2015** – Accepted without discussion.
- c. **Financial Report – March 2015** – Accepted without discussion.
- d. **Library Minutes – March 16, 2015** – Council President Dombrowski questioned as to why there was no mention of a workmen compensation incident in the minutes. Mayor Mola stated it was discussed in an executive session. Council President Dombrowski stated the Council should be made aware of any incident that will cost the Borough money. He then discussed the hole in the roof that has yet to be fixed. Discussion then ensued as to the responsible party for repairs and which entity should fund them. Councilman Vuoncino discussed his concerns with the Library Board and the amount of time it takes for items to get addressed and his disappointment with the lack of information in the Library Board minutes. Discussion ensued as to the damaged soffit and what should be done to stop the animals from entering the building.

8 – **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilman Pettigano discussed the estimates for the welcome signs. He will have more information for the Council at the next meeting. He stated the Recreation Advisory Board is looking into placing soccer fields at Mosquito Jungle and Cherry Hill Park for the expanding soccer program.

Councilman Vuoncino stated the energy auction for NJSEM took place however a contract has not been forwarded as of yet. He further discussed the history of Elmwood Park participating in NJSEM.

Councilman Dombrowski discussed the County coming into Elmwood Park to participate in the town clean up event. He further discussed the success of the bowling event that was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

Councilman Caramagna stated he also attended the town clean up event and the upcoming Board of Education Meeting. He discussed a meeting with Acting Superintendent Grieco regarding the Recreation Department taking back the after school program.

Councilman Martino reported progress.

Councilman Colletti reported progress.

Mayor Mola discussed a Stigma Free program sponsored by Bergen County. He stated the State will be paving River Drive under the Route 80 overpass. He also stated the Borough received \$200,000 in Community Development grant funding. He inquired if the Council wanted the County to come in and discuss angle parking for Market Street. The Council welcomed the idea. Mayor Mola stated the traffic light by the Broadway Train Station will be operational by the end of the month. He also stated that residents that need to dispose of unused or expired medications can do so at the Fair Lawn Police Department.

Mayor Mola opened a second Public Hearing.

2nd Public Hearing:

Mike DiRienzo, Miller Avenue, discussed the Veterans Alliance not being aware of the transport of the tank to Valtek or the refurbishing plans. He further discussed the damage to the tracks will now increase the cost of the refurbishment. Mr. DiRienzo stated a committee was formed with the Veterans Alliance to do the refurbishing. Discussion ensued as to the meeting in which members of the Veterans Alliance attended where the Council voted to keep the tank in Elmwood Park and to move forward with the refurbishing. Mr. DiRienzo inquired as to the qualifications of Valtek with military items. Borough Clerk Kazmark will reach out to Valtek to get confirmation of what has been stated. Discussion ensued regarding the process and the color code for the paint. Discussion ensued as to the communication between the Veterans Alliance and the Borough Council in the past and moving forward.

9 – EXECUTIVE SESSION:

a. Litigation – Buonanno v. Elmwood Park

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 – Buonanno v. Elmwood Park

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.

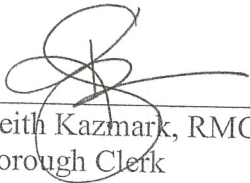
A motion was made by Councilman Vuoncino and seconded by Councilman Martino to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Litigation – Buonanno v. Elmwood Park

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

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

Respectfully submitted,



Keith Kazmark, RMC/CMC/MMC
Borough Clerk

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