

**BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK
WORK MEETING MINUTES**

March 26, 2015

8:00 p.m.

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council for January 8, 2015 was called to order by Municipal Clerk Keith Kazmark at 8:03 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, Martino, Pettigano, Vuoncino and Caramagna were present. Also present were Mayor Mola, Borough Clerk Keith Kazmark, Borough Attorney Giuseppe Randazzo, and Borough Engineer Nordan Murphy.

Public Hearing:

Anthony George, Rena Court, made a request to have the potholes repaired on the street. Mr. George also mentioned the high flow of traffic in that area and the accidents that have occurred in the intersection of Rena Ct. and Midland Ave.

Work Meeting Agenda Items:

Municipal Clerk Keith Kazmark made the Council aware of the Financial Discloser Forms that need to be filled out online. Clerk Kazmark also mentioned that the Municipal Building will be open until 9:00 p.m., on April 8, 2015 for Poll Worker Training. If anyone would like to complete their Financial Disclosure Statement, the Clerk's office will be open to offer assistance.

1 – ENGINEERING REPORT:

- a. **Engineering Report** – Nordan Murphy spoke regarding the Community Development Block Grant in reference to Franklin Court & Iozia Terrace. He stated that because one of the original streets that was to be included in this grant is part of the Energy Strong Project, the grant will be revised to include another street in need that will qualify under the CDBG. Mr. Murphy met with Pettigano at the Marina to discuss the application for the trail in the Marina and boat launch area. He stated he wanted to keep the project where the majority of the funds would go towards the improvements and keep the engineering costs at a minimum. Concerns regarding the flooding issues at the Marina ensued. Discussion of the type of pathways and the swings were discussed. The maximum amount available through the grant is \$24,000. An inquiry was made regarding the placement of a dog run located down by the marina, Mr. Murphy will research as to whether a dog run will be permissible under the grant.
- b. **2015 Road Program** – Mr. Murphy discussed the meeting held with Mr. Karcz regarding the 2015 Road Program. He discussed the streets the Council should consider and discussed the rough numbers in the proposal. He further discussed the fine tuning of the projected costs for roadways listed. Mr. Murphy discussed the top five streets on the list which are desperately in need of repair. Discussion ensued to the roadways on the list. Mayor Mola discussed roads that should be considered that are not on the list. Discussion ensued as to the roadways that are included in the Energy Strong Project. Mr. Murphy stated that PSE&G will be paving half of the roadway of all roads that fall under the Energy Strong project. Mayor Mola stated that the Borough should pave the other half of the roadway soon after PSE&G do their paving. Discussion ensued as to the amount of funds that should be bonded for the program. It was agreed by the Council to bond \$500,000 for the 2015 Road Program. Mr. Murphy will present an estimate to the Council at the next work session for the Council's consideration.

2 – Proposal for Underground Remediation of Borough Hall/DPW from Boswell Engineering - Mr. Murphy discussed a proposal for Underground Remediation. He stated that due to the transition between engineering firms, he feels that any savings regarding a proposal from Alaimo may be lost when having to absorb some of the costs due to the transition. Mr. Kazmark stated the remediation is a mandatory project and based on Alaimo's decision not to submit a proposal, he inquired if the Council is willing to award the proposal to Boswell Engineering. Council President Dombrowski inquired whether Boswell Engineering was going to review their proposal and reduce the proposed amount. Mr. Kazmark discussed the inability to reduce the costs due to the subcontracting fees that would be paid out for the project. Council President Dombrowski stated he is disappointed that Boswell Engineering is not revising their proposal. A resolution will be place on the April 2, 2015 Regular Meeting agenda with a not to exceed \$63,750.00.

3 – Discussion with Michael Kauker regarding Route 4/Market Street Re-zoning – Borough Planner Michael Kauker discussed the recent Town Hall Meeting regarding the Route 4/Market Street Re-zoning. He stated the residents of 13th Avenue made a very good argument against the re-zoning in their area and he recommends pulling 13th Avenue from the plans. Mr. Kauker discussed the overlay zone with the Council while referencing the map. Discussion ensued as to the areas with a 50 ft set back and those with a 100ft set back. Mr. Kauker and the Council agreed to the re-zoning on Market Street and Route 4. Mr. Kauker will forward a draft ordinance and a large map for the Council's review.

4 – Letter from Rosedale Avenue Residents regarding the Re-Zoning of Route 4 – The Council decided to move forward as discussed with item #3.

5 – Request to release Engineering Escrow for 307 East 54th Street – Accepted without discussion. A resolution will be placed on the April 2, 2015 Regular Meeting agenda to release said escrow.

6 – Letter from Carrie Paretto regarding Recreation Department Fees – Mr. Kazmark stated a prior Council allowed a discount to Fire Department and Ambulance Corps. families who enrolled their children into the summer camp. Council President Dombrowski inquired as to the discount that is given to the aforementioned entities. Discussion ensued as to how much the revenue would decrease if the Council decides to grant a discount for the summer camp. Further discussion was held over to the next work session allowing Mr. Kazmark time to get information from Ms. Puglisi before the Council considers whether or not to grant a discount to Borough employees.

7– Request from Defender Company #2 for Coin Toss Events – A resolution will be placed on the April 2, 2015 Regular Meeting agenda authorizing the Coin Toss Event.

8 – ORDINANCES:

- a. **Deck Constructions Regulations** – Discussion ensued regarding the suggestion of Mr. Bolan pertaining to deck constructions. Discussion then ensued as to when a variance was required in the past concerning decks. Further discussion was held over to the next work session allowing Mr. Kazmark time to get additional information from Mr. Bolan.
- b. **PVSC Sewer Connections** – Borough Attorney Randazzo discussed the rules and regulations from Passaic Valley Sewer Commission are derived from a 1944 agreement. Discussion ensued as to the fees charged by the Borough for sewer connection. Council President Dombrowski discussed his objection to a homeowner being charged a second fee if the sewer connection is already in place when a house is demolished and a new house is built. Mr. Kazmark discussed a revised ordinance pertaining to sewer connections that was adopted in 2006. Borough Attorney Randazzo suggested a meeting with representatives from Passaic Valley Sewer Commission. Further discussion was held over to the next work session allowing Mr. Kazmark time to speak to Borough CFO Riggiano regarding past connection which have been collected.
- c. **Snow Parking** – Borough Clerk Kazmark stated the discussion on the snow parking ordinance was tabled from the last meeting. Council President Dombrowski stated he remembers the ordinance being authorized by the Council. Borough Clerk Kazmark stated he will check as to whether the ordinance was tabled. Discussion ensued to the penalty amount within the ordinance. Mayor Mola stated the amount of the fine was the reason the ordinance was tabled. Councilman Caramagna stated he motioned to have the ordinance tabled. Mayor Mola stated the fine should be increased in increments for repeat offenders. Borough Clerk Kazmark stated Deputy Clerk Disposto confirmed the ordinance was table due to the \$200 penalty. After some discussion the penalty will be \$75 if there is not court appearance and \$100 plus court costs if the summons goes to court. The ordinance will be placed on the April 2, 2015 Regular Meeting agenda for introduction.
- d. **Fire Hydrants** – Councilman Colletti discussed his reasons for tabling the ordinance was the amount of the penalty. He stated he would like a warning for first offenders. Council President Dombrowski stated that just as the snow parking ordinance, there is no way to keep track of the number of times a resident fails to dig out an adjacent fire hydrant. He further stated that while he has sympathy for the older residents in town, he also feels that a homeowner that has a fire hydrant adjacent to their home not only has a responsibility to their family but also the surrounding families. The Council agreed to a mandatory court appearance with a fine not to exceed \$500. The ordinance will be placed on the April 2, 2015 Regular Meeting agenda for introduction.

9 – DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

- a. **Library Minutes – February 23, 2015** – Accepted without discussion.
- b. **Finance Department Report – February 2015** – Accepted without discussion.

10 – COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Pettigano discussed the progress of the Elmwood Park welcome signs. He further discussed the signs being purchased by businesses and the possible rotation of rental space on the signs in the future. Councilman Vuoncino expressed his concern regarding a business purchasing the original sign and them being replaced at a later time by a business paying a lesser fee for advertisement space on the same sign. Councilman Colletti inquired about the material the sign is made from and the durability. Councilman Pettigano discussed the use of gold leaf on the signs for the Borough's name.

Councilman Vuoncino discussed the upcoming NJSEM bid date. He stated the Ambulance Corps. Beefsteak even is this upcoming weekend.

Councilman Dombrowski discussed the upcoming Bowling Event sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

Councilman Caramagna discussed his meeting with the Chief of Police and the Acting Superintendent regarding the community service requirements for High School students for graduation.

Councilman Martino reported progress.

Councilman Colletti reported progress.

Mayor Mola stated the alternate to the Zoning Board is no longer interested in being on the Zoning Board. He requested re-appointing Angelo Pannetta to the Zoning Board.

11 – EXECUTIVE SESSION:

a. Litigation – Buonanno vs. Borough of 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 – John Buonanno vs. Borough of 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.

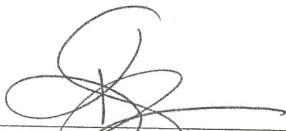
A motion was made by Councilman Martino and seconded by Councilman Pettigano to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried by the members present

Litigation – John Buonanno vs. Borough of Elmwood Park

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

A motion was made by Councilman Caramagna and seconded by Councilman Vuoncino 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.