

**BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK**  
**WORK MEETING**  
**March 10, 2016**  
**7:00 p.m.**

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council for March 10, 2016 was called to order by Municipal Clerk Keith Kazmark at 7:02 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 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 March 8, 2016.

Council Members Colletti, Chirido, Dombrowski, Giandomenico, Martino, and Vuoncino were present. Also present were Mayor Mola, Borough Clerk Keith Kazmark, Borough Attorney Brian Giblin and Borough Engineer Nordan Murphy.

**Public Hearing:** No one wished to be heard.

**Work Meeting Agenda Items:**

**1 – 2016 Municipal Budget – Paul Lerch, RMA** – Borough Auditor Paul Lerch discussed the 2016 Municipal Budget which will include an increase of \$49.00 to the average homeowner. He further discussed that a 2017 forecast was not completed and can be done in the future at the Council's request. Mr. Lerch discussed the major items that increased in 2016 such as health insurance and solid waste tipping fees among other items. Discussion ensued about a second year of a zero tax increase and the effect it might have in the future. Councilman Dombrowski inquired about the surplus. CFO Roy Riggitano explained the reasons for maintaining the surplus. Mr. Lerch stated the Borough is in good financial state. Mr. Riggitano discussed the larger revenue items that have already been seen and what is projected in the future. Discussion ensued as to the average assessed value of a home in Elmwood Park. CFO Riggitano explained the change in allotted amount for Passaic Valley Sewer Commission. Mr. Lerch discussed the funds in the Water Capital Improvement account. Borough Clerk Kazmark discussed his request of the CFO to review the bond ordinances to get an accounting of unexpended funds. Borough Clerk Kazmark discussed the introduction of the budget at the March 17, 2016 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council with the adoption of the budget slated for April 21, 2016.

**2 – ENGINEERING REPORT:**

- a. **Hockey Rink** – Recreation Director Donna Puglisi discussed the original concept for the hockey rink to be placed at Borough Field and removing of the basketball court. She further discussed that basketball would still be located at the other parks through the borough. She then discussed the following plan to keep the basketball court and place the hockey rink perpendicular to the basketball court. Ms. Puglisi then discussed the latest proposal of a multipurpose area. She then stated that she still currently feels strongly about replacing the current basketball court with only a hockey rink. She discussed problems in the past with the basketball courts located at Borough Field. Ms. Puglisi reiterated her wish to construct only the hockey rink. Borough Clerk Kazmark inquired as to the wishes of the Recreation Advisory Board. Ms. Puglisi stated the Board members had different opinions. Mayor Mola inquired as to the vote with the Board. Ms. Puglisi was unsure of the vote of the Board. Discussion ensued as to the scheduling of the sports if a multipurpose facility was constructed. Discussion then ensued as to the multipurpose facility and the dismantling of the hockey rink and the storage of the bumpers so that the basketball court can be utilized. Ms. Puglisi reiterated her desire to move forward with strictly a hockey rink at Borough Field. Councilman Colletti stated one sport should not be cancelled out for another. He further stated that a plan to accommodate all sports should be sought. Ms. Puglisi was asked to poll the Recreation Advisory Board of their recommendation for the location.
- b. **Monthly Status Report** – Mr. Murphy discussed the need to meet with PSE&G regarding corrective paving regarding the Energy Strong program. Discussion ensued as to the quality of paving on the roads which PSE&G worked on. Further discussion

ensued as to the paving of one side of the street and the other side of the street possibly being paved using grant money. Councilman Dombrowski inquired if the Borough has the ability to issue a stop work notice to PSE&G until all items on the corrective list are satisfied. Borough Clerk Kazmark stated that PSE&G will try and work with the municipality regarding the paving on streets they have worked on. Mr. Murphy will review the streets which need paving and report back to the Council at the next work meeting his recommendation on how to move forward with PSE&G. Mr. Murphy stated that Ms. Hurt from Department of Transportation stated the striping at the intersection of Boulevard and Route 46 has been prioritized. Mr. Murphy stated the new force main is operational. He further stated the Pump Station #6 project is out for bid. An amendment has been completed for the bid and the bids will not be accepted until March 24, 2016. Mr. Murphy discussed AJM and the completion of the work on Washington Avenue. He further discussed the punch list items with Smith-Sondy regarding the 2015 Road Program. Discussion ensued as to the upcoming parades regarding paving projects. Mr. Murphy stated once the NJDOT awards the grant for Market Street Streetscape, Alaimo is ready to move forward.

- c. **English Avenue Change Order & Partial Payment** – Mr. Murphy discussed the change order and the partial payment requested. A resolution will be placed on the March 17, 2016 Mayor and Council Meeting agenda. Mr. Murphy stated the parking signs by the entrance to the park were not moved at any time during the current improvements. Mayor Mola will reach out to the Department of Public Works regarding the parking signs by the parking lot.
- d. **Water Tank Rehabilitation** – Mr. Murphy reviewed the report with the Mayor and Council. He discussed the possible cost for remediation and also the possible cost for the replacement of the tank. The average cost to replace the tank is \$2.4 million and to rehabilitate the tank could be approximately \$140,000 more than the cost of replacement. Further discussion ensued as to the downtime of the water tank for the work. Mr. Murphy stated a new tank has a life span of 75 years. Borough Clerk Kazmark recommended that the Borough's Water Operation, DeBlock Environmental review the report.
- e. **Emergency Water Main Repair – Stone Avenue** – Mr. Murphy discussed the invoice received from Colonnelli Bros. for the water main repair. The invoice and work completed will be reviewed and the information will be forwarded to the Clerk's Office so that it may be added to the March 17, 2016 Regular Meeting agenda.

**3 – Letter of Retirement from Dawn Marshall – Municipal Court** – Borough Clerk Kazmark discussed the intent to retire by Dawn Marshall. Councilman Dombrowski inquired if the position was going to be filled. Mr. Kazmark stated the position has been advertised and resumes have started coming in.

**4 – Letter from Fire Inspector Angelo Castronovo regarding a leave of absence** – A resolution will be placed on the March 17, 2016 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council granting the leave of absence request.

**5 – Request for Handicap Parking Space and Police Department Recommendation** – Based upon the recommendation of the Police Department, a letter of denial will be sent to the requestor.

**6 – Letter from Borough Auditor regarding responsibilities pertaining to Annual Audit** – Accepted without discussion.

**7 – Letter from Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission regarding Municipal User Charges** – Borough Clerk Kazmark discussed the letter which states the Borough of Elmwood Park has been overcharged and a refund check is forthcoming.

**8 – ORDINANCES:**

- a. **Snow Parking Ordinance** – Discussion ensued as to the ordinance in which the motion failed at the second reading. The ordinance will be reintroduced with a penalty of \$150 as recommended by Police Chief Foligno. The parking ordinance will be coupled with the snow removal ordinance.
- b. **Snow Removal Ordinance** – Borough Clerk Kazmark discussed the multiple municipal codes which address snow removal. Discussion ensued as to the penalties for throwing snow into the roadway. Current code requires a mandatory court appearance and the

penalty is at the discretion of the judge. Further discussion regarding snow removal will be held at the March 24, 2016 Work Session.

- c. **Dog Licensing Ordinance** – Ordinance to increase the late fee will be introduced at the March 17, 2016 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council.

**9 – DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- a. **Municipal Court Report – February 2016** – Accepted without discussion.
- b. **Library Board Minutes – January 20, 2016 & January 25, 2016** – Accepted without discussion.
- c. **Finance Budget Status Report – February 2016** – Accepted without discussion.
- d. **Recreation Department Report – February 2016** – Accepted without discussion.

**10 – COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilman Chirido stated the Department of Public Works removed political signs on River Drive coming into the Borough from Garfield.

Councilwoman Giandomenico discussed the Project Graduation Clothing Drive.

Councilman Dombrowski stated he attended the latest Library Board meeting and he commended Jaime Silverman for how she ran the meeting. He further stated there was a lot of progress at the meeting.

Councilman Vuoncino stated the second ambulance will be completed in a few weeks. He discussed an upcoming VAC Beefsteak on May 7, 2016 at the VFW Hall.

Councilman Martino inquired about the Park –n- Ride, he stated multiple times in passing the lot, the lot was half empty.

Councilman Colletti discussed unlawful school enrollment in the Borough. He obtained a copy of the ordinance that is in effect in Woodland Park. Borough Clerk Keith Kazmark discussed the ordinance with the Mayor and Council. The ordinance will be introduced at the March 17, 2016 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council.

Mayor Mola discussed an upcoming meeting with the County regarding Artesian Fields County Park. The meeting is scheduled for March 29, 2016 at 10:00 am at the County offices. Discussion ensued as to which Council members also wanted to attend the meeting.

**11 – EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- a. **EP United Soccer vs. Borough of Elmwood Park**
- b. **Litigation – COAH**
- c. **Litigation – Various Tax Appeal Matters**

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:

**EP United Soccer vs. Borough of Elmwood Park**  
**Litigation – COAH**  
**Litigation – Various Tax Appeal Matters**

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 Chirido to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

**EP United Soccer vs. Borough of Elmwood Park**  
**Litigation – COAH**  
**Litigation – Various Tax Appeal Matters**

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

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

Respectfully submitted,



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Keith Kazmark, RMC/CMC/MMC  
Borough Clerk

*Minutes approved at the March 17, 2015 Mayor and Council Meeting.*