

BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK
WORK MEETING
March 1, 2018
6:30 p.m.

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council for March 1, 2018 was called to order by Municipal Clerk Keith Kazmark at 6:38 p.m. The Statement of compliance was read.

Council Members Balistrieri, Chirido, Dombrowski, Giandomenico, and Pellegrine were present. Council President Golabek was absent. Also present were Mayor Francesco A. Caramagna, Municipal Clerk Keith Kazmark and Borough Attorney Giuseppe Randazzo.

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. Revised Notice was posted on February 9, 2018.

Work Meeting Agenda Items:

EXECUTIVE SESSION #1:

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:

Elected Officials Training

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 Councilwoman Giandomenico to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried by the members present.

Elected Officials Training

A motion was made by Councilwoman Pellegrine and seconded by Councilwoman Giandomenico to return to the public portion. Motion carried by the members present.

PUBLIC HEARING:

A motion was made by Councilman Dombrowski and seconded by Councilman Chirido to open the floor for public comment. Motion carried by the members present.

Doris Wechtler, Philip Avenue, spoke about the stop signs on Elm Street and stated she would also like to see them on Speidel Street.

No one else wished to be heard. Mayor Caramagna closed the public portion.

1 – CORRESPONDENCE:

- a. **Letter from NJ DOT awarding 2018 Municipal Aid Program funding for Mola Boulevard** – Mayor Caramagna discussed the funding would resurface Mola Boulevard from Market Street to Route 46.
- b. **Letter of resignation from Thomas DeSiervo** – Borough Clerk Keith Kazmark discussed the advertisement of position.

- c. **Email from Chief Foligno regarding a convex mirror on Molnar Drive** – Discussion was held over until the March 8, 2018 Work Session when Borough Engineer Nordan Murphy will be present.

2 – RESOLUTIONS:

- a. **Request to hire replacement Crossing Guard** – A resolution will be placed on the March 15, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council.
- b. **Request to appoint Raymond Hayducka, Jr. for a Disciplinary Hearing** – A resolution will be placed on the March 15, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council.
- c. **Request to approve handicap parking space on 18th Avenue** – A resolution will be placed on the March 15, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council.
- d. **Quotes for audio/video equipment for the Council Chambers** – Discussion ensued as to the cost of a person to control the camera and the cost for conversion of the meetings for Cablevision, Fios and the website. Borough Clerk Kazmark will reach out to Gramco regarding the conversion costs.
- e. **Quote from Sharp Business Systems regarding Digital Directory Boards** – Discussion ensued as to whether the Council is interested in purchasing a Directory Board along with the Municipal Court Department. At this time the decision was made not to make a purchase.

3 – **Correspondence from Bernadette Peslak regarding 129 Willow Street** – This item was pulled so that discussion can be held during a future Executive Session.

4 – ORDINANCES:

- a. **Recreational Marijuana Usage** – Borough Attorney Giuseppe Randazzo stated a designated zone is advisable over a total ban which could open the Borough up to the ordinance being contested in the courts. The majority of the Council was in favor of designated zones. Borough Clerk Kazmark will reach out to Construction Official Bolan as to his recommendation.
- b. **Outside Employment of Off Duty Police Officers** – The ordinance will be introduced at the March 15, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council.
- c. **Administration/Disciplinary Hearings** – The ordinance will be introduced at the March 15, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council.
- d. **Towers & Towing Ordinance** – Discussion ensued as to a bid process for procuring Police towers. Borough Clerk Kazmark will present the Mayor and Council with the specifications and ordinance that Woodland Park utilizes for their Police towers.

5 – DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

- a. **Library Board Minutes – January 22, 2018** – Accepted without discussion.
- b. **Recreation Department Report – February 2018** – Accepted without discussion.
- c. **Millennium Strategies Report – January 2018** – Accepted without discussion.

6 – COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Balistrieri discussed the filling in of potholes, street sweeping and the demolition of the water tank. She discussed upcoming events with the Recreation Department and the construction of the band shelter. Discussion ensued as to staggering the hours for the open position within the Recreation Department. Borough Clerk Kazmark discussed his concerns with some of the items that were discussed. Councilwoman Pellegrine discussed bringing in the Department Head to participate in future discussions. Borough Clerk Kazmark suggested holding off further discussion until after resumes have been submitted.

Councilman Chirido discussed the recently held Homeowners Association meeting.

Councilman Dombrowski discussed Police Officer Hartman's actions that saved a young man and how he and other officers should be recognized by the Mayor and Council when they go above and beyond in their regular duties. Councilman Dombrowski discussed a previous Fire Chiefs meeting. He discussed concerns expressed at the meeting. He further discussed possibly purchasing a new fire truck in 2019 instead of waiting until 2020 due to the forecasted cost of repairs to the current vehicle.

Councilwoman Giandomenico discussed recusing herself from a recent Personnel Committee meeting.

Councilwoman Pellegrine discussed the previous Homeowners Association meeting. She further discussed a Police Committee meeting in which candidates for the Police Department were interviewed. Councilwoman Pellegrine discussed the incident in which a Police Officer prevented a teenager from committing suicide.

Council President Golabek was absent.

Mayor Caramagna reported on the Veteran's event to be held in Paramus on March 22, 2018. He also discussed attending County Executive James Tedesco's State of the County Address and further discussed gun control bill. The Mayor also proposed the concept of a Community Center in Elmwood Park, like the one Teaneck has.

7 – 2nd PUBLIC HEARING:

Jeff Freitag, Hillman Drive, discussed the Recreation Center and the repair and purchase costs regarding the fire truck.

Doris Wechtler, Philip Avenue, discussed driving a fire truck if it is in need of repairs.

Keith Work, Gilbert Avenue, discussed the Recreation office being open at night and touched on the online registration and how some residents struggle with it.

8 – EXECUTIVE SESSION:

a. Interview Police Officers – Police Department

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WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body wishes to discuss:

Interview Police Officers – Police 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 Councilwoman Pellegrine to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried by the members present.

Interview Police Officers – Police Department

A motion was made by Councilman Dombrowski and seconded by Councilwoman Pellegrine to return to the public portion. Motion carried by the members present.

A motion was made by Councilman Dombrowski and seconded by Councilwoman Pellegrine to adjourn. Motion carried by the members present.

Respectfully submitted,



Keith Kazmark, RMC/CMC/MMC
Borough Clerk

Minutes approved at the March 15, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council.

