

BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK
WORK MEETING
July 5, 2018
8:00 p.m.

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council for July 5, 2018 was called to order by Municipal Clerk Keith Kazmark at 8:00 p.m. The Statement of compliance was read.

Council Members Balistrieri, Dombrowski, Giandomenico, Pellegrine and Golabek were present. Councilman Chirido called in via phone at 8:06 p.m until arriving at Borough Hall. 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 June 11, 2018.

Work Meeting Agenda Items:

PUBLIC HEARING:

No one wished to be heard.

1 – Discussion with Phil Abramson from Topology – Mr. Kazmark welcomed Mr. Phil Abramson and Ms. Norah Hatch from Millennium Strategies. Mr. Abramson discussed the opportunities that are available in Elmwood Park. He further discussed how they could approach businesses on Market Street and advise them what is available to make improvements to their business. Council President Golabek inquired as to the 6 months to complete the report and when would the clock begin on the creation of the report. Mr. Abramson discussed possibly waiting until September because many take vacations during the month of August. Discussion ensued as to possibilities on Market Street to build up, however it is not currently being taken advantage of. Mr. Abramson stated some Planners stop at having the zoning in place and do not engage with the property owners where Topology shows property owners how different options can help them. Discussion ensued as of the Transportation Alternative Set-Aside Program is a grant opportunity can be pursued with the improvements to Broadway. Ms. Hatch discussed the improvements to a corridor such as Broadway is what the NJDOT looks for with TAP. The need to include the engineer in the planning for improvements to Broadway was discussed. Bringing into Elmwood Park the streetscape that Fair Lawn has completed on Broadway was also discussed. A resolution will be placed on the July 19, 2018 Regular Meeting agenda awarding the Topology proposal.

2 – Discussion with Norah Hatch from Millennium Strategies

- a. Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program** – A proposal for the Broadway corridor will be placed on the August 2, 2018 Work Session agenda.
- b. Safe Routes to School** – To apply for this grant school tallies from the Board of Education is needed. Ms. Hatch explained to the Mayor and Council what information is included in the tallies. She confirmed that this information is needed at the time of the application and cannot be submitted afterwards. Ms. Hatch suggested having the information collected for the next round of Safe Routes to School grant opportunities. Mr. Kazmark stated that once a new Superintendent is hired that this will be addressed with him/her to prepare for next year.
- c. Resident Assistance Program** – Councilwoman Pellegrine discussed her Resident Assistance Program and what will be included in the program. She stated that a 501C3 paperwork must be established for the program. Councilwoman Pellegrine is very optimistic with the program and distributed brochures to the Mayor and Council. She stated she is starting off small and will continue to build the program.

3 – Discussion with Library Board Trustees – Mr. Kazmark discussed the bids received for the Capital Project construction and the objection by the 2nd low bidder regarding the bid of the low bidder. He discussed the attendance of the Library Board members to discuss the bids coming in over budget. He further discussed conversations with the CFO regarding bonding \$425,000 for the project by the Borough. Ms. Policano addressed the bids being over budget due to the rising costs of construction. Councilman Dombrowski inquired as to the scope of the project at this time. Ms. Policano discussed what improvements will be completed. Discussion ensued as to the logistics of repayment by the Library Board for funds the Borough is bonding for to help with the project. Discussion then ensued as to the RFP's received for the Project Manager position. It was the decision of the Council to bond \$425,000 to allow the project to move forward with the agreement the Library Board will repay those funds back to the Borough. Councilwoman Giandomenico recused herself. Mr. Kazmark will speak with CFO Roy Riggitano to begin the bonding process.

4 – ENGINEERING REPORT:

- a. **Monthly Status Report** – Mr. Cristaldi reviewed the status report with the Mayor and Council.
- b. **Emergency Water Main Repair – Intersection of River Road & Market Street** – A resolution will be placed on the July 19, 2018 Regular Meeting agenda.

5 – CORRESPONDENCE:

- a. **2018 Capital Plan – Fire Department** – After some discussion it was decided to bond everything the Fire Department has requested with the exception of the truck and drone. Mr. Kazmark will speak with CFO Riggitano to set up the bonding to be introduced at the July 19, 2018 Regular Meeting.
- b. **Letter of resignation from Claudia Ross regarding her position on the Planning Board** – Mayor Caramagna discussed his desire to appoint Joseph Mulligan to fill the vacant seat.
- c. **Email from Donna Puglisi regarding basketball courts at Elmwood Drive Park** – Mayor and Council requested that Ms. Puglisi to obtain quotes for the basketball courts.
- d. **Memo from Police Department regarding speed survey on East 54th Street** – Accepted without discussion.
- e. **Email from Nicole Malfetti regarding overnight parking on 17th Avenue** – The request from the resident will be forwarded to the Police Department for their recommendation.
- f. **Borough Newsletter** – The Borough newsletter will be completed and distributed to the Mayor and Council for review prior to publication.
- g. **Discussion of Veterans Dedication signs** – Council President Golabek discussed moving forward with the road dedications such as Veterans Place has been dedicated to William Mulligan. He further discussed the funding of the signage. Mr. Kazmark discussed the number of names and the selection of the roadways. Laura Porcaro, Ramsay, discussed her graduating class being willing to donate to the costs and setting up a GoFund Me page. Rose Nonna, Falmouth Avenue, stated she feels that besides this project being backed by fellow classmates, she feels it will also be welcomed by others as well.

6 – RESOLUTIONS:

- a. **Request for Block Parties – Willow Street & Parkview Avenue** – A resolution will be placed on the July 19, 2018 Regular Meeting agenda.
- b. **Appointment replacement employee for summer camp** – A resolution will be placed on the July 19, 2018 Regular Meeting agenda.

7 – ORDINANCES:

- a. **Rent Control Discussion Follow Up** – Mr. Kazmark and Mayor Caramagna met with the owners of the apartment complexes and the deadline of September 1, 2018 for them to submit to the Clerk's Offices their capital improvements.

8 – DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

- a. **Recreation Advisory Board Minutes – April 23, 2018** – Accepted without discussion.
- b. **Library Board Minutes – May 21, 2018** – Accepted without discussion.
- c. **Finance Department – June 2018** – Accepted without discussion.

9 – COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Balistrieri discussed the bandshell dedication that was held tonight and commended Councilwoman Pellegrine on the Resident Assistance Program.

Councilman Chirido discussed the upcoming “Meet the Candidates” Night being sponsored by Homeowners Association.

Councilman Dombrowski discussed Battalion Chief Bruce saving the life of a 4 year old who was found unresponsive in a pool. He discussed Pompei D’Arco and Ronald Pressler who have served on the Fire Department for 50 years. He recommended that all three men are acknowledged at the July 19, 2018 Regular Meeting. Councilman Chirido inquired about the replacement of the Fire Official and expressed his thoughts on the process and how it should be decided prior to seeking a replacement as to whether it will be a full-time or part-time position. Councilman Chirido stated it being discussed in the firehouses as to whom is being appointed as the next Fire Official. Council President Golabek stated he wants to go into the process finding out what is needed for the department and move forward with the advertising and interviewing of applicants. Councilman Dombrowski stated how he believes names came about being discussed by firefighters. Councilman Chirido discussed the shared service agreement with Fair Lawn and Council President Golabek stated it may be the best option, but the Fire Committee needs to find what best works for the department.

Councilwoman Giandomenico reported the Ambulance Corps has their meeting next week, so she had nothing to report.

Councilwoman Pellegrine discussed the installation of 4-way stop signs and the upcoming events such as National Night Out and the Jr. Police Academy. She further discussed the appointment of new Police Officers who will be attending the Police Academy.

Council President Golabek discussed the choice of Acting Superintendent and an open forum where residents can express their thoughts to the Board of Education. He further discussed the approval of the State Budget and the increase of state aid for the district. Council President announced the August 1, 2018 meeting of the County in which the Open Space funding will be voted on.

Mayor Caramagna discussed a meeting being set up with himself, the Police Chief and Officials from Paterson to address the music from Eastside Park carrying over from Paterson.

10 – 2nd PUBLIC HEARING:

Dominic Scalziona, East 54th Street, discussed the south bound trucks on East 54th Street and the speed survey.

Doris Wechtler, Phillip Avenue, discussed the pipe at the spray ground and a pothole behind the Recreation Building.

Jeff Frietag, Hillman Drive, discussed the Library Bid.

11 – EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- a. **Personnel – Department of Public Works**
- b. **Personnel – Finance Department**
- c. **Litigation – Police Department**
- d. **Personnel – Building Department**
- e. **Personnel – Recreation 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:

Personnel – Department of Public Works
Personnel – Finance Department
Litigation – 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.

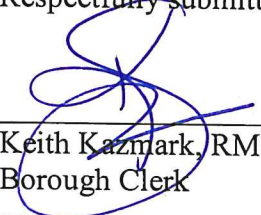
A motion was made by Councilman Chirido and seconded by Councilwoman Giandomenico to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel – Department of Public Works
Personnel – Finance Department
Litigation – 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 September 20, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Mayor & Council.