

BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK
WORK MEETING
January 10, 2018
7:00PM

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council for January 10, 2018 was called to order by Acting Municipal Clerk Erin Delaney at 7:04PM. The Statement of Compliance was read.

Councilmembers Balistrieri, Dombrowski, Ingui, Pellegrine, Wechtler, and Council President Golabek were present. Also present were Mayor Francesco A. Caramagna, Acting Municipal Clerk Erin Delaney, Borough Administrator Michael Foligno, and Borough Attorney Salvatore A. Ingrassia.

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 publishing a special meeting notice in The Record and Herald News 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 7, 2019.

Work Meeting Agenda Items:

PUBLIC HEARING:

James D'Amico, Willow Street, inquired as to the possibility of receiving a copy of the work session agenda's supporting documents prior to work session meetings.

Jeffrey Freitag, Hillman Drive, addressed the public notice that was published in The Record on January 10th in regards to the Open Public Meetings Act and requesting meeting agendas to be mailed in advance to the extent known.

Rosemary Nunno, Falmouth Avenue, inquired about the Fallen Heroes sign and the timeline/location of its placement.

1 – ENGINEERING REPORT:

- a. **Monthly Status Report** – Ms. Delaney introduced Miles Powell to the Mayor and Council. Mr. Powell reviewed the monthly status report.
- b. **Veterans Memorial Park Improvements** – Discussion took place in regards to making sure this project stays on track for a Memorial Day unveiling. A meeting will be scheduled with representatives from the VFW and American Legion for their design input.
- c. **Clock Installation Current Estimate #1 & Final** – A resolution will be placed on the January 17th, 2019 Regular Meeting agenda.
- d. **Recreation Building Wall Repairs Current Estimate #1 & Final** – A resolution will be placed on the January 17th, 2019 Regular Meeting agenda.

- e. **Mola Boulevard Section 10 Phase 2 Current Estimate #1 & Change Order #1** – Councilman Dombrowski raised concerns over the aesthetics of this project. He asked that this be held for further clarification on the cost and timeline of said project. All Councilmembers were in favor of doing so.
- f. **Orchard, Franklin, and Lee Current Estimate #1 & Change Order #1** – A resolution will be placed on the January 17th, 2019 Regular Meeting agenda.
- g. **Boswell Engineering, 463 Market Street** – A resolution will be placed on the January 17th, 2019 Regular Meeting agenda.

2 – Discussion with Frank Santora, Tax Collector

This agenda item was moved to Executive Session.

3 – CORRESPONDENCE

- a. **Letter from Donna Puglisi regarding certificates for EP Bobcats** – The Mayor and Council approved said request to disseminate certificates at the January 17th, 2019 Regular Meeting.
- b. **Letter from David Meyers regarding East 55th Park and Ride visual audit & 2-hour parking signage** – A discussion ensued as to the findings of Officer Meyers and the open spaces at the Park and Ride. Councilman Dombrowski suggested adding two additional, sporadic days to the visual audit. Upon completion of the two additional days, an average should be taken and number of permits should be given out based on said average. Additionally, Borough Administrator/Police Chief Foligno shared that the 2-hour parking signage in the area expanded beyond designated streets. Being that there is no ordinance to support it, the Mayor and Council needs to decide whether or not they would like the signage removed or if they would like to introduce a matching ordinance. Chief Foligno suggested removing the signs and polling the residents in which the Mayor and Council was in support of. Lastly, signage for alternate side street cleaning was discussed.
- c. **Letter from Jennifer Loaza regarding use of All-Purpose Room** – A resolution will be placed on the January 17th, 2019 Regular Meeting agenda.
- d. **Letter from Thomas Murphy regarding Bergen County's Division of Community Transportation Stakeholder's Meeting** – At this time the Mayor and Council saw no need to participate. However, participation down the road is to be determined.
- e. **Letter from Frank Covelli regarding 2018 Dividend** – Accepted without discussion.
- f. **Letter from James Gardella regarding JIF agreement** – A resolution will be placed on the January 17th, 2019 Regular Meeting agenda.
- g. **Letter from Chris Colabaugh regarding Potable Well Testing** – Accepted without discussion.
- h. **Letter from Barbara Dispoto regarding resignation** – Accepted without discussion.
- i. **Letter from Giuseppe Randazzo to 61 Fencsak update** – Accepted without discussion.
- j. **Letter from Tina Novellino regarding retaining wall** – Borough Attorney Ingraffia concluded that said letter was not sufficient and there is an issue of potential liability. It

was determined that the Borough Attorney would look into this matter and draft a hold harmless agreement for Ms. Novellino.

- k. **Letter regarding 1 Chestnut Street** – The Clerks Office was directed to forward said letter to the Building Department.
- l. **EP&G Letter** – The Mayor and Council instructed the Borough Administrator and Acting Municipal Clerk to move forward with meeting with EP&G to discuss potential rates and cost savings in comparison to our current suppliers.

4 – RESOLUTIONS

- a. **North Bergen Power Plant** – A resolution will be placed on the January 17th, 2019 Regular Meeting agenda.
- b. **Requests for vacation buybacks** – A resolution will be placed on the January 17th, 2019 Regular Meeting agenda.
- c. **Request for Fire Department vehicles** – Steve Kochik, Fire Official, made a brief presentation in regards to the purchasing of 2 new vehicles using Fire Prevention funds. A discussion took place whereas it was determined that Fire personnel must maintain upkeep and thorough records of said vehicles, such as mileage and oil changes. The Finance Department asked that the purchase be held until financial records are restored. The Mayor and Council agreed to place a Resolution on the January 17th, 2019 Regular Meeting agenda while holding payment until the Finance Department gives its approval. Additionally, Fire Chief Michael Sulick presented the purchase of a Quick Attack Mini Pumper for the Borough. A discussion ensued but was ultimately held over to a later date.
- d. **OEM coordinators** – A resolution will be placed on the January 17th, 2019 Regular Meeting agenda.
- e. **Central Bergen Mutual Fire Aid Association Agreement** – A resolution will be placed on the January 17th, 2019 Regular Meeting agenda. Councilman Dombrowski commended all Fire Departments that responded to the recent Marcal fire.
- f. **Community Development Regional Committee Appointments** – A resolution will be placed on the January 17th, 2019 Regular Meeting agenda.
- g. **Requests for Fire Personnel approval** – A resolution will be placed on the January 17th, 2019 Regular Meeting agenda.

5 – ORDINANCES

- a. **Fire Prevention Ordinance Change Request** – Fire Official Steve Kochik presented changes to the current Fire Prevention Ordinance, which was never updated in the past. Changes were needed to be made to be in compliance with numbers set by the state in addition to other suggestions made by the Fire Official. It was determined that said ordinance would be placed on the January 17th, 2019 Regular Meeting agenda to be introduced. A discussion then followed whereas the Borough Administrator suggested

that all Department Heads begin to look at their ordinances for any updates that may need to be made.

- b. **PVWC Water Rates** – The ordinance will be placed for re-introduction on the January 17th, 2019 Regular Meeting agenda as initial numbers given by the Finance Department were incorrect.
- c. **Solid Waste Management** – The draft Solid Waste Management ordinance was discussed addressing materials that will need to be wrapped in plastic prior to being put out for garbage pick-up. Some areas of concern were warnings, fines associated, and notifying the public of said ordinance. It was determined that said ordinance would be placed on the January 17th, 2019 Regular Meeting agenda on introduction once the agreed upon changes are made by the Borough Attorney.
- d. **Towing Update** – Borough Administrator/Police Chief gave an update regarding the Towing bids as no submissions were received. He noted that most companies were not satisfied with this method. Additionally, he raised concern about administrative fees due to an appellate division case. Borough Attorney Ingrassia stated that he would address this concern. The Mayor and Council then suggested going back out for bid one more time after the conclusion of Mr. Ingrassia's findings.
- e. **Cadmus, Fournier Crescent 3-way stop** – The ordinance will be introduced at the January 17th, 2019 Regular Meeting.
- f. **Fire Department Clothing Allowance** – An issue has arisen in relation to Fire Department personnel's clothing allowance. Conversation took place to resolve this matter. Additionally, it was determined that the current ordinance is in need of clarification. Fire Chief Sulick stated that he would take a look at said ordinance and make adjustments where needed so that these situations can be avoided in the future and to make things clearer and more concise.

6 – DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

- a. **Municipal Court Report – December 2018** – Accepted without discussion.
- b. **Library Board Meeting Minutes – November 19, 2018** – Accepted without discussion.
- c. **2018 Fire Department Call Report** – Accepted without discussion.
- d. **Police Department Monthly Report** – Accepted without discussion.

7 – COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilwoman Balistrieri reported that Christmas Tree pick-up began January 7th through the DPW. For the Recreation Department, basketball has also begun. Lastly, the Elmwood Park Takes Action meeting will take place on January 17th. The Councilwoman asked the Mayor to appoint the Elmwood Park Takes Action Task Force at the upcoming January 17th meeting. Additionally, Councilwoman Balistrieri reported out on the County Stigma-Free Symposium.

Councilwoman Pellegrine stated that the Board of Health meeting will take place on January 14th at 7PM. For the Police Department, they worked with Millennium Strategies on securing a grant to purchase body armor. Lastly, she shared information on the upcoming Council Corner initiative that will begin and have its first meeting on February 23rd from 1-3PM.

Councilman Dombrowski shared that the Let Them Be Little Beefsteak will be held on February 16th at 7PM at the VFW. He, again, wanted to commend and thank the Fire personnel and mutual aid that have been responding to fires. He especially raised concern in regards to the Marcal building as there have been multiple fires at the location. He concluded by sharing he will be traveling until February 1st.

Council President Golabek reported out on the reorganization of the Planning Board and recent updates. The River Drive complex will be discussed at the January 16th Planning Board meeting for a final time. He then mentioned the Borough Newsletter and his hope that it be published at least 3 times a year. Moving on, he shared the idea of having “on the road” council meetings at different locations within the Borough. The Mayor then asked Council President Golabek to share the Fallen Heroes sign sample.

Councilwoman Wechtler had nothing to report.

Councilwoman Ingui shared that she is looking to schedule the first Ambulance Corp. meeting. She discussed their membership and concern of responding to calls due to lack of membership and membership retention. Lastly, she shared that there are no fundraising plans as of yet but this will be addressed in the future.

Mayor Caramagna discussed moving forward as a Mayor and Council with new ideas. He also went over Borough Hall cost savings.

8 – 2nd PUBLIC HEARING

James D’Amico, Willow Street, inquired as to what would specifically need to be wrapped if the proposed Solid Waste Management Ordinance passes. He also shared his thoughts on the proposed fees.

9 – EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. Personnel – Police Department
- b. Personnel – Mayor’s Office
- c. Personnel – Ambulance Corp.
- d. Legal – IT issues

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 – Police Department

Personnel – Mayor’s Office

Personnel – Ambulance Corp.

Legal – IT issues

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 Councilwoman Wechtler and seconded by Councilman Golabek to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried by the members present.

Personnel – Police Department

Personnel – Mayor’s Office

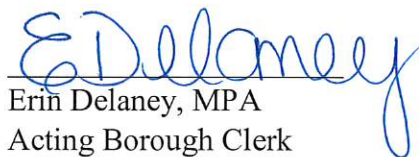
Personnel – Ambulance Corp.

Legal – IT issues

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

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

Respectfully submitted,


Erin Delaney, MPA
Acting Borough Clerk

Minutes approved at the March 21, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council