

BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK
WORK MEETING
April 4, 2019
7:00PM

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council for April 4, 2019 was called to order by Acting Municipal Clerk Erin Delaney at 7:12PM. The Statement of Compliance was read.

Councilmembers Balistreri, 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. Ingraffia.

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 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. Notice was posted on January 7, 2019.

Work Meeting Agenda Items:

PUBLIC HEARING:

No one from the public wished to be heard.

1 – Budget – Roy Riggitano & Steven Wielkotz

Borough Chief Financial Officer, Roy Riggitano, and Borough Auditor, Steven Wielkotz, made a brief presentation and updated the Mayor and Council on the 2019 Borough Budget. They stated that the 2019 Budget will reflect no municipal tax increase, while not increasing the amount of surplus being used, and will be introduced at the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council on April 18th.

2 – ENGINEER'S REPORT

Ms. Delaney recognized John Clemente to the Mayor and Council. Mr. Clemente reviewed the monthly status report.

3 – Topology Presentation

Topology, a planner retained in 2018, gave their final presentation on their revitalization project focused on the areas of Broadway and Market Street. They concluded their report by reviewing next steps which may include an outreach event geared around their findings.

4 – CORRESPONDENCE:

- a. **NJDOT Municipal Aid** – A letter from the NJDOT advising the Borough of their \$207,000.00 award was shared. No conversation ensued.
- b. **Asset Management Plan** – Acting Municipal Clerk Delaney informed the members that our DPW Superintendent, Borough Engineer, and Robert DeBlock are currently working on the Borough's Asset Management Plan that is now a requirement by the State and coincides with the Water Quality Accountability Act. A plan must be established by April 19th, 2018 but a report does not need to be submitted until 2022.
- c. **Glenwood Plaza** – Steve Salerno, Borough Health Inspector, submitted a follow-up report to the complaints from Glenwood Plaza.
- d. **Wrestling Commendation** – The Mayor and Council were in favor of Councilwoman Ingui's request to recognize the wrestlers at the April 18, 2019 meeting.
- e. **Mu Alpha Theta Induction** – The Mayor and Council were in favor of recognizing the student at the April 18, 2019 meeting.
- f. **Altice Cabinets** – The Mayor and Council reviewed the proposal by Altice. All cabinet locations were approved with the exception of the Mola Boulevard location where an alternative was requested.

5 – RESOLUTIONS:

- a. **Fire Department Proposal** – The Fire Department requested that the Mayor and Council approve the purchase of a Mini-Pumper that will assist with their response to special condition calls, such as in parking garages and/or Artesian Fields. Councilman Dombrowski suggested bonding the money and purchasing both the previously approved truck for Company 4 and the pumper at the same time. Borough CFO Roy Riggitano was in attendance and gave his approval to move forward with the bond should that be the route the Mayor and Council choose to take. All were in favor of doing so and approved moving forward with the bonding process.

6 – ORDINANCES:

- a. **Hawkers, Peddlers, Solicitors** – The Borough Attorney advised the Mayor and Council that the County Counsel notified the Borough that the current Hawkets, Peddlers, and Solicitors ordinance for fundraising on streets is not in compliance and needs to be updated. The Borough Attorney advised that he will work with the County Counsel to draft an ordinance that is in compliance with their requirements. Additionally, Borough Administrator Foligno stated that he would check with our JIF to ensure all language adheres to their requirements as well. The Mayor and Council agreed to move forward with introduction once all steps are complete.
- b. **Grease Traps** – The Borough Attorney will be looking into ordinances in place that address grease traps. However, it was noted that this is something the Board of Health may preside over.

7 – COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Balistrieri gave her Recreation update where she announced that the Recreation Egg Hunt will be held on April 13th, along with the Girls Softball Opening Day. Additionally, she shared that the next Recreation Advisory Board meeting is to be held on April 15th and the Baseball Opening Day will take place on April 6th.

Councilwoman Pellegrine announced that the next Board of Health meeting will occur on April 15th. For her Police Department report she shared that Junior Police Academy applications are now available and that the Police Meet and Greet will take place on April 25th.

Councilman Dombrowski expressed his concerns about a pothole in the roadway under the Route 46 overpass near Rudolph Street. He then highlighted the Municipal Budget that was presented partly as a result of the cost-savings through decreased salaries. Councilman Dombrowski concluded his report by announcing the Wrestlemania Fundraiser that is scheduled for April 7th.

Councilwoman Ingui gave her Ambulance Corps. report where she announce that there will be a meeting held on April 10th in which she plans on meeting with Pete Pais, Ambulance Corps. Chief. She then inquired about scheduling a Borough-wide clean-up in September with the fall athletes. Moving on, Councilwoman Ingui suggested that a calendar be established between the Borough and school to avoid scheduling conflicts as the school play, Mamma Mia, will be taking place at the same time as Wrestlemania on April 7th. To end her report, Councilwoman Ingui discussed the upcoming Rare is Beautiful fundraiser for April 8th.

Councilwoman Wechtler, on behalf of the Homeowners Association, discussed the March 27th meeting. She announced that Police Chief Foligno will now be the guest speaker for the upcoming meeting on April 26th as he had a conflict in March. She then stated that there will be another bus-trip fundraiser to Bethlehem Casino.

Council President Golabek reported Progress.

Mayor Caramagna discussed trees being cut down and potholes within the Borough. Additionally, he shared that there may be a potential donation of a pool table to the Recreation Department/Senior Center that he plans on looking into. Mayor Caramagna ended his report by informing Councilmembers that the plaques will be ordered and presented at the April 18th Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council to those departments that responded to the Marcal Fire.

8 – 2nd PUBLIC HEARING:

Jeffrey Freitag, Hillman Drive, inquired about the location of the proposed Dog Park and its parking lot in addition to the funding source of the project. Moving on, Mr. Freitag discussed the Municipal Budget that was proposed as he wanted to confirm that the budget will be going down while also requesting the amount of surplus that is being used. He then questioned the Birchwood Drive work that will be done through public service due to gas line upgrades as this

area was recently paved within the last few years. To conclude his comments, Mr. Freitag asked if the Recreation Center generator will be placed at the entranceway on the Boulevard and if the Engine 1 truck amount decreased.

Jeanne Freitag, Hillman Drive, thanked the Police Department for their recent actions and assistance in a personal matter at her residence.

9 – EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- a. Labor Counsel and Fair Housing Litigation**
- b. Borough Attorney – Tax Appeals**
- c. Personnel – Fire Department**
- d. Personnel – Fire Prevention**
- e. White Collar – Contract Negotiations**
- f. Personnel – Professional Development**
- g. PBA – Contract**

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:

Labor Counsel and Fair Housing Litigation
Borough Attorney – Tax Appeals
Personnel – Fire Department
Personnel – Fire Prevention
White Collar – Contract Negotiations
Personnel – Professional Development
PBA – Contract

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 Ingui and seconded by Councilwoman Balistrieri to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried by the members present.

Labor Counsel and Fair Housing Litigation
Borough Attorney – Tax Appeals
Personnel – Fire Department
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A motion was made by Council President Golabek and seconded by Councilman Dombrowski to return to the public portion. Motion carried by the members present.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Delaney, MPA
Acting Borough Clerk

Minutes approved at the July 18, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council