

**BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK**  
**WORK MEETING**  
**April 11, 2019**  
**7:00PM**

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council for April 11, 2019 was called to order by Acting Municipal Clerk Erin Delaney at 7:01PM. 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:**

Jeffrey Freitag, Hillman Drive, inquired about the bond ordinance for Veterans Park and when the bids are scheduled to be opened.

Germaine LaPlaca-Gallitano, Legion Place, expressed her concerns about the fence by the Walgreens and the mess that has been created in that area/on the property.

Dominick Scalcione, E. 54<sup>th</sup> Street, inquired about the cost of ladder trucks with and without pumps. Additionally, he discussed repaving and the replacement of handicap grading.

**1 – Farrel Dym Lighting Proposal**

Farrel Dym of National Energy Cost Services, Inc., who previously was given permission to administer an audit of the Recreation Building's lighting services, presented his findings and a proposal for cost savings as a result of converting to specific LED lighting. The Mayor and Council requested that Mr. Dym perform a similar audit of the Municipal and DPW Buildings and asked that he return with his results at a future work session.

## 2 – CORRESPONDENCE:

- a. **Thank You Letter** – No discussion ensued.

## 3 – RESOLUTIONS:

- a. **Current Estimate #1 – 2018 Road Program – Alaimo** – A resolution will be placed on the April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- b. **Proposal for Design Services – Alaimo** – The Mayor and Council asked that Alaimo clarify that the services will be complete within 30 days as opposed to 90. A resolution will be placed on the April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda once corrected.
- c. **Access for All Committee** – The Mayor and Council discussed establishing this committee to be made up of a council liaison and approximately 5 members, number subject to change. A resolution will be placed on the April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- d. **Bergen County Open Space Contract Execution** – A resolution will be placed on the April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- e. **Green Committee** – Council President Golabek presented establishing a committee. He addressed the fact that the Borough Code does have an environmental committee but it is not followed and exhaustive. He proposed long-term initiatives that other communities can adopt called Green 2020+ & 222 New Trees by 2022, which would be kicked off in tandem with the City of Garfield for Earth Day. As a result of this conversation, Councilman Dombrowski requested that Administration look into installing both recycling/trash receptacles throughout the Borough with a company that will foot the cost in exchange for advertising. A resolution will be placed on the April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda for the committee.
- f. **Tax Exemption – Disabled Veteran** – A resolution will be placed on the April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- g. **Vacation Buyback** – A resolution will be placed on the April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- h. **Membership refund** – A resolution will be placed on the April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda. However, the Mayor and Council requested that the Department submit a reason for refund in the future.
- i. **Slaughterdam Pump Station** – A resolution will be placed on the April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- j. **Fire Department Applications** – A resolution will be placed on the April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- k. **Bergen County American Legion Centennial Recognition** – A resolution will be placed on the April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- l. **PIA Merger** – A resolution will be placed on the April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- m. **Recreation Basketball Court** – The Mayor and Council discussed basketball court proposals from the Recreation Director. They agreed to approving a half court.

- Councilman Dombrowski asked to received confirmation from the Borough Engineer that 2 ½“ asphalt is sufficient.
- n. **Recreation Summer Concert Series** – A resolution will be placed on the April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
  - o. **Recreation Hires** – A conversation regarding minimum requirements for fingerprinting of workers and coaches ensued. A resolution will be placed on the April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
  - p. **U Drive. U Text. U Pay** – A resolution will be placed on the April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
  - q. **Topology** – A resolution will be placed on the April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
  - r. **Police Department Corrective Resolution** – A resolution will be placed on the April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.

#### **4 – DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- a. **Municipal Court** – Accepted without discussion.
- b. **Millennium Strategies** – Accepted without discussion.
- c. **Finance – Budget Status Report** – Accepted without discussion.
- d. **Mayor and Council – Regular Meeting – January 17, 2019** – Accepted without discussion.
- e. **Mayor and Council – Work Session – February 7, 2019** – Accepted without discussion.
- f. **Mayor and Council – Regular Meeting – March 21, 2019** – Accepted without discussion.
- g. **Library Board Meeting – January 28, 2019** – The Mayor and Council discussed asking the Library Board President to appear in front of them at a later meeting date. Meeting minutes were then accepted.
- h. **Library Board Meeting – February 25, 2019** – Accepted without discussion.

#### **7 – COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilwoman Wechtler reported Progress.

Councilwoman Ingui informed members about her concerns brought to her attention upon arrival to a “scheduled” Ambulance Corps. meeting in which the Ambulance Chief was not in attendance.

Councilman Dombrowski announced the rescheduling of the Fire Department meeting. Additionally, he shared that membership is increasing with 5 individuals graduating from fire school. In regards to a concern he brought up about the Route 46 overpass at a previous meeting, he discussed that he is concerned with the response from the state and feels Elmwood Park is being neglected. To add to his initial concern, he requested that the Market Street underpass shrubbery gets trimmed and jet-washed. Lastly, he congratulated Rare Is Beautiful on a successful event.

Councilwoman Pellegrine announced that the next Board of Health meeting will occur on April 15<sup>th</sup> and the rabies clinic is to be held on May 15<sup>th</sup> from 5-7PM. For her Police Department report she shared that Junior Police Academy applications are now available, the Police Meet and Greet will take place on April 25<sup>th</sup>, and the PBA Beefsteak will be on May 18<sup>th</sup>.

Councilwoman Balistreri gave her Recreation update where she announced that the Recreation Egg Hunt will be held on April 13<sup>th</sup>, along with the Girls Softball Opening Day. She shared that the Stigma Free meetings will now be held on Tuesdays with the next meeting scheduled for April 16<sup>th</sup>

Council President Golabek thanked the Council for the positive reception to the initiatives he presented and reported Progress.

Mayor Caramagna congratulated Councilwoman Ingui on the accomplishment of the Rare Is Beautiful event. He shared that the Borough was represented at the JIF breakfast where they received a \$1,000 award. Lastly, he concluded his report by sharing information on a new Recycling Coach “app” and expressed his interest in a Garbage/Recycling system similar to that of the municipality of Rutherford.

### **8 – 2nd PUBLIC HEARING:**

Jeanne Freitag, Hillman Drive, requested that the Mayor and Council look into bringing a recycling option to the DPW for the convenience of the residents. Additionally, she commented on the Mayor’s Garbage/Recycling system and stated that she felt it would not be successful in Elmwood Park due to lack of clearance on certain streets.

Jeffrey Freitag, Hillman Drive, mentioned the town clean-up scheduled for the 13<sup>th</sup> and inquired as to why events are scheduled on the same day. He then had questions regarding the statutory requirement for fingerprinting and the drainage at Mosquito Jungle. Lastly, he inquired about the 222 Trees by 2022 and requested that the Borough keep in mind the right of way, wires, and curbs when planting such trees.

### **9 – EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- a. Fire Prevention – Personnel**
- b. Fire Department – Personnel**
- c. Building Department – Personnel**
- d. Ambulance Corps. – Personnel**
- e. Clerk’s Office – Personnel**
- f. Police Department – Special Counsel**
- g. Police Department – Personnel**

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:

**Fire Prevention – Personnel**  
**Fire Department – Personnel**  
**Building Department – Personnel**  
**Ambulance Corps. – Personnel**  
**Clerk’s Office – Personnel**  
**Police Department – Special Counsel**  
**Police Department – Personnel**

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

**Fire Prevention – Personnel**  
**Fire Department – Personnel**  
**Building Department – Personnel**  
**Ambulance Corps. – Personnel**  
**Clerk’s Office – Personnel**  
**Police Department – Special Counsel**  
**Police Department – Personnel**

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Erin Delaney, MPA  
Acting Borough Clerk

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