

BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK
WORK MEETING
August 1, 2019
7:00PM

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council for August 1, 2019 was called to order by Acting Municipal Clerk Erin Delaney at 7:03PM. The Statement of Compliance was read.

Councilmembers Balistreri, Dombrowski, Ingui, and Wechtler were present. Also present were Mayor Golabek, 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:

1 – PUBLIC HEARING:

No one from the public wished to be heard.

2 – Audit Presentation

Borough CFO Roy Riggitano addressed the Governing Body by giving an overview of the 2018 Audit.

3 – ENGINEERS REPORT

- a. **Monthly Status Report** – Mr. Clemente reviewed the monthly status report.

During Mr. Clemente's report, Borough CFO Roy Riggitano took the opportunity to discuss the water replacement project taking place on Tuella Avenue. Mr. Riggitano suggested completing all of Tuella Avenue at once, which would put the Borough in compliance with the state's watermain replacement requirements for 3 years, which can be funded through a water utility bond. The Mayor and Council were in favor to proceed in this direction.

4 – RESOLUTIONS:

- a. **Police Interceptor SUV** – A resolution will be placed on the August 15th, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.

- b. **2019/2020 School Year Crossing Guards** – A resolution will be placed on the August 15th, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- c. **2019/2020 School Security Officers** – A resolution will be placed on the August 15th, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- d. **Volunteer Firefighter Application** – A resolution will be placed on the August 15th, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- e. **2019/2020 ASP Hires** – A resolution will be placed on the August 15th, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- f. **Board of Adjustment Refund** – A resolution will be placed on the August 15th, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- g. **Conflict Counsel Contract Execution** – A resolution will be placed on the August 15th, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- h. **Flu Services Agreement** – A resolution will be placed on the August 15th, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- i. **Tax Court Judgements** – A resolution will be placed on the August 15th, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- j. **Tax Delinquency Rates** – A resolution will be placed on the August 15th, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- k. **Recreation Advisory Board Term Resolutions** – Acting Borough Clerk Delaney informed members that she noticed on previous years' Reorganization Meeting agendas the Recreation Advisory Board member terms were listed as 5-year durations. However, for the 2019 Reorganization Meeting agenda, Ms. Delaney listed the terms as 3-year durations. The reason this was brought up was because the Recreation Department inquired about the board term expiration dates listed on the Borough's website as they are supposed to be staggered. Councilmembers debated the exact length of said terms. It was determined that Ms. Delaney would further look into the ordinance for clarification to evaluate what corrections need to be made.

5 – DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

- a. **Library Board – June 10, 2019 Minutes** – Accepted without discussion.
- b. **Board of Recreation – June 17, 2019 Minutes** – Accepted without discussion.
- c. **Recreation Directors Report – July 2019** – Accepted without discussion.
- d. **Finance – January-July** – Accepted without discussion.

6 – COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Wechtler reported progress.

Councilwoman Ingui stated that the Ambulance Corps. is in need of volunteer members and that their monthly meetings will pick up again come September. She informed member that Rare is Beautiful will be participating in National Night Out and also noted that her experience volunteering with the Junior Police Academy was phenomenal.

Councilman Dombrowski thanked Councilwoman Ingui for volunteering with the Junior Police Academy. He continued on to say that, while he loves what the Borough did in regards to the new monuments/memorials for Memorial Day, he is dissatisfied with the appearance of the corner tank project. Councilman Dombrowski, again, brought his concerns regarding the safety of the Municipal

Building to light. He recommended that the Borough move forward with a fob system that records who is entering and vacating the public. Lastly, Councilman Dombrowski commended Tom Conboy for his work in putting the National Night Out event together.

Councilwoman Balistreri, for her Recreation Department report, shared that summer camp is currently taking place, the next concert is scheduled for August 14th, and soccer registration is now open. Additionally, she announced that Elmwood Park Takes Action/Stigma Free meetings will commence again in September.

Borough Administrator/Police Chief Foligno shared with the public the results of the reports generated from the 5 new radar speed signs.

Mayor Golabek took the opportunity to make a correction regarding an item in the Engineer's Monthly Report. He stated that, in regards to road paving, 2019's CDBG grant application roadways will go out to bid within the next 10 days. The goal would be to open said bids by September 1st and hold a special meeting to award that same day.

7 – 2nd PUBLIC HEARING:

Joseph Mulligan, 3rd Street, thanked the Mayor and Council for supporting the Veterans Memorial projects. Additionally, he requested more information as to why Ordinance 19-17 was tabled.

Dominick Scalcione, E. 54th Street, stated that the new traffic signs are terrific and further went on to ask that E. 54th Street be included in next year's sign locations.

Jeanne Freitag, Hillman Drive, concurred with Councilman Dombrowski's sentiments in relation to the corner tank project. She stated that she was happy to see the fence surrounding the generator and the Recreation Department was fixed and is no longer crooked. Ms. Freitag noted that she has visited the Library Hut on several occasions and that it seems to be going well. Lastly, she shared with the public that the Elmwood Park School District has paid back the Department of Education several years early and, at the last meeting, a representative was in attendance acknowledging this as Elmwood Park is the only municipality that has done so.

Christine Grezlak, Linwood Avenue, questioned whether or not inspectors would be visiting properties that only applied for recent construction permits or if they would also be visiting properties that applied for permits in years prior.

8 – EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- a. **Ambulance Corps. – Litigation**
- b. **Fire Prevention – Personnel**
- c. **Clerk's Office – Personnel**
- d. **DPW – Personnel**
- e. **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:

Ambulance Corps. – Litigation
Fire Prevention – Personnel
Clerk’s Office – Personnel
DPW – Personnel
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 Ingui to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried by the members present.

Ambulance Corps. – Litigation
Fire Prevention – Personnel
Clerk’s Office – Personnel
DPW – Personnel
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 Councilwoman Balistrieri 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 August 15, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council.