

**BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK**  
**WORK MEETING**  
**January 9, 2020**  
**7:00PM**

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council for January 9, 2020 was called to order by Municipal Clerk Erin Delaney at 7:00PM. The Statement of Compliance was read.

Councilmembers Fasolo, Golabek, Ingui, Pellegrine, Wechtler, and Council President Balistrieri were present. Also present were Mayor Colletti, 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 transmitted on January 3, 2020 and published on January 8, 2020.

**Work Meeting Agenda Items:**

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Carl Roberts, Washington Avenue, reported that an issue spoken about at a previous work session meeting in regards to standing water at ADA crosswalks has not been resolved. A representative from Alaimo Group informed Mr. Roberts that it was initially addressed but the work was not successful. Alaimo Group is aware of the problem and has made it a top priority.

Joseph Dombrowski, Lincoln Avenue, stated that there have been similar issues at other locations where storm drains were installed which remedied the problem.

Jeffrey Freitag, Hillman Drive, informed the Governing Body the same issue occurs on Philip Avenue and he has made them aware of so in the past.

Dominick Scalcione, E. 54<sup>th</sup> Street, inquired about the reported Ambulance response times and thanked Mayor Colletti for mentioning the Borough Board Members during his remarks at the Reorganization Meeting.

Doug DeMatteo, Lincoln Avenue, asked if residents will be charged for ambulatory services. He stated that he feels the situation was not handled well and that the volunteers and residents were blind sighted. Conversation ensued regarding the process and reasoning for the shared service with Little Falls. It was agreed upon that Borough Attorney Ingraffia would perform a search on all aspects regarding the land, building, and equipment to report back at the next Work Session meeting.

## **1 – New Jersey State Veterans Chamber of Commerce – Peter Lupo**

A volunteer from the New Jersey State Veterans Chamber of Commerce made a presentation to the Mayor and Council, on behalf of Peter Lupo, encouraging them to consider becoming an official Veterans Friendly Municipality.

## **2 – ENGINEERS REPORT:**

Prior to the start of the Engineer Report, Councilman Golabek reviewed a plan that he put together addressing the Borough's road paving plans which combined grant funding and PSE&G credits.

- a. **Proposal for Design Services – Options for Improvements to Mola Boulevard** – The Mayor and Council agreed to proceed with Option A proposed. A resolution will be placed on the January 16th, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- b. **Proposal for Design Services – Improvements to Gilbert Avenue from Mola Boulevard to River Drive** – A resolution will be placed on the January 16th, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- c. **Proposal for Design Services – Improvements to Donor Avenue, Riehl Street, Roth Street, Meyer Street & Echo Place** – A revised proposal will need to be submitted.
- d. **Current Payment Estimate #1 – Cherry Hill Playground Improvements** – A resolution will be placed on the January 16th, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- e. **Monthly Status Report** – John Clemente and Ali Mohamed from Alaimo Group reviewed the monthly status report. The Mayor and Council requested that Scott Karcz attend the first work session in February to discuss Item #10. Board of Education Member, Doug DeMatteo, expressed concerns about the tennis courts at the High School.

## **3 – CORRESPONDENCE:**

- a. **2020 Planning Board Meeting Dates** – Accepted without discussion.
- b. **2020 Budgets for the South Bergen Municipal Joint Insurance Fund** – Accepted without discussion.
- c. **Zoning Board of Adjustment Resignation** – Accepted without discussion.
- d. **Rent Leveling Board Resignation** – Accepted without discussion.
- e. **2020 Elmwood Park Board of Education Meeting Dates** – Accepted without discussion.
- f. **English Avenue – Block 503 Lot 28.02** – Mayor Colletti advised the Governing Body that the Borough paid a lot of money for that property and that he suggests not entertaining selling the land. The Governing Body asked that Borough Clerk Delaney send an aerial of the property for their review.
- g. **Master Plan** – Borough Clerk Delaney informed the Mayor and Council that the Borough must adopt a new Master Plan as the last one was conducted in 2010. She stated that during budget meetings she advised the CFO to include a Master Plan line

item in the 2020 Budget. Borough Administrator Foligno stated that he would reach out to the Borough Planner to discuss next steps.

#### **4 – RESOLUTIONS:**

- a. **The Arc of Bergen & Passaic – CDBG Request** – A resolution will be placed on the January 16th, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- b. **JIF Fund Commissioner and Alternate** – A resolution will be placed on the January 16th, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- c. **Tax Department – Refund Overpayment** – A resolution will be placed on the January 16th, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- d. **Tax Department – Third Party Tax Lien** – A resolution will be placed on the January 16th, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- e. **Fire Department – 2019 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Stipends** – A resolution will be placed on the January 16th, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- f. **Volunteer Firefighter Applications** – A resolution will be placed on the January 16th, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- g. **Sick-time Buybacks** – A resolution will be placed on the January 16th, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- h. **Vacation Buybacks** – A resolution will be placed on the January 16th, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- i. **Release of Executive Session Minutes** – A resolution will be placed on the January 16th, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.

#### **5 – DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- a. **Board of Health Minutes – June, September, October, November 2019** – Accepted without discussion.
- b. **Library Board Minutes – November 18, 2019** – Accepted without discussion.
- c. **Board of Recreation – November 25, 2019** – Accepted without discussion.
- d. **Millennium Strategies – 2019 Year-end Report** – Accepted without discussion.
- e. **Municipal Court – December 2019** – Accepted without discussion.

#### **6 – APPLICATIONS:**

- a. **Raffle – Elks Lodge #60** – Accepted without discussion.

#### **7 – COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilman Golabek asked Borough Administrator Foligno to request a rescope of Mola Boulevard, going North, from the Borough Engineer for the February meeting.

Councilman Fasolo thanked everyone for attending the Reorganization meeting. He advised everyone that he attending the Board of Education reorganization and congratulated the members that were sworn in that evening, including the new President and Vice-President.

Councilwoman Wechtler announced the dates for the next Homeowner’s Association meeting and Library Board meeting. She stated that the Mayor was requested to speak at the next Homeowner’s Association meeting.

Councilwoman Ingui congratulated the Board of Education members who were recently sworn in. She advised those in attendance that the annual Fire Installation will take place at the January 16<sup>th</sup> Regular Council meeting and concluded her report by sharing the ambulatory call report.

Councilwoman Pellegrine shared the upcoming dates for the Board of Health, Chamber of Commerce, and Council Corner. She continued on with her report by noting the ASEZ volunteer group will be conducting a clean-up on January 19<sup>th</sup>. Lastly, on behalf of the Police Department, Councilwoman Pellegrine informed everyone that it was National Law Enforcement Day. She praised the Police Department for keeping the community safe and announced their call report.

Council President Balistreri gave an update on Recreation sports including the new flag football league, soccer, and basketball. For the DPW, she declared that the street sweeper will be sent out for its annual maintenance so there will be one week of no service, pot holes are being repaired and leaves are no longer being picked-up. Council President Balistreri advised the Mayor and Council that should they wish to purchase more decorations for the 2020 Holiday season, now is the time to do so and get the best rate. The end her report, she made note of the next Stigma Free meeting.

Mayor Colletti proclaimed that he feels the Governing Body has been working well together and that good things are to come

### **8 – 2nd PUBLIC HEARING:**

Doug DeMatteo, Lincoln Avenue, shared his distaste of the praise the new ambulatory services has been receiving given the circumstances. He questioned whether or not the school district would now be charged to have an ambulance at school functions.

Jeffrey Freitag, Hillman Drive, encouraged the Governing Body to investigate whether or not the area of the Van Riper island they are considering renovating is owned by the Railroad or the Borough. He then notified the Mayor and Council of the deteriorating flags over the Parkway. Lastly, Mr. Freitag stated that the fact that the Engineer has not been able to fix the pooling situation at ADA ramps doesn't sit well.

Christine Grezlak, Linwood Avenue, addressed parking at Elmwood Village and inquired as to the location of The Arc of Bergen & Passaic.

Jeanne Freitag, Hillman Drive, asked if the line painting program will continue throughout the Borough. Additionally, she made the Borough Administrator/Police Chief aware that it is very common for people to park in yellow on the corner of Market and Church.

Michael Sumulikowski, E. 54<sup>th</sup> Street, stated that he appreciates the time the Volunteer Ambulance Corps. dedicated to the Borough and is rooting for the new shared service system.

Dominick Scalcione, E. 54<sup>th</sup> Street, suggested that a receptacle be placed on E. 55<sup>th</sup> Street as it is a common area for garbage to accumulate. Additionally, he requested that the street be added to the next Borough clean-up.

Carl Roberts, Washington Avenue, requested that the Borough reach out to the County for the clean-up of Artesian Fields.

Joseph Dombrowski, Lincoln Avenue, asked the Mayor and Council if they had plans to honor former Fire Chief Sulick and if the Governing Body would be assigning a new Fire Liaison. Additionally, he recommended that the Borough include Fire Company No. 2 on the plans for the Marina project.

**9 – EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- a. **Building Department – Personnel**
- b. **IT – Personnel**
- c. **Recreation Department – Personnel**
- d. **Recycling – Personnel**
- e. **Tax 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:

**Building Department – Personnel**  
**IT – Personnel**  
**Recreation Department – Personnel**  
**Recycling – Personnel**  
**Tax 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 Councilwoman Wechtler and seconded by Council President Balistrieri to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried by the members present.

**Building Department – Personnel**  
**IT – Personnel**  
**Recreation Department – Personnel**  
**Recycling – Personnel**  
**Tax Department – Personnel**

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC  
Borough Clerk

*Minutes approved at the February 27, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council.*