

**BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK**  
**WORK MEETING**  
**June 11, 2020**  
**7:00PM**

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council for June 11, 2020 was called to order by Municipal Clerk Erin Delaney at 7:01PM. The Statement of Compliance was read.

Councilmembers Fasolo, Golabek, 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. 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 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 8, 2020.

Due to the Coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, precautionary measures were taken in an attempt to prevent further spread of the virus and to protect the health and public safety of the Governing Body, Borough Professionals, and members of the public. As a result, the public was unable to physically attend the meeting. In order to participate in the meeting, the public was required to use the free access number which was provided and advertised in advance.

**Work Meeting Agenda Items:**

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Joseph Dombrowski, Lincoln Avenue, brought it to the Mayor and Council's attention that paving done in the vicinity of 232 and 234 Lincoln Avenue has a depression and discolored. He stated that the contractor should be responsible to fix said faults.

**1- CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. **Trex Bench** – The Mayor and Council was in favor of the location selected by the DPW Superintendent. They also commended Borough Clerk Delaney for taking on and completing the “challenge” successfully.
- b. **MEL Health Emergency Memo** – No discussion ensued.
- c. **Saddle Brook Smoke Shop Ordinance** – No discussion ensued.

**2- RESOLUTIONS:**

- a. **Deputy Records Custodians** – A resolution will be placed on the June 18th, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda of the Mayor and Council.
- b. **State Contract Vendors** – A resolution will be placed on the June 18th, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda of the Mayor and Council.
- c. **Fire Applications** – A resolution will be placed on the June 18th, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda of the Mayor and Council.
- d. **CDBG Resolutions** – Resolutions will be placed on the June 18th, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda of the Mayor and Council.

**3 – ORDINANCES:**

- a. **Fire Prevention – Non-life Hazard Uses** – Fire Official Steven Kochik discussed recent changes to state legislation that does not give him the authority to perform annual inspections at entities such as sober living homes. He recommended to the council an ordinance that would grant fire prevention the jurisdiction to do so despite state legislation. The ordinance will be introduced at the June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Regular Meeting.
- b. **Drug-free School Zone Maps** – Borough Clerk Delaney advised that once the Drug-free School Zone Maps are updated by the Borough Engineer the Borough Attorney will have to draft an adjoining ordinance. Depending on the timeline the ordinance will be introduced at either the June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Regular Meeting or July 16th, 2020 Regular Meeting.
- c. **2020 Salary Ordinance** – It was noted that discussion will take place during the Executive Session portion of the meeting and that the ordinance will be introduced at the June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Regular Meeting.

- d. **Mobile Food Truck Ordinance Follow-up** – Borough Attorney Ingraffia suggested that the Borough make slight changes via resolution allowing more flexibility for a short time frame a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, it was noted that mobile food trucks that fall under this ordinance would be responsible for both the Board of Health fee and the fee laid out in the mobile food truck ordinance. A resolution will be placed on the June 18th, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda of the Mayor and Council.

#### **4 – DISCUSSION**

- a. **Health Department Business Renewals** – Borough Clerk Delaney requested input from the Mayor and Council regarding the Health Department Business Renewals that are set to expire at the end of June. The Mayor and Council decided that it would be appropriate to proceed with the renewals, as opposed to extending them, for July 1<sup>st</sup> as normally done.
- b. **Market Street Dining** – Borough Administrator Foligno proposed the idea of closing down Market Street on designated days/times to encourage an extended outdoor dining area. The Mayor and Council was in favor of doing so as long as JIF approval was obtained, the business signed a release/waiver for liability purposes, and the business accepted responsibility for clean-up.

#### **5 – DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

- a. **May 2020 Building Department Report** – Accepted without discussion.
- b. **EMS Calls – May 2020** – Accepted without discussion.
- c. **Finance Department through May 31, 2020** – Accepted without discussion.

#### **6 – COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Mayor Colletti questioned Councilman Golabek whether or not the Census e-mail they received was accurate. Councilman Golabek confirmed it's accurate and noted that the e-mail stated that for every 100 people in the Borough that do not respond to the Census, the Borough potentially loses up to \$1.2 million they otherwise could have been eligible for in varieties such as grants, Medicare, Medicaid, etc.

Council President Balistrieri thanked everyone for reaching out to her regarding the status of her health.

Councilwoman Wechtler expressed her condolences to Councilwoman Ingui.

Mayor Colletti announced the Drive-in Movie Night for Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>. He also noted that the Municipal Building will reopen to the public as the glass partitions are installed in all offices.

Borough Administrator Foligno shared details on the upcoming caravan-style graduation but also noted that a larger commencement will be revisited for some time in July being the numbers for outdoor gatherings have increased.

Councilman Fasolo commended the Board of Education and Borough for reconsidering the Graduation and listening to those students/residents that signed the 400+ person petition.

#### **7 – 2nd PUBLIC HEARING:**

Joseph Dombrowski, Lincoln Avenue, stated that it was very responsible for discuss the Market Street dining in detail. He inquired as to whether or not the Board of Health was involved in any discussion. Lastly, he shared his concerns regarding potential noise complaints and tent security due to windy weather conditions which could be a hazard.

Jeffrey Freitag, Hillman Drive, informed the Governing Body that it was very hard to hear the Borough Attorney while speaking. Therefore, he asked for a clearer elaboration on the Fire Prevention and Mobile Food Truck ordinances. He inquired about those restaurants that are “BYOB” and whether or not that would be allowed outdoors in addition to food trucks parking in front of their own businesses. Lastly, he questioned the resolution regarding state contracts and whether or not you had to go with a state contract if an employee solicited 3 quotes of which the lowest was cheaper than a state contract price.

**8 – EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- a. Legal Reports/Litigation**
- b. Personnel – Salary Ordinance**

**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:

**Legal Reports/Litigation**  
**Personnel – Salary Ordinance**

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.

**Legal Reports/Litigation**  
**Personnel – Salary Ordinance**

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC  
Borough Clerk

*Minutes approved at the June 18, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council.*