

BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK
WORK MEETING
October 7, 2021
7:00PM

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council for October 7, 2021 was called to order by Municipal Clerk Erin Delaney at 7:45PM. The Statement of Compliance was read.

Councilmembers Balistrieri, Fakhoury, Fasolo, Golabek, Pellegrine, and Council President Wechtler 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, 2021 and published on January 13, 2021.

Work Meeting Agenda Items:

PUBLIC HEARING:

Jay Lopez, Grove Street, was joined by his attorney and addressed the Mayor and Council regarding obtaining a cannabis license within the Borough. He stated that as part of the state application process he would need to obtain a welcome letter from the Borough. He reviewed his credentials and plans for his business.

1 – FIRE COMPANY ENGINE 1 DISCUSSION

Members of the Fire Company made a presentation regarding their current truck as it is approaching 20 years old. They requested permission to begin investigating pricing and putting together specs for a new purchase. The members advised that it would take approximately 1 ½ - 2 years to gather the appropriate information and for build time. The Mayor and Council were comfortable with them starting the process.

2 – TOPOLOGY PRESENTATION BROADWAY REVELOPMENT PLAN

Borough Planner Chris Colley from Topology made a presentation about the proposed redevelopment plan for the Broadway area. The plan covered overlay zones, stories, coverages, uses, setbacks, and barriers. A poll was taken from the Governing Body to agree on a story amount, of which 5 stories was the successful vote. Mr. Colley advised that an ordinance will go in front of the Governing Body to adopt.

3 – CORRESPONDENCE

- a. **FY21-22 CDBG Award Letter** – Borough Clerk Delaney advised that she would send the award letter to the Engineer and CFO to begin the project process. Additionally, discussion ensued regarding the American Recovery Plan funding and how that money should be spent.
- b. **FY22-23 Grant Application** – Borough Clerk Delaney informed the Governing Body that the FY22-23 grant application process will be opening and that the Governing Body should begin to brainstorm the project they would like to apply for.

4 – RESOLUTIONS

- a. **Third Party Tax Lien** – A resolution will be placed on the October 21st, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- b. **Road Opening Performance Bond** – A resolution will be placed on the October 21st, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- c. **Area in Need of Redevelopment Block 1602 Lots 2, 3, 4, and 26**– A resolution will be placed on the October 21st, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- d. **Area in Need of Redevelopment Block 1103 Lots 3 and 7** – A resolution will be placed on the October 21st, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- e. **Board of Health Expiring Terms** – Board Members whose terms are expiring will be asked if they would like to continue to sit on the Board and resolutions will be placed on the January Reorganization agenda.
- f. **Firefighter Resignation** – A resolution will be placed on the October 21st, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.

- g. **Towing License Application Extension** – A resolution will be placed on the October 21st, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- h. **DPW Hire** – This item was pulled from executive (8C). A resolution will be placed on the October 21st, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.

5 – ORDINANCES

- a. **Four-way Stop Sign Intersections** – An ordinance will be drafted and placed on the October 21st, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda for introduction.
- b. **Statewide Model Municipal Ordinance – Electric Vehicles** – Borough Attorney Ingraffia advised that we would look into this matter further.

6 – COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Balistreri congratulated the Chief on his 200 Club Valor award and stated that the Girls’ Softball 50th Anniversary dinner was a success.

Councilman Fakhoury stated that the softball dinner was great. He thanked the Board of Health for putting together the first Senior Day. Lastly, Councilman Fakhoury said that the Borough is lucky to have Chief Foligno and congratulated him on the Valor award.

Councilman Fasolo thanked all involved in Senior Day. He informed the public that applications are completed for the internship program he is currently spearheading and that he is working with the Borough Attorney on the appropriate permission slip forms. Councilman Golabek reported Progress.

Councilwoman Pellegrine discussed the Stomp Out Hunger event that was held in September and shared her gratitude for all of those involved and that donated. She went on to say that students from Immaculate Conception High School volunteered with the RAP Program at the People’s Pantry and thanked them. Councilwoman Pellegrine also discussed the success of Senior Day and praised the Board of Health for their work and announced the next Board meeting date. For her Police report, she congratulated the new officer that completed the academy and announced the date for the indoor Trunk or Treat and Scare house. Councilwoman Pellegrine stated that a Grand Opening was held for Ma’s Tea House and wished the new business much success. To conclude her report, she congratulated the Chief on his Valor award.

Council President Wechtler congratulated the Chief on his Valor award and reiterated the success of the first Senior Day. She inquired about the status of the library reopening and asked the Mayor if there are any meetings scheduled with the Veterans. Council President Wechtler then requested an update on the Vietnam Memorial Monument. She advised that she was unaware of donation packets that were put together. Borough Clerk Delaney stated that she would share both the approving resolution and donation packet with Council President Wechtler.

Mayor Colletti congratulated the Police Chief on the 200 Club Valor award and spoke highly of the success of the 50th Anniversary Softball dinner.

7 – 2nd PUBLIC HEARING:

Carl Roberts, Washington Avenue, requested that the Governing Body keep the fire aerial in mind before adopting the Broadway redevelopment ordinance and plan. He also noted that buses do not yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk.

8 – EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- a. **Legal Reports/Litigation**
- b. **Personnel – Recreation Department**
- c. **Personnel – DPW**
- d. **Personnel – Court**

A motion was made by Council President Wechtler and seconded by Councilwoman Pellegrine to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried by the members present.

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 – Recreation Department
Personnel – Court

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 Balistrieri and seconded by Councilman Fasolo to return to the public portion. Motion carried by the members present.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC
Borough Clerk

Meeting approved at the December 16, 2021 Regular Meeting.