

BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK
WORK MEETING
October 3, 2024
7:00PM

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council for October 3, 2024 was called to order by Borough Clerk Shanee Morris at 7:06PM. The Statement of Compliance was read.

Councilmembers Dennis, Fasolo, Golabek, Pellegrine, Troisi and Council President Sheridan were present. Also present were Mayor Colletti, Borough Clerk Shanee Morris, Borough Administrator Michael Foligno and Borough Attorney Kyle Trent.

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 a special meeting notice in The Record and Herald News 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. Said notice was posted and transmitted on January 6, 2024 and published on January 10, 2024.

Work Meeting Agenda Items:

PUBLIC HEARING:

Lenore Madrachimov announced the passing of Bob Smith who was the head of the Paterson's PBA.

Paster Ron announced the Grand Opening of Café Roma located at Riverfront.

1A – BEST PRACTICE PRESENTATION: C.F.O ROY RIGGITANO

Chief Financial Officer Roy Riggiano went through the Best Practice Survey with the Mayor and Council. He stated what steps need to be taken in order to reach 100% but the Borough did good with the Survey.

1B – RENT CONTROL DISCUSSION

Morgan Properties came before the Mayor and Council to propose an amendment to the current rent control ordinance. Mayor and Council discussed and asked a few questions. (Councilman Golabek recused himself from this discussion)

2 – ENGINEERS REPORT

- a. **Monthly Status Report** – Matthew Baisle from Alaimo Engineering went through his monthly report. The Mayor and Council asked a few questions in reference to the turf field and traffic.

3 – RESOLUTIONS

- a. **Safe and Secure Grant Acceptance** – A resolution will be placed on the October 17, 2024 Mayor and Council Regular meeting.
- b. **Recreation Staff** – A resolution will be placed on the September 19, 2024 Mayor and Council Regular meeting.

- c. **Vacation Buyback** – A resolution will be placed on the September 19, 2024 Mayor and Council Regular meeting.
- d. **Recreation Advisory Board Recommendation (NO BACK-UP)** – The Mayor informed the Council that Dale Fava stepped down from the board and he recommends Glen Pettigano. The Mayor and Council briefly discussed and unanimously agreed to have this item moved to executive for attorney client discussion.

4 – CORRESPONDANCE

- a. **2025-2026 CDBG Application Notification** – No discussion ensued.
- b. **Cannabis Change of Location Recommendation** – Councilman Fasolo briefly discussed with the Mayor and Council what was discussed at the Cannabis meeting leading to this request. Mayor and Council then discussed the location change. A consensus was made and the Mayor and Council agree to move forward. A resolution will be placed on the October 17, 2024 Mayor and Council Regular meeting

5 – DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

- a. **Board of Health Meeting Minutes – August 12, 2024** – Accepted without discussion
- b. **Library Board Meeting Minutes – July 15, 2024** – Accepted without discussion
- c. **Zoning Board Meeting Minutes – July 24, 2024** – Accepted without discussion
- d. **Recreation Meeting Minutes – May 13, 2024** – Accepted without discussion
- e. **Municipal Court Monthly Report – August, 2024** – Accepted without discussion
- f. **Millennium Strategies Monthly Report – Through September, 2024** – Accepted without discussion

6 – COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Dennis reported progress.

Councilman Fasolo stated the Homecoming game was great and reported progress.

Councilman Golabek stated the homecoming game was very nice and there was a strong presence from the Police Department. He then reported progress.

Councilwoman Pellegrine reported the upcoming stomp out hunger and wrestling event for the Residents Assistance Program. For her Boar of Health update, she announced the upcoming Senior event and next meeting date. Lastly, she announced the next Chamber of Commerce meeting.

Councilwoman Troisi announced the new Recreation Director has started. She then announced upcoming events and registration deadlines for Recreation. Lastly, for her Board of Education update announced upcoming projects and the next meeting.

Council President Sheridan announced the opening of CannaVibes.

Mayor Colletti stated the stomp out hunger event went well and gave a lot of credit to CannaVibes for pushing forward and opening.

7 – 2nd PUBLIC HEARING:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Pellegrine and seconded by Council President Sheridan to open to the public. Motion carried unanimously.

Eric Saimson, Obal Avenue asked about the paving at Cherry Hill Park

Lenore Madrachimov, Echo Street made a suggestion of new playground material at the Cherry Hill Park.

Jeanie Freitag, Hillman Drive asked if the warehouse on River Drive is being occupied yet.

Jeanette Randazzo, Franklin Street shared her concern of the proposed new location for Garden Cannabis. Stated there are apartments above.

8 – EXECUTIVE:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Pellegrine and seconded by Councilwoman Troisi to enter into executive. Motion carried unanimously.

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:

Personnel – Police Interview

Personnel – Finance

Personnel – Department of Public Works

Litigation/Legal Report

Attorney-Client

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 Dennis and seconded by Council President Sheridan to adjourn. Motion carried by the members present.

Respectfully submitted,

Shanee Morris, RMC, CMR
Borough Clerk