

BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK

WORK MEETING

October 10, 2013

8:00 p.m.

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council was called to order by Municipal Clerk Keith Kazmark at 8:00 p.m. Statement of Compliance was read.

Governing Body members Caramagna, Castiglia, Colletti, Conboy, Pettigano and Vuoncino and were present. Also present were Mayor Mola, Borough Clerk Keith Kazmark, Borough Engineer Pete Ten Kate and Borough Attorney Brian Giblin.

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 the publishing an annual notice in The Record of Hackensack 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. Said notice was posted on January 1, 2013.

Public Hearing: No one wished to be heard.

Work Meeting Agenda Items:

1 – Presentation of 2014 School Referendum – Dr. Tomko brought the Governing Body up to date regarding the School District's financial status and the re-instating of certain curriculums. He expressed his concerns regarding the condition of the school buildings within the district. Dr. Tomko stated the District would like to put a referendum out to the voters in January 2014. He discussed the improvements which have been approved by the State. He stated that the cost for the project is \$9,992,250 of which 42% of the cost will be paid by the State. He further stated that the improvements are all health and safety related. Councilman Colletti inquired if a line item comes in under budget, how the surplus would be used. Based on the wording in the bond it is very specific therefore any surplus would have to be used toward line items within the bond and could not be used for operating purposes within the District. Councilman Colletti inquired about the process if the bids come in higher than expected. It was stated that at that time the School Board would meet and prioritize the different projects to stay within the budgeted amount. Mayor Mola inquired whether the School District will be seeking a referendum in the future for the bleachers and fields. Dr. Tomko stated the Board is looking into other alternatives such as grants to address those items and at this time is not discussing any future referendum for the bleachers and fields. Councilman Conboy inquired if the funds from the State are definite. Dr. Tomko stated the funds from the State are confirmed. Mayor Mola thanked Dr. Tomko and encouraged any questions that the Council may have to call Dr. Tomko. Mr. Egan stated the Board will go into greater detail about the project at their next Board of Education Meeting.

2 – Engineering Report:

- a. **Monthly Status Report** – Mr. Ten Kate stated the pre-construction meeting for Orange Avenue took place and it is expected that the concrete work will begin around the last week of October. The project has a completion date of November 15, 2013. PSE&G has started to install the main gas line for the emergency generator. Mr. Ten Kate stated that the DEP has requested a 30 day extension regarding Fleischer's Brook by Kipp Avenue. Mr. Ten Kate hopes to have the DEP permit by the end of October, then the job will go out for bid. He stated he reached out to Community Development to request an extension on the project from their office based on the correspondence from the DEP. Mr. Ten Kate inquired whether any of the Council had any comments regarding the Market Street Streetscape. The plans for the streetscape will be forwarded to the State soon. Mr. Ten Kate discussed a grant opportunity for the cleaning of Fleischer's Brook.
- b. **Release Escrow – Block 602, Lot 7** – A resolution will be placed on the October 17, 2013 Regular Meeting agenda.
- c. **Release Performance Bond – Block 1015, Lot 7** – A resolution will be placed on the October 17, 2013 Regular Meeting agenda.

3 – Letter from Mobilization for Animal Rights requesting use of All Purpose Room for 2014 – The request to utilize the all-purpose room in 2014 was approved by the Governing Body.

4 – Revisit Letter from Barbara Dispoto regarding Municipal Alliance – Mr. Kazmark discussed Mr. Dispoto's resignation and recommendation to have someone brought on board to participate in the grant application process. He stated the position is open to anyone, the person does not need to be from within. The position will be posted within the municipal building.

9 – **Release Road Opening Performance Bond – Block 1019, Lot 17** – A resolution will be placed on the October 17, 2013 Regular Meeting agenda.

5 – ORDINANCES:

- a. **Borough Clerk’s Office Fees** – Mr. Kazmark discussed the increase to the fee for Limo Permit Letter from \$10 to \$25. He further discussed codifying raffle fees to be in line with the State’s raffle fees. The ordinance will be introduced at the October 17, 2013 Regular Meeting.

6 – DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

- a. **Recreation Department – Summer Camp Rate Analysis** – Approved without discussion.
- b. **Police Department – September 2013** – Approved without discussion.
- c. **Building Department Report – September 2013** – Approved without discussion.

7 – COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Castiglia discussed the items that were before the Planning Board.

Councilman Caramagna discussed the improvements that need to be made at the schools. He further discussed the power outages and the damages caused by the storm which recently went through the Borough. He discussed the garbage and the overgrowth by the Route 80 exit. Councilman Caramagna inquired about making Gilbert Avenue from Elm Street to River Drive a one way. Mr. Kazmark stated that Chief Johnson is currently working on a survey of the residents and will provide his findings to the Council.

Councilman Conboy stated that Ms. Puglisi is now recertified as a Recreation Director. He discussed the Recreation’s attempt in the past to start up a Mommy and Me class. He further discussed Ms. Puglisi teaming up with a mom to try a new program called Mommies at Play. He stated there was a significant amount of moms that turned out for the program, and Ms. Puglisi is going to expand the program. Councilman Conboy discussed that Ms. Puglisi is seeking State certification as a Playground Equipment Inspector. He stated Ms. Puglisi would like to schedule a follow up meeting with Police Department and Public Works along with their liaisons regarding the parks. He discussed his conversations with Mr. Riggitano regarding the upcoming budget. He further discussed that Mr. Riggitano would like to meet with the Council in November to discuss the 2014 budget. Councilman Conboy discussed the Chamber of Commerce’s interest in purchasing and donating a new holiday tree for the Borough in 2014.

Councilman Pettigano discussed the upcoming Health Clinics.

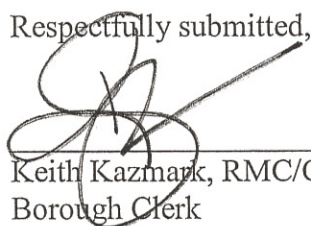
Councilman Vuoncino stated that Officer Barone is preparing a survey for Gilbert Avenue. Due to a conflict Chief Johnson was not able to attend tonight’s meeting to discuss staffing. Chief Johnson will be at the next work session. He discussed a training session pertaining to treating burn patients in which the members of the Ambulance Corps received CEUs. He further discussed day time coverage from the Elmwood Park Ambulance Corps. He discussed that other agencies are responding to calls which are transmitted over the radio. This results in bills being issued by the company to residents.

Councilman Colletti stated he has seen the improvements that are needed by the School District. He further stated it would be foolish to not take advantage of the 42% State funds for the project.

Mayor Mola discussed the concerns about a couple of trees on 18th Avenue. He discussed an email received regarding yard sale signs. He asked that Mr. Giblin review the letter and give his recommendation to the Council at the next meeting. The Mayor stated that there is a claim that a letter was received by a resident with his name on it stating that the Borough is not cleaning Fleischer’s Brook. He further stated an attempt is being made to get a copy of the letter. The Mayor reported that parking issues once again exist on Kipp Avenue near the Garfield School. Parents are parking along Kipp Avenue and the Elmwood Park Police have been ticketing those vehicles. Garfield’s City Manager Mr. Duch stated that a meeting could be set up between the School and the Elmwood Park Police Department to rectify the problem.

A motion was made by Councilman Conboy and seconded by Councilman Castiglia to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carries.

Respectfully submitted,



Keith Kazmark, RMC/CMC/MMC
Borough Clerk

Minutes approved at the October 17, 2013 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council.