

**BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK**  
**WORK MEETING**  
**December 11, 2014**  
**8:00 p.m.**

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

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, 2014.

Governing Body members Colletti, Dombrowski, Martino, Pettigano, Vouncino and Caramagna were present. Also present were Mayor Mola, Deputy Borough Clerk Barbara Dispoto, Borough Clerk Keith Kazmark arrived at 8:10 p.m. due to a medical appointment, and Borough Attorney Guiseppe Randazzo.

**Public Hearing:** No one wished to be heard.

**Work Meeting Agenda Items:**

**1 – ENGINEERING REPORT:**

- a. **Engineering Status Report** – Mr. Murphy discussed the submission of the Open Space Grant application to the County. Discussion ensued as to the emergency sewer work which was completed on Market Street near the CVS. Councilman Martino inquired about the cost of the repair. Mr. Murphy and Mr. Karcz discussed what is involved in repairing the sewer. Mr. Murphy discussed issues with storm drains located at the Senior Center parking lot. He stated if the repair was to be included with another ongoing project the repair cost would be less than if a contractor was hired to do the repair. Councilman Colletti inquired about the safety issue regarding the location of the storm drains and the urgency to make the repair. Deputy Clerk Dispoto inquired whether the repair can be completed by the Department of Public Works. Mr. Karcz stated his employees can raise the storm drains an inch or two, however that would only be a temporary fix. Mr. Karcz discussed a leach field that was located in that area and how that has contributed to the sinking of the storm drain. The Council will revisit the storm drains during discussion of the 2015 Road Program. Mr. Murphy discussed the PSE&G Energy Strong Project which will affect many roadways within the Borough. He stated some of the maps provided by PSE&G did not have street names and he requested the maps be updated to include the names. He further stated a schedule of the work has not yet been supplied. Mr. Murphy discussed a joint meeting with himself, Pete Ten Kate and the County regarding the multiple projects relative to Market Street. He stated a phone conference will take place to discuss the scheduling of multiple projects. Councilman Dombrowski inquired as to the projected start date of Pump Station #6. Mr. Murphy stated the awarding of the bid should take place in the fall of 2015 with the work being completed in 2016. Mr. Murphy discussed the status of the 2014 Road Program. Councilman Dombrowski discussed the striping of the intersection of Route 46 and Boulevard. Borough Clerk Kazmark discussed an upcoming meeting with the DOT in which the striping of the intersection will be discussed along with other items of importance. Discussion ensued regarding ponding along Market Street.
- b. **Letter from the NJ Turnpike Authority regarding Right-of-Way** – Mr. Murphy discussed the letter from the NJ Turnpike Authority and the pictures included with the correspondence which show residents encroaching on the right-of-way. After some discussion the Council agreed to have Mr. Murphy send a response to the NJ Turnpike Authority.
- c. **Correspondence regarding drain grates at the Recreation Center** – Mr. Murphy will visit the location to assess what needs to be addressed and the urgency of those needs.

**2 – RESOLUTION REQUESTS:**

- a. **Request to extend free gym membership to Recreation Department coaches** – A resolution will be placed on the December 18, 2014 Regular Meeting agenda.
- b. **Request to hire two Gym Supervisors – Recreation Department** – Councilman Dombrowski inquired whether all interested Borough residents were vented for the positions. Ms. Puglisi stated the one individual is already an employee, she is requesting that he be approved for additional duties as a Gym Supervisor. Councilman Dombrowski asked for it to be put on record that he encourages the venting of any new employees that are Elmwood Park residents.

- c. **Request to use All Purpose Room in 2015 – NJ Community Center of the Deaf, Inc. –** A resolution will be placed on the December 18, 2014 Regular Meeting agenda.

**3 – Memorandum from Zoning Officer Richard Bolan regarding Riverside Service Center –** Borough Clerk Kazmark stated that if the need arises, Mr. Bolan can be reached via the phone for this discussion. Discussion ensued as to the memorandum from Mr. Bolan. Councilman Dombrowski discussed setting up a meeting with the business owner, his attorney, Police Chief and the Borough Attorney to try and ratify the parking issues. After further discussion it was decided the Building Department was to issue summons for the infractions which exist.

**4 – Correspondence from Mr. Karcz & Mr. Randazzo regarding sewer connection fees –** Mr. Karcz discussed history regarding ordinances pertaining to sewer connection fees for new structures within the Borough. He further discussed that it has been brought to his attention that Passaic Valley Sewer Commission is also charging a sewer connection fee. Mr. Karcz stated the sewer pipes are owned by the Borough and are metered, therefore all sewer waste leaving the Borough is metered and paid for by the Borough. He further stated that he has looked in past ordinances as to whether Passaic Valley is mentioned regarding a connection fee and he was unable to find the mention of Passaic Valley, his research dates as far back as early 1966. Mr. Karcz asked that Borough Attorney Randazzo look into whether Passaic Valley has the right to charge residents or contractors a connection fee beyond what is charged by the Borough. Mr. Karcz stated that when a contractor demolishes a one-family home and re-constructs a one-family utilizing the same sewer connection, Passaic Valley is also charging the contractor a connection fee. Mr. Karcz discussed an ordinance regarding sewer connections in Rochelle Park and stated the wording in our Borough code needs to be reviewed. Councilman Dombrowski stated a meeting with the Ordinance Committee will be planned to review Mr. Karcz's concerns with the ordinance. Mr. Karcz also discussed raising the amount of the Road Opening Performance Bonds. After some discussion it was decided that Borough Attorney Randazzo will review the Passaic Valley Sewer Commission File and the Council will revisit the ordinance in January 2015.

**5 – PSE&G Energy Strong Maps –** Discussion ensued during the Engineering Report regarding roadways that have been previously resurfaced by the Borough which are marked on the maps provided by PSE&G to have gasline work conducted. Councilman Colletti inquired as to the ability to avoid paving roadways that are going to be worked on by PSE&G in the future. Mr. Karcz stated that PSE&G will mill and resurface any roadway which has been resurfaced within a five year period prior to the start of the projects which require the roadway to be dug up.

**6 – DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- a. **Recreation Department Report – November & December 2014 –** Accepted without discussion
- b. **Police Department Report – November 2014 –** Accepted without discussion
- c. **Library Board Minutes – October 20, 2014 –** Accepted without discussion
- d. **Building Department Report – November 2014 –** Accepted without discussion
- e. **Municipal Court Report – November 2014 –** Accepted without discussion

**7 – COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilman Pettigano discussed the County's desire to create a walk/biking path through multiple municipalities. He further discussed the planning is in the very early stages.

Councilman Vuoncino discussed the NJ SEM and an increase to their transmission fees. He also stated the Ambulance Corps. is having their annual Christmas party.

Councilman Dombrowski asked Borough Clerk Kazmark to ask the Building Official check a local auto body shop because he is concerned that they may be participating in auto sales which they are not authorized to do. Councilman Dombrowski stated the Board of Health had their monthly meeting in which they voted 6-1 in favor of entering a shared services with the County for Health Services. He further stated the Chamber of Commerce had their Christmas party and also discussed the success of their fundraising efforts. He congratulated Ms. Puglisi and the Recreation staff on the success of the Holiday Tree Lighting event.

Councilman Caramagna reported progress.

Councilman Martino discussed an upcoming trip to the Mt. Airy Lodge by the Homeowners Association.

Councilman Colletti asked the Borough Clerk Kazmark to obtain some proposals for the refurbishment of the tank.

Mayor Mola reported progress.

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 Department**  
**Potential Litigation – Recreation Department – EP United Soccer**  
**Litigation – Buonanno v. Borough of Elmwood Park**  
**Personnel – Municipal Clerk’s Office**

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 Councilman Vuoncino and seconded by Councilman Pettigano to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

**Personnel – Police Department**  
**Potential Litigation – Recreation Department – EP United Soccer**  
**Litigation – Buonanno v. Borough of Elmwood Park**  
**Personnel – Municipal Clerk’s Office**

A motion was made by Councilman Dombrowski and seconded by Councilman Vuoncino to return to the public session. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Dombrowski and seconded by Councilman Vuoncino to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Keith Kazmark, RMC/CMC/MMC  
Borough Clerk

*Minutes approved by the Mayor and Council at the Regular Meeting of February 5, 2015*