

BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK
WORK MEETING
November 12, 2015
8:00 p.m.

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council for November 12, 2015 was called to order by Municipal Clerk Keith Kazmark at 8:00 p.m. The 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, 2015.

Council Members Caramagna, Colletti, Martino, Vuoncino and Dombrowski were present. Councilman Pettigano was absent. Also present were Mayor Mola, Borough Clerk Keith Kazmark, Borough Attorney Randazzo and Borough Engineer Nordan Murphy.

Public Hearing: No one from the public wished to be heard.

Work Meeting Agenda Items:

1 – ENGINEERING REPORT:

- a. **Monthly Status Report** – Mr. Murphy referenced item listed as 1-c and will be discussed as a separate matter. The 2015 CDBG application for Lee Street and Orchard Street has been submitted and we are awaiting a response from the County. The 2015 County Open Space Grant for Cherry Hill Park was submitted. The Mayor and Council agreed to fund the balance of the project and we are awaiting a formal award from the County. The 2014 County Open Space Grant for the Hockey Rink will be addressed under item 1-b. The emergency water main repair at Franklin and Grant Streets will be addressed under item 1-k. We are awaiting the FY 2016 Municipal Aid Grant award from Boulevard Section 10 – Phase 2. Mr. Murphy reported that he is reviewing the punch list for the PSE&G Energy Strong project and that some streets will not be addressed until spring. He is still awaiting a date from the DOT for striping at Route 46 and the Boulevard. Mr. Murphy addressed the Water Tank Rehabilitation and that the firm is reviewing the study conducted. There is a possibility the tank may need to be replaced as there may be structural issues. He brought the Council up to date on the Pump Station #6 project. The contractor ran into two unmarked utilities. No one has taken responsibility for them. He will be back in touch with Soundview regarding the matter and was directed by the Council to have a firm investigate the ownership of the utilities at a cost of not to exceed \$2,500. Mr. Murphy discussed the 2014 Road Program and that he is pushing AJM Contracting on the punch list items. On English Avenue Park the contractor is working. The lights are up and the grading is done. The driveway has been moved back and there is a change order for the project below. He reported upon the 2015 Road Program and discussed how far into the season we can pave. Finally, he discussed the Boulevard Improvements – Sections 8, 9 and 10 which is awaiting DOT approval of the bid.
- b. **Proposal for Hockey Rink Improvements** – The Mayor and Council requested a resolution for the December 3, 2015 Public Meeting.
- c. **Proposal for Improvements to Franklin Street, Gall Avenue, Summit Street & North Street** – The Mayor and Council requested a resolution for the December 3, 2015 Public Meeting.
- d. **Change Order #1 – English Avenue Improvements** – The Mayor and Council requested a resolution for the December 3, 2015 Public Meeting.
- e. **Change Order #1 – Market Street Force Main** - The Mayor and Council requested a resolution for the December 3, 2015 Public Meeting.
- f. **Payment Estimate #1 – English Avenue Park Improvements** – Mr. Kazmark was directed to have the Finance Department process the invoice for payment.
- g. **Payment Estimates #1 & 2 – Market Street Force Main Improvements** – Mr. Kazmark was directed to have the Finance Department process the invoice for payment.
- h. **Letter from Valerie Struckis regarding ADA curbing at 29 Franklin Street** – Mr. Murphy advised that he met with this resident prior to the meeting to discuss her concerns and provided his contract information should a flooding issue present itself.
- i. **Request by Steven P. Conte Jr. for reimbursement for pothole repairs on Terrace Street** – The invoice from Mr. Conte was discussed. Mr. Kazmark discussed this setting a prescient should residents make improvements to public areas. After additional discussion it was decided to deny the reimbursement.
- j. **Letter from Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission regarding Municipal Sewer Collection System Planning** – Mr. Murphy advised the Mayor and Council that we will need to meet with a representative

from PVSC to discuss what they are asking the town to do with regard to a study of the sewerage system to identify infiltration, etc. This could be costly for the Borough. He and Mr. Kazmark will report back.

- k. **Emergency Water Main Repair – Franklin & Grant Streets** – The Mayor and Council requested a resolution for the December 3, 2015 Public Meeting.

2 – End of the Year JIF Report – Frank Covelli – Mr. Covelli reviewed the year-end report and discussed the various insurances coverages and programs provided by the Joint Insurance Fund.

3 – State Inspection Report for After School Program – Quotes – Mr. Kazmark advised the Mayor and Council of the recent State inspection of the Recreation Center relative to the operation of the After School Program. Many of the violations have been mitigated by the Recreation Director and her staff; however there are costly issues that must be addressed, such as fencing around the playground area and fencing around the entire facility. Mr. Kazmark advised that we will need to apply for a license to utilize the senior citizen area of the center for the After School program. He and Mrs. Puglisi are recommending that they meet with Senator Pou to discuss these matters. The Mayor and Council asked Mr. Kazmark to set up the meeting.

4 – Request for handicap parking spot at 50 Gall Avenue – The Mayor and Council directed Mr. Kazmark to send a letter of denial based on the Elmwood Park Police Department's recommendation.

5 – Green Communities Program – Recycling/Solid Waste Containers – This matter was held, at the request of Council President Joe Dombrowski until the next work session in December.

6 – Letter from Mayor Daniel Mahler of Wanaque asking for support for the elimination or reduction of County Government – Accepted with no discussion.

7 – Appointment List for 2016 – Accepted with no discussion.

8 – DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

- a. **Municipal Court Report – October 2015** – Accepted with no discussion.
- b. **Municipal Court Case Flow Summary** – Accepted with no discussion.
- c. **Building Department Report – August & September 2015** – Accepted with no discussion.
- d. **Library Minutes September 21, 2015** – Council President Dombrowski asked the Clerk about incomplete Library Board minutes. Mr. Kazmark advised that the Library Board would need to amend them before they voted upon them for approval.
- e. **Recreation Department Report – October 2015** – Accepted with no discussion.

9 – COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Pettigano was absent.

Councilman Vuoncino announced the Volunteer Ambulance Corps. Christmas Party and Installation Dinner dates. He reported that the first VAC rig is being retrofitted now and the second will be sent out once the first one is complete.

Councilman Dombrowski stated that he Board of Health is very pleased with the service from the County. He discussed our former Animal Control company having an issue which was reported on in the newspaper. He reported that the Chamber of Commerce Bowl-A-Thon has been cancelled.

Councilman Caramagna congratulated Councilmembers-Elect Chirido and Giandomenico. He also congratulated the Mayor. The Councilman discussed his concerns about political signs and distributed a sheet with his recommendations. He would like to see no small signs and place restrictions on other signs like other towns have. Mr. Kazmark stated that an ordinance could be created which places limits on signs such as size, dates posted, dates removed, restricts placement on public property, etc. In addition, to remove the small signs a gentlemen's agreement would need to be made by the local political parties as posting signs is a First Amendment Right. Discussion between the Mayor and Councilman Caramagna ensued. A poll was taken of the Council as to whether to move forward with an ordinance to restrict the political signs and the poll was 3-2 (Dombrowski, Caramagna and Martino – yes; Vuoncino and Colletti – no) to move forward. Councilman Caramagna then discussed a meeting schedule which would reduce the meetings to two a month. Discussion ensued. The Councilman then addressed relocating the Recycling Coordinator from the Mayor's Office to the Department of Public Works. Discussion ensued. Borough Attorney Randazzo cautioned the Governing Body about discussing an employee who was not RICE Noticed for the meeting. A poll was taken as to whether to move the Recycling Coordinator to the DPW facility and the poll was 3-2 (Dombrowski, Caramagna and Martino – yes; Vuoncino and Colletti – no). The Mayor expressed his displeasure with decision. Council President Dombrowski stated that many Recycling Coordinators work from the DPW offices in the county. Councilman Caramagna then proposed combining the Planning and Zoning Boards. Discussion as to the legalities of combining the two ensued. Discussion of population requirements ensued as well. Councilman

Caramagna addressed the topic of Mayor and Council salaries. He further asked the Mayor the status of the 75th Anniversary book. Discussion ensued.

Councilman Martino reported progress.

Councilman Colletti reported on the Fire Chief's meeting and stated that Assistant Chief Shadwell is getting better.

Mayor Mola had no report.

10 – EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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 (Pulled from Agenda)**
- Personnel – Department of Public Works**
- Personnel – Finance Department**
- Litigation – COAH**
- Personnel – 2105 Department Head/Hourly Employee 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.

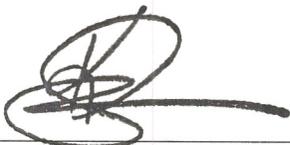
A motion was made by Councilman Vuoncino and seconded by Council President Dombrowski to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried by the members present.

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A motion was made by Councilman Colletti and seconded by Councilman Vuoncino to return to the public session. Motion carried by the members present.

A motion was made by Council President Dombrowski and seconded by Councilman Vuoncino to adjourn at 10:40 pm. Motion carried by the members present.

Respectfully submitted,



Keith Kazmark, RMC/CMC/MMC
Borough Clerk

Minutes approved at the December 3, 2015 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council.