

**BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK
JOINT MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
AND THE LIBRARY BOARD**

**September 21, 2015
6:00 p.m.**

The Joint Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council and the Library Board for September 21, 2015 was called to order by Municipal Clerk Keith Kazmark at 6:04 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 meeting 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 August 17, 2015.

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

Public Hearing: No one wished to be heard.

Joint Meeting Agenda Items:

1 – Discussion regarding Library Capital Improvements - Councilman Louis Vuoncino led the discussion and described why he asked for this meeting. The Councilman asked the Library Board what the Capital Plans includes, what the time frame is for the improvements and what are the priorities of the project. He asked about the new five year capital plan. Library Board attorney Michael Cerone indicated that RSC Architects are preparing plans which will be all encompassing based on the 2012 Capital Plan. Councilman Vuoncino asked what the benchmarks are for this plan and asked how the Library Board has identified the needs of the public 5-10 years down the road?

Council President Joe Dombrowski asked about the balance in the capital account. He discussed the HVAC system and the proposed expansion of the building. Council President Dombrowski asked about the need to expand and whether it will be ADA accessible? Councilman Vuoncino asked what has driven the plan the architect is developing.

Board Member Kathleen Policano discussed the need to service children. Ms. Policano stated she met with the architect and commented that she felt the expansion upward was not a better option than going out the side of the building. The Mayor stated that the architect is an expert in libraries and feels we need to maintain the integrity of building. He further indicated that the architect sits on Library Board in Glen Rock and that the proposal is currently being prepared.

Councilman Vuoncino asked what justifies the need for more space. Board President Joseph Suplicki stated the programs justify the need for more space and that the children's programs are especially overcrowded. Councilman Vuoncino stated the State data shows the programing has been flat for last 4 years. He further discussed the article in paper about the Rutherford Library capital improvement. The Mayor stated that the architect is aware that technology needs to be addressed. He further discussed that the library has always done their own maintenance and has never asked the town to pay for improvements. Councilman, Vuoncino stated he is looking for the statement of work provide to the architect by the Library Board.


Library Board Member Richard Trawinski discussed the history of the capital account, maintenance and questioned the need for the expansion. Councilman Vuoncino discussed the future of the Library. Council President Dombrowski discussed hiring an architect four months ago and that we are no further along than we were in 2012. He discussed some maintenance issues including unfixed soffits. The Council President asked about ownership of the building itself. Mr. Cerone stated the title of the building is in name of Borough. Discussion about

jurisdiction ensued. Mr. Cerone discussed Title 54 and that the Library Board is responsible for the building. Councilman Colletti stated libraries will never become obsolete. He is also against closing in the atrium.

Councilman Vuoncino asked about surveying the public to assess needs. Library Board Member Doris Wechtler asked the Board President about time frame for plans. She suggested the Board President contact the architect to get a time frame. She also recommended that the Board invite the Mayor and Council and Board of Education to review plans once received to provide feedback. Council President Dombrowski spoke about the time it has taken to plan this project. He expressed a lot of concern about the climate control in the building. Mayor Mola stated that the architect is an expert and is guiding the Library Board. He further discussed the cost. Mr. Trawinski discussed the heating and air conditioning costs. The Mayor discussed the Library Board being frugal, but also responsible. Council President Dombrowski discussed the leaks in the building and soffit issues. Councilman, Vuoncino requested some action items be undertaken. He requested the RFP for the architect be provided to the Council. He further asked that the plan from architect be shared so the Mayor and council can review. The Library Board agreed.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Keith Kazmark, RMC/CMC/MMC
Borough Clerk

Minutes approved at the October 1, 2015 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council.