

BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK
WORK MEETING
February 13, 2020
7:00PM

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council for February 13, 2020 was called to order by Municipal Clerk Erin Delaney at 7:02PM. The Statement of Compliance was read.

Councilmembers Fasolo, Golabek, Ingui, Pellegrine, Wechtler, and Council President Balistrieri were present. Also present were Mayor Colletti, Municipal Clerk Erin Delaney, Borough Administrator Michael Foligno and Borough Attorney Salvatore A. Ingraffia.

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 an annual notice in The Record 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. Notice was published on January 8, 2020.

Work Meeting Agenda Items:

PUBLIC HEARING:

Gladys Gryskiewicz, Fencsak Avenue, raised concerns about curb conditions as she feels some curbs were not done by code. Additionally, she feels that certain curbs were done at the cost of the Borough when other curbs in worse condition have not been done. Ms. Gryskiewicz stated that the Borough should meet their residents halfway. Lastly, she concluded by saying that the Borough is not doing enough to make the Borough look good and that the tank wall was poorly done.

Jeffrey Freitag, Hillman Drive, referenced the Borough ordinance that addresses curb replacement and inquired as to whether or not an ordinance can override policy. He asked if Roosevelt Avenue was going to be paved and stated that Hillman Drive was paved but the curbs were not done.

Richard Trawinski, Walnut Street, suggested that when the Borough Engineer works on the Road Program, they look into pricing for residents with poor sidewalk conditions so that they can perhaps get them done at a cheaper cost.

Joseph Dombrowski, Lincoln Avenue, asked for a status update on the Borough obtaining their own BLS license.

Jeanne Freitag, Hillman Drive, noted that the Hillman Drive veteran street sign for William Soff is missing. She also expressed her gratitude to whomever removed the sign boards at River Drive and Road.

1 – CORRESPONDENCE:

- a. **Property Appraisal** – No discussion ensued.
- b. **Preliminary Engineers Estimate – 2019 Municipal Aid** – No discussion ensued.

2 – RESOLUTIONS:

- a. **Third Party Tax Lien** – A resolution will be placed on the February 27th, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda of the Mayor and Council.
- b. **Refund Overpayments – New Jersey Tax Court Judgement** – A resolution will be placed on the February 27th, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda of the Mayor and Council.
- c. **Bergen County Open Space Contract – Rosemont Park** – A resolution will be placed on the February 27th, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda of the Mayor and Council.
- d. **Stigma Free Committee** – A resolution will be placed on the February 27th, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda of the Mayor and Council.
- e. **Recreation Refunds** – A resolution will be placed on the February 27th, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda of the Mayor and Council.
- f. **Full-time Crossing Guard** – A resolution will be placed on the February 27th, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda of the Mayor and Council.
- g. **Tax Exemption for Disabled Veteran** – A resolution will be placed on the February 27th, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda of the Mayor and Council.
- h. **Water Main Break – Emergency Resolution** – A resolution will be placed on the February 27th, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda of the Mayor and Council.
- i. **Fire Department Resignations** – A resolution will be placed on the February 27th, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda of the Mayor and Council.

- j. **Dedication by Rider Request** – Borough Administrator Foligno advised that a COAH Trust Fund account needs to be established so that COAH fees can be collected through Building Department permit costs.
- k. **NJDEP TWA Application** – The Borough Attorney asked that this item be held so that it can be further researched.
- l. **Recreation Counselor Request** – A resolution will be placed on the February 27th, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda of the Mayor and Council.
- m. **Current Estimate #5 & Final, Change Order #1 – 2018 Road Program** – A resolution will be placed on the February 27th, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda of the Mayor and Council.
- n. **Current Estimate #1 – 2018 CDBG** – A resolution will be placed on the February 27th, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda of the Mayor and Council.

3 – ORDINANCES:

- a. **Bond Ordinance** – CFO Roy Riggiano provided an overview of the capital bond request. The bond ordinance will be introduced at the February 27th, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council.
- b. **Airbnb/Short-term Rentals** – Borough Clerk Delaney informed the Governing Body of residential complaints of Airbnb listings within the Borough. Mayor Colletti stated that he feels an ordinance is essential as nothing good can come out of permitting these short-term rentals in town. Borough Clerk Delaney stated that she would share Garfield’s recently passed ordinance with the Borough Attorney so that he can draft one similar in nature. Discussion occurred in regards to the length of days to be incorporated in the ordinance. The ordinance will be introduced at the February 27th, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council.

4 – APPLICATIONS:

- a. **Liquor License Transfer** – Borough Clerk Delaney advised the Governing Body of a pending liquor license transfer where Just Grapes Lounge will be selling their consumption license to Hook & Reel.

5 – DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

- a. **Board of Health Minutes – December 2019 & January 2020** – Accepted without discussion.
- b. **Building Department Monthly Reports – November-December 2019** – Accepted without discussion.
- c. **Library Board Minutes – December 16, 2019** – Accepted without discussion.
- d. **Fire Prevention Monthly Report – December 2019** – Accepted without discussion.
- e. **Planning Board Meeting Minutes – December 2019 & January 2020** – Accepted without discussion.
- f. **Police Department Monthly Report – December 2019** – Accepted without discussion.
- g. **Finance Department Monthly Report – January 2020** – Accepted without discussion.
- h. **Millennium Strategies Monthly Report – January 2020** – Accepted without discussion.
- i. **Municipal Court Monthly Report – January 2020** – Accepted without discussion.
- j. **DPW Monthly Reports** – Accepted without discussion.
- k. **Building Department Tracker Report** – Accepted without discussion.
- l. **Police Department Monthly Report – January 2020** – Accepted without discussion.

6 – COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Fasolo shared his Board of Education meeting update and asked that the Borough look into coordinating with an “app” called Recycle Coach that residents would be able to access from their phones and/or computers for garbage and recycling information/reminders.

Councilman Golabek stated that the Planning Board recently approved a routine application for an office building.

Councilwoman Ingui reported progress.

Councilwoman Pellegrine advised the Governing Body that the Borough has been assigned a new Health Inspector from the County. For her Board of Health update, she announced the dates of the rabies clinics for 2020 and next meeting. Councilwoman Pellegrine read the latest Police Department call report. Lastly, she shared upcoming dates for the RAP Appreciation Breakfast and Chamber of Commerce meeting.

Councilwoman Wechtler provided an update on the work at the library and announced dates of the next Library Board and Homeowners Association meetings.

Council President Balistrieri provided details in regards to summer camp registration and the next Stigma Free meeting.

Mayor Colletti discussed his visit to the latest AARP Senior meeting. He stated that at the meeting he was advised that the group does not receive the \$7,500.00 senior stipend that other groups have received; therefore, he has asked the CFO to look into whether or not it is permissible.

7 – 2nd PUBLIC HEARING:

Joseph Dombrowski, Lincoln Avenue, cautioned the Mayor and Council on provided stipends to all senior groups established within the Borough as numerous groups can be formed.

Jeanne Freitag, Hillman Drive, concurred with Mr. Dombrowski about being cautious and stated that she believes one senior group paid to rent Borough facilities.

Doug DeMatteo, Lincoln Avenue, inquired as to the long-term plan with the Borough's EMS services and requested information from the CFO regarding ambulance and fire department costs.

8 – EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- a. **Special Legal Counsel**
- b. **Litigation/Legal Reports**
- c. **Rent Leveling Board Secretary**
- d. **Fire Department – Personnel**
- e. **Payroll – Personnel**
- f. **Police Department – Personnel**

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:

Special Legal Counsel
Litigation/Legal Reports
Rent Leveling Board Secretary
Fire Department – Personnel
Payroll – Personnel
Police Department – Personnel

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 Wechtler and seconded by Councilman Fasolo to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried by the members present.

Special Legal Counsel
Litigation/Legal Reports
Rent Leveling Board Secretary
Fire Department – Personnel
Payroll – Personnel
Police Department – Personnel

A motion was made by Councilwoman Wechtler and seconded by Councilman Fasolo to return to the public portion. Motion carried by the members present.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Pellegrine and seconded by Councilman Golabek to adjourn. Motion carried by the members present.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC
Borough Clerk

Minutes approved at the April 2, 2020 Special Meeting of the Mayor and Council.