

**BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK**  
**WORK MEETING**  
**February 4, 2021**  
**7:00PM**

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council for February 4, 2021 was called to order by Municipal Clerk Erin Delaney at 7:02PM. The Statement of Compliance was read.

Councilmembers Balistrieri, Fakhoury, Fasolo, Golabek, Pellegrine, and Council President Wechtler 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 posted on January 8, 2021 and published on January 13, 2021.

**Work Meeting Agenda Items:**

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Dominick Scalcione, E. 54<sup>th</sup> Street, addressed the Mayor & Council by mentioning that other communities are providing their residents with a vaccination site. He suggested that the Governing Body look into joining another community to provide the same to Elmwood Park residents. He also shared that Elmwood Park's rate have decreased and congratulated Chief Foligno for his heroic acts earlier in the day.

**1 – ENGINEERS REPORT**

- a. **2019 NJDOT Municipal Aid Funds** – Councilman Golabek requested that this item be held in executive being that he has a legal question. All were in favor of doing so.
- b. **2018 CDBG Current Estimate #3 & Final and Change Order #2** – A resolution will be placed on the February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- c. **Monthly Status Report** – Michael Cristaldi from Alaimo Group provided an update on the River Road/Drive intersection as the County has agreed to cover portions of the design work. Alaimo will provide their proposal based on the remainder of the work the Borough will be responsible for. Additionally, he stated that the Washington Avenue repairs were completed before the recent snow fall. Councilman Golabek requested that a meeting be held at the end of February in regards to the Marina project and Borough Administrator Foligno requested that the Engineer provide a proposal regarding the Borough-wide drainage program as soon as possible.

**2 – RESOLUTIONS**

- a. **NJDOT Proposed Utility Engineering and Construction Agreement** – Borough Clerk Delaney provided Borough Attorney Ingraffia the supporting documents for the agreement submitted by the NJDOT. She requested that he look over the documents and request so that he can provide an opinion at the following work session.
- b. **Millennium Strategies Proposal** – Disaster Recovery – Councilman Golabek stated that Millennium Strategies should work on the proposal out of their own good will as they are already paid a monthly figure. It was advised that disaster recovery programs are not included in the original scope/contract. Councilman Golabek requested that it be included in the 2022 RFP scope. Borough Clerk Delaney stated that she would send the contract to Borough Attorney Ingraffia for his confirmation that disaster recovery is, in fact, not included.
- c. **Firefighter Resignation** – A resolution will be placed on the February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- d. **LGBTQ Pride Month** – A resolution will be placed on the February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- e. **Fire Department Equipment Request** – A resolution will be placed on the February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.

### **3 – ORDINANCES**

- a. **Tattooing Prohibited** – The Governing Body agreed that tattoo shops should no longer be prohibited within the Borough. They requested that the Borough Attorney draft an ordinance to discuss at the next work session meeting that includes perimeters in making it legal.

### **4 – COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilman Fasolo thanked the Chief for his heroic acts and commended the DPW for all of their work during the snow storms. He then shared that Prospect Park invested in a SnoGo machine that may be beneficial to invest in as well. Borough Administrator Foligno advised that the DPW Superintendent requested to purchase a smaller version and that he would report back once quotes and more details are received.

Council President Wechtler thanked the Fire Chief, DPW, Police Department, EMS, and Chief Foligno for their heroic work earlier in the day. She then commended the DPW for their work during the recent snow storms and advised that there is a Library Board meeting this upcoming Monday. Council President Wechtler advised that the library is starting to be furnished and that they hope for a May opening.

Councilwoman Balistrieri echoed the sentiments regarding the Chief for his life-saving moment earlier in the day. She then thanked the DPW for the time and effort put into cleaning up after the snow storm. Councilwoman Balistrieri stated that the remote Recreation Advisory Board meeting went well and commended the Director. She ended by congratulating Councilman Fakhoury again.

Councilman Golabek stated that Chief Foligno’s heroic act was a job well done.

Councilwoman Pellegrine started off by stating she was not surprised with Chief Foligno’s rescue earlier in the day and that he is a hero. She then provided her Police update, shared the upcoming meeting date for the Board of Health, and thanked the DPW for their snow labors. Lastly, Councilwoman Pellegrine updated everyone on the RAP program’s shoveling efforts and thanked Mr. Mulligan and his student volunteers.

Councilman Fakhoury advised that although he does not have a report, he would like to thank Chief Foligno for his life-saving moment and the DPW for a job well done in clearing the snow.

Mayor Colletti provided a brief explanation for looking to expand upon the Police Table of Organization being that, due to state statute, the Borough cannot hire part-time officers to fill in the gaps during times of shortage. He ended by thanking the Chief for saving two residents’ lives earlier in the day.

### **5 – 2nd PUBLIC HEARING:**

Jeffrey Freitag, Hillman Drive, wished Councilman Fakhoury good luck and commended the Chief on a job well done. Mr. Freitag then raised concerns about the proposed resolution to raise a flag for LGBTQ Pride month as he feels requests for other ceremonial flags will follow, may be hard to keep up with, and may expose the Borough legally. He also questioned the e-mail Mr. Fasolo previously reference by asking if there was any criminality to it.

Dominick Scalcione, E. 54<sup>th</sup> Street, shared his hope that the Borough would explore bringing the vaccine to the community but recommended that they be careful in its endorsement.

### **6 – EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- a. **Legal Reports/Litigation**
- b. **Personnel – Engineering**

**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:

**Legal Reports/Litigation**  
**Personnel – Engineering**

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

A motion was made by Councilwoman Balistreri and seconded by Council President Wechtler 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,

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Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC  
Borough Clerk