

BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK
WORK MEETING
May 13, 2021
7:00PM

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council for May 13, 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. Ingrassia.

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:

No one from the public wished to be heard.

1 – ENGINEERS REPORT

- a. **Proposal for Design Services – 2021 Gutter/Curb Replacement on PSE&G Streets –** The Mayor and Council wished to hold this item until further direction is given from PSE&G. Councilman Golabek was concerned with the proposed project cost and Mayor Colletti requested more information as to how long it would take.
- b. **Monthly Status Report –** Thomas Lemanowicz from Alaimo Group reviewed the Monthly Status Report.

2 – CORRESPONDENCE

- a. **NJDOT Fiscal Year 2022 State Aid Program –** No discussion ensued.

3 – RESOLUTIONS

- a. **Vacation/Holiday Buyback Requests –** A resolution will be placed on the May 20th, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- b. **BCUA Solid Waste Cooperative Marketing Program –** This item was pulled from the agenda.
- c. **Fire Prevention Bureau Vehicle Request –** A resolution will be placed on the May 20th 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- d. **Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption –** A resolution will be placed on the May 20th, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- e. **Emergency Tree Removal –** A resolution will be placed on the May 20th, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- f. **Fire Prevention Intern Request –** Councilwoman Pellegrine inquired as to whether or not an intern was utilized in the past. Councilman Golabek stated that minimum wage should be considered, or simply working for the experience. The Mayor and Council decided that the item should be discussed in Executive Session at the May 20, 2021 Regular meeting.
- g. **Firefighter Volunteer Applications –** A resolution will be placed on the May 20th, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- h. **Water Rescue Equipment Request –** A resolution will be placed on the May 20th, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.

4 – ORDINANCES

- a. **Capital Bond Ordinance** – An ordinance will be placed on the May 20th, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda for introduction. The Mayor and Council wished to discuss the purchase of the SnoGo machine in more detail before moving forward as a potential shared service with a neighboring community could also be considered. Additionally, Councilman Golabek requested that a portion of the basketball court be funded by the Recreation Trust fund in an attempt to lower the number of the capital bond ordinance.

4 – DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

- a. **Planning Board Meeting Minutes – March 10, 2021** – Accepted without discussion.
- b. **Library Board Meeting Minutes – March 15, 2021**– Accepted without discussion.
- c. **Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes – March 15, 2021**– Accepted without discussion.
- d. **Millennium Strategies Report through April 2021** – Accepted without discussion.
- e. **Building Department Monthly Report – April 2021** – Accepted without discussion.
- f. **Municipal Court Monthly Report – April 2021** – Councilman Golabek inquired as to how many cases are still unresolved due to the pandemic.
- g. **Board of Health Meeting Minutes – February 8, 2021 & March 8, 2021** – Accepted without discussion.
- h. **Finance Department Monthly Report through April 2021** – Accepted without discussion.

5 – COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Balistriero reported Progress.

Councilman Fakhoury reported Progress.

Councilman Fasolo shared that the Youth Advisory Committee will be involved in the multicultural festival.

Councilman Golabek stated that he heard good things in regards to the opening of the food pantry and commended Councilman Fasolo on his work with the Diversity Committee and Youth Advisory Committee.

Councilwoman Pellegrine advised that the rabies clinic was held and announced the next meeting date for the Board of Health. She then reminded the public of the upcoming VFW fundraiser that will be held over the weekend.

Council President Wechtler announced that BCCLS will be coming to the library to begin setting up. Additionally, she stated that the shelves are being stocked and the Board has already advertised for a director. Council President Wechtler requested that the Borough Administrator look into the issue in regard to the elevator phone for the library. Lastly, she noted that the Homeowners Association will be sponsoring a bus trip to Wynn Creek Casino in June.

Mayor Colletti informed the public that the Mayor & Council had to make a decision as to whether or not to have a Memorial Day parade a while back, when things were still uncertain due to the pandemic. He stated that though they decided to not proceed with the parade to avoid any unforeseen circumstances, the Borough will work hard to make sure the service is as colorful as possible.

4 – 2nd PUBLIC HEARING:

Jeffrey Freitag, Hillman Drive, inquired as to whether or not the Mayor and Council will consider marijuana sales within the Borough. Mr. Freitag, additionally, asked for information regarding the curbing estimate and whether or not it was done per foot. Lastly, Mr. Freitag provided a brief update on applications that were heard by the Planning Board.

5 – EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- a. **Legal Reports/Litigation**
- b. **Fire Prevention – 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:

Legal Reports/Litigation
Fire Prevention – 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 Council President Wechtler and seconded by Councilwoman Pellegrine to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried by the members present.

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

A motion was made by Councilman Fakhoury 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 June 17, 2021 Regular Meeting.