

**BOROUGH OF ELMWOOD PARK**  
**WORK MEETING**  
**June 3, 2021**  
**7:00PM**

The Work Meeting of the Elmwood Park Mayor and Council for June 3, 2021 was called to order by Municipal Clerk Erin Delaney at 7:00PM. 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:**

Jeffrey Freitag, Hillman Drive, inquired about the Borough website by questioning whether or not it is true that new postings being delayed due to the operator being out of office. He asked if anyone else other than the operator can update the website.

**1 – DISCUSSION**

- a. **Enforcement of Borough Code** – Borough Administrator Foligno informed the Governing Body about a problem property that has been summonsed on multiple occasions in regard to property maintenance. He stated that the Borough has also sent letters, which have gone unanswered, and that the court system is backlogged due to COVID. He proposed that the Mayor and Council give permission for him to proceed with arranging for the issues, such as grass cutting, be taken care of by the Borough and then implement a lien. Borough Attorney Ingraffia stated that he personally knows the homeowner and requested permission to speak with him before that route be taken.
- b. **SnoGo Machine** – This item was removed from discussion.

**2 – CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. **Bonding Requirements** – 465 River Drive – No discussion ensued.

**3 – RESOLUTIONS**

- a. **Recreation Part-time Employees** – A resolution will be placed on the June 17th, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- b. **Recreation Refund** – A resolution will be placed on the June 17th, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- c. **Fire Department Leave of Absence** – A resolution will be placed on the June 17th, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- d. **Estimated Tax Bills** – A resolution will be placed on the June 17th, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- e. **Tax Department Refund Payment in Error** – A resolution will be placed on the June 17th, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- f. **Redeem Third Party Tax Lien** – A resolution will be placed on the June 17th, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- g. **Fire Department – 2020 Clothing Allowance** – Councilwoman Pellegrine requested that the amounts per individual be double checked. A resolution will be placed on the June 17th, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.
- h. **Liquor License Renewals** – A resolution will be placed on the June 17th, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council agenda.

#### **4 – COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilwoman Balistreri advised that open gym will begin at the Recreation Center on June 9<sup>th</sup>, a blood drive will be held on June 19<sup>th</sup>, and that they will be hosting Movies Under the Stars on June 27<sup>th</sup>. She further shared that summer camp will begin at the end of the month.

Councilman Fakhoury thanked the Youth Advisory committee for their work with the PRIDE flag raising ceremony. He stated that Elmwood Park is all-inclusive and welcomes everyone.

Councilman Fasolo stated that the multi-cultural festival will take place on June 13<sup>th</sup> and commended the Youth Advisory Committee and Diversity Committee for their hard work putting it together. He thanked the County Commissioners for attending the flag raising ceremony and all of those in attendance. Councilman Fasolo went on to discuss the Youth Advisory Committee's contribution to the Memorial Day services. He ended his report by asking if the garbage cans on Market Street can be replaced.

Councilman Golabek commended everyone involved in the Memorial Day services for all of their hard work and stated that, unfortunately, he had to miss them because of a work obligation. He said that he was proud to be a part of the first PRIDE flag raising ceremony.

Councilwoman Pellegrine thanked all of those that came out and donated to the VFW event on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, especially Ms. Sheridan the organizer of the vent. In regard to the food pantry, Councilwoman Pellegrine announced that anyone needing assistance can make an appointment with the RAP Coordinators.

Council President Wechtler advised that the library was missing some items needed to pass the fire inspections, which are being worked on, and that a landscaping company made a site visit to assess the work that can be done. She continued on by thanking Councilman Fakhoury for donating the shirts to the Youth Advisory Committee and Councilman Fasolo for all of his hard work and the great initiatives he has been working on. Lastly, she announced the Flag Day event for the Elks Lodge and upcoming fundraiser on behalf of the Homeowner's Association.

Mayor Colletti expressed his disappointment with the outcome of the library as he felt the architect dropped the ball being that small items were not included in the original plan. He stated that the VFW is a precious organization that was hit hard financially during COVID so it was nice to see people come together at a great event to help. In regard to the Memorial Day services, Mayor Colletti informed the public that there was a small planning window due to the unknowns that came with COVID so a parade could not be held. However, he noted that it was a successful event and thanked everyone that made it possible. Mayor Colletti noted that the Youth Advisory Committee participants were a nice touch and that they will make plans with all of the veteran organizations for next year's parade.

#### **5 – 2nd PUBLIC HEARING:**

No one wished to be heard.

#### **6 – EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- a. **Legal Reports/Litigation**
- b. **Personnel – Salary Ordinance**

**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 – 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 Council President Wechtler and seconded by Councilwoman Balistrieri to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried by the members present.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Balistrieri and seconded by Council President Wechtler to return to the public portion. Motion carried by the members present.

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC  
Borough Clerk

*Minutes approved at the July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Regular Meeting.*