

BOROUGH OF ROSELAND
NEW JERSEY

MARCH 7, 2017
PUBLIC MEETING ROOM
19 HARRISON AVENUE
6:30 PM EXECUTIVE SESSION
7:30 PM PUBLIC MEETING

CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER & SUNSHINE STATEMENT

The March 7, 2017 Meeting of the Roseland Mayor and Council was called to order at 6:30 PM by Mayor Duthie. Adequate notice of the meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act in that the date, time and location of the meeting were included in the Annual Meeting Schedule, was sent to The Progress and the Star Ledger, posted on the public bulletin board in the Municipal Building and filed in the office of the Borough Clerk.

IN ATTENDANCE:

John Duthie, Mayor
David Jacobs, Councilman
Richard N. Leonard, Councilman
Peter M. Smith, Councilman
Thomas Tsilionis, Councilman
Michelle Tolli, Councilwoman
Mark Vidovich, Council President

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Maureen Chumacas, Borough Administrator
Ethan Jesse Sheffet, Borough Attorney
Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk
John Matheis, OEM Coordinator

Councilman Jacobs made a motion to approve Resolution No. 107-2017 to close to Executive Session to discuss the following:

1. COAH Matters

Councilman Leonard seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

At the conclusion of Executive Session, Mayor Duthie read the Sunshine Statement again and called the public meeting to order.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Mayor Duthie led the Salute to the Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Councilman Leonard made a motion to reschedule the March 21st meeting to March 28, 2017. The meeting will be held in the Public Meeting Room at 19 Harrison Avenue with Executive Session beginning at 6:30 PM followed immediately at 7:30 PM by the public meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jacobs and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Clerk Watkins read **Ordinance No. 01-2017** entitled “An Ordinance Amending Chapter XI of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland entitled “Property Maintenance” for the first time by title only. Councilwoman Tolli made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 01-2017. The motion was seconded by Councilman Smith and approved by a 6-0 voice vote. The public hearing will be held on Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at 7:30 PM.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Councilman Leonard made a motion to approve the seven resolutions and three Consent Agenda items:

Resolution No. 108-2017 Bill List

Resolution No. 109-2017 Tax Appeal Settlement 440 Eagle Rock Ave LLC for 2013

Resolution No. 110-2017 Authorize RFP for Professional Services Related to Employee Benefits

Resolution No. 111-2017 Appoint Capehart & Scatchard as the Bonding Attorney for 2017

Resolution No. 112-2017 Authorization to Submit 2017 Tonnage Grant Application

Resolution No. 113-2017 Authorize Cancellations of Water and Sewer Billing Balances

Resolution No. 114-2017 Tax Lien Redemption Certificate for 23 Lyons Avenue

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve Ashley Passafiume to Attend “Ethic and Internal Controls” Seminar on 3/29/17 for a total cost of \$90.00

Approve Ashley Passafiume to Attend “Bankruptcy” Seminar on 4/26/17 for a total cost of \$90.00

Accept with Regret the Resignation of Lauren Ponzio from the Beautification Committee

Councilman Jacobs seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

MAYOR'S REPORT

No report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC WORKS

No report

PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilman Jacobs suggested, and Council agreed, that the discussion regarding amendments to the Noise Ordinance should first be vetted by the Committee.

RECREATION

No report

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

No report

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Councilwoman Tolli reported that the Beautification Committee will be looking into replacing planters in the center of town with barrel planters. The current planters look similar to trash cans, and people are discarding trash in the planters. Mayor Duthie asked about adding hanging baskets in the center of town similar to those in Verona. Mrs. Chumacas reported that money has been budgeted to purchase hanging planters and the equipment necessary to water the planters.

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE (Vidovich)

Councilman Vidovich reported that the draft budget incorporating changes suggested at the last budget meeting has been distributed to members of the governing body. Mr. Vidovich noted that the proposed budget reflects a ½ pct. increase to the average taxpayer and that the overall tax increase will be below 2%. Councilman Vidovich emphasized that the budget contains funding for important infrastructure projects and also reflects the retirement of additional debt. Mr. Vidovich thanked everyone for their work on the budget and announced that the 2017 Municipal Budget will be introduced at the March 28, 2017 Council Meeting and that the public hearing will be held in April. Mayor Duthie thanked Councilman Vidovich and Administrator Chumacas for their hard work in preparing the budget for introduction.

Councilman Vidovich briefly discussed a request from Verizon for authorization to install communication nodes on existing utility poles throughout the Borough. Mrs. Chumacas added that a resolution will be prepared for the consideration at the next meeting. Councilman Vidovich

requested that the change of the date of the next meeting be promoted on the borough's social media outlets.

Councilwoman Tolli announced that the West Essex drama club is presenting the Little Mermaid on March 9th, 10th, and 11th. Tickets can be purchased at the door, or on the West Essex high School website.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Jacobs made a motion to approve the August 19, 2014 Council Meeting Minutes, the October 7, 2014 Caucus Meeting Minutes, the February 24, 2015 Council Meeting Minutes, and the April 21, 2015 Council Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Leonard and approved by a 6-0 voice vote, with Councilwoman Tolli abstaining on the April 21, 2015 minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

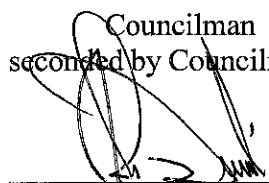
Nick Bellomo, 7 Plymouth Street, asked for clarification on statements made in recent editions of local newspapers.

Chuck Lombardi, 26 Davenport Avenue, asked for clarification on statements made in recent editions of local newspapers.

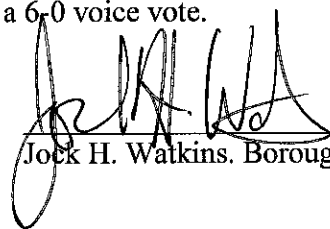
OEM Coordinator John Matheis provided additional information regarding the proposed Verizon project discussed during the Administration and Finance Committee report.

Carolyn Volpe Curley, publisher and editor of the West Essex Now internet news site, asked for clarification on statements made in recent editions of local newspapers.

Councilman Smith made a motion to close the meeting at 8:33 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vidovich and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.



Mayor John Duthie



Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk

Approved: March 28, 2017

ROLL CALL

Aye: Jacobs, Leonard, Smith, Tolli, Tsilionis, Vidovich
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None