

BOROUGH OF ROSELAND  
NEW JERSEY

AUGUST 19, 2014  
COMMUNITY ROOM  
ROSELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY  
7:00 PM

CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER & SUNSHINE STATEMENT

The August 19, 2014 Meeting of the Roseland Mayor and Council was called to order at 7:00 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  
Richard N. Leonard, Councilman  
Peter M. Smith, Councilman  
Thomas Tsilionis, Councilman  
Michelle Tolli, Councilwoman  
Mark Vidovich, Council President

ABSENT:

David Jacobs, Councilman

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Maureen Chumacas, Borough Administrator  
Ethan Jesse Sheffet, Borough Attorney  
Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Mayor Duthie led the Salute to the Flag.

PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Duthie and Councilwoman Tolli presented a proclamation to Borough resident Joe Silvia in recognition of Mr. Silvia's long, and dedicated service to the Borough or Roseland.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Borough resident William Tedesco, Chairman of the Affordable Housing Board expressed displeasure with the selection process for the Housing Board Attorney. Mayor Duthie explained Council's reason for their choice. Councilman Smith explained the rationale behind his decision.

Councilman Leonard thanked Mr. Tedesco and the rest of the Library Board for use of the Library Community Room while the public meeting room is inaccessible.

## **ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION**

Councilwoman Tolli made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 09-2014 – An ordinance to amend the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland, Chapter XIV Parks & Recreation, to prohibit smoking at parks and recreation areas. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tsilonis seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Jacobs absent). The public hearing on the ordinance is scheduled for Tuesday, September 23, 2014

Councilman Vidovich made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 10-2104 – An ordinance of the Borough of Roseland to repeal Ordinance No. 01-2013 as amended which provided for salaries and compensation to be paid to non-union employees of the Borough of Roseland and substitute therefore salaries and compensation for the year 2014. The motion was seconded by Councilman Smith and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Jacobs absent). The public hearing on the ordinance is scheduled for Tuesday, September 23, 2014

## **ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

Borough Attorney recommended that a discussion on Resolution No. 249-2014 should be deferred to Executive Session. Councilman Smith made a motion to approve the remaining twenty-one resolutions and the four Approval items on the agenda:

Resolution No. 255-2014 authorizing the Commercial Tax Appeal Attorney to settle 2006-2014 tax appeals for Amano Cincinnati; Amano Partners USA, Inc. v. Roseland for Block 12, Lot 24.6, 140 Harrison Avenue, Roseland, NJ

Resolution No. 256-2014 approving an Item of Revenue and Appropriation, to submit a request to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval to insert a Chapter 159 Receipt of Hazardous Mitigation Grant in the amount of \$15,500.00 into the 2014 Municipal Budget pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87

Resolution No. 257-2014 authorizing the return of unused escrow in the amount of \$1,000.00 to C.G. Morresi, Inc. for the minor subdivision inspection account for 51 Passaic Avenue

Resolution No. 258-2014 authorizing the return of unused escrow in the amount of \$865.00 to 171 Eagle Rock Avenue Corp. for the Site Plan for the property located at 191 Eagle Rock Avenue

Resolution No. 259-2104 authorizing the return of unused escrow in the amount of \$56.76 PSE&G for the Site Plan for the property located at 7 Eisenhower Parkway

Resolution No. 260-2014 authorizing the return of unused escrow in the amount of \$131.06 to Fairchild Ventures, LLC for the property located at 171 Eagle Rock Avenue

Resolution No. 261-2014 authorizing the mayor to sign the contract for the purchase of Fernwood property

Resolution No. 262-2014 authorizing the mayor to sign the contract for the purchase of the Railroad property

Resolution No. 263-2014 authorizing the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of \$50,000.00 payable to the Seller's Attorney representing the down payment for the purchase of the Fernwood Property at a cost of \$3,250,000.00

Resolution No. 264-2014 approving a contract in the amount of \$4,700.00 with Maser Consulting for Environmental Due Diligence for the Railroad property

Resolution No. 265-2014 -- approving a contract in the amount of \$4,700.00 with Maser Consulting for Environmental Due Diligence for the Fernwood property

Resolution No. 266-2014 approving a contract in the amount of \$4,000.00 with George Anderson, LLC for a property survey of the Railroad property

Resolution No. 267-2014 approving a contract in the amount of \$4,250.00 with George Anderson, LLC for a property survey of the Fernwood property

Resolution No. 268-2014 appointing Angela Russomanno as Payroll Clerk/Benefit Coordinator effective September 1, 2014 with an annual salary of \$39,611.00

Resolution No. 269-2014 appointing Rosemary Sayers as Office Supervisor effective September 1, 2014 with an annual salary of \$48,264.00

Resolution No. 270-2014 approving the hiring of Ashley Passafiume as Administrative Assistant to the Borough Administrator effective September 1, 2014 with an annual salary of \$28,000.00

Resolution No. 271-2014 authorizing advertising of the Notice to Bidders for Fernwood Baseball Field Phase II Improvements

Resolution No. 275-2014 approving a Lien Redemption in the amount of \$16,641.35 to CCE Holdings for Block 29, Lot 3, 8 Westview Avenue

Resolution No. 276-2014 approving the transfer of Michael Piltzecker from Assistant Superintendent of Public Works to Water and Sewer Foreman effective September 1, 2014 with an annual salary of \$71,500.00

Resolution No. 277-2014 appointing Christopher Critchett as Assistant Superintendent of Public Works effective September 1, 2014 with an annual salary of \$53,319.00

Resolution No. 278-2014 authorizing the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of \$150,000.00 payable to Morristown & Erie Railway, Inc. representing the down payment for the purchase of the Railway Property a cost of \$450,000.00

### **APPROVALS**

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Halloween Dance on Thursday, October 30, 2014 in the All Purpose Room at 19 Harrison Avenue from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm

Accept with regret the resignation of Michele A. Salvo from the Municipal Youth Guidance Committee

Approval of a Raffle License for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society to be held at 1 ADP Boulevard

Permission for Maureen Chumacas to attend the "Hot topic in Municipal Finance" seminar on August 22, 2014 at a cost of \$99.00 under P/O 14-01108

Prior to voting on the motion, Council thanked OEM Coordinator John Matheis for his efforts to obtain the grant for generators referenced in Resolution No. 256-2014.

Councilman Leonard requested information on plans associated with Resolution No. 271-2014 and asked if sewer connection fees would apply. Mayor Duthie noted that the cost of the Fernwood Field Phase II improvements were being offset by a \$150,000.00 recreation grant from Essex County. Councilman Tsilionis added that he was very happy with the quality of work that has been done to date.

There being no additional discussion, Councilman Tsilionis seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Jacobs absent), with Councilman Leonard abstaining on Resolution Nos. 261-2014, 263-2014, 265-2014, and 267-2014.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilman Vidovich made a motion to approve the four items on the Consent Agenda:

Resolution No. 272-2014 Ratification of Salaries

Resolution No. 273-2014 Approval of August 13, 2014 Bill List – Includes Professional Services

Resolution No. 274-2014 Approval of Open Space Bills

#### Treasurer's Report

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Jacobs absent).

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Duthie thanked Council for their work and commitment to acquire the Fernwood/Dockrell property.

Mayor Duthie reported that Mrs. Duthie has organized the annual Roseland Remembers 9-1-1 blood drive. Notices will be posted on TV-35 and the Borough's website. In an effort to encourage community participation, a raffle for a \$50 Visa gift card will be held.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Councilman Jacobs advised that the Fire Department has requested two (2) public works employees to assist with the upcoming wetdown. Council approved the request.

Mayor Duthie and Councilman Vidovich thanked Councilman Jacobs for his assistance and support of the Fernwood property acquisition.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS**

Councilman Smith reported that he visited County facilities at the South Mountain complex including the Turtleback Zoo. Mr. Smith stated that he was impressed with the improvements that have been made to the complex and encouraged residents to take advantage of the facilities.

### **ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**

Councilman Vidovich thanked Joe Silvia and his family for their dedication and commitment to the residents of Roseland.

Mr. Vidovich commented on recent reports citing reasons for New Jersey property taxes being the highest in the country. Mr. Vidovich stated that Council continues to work hard to keep local taxes stable.

## RECREATION

Councilman Tsilionis thanked the governing body for moving forward on the acquisition of the Fernwood property.

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Councilman Leonard welcomed Paul Mastrangelo, member of the Roseland Board of Education.

Mr. Leonard reported that he and Mayor Duthie interviewed Ashley Passafiume for the position of Administrative Assistance.

Mr. Leonard stated that he appreciated Councilman Vidovich's comments regarding high taxes in the state, but asked that Council continue to plan for future improvements to Fernwood and Railroad properties.

Mr. Leonard thanked Joe Silvia for his many years of volunteer service to the Borough of Roseland.

Councilman Leonard closed his report by reporting that the police department will be operating out of the First Aid Squad building for approximately one week while the municipal building is closed for repairs.

## PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Councilwoman Tolli reported that the Roseland First Aid Squad has responded to 417 calls to date, and is credited with two CPR saves.

Mrs. Tolli reminded residents that the Fire Department is hosting a wetdown from 3:00 pm to 10:00 pm on September 6<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Tolli announced that there are two openings for members to serve on the Municipal Youth Guidance Committee, and there is one opening on the Senior Transportation Committee.

Mrs. Tolli acknowledged the beautiful improvements that have been made to the South Mountain complex and suggested that residents check it out.

Councilwoman Tolli closed her report announcing that Essex County will be hosting their 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary 9-1-1 memorial ceremony on Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM at the 9-1-1 Memorial at the Eagle Rock Reservation. Mrs. Tolli encouraged everyone to attend.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilman Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2014 Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Jacobs absent).

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

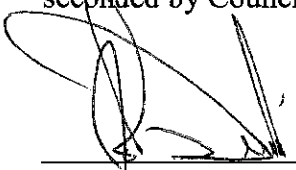
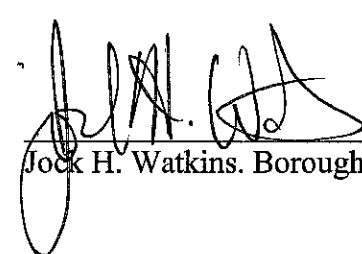
None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Borough Attorney Sheffet read Resolution No. 254-2014 to close to Executive Session to discuss the following:

1. Personnel
2. Tax Assessor, Tax Appraiser and Tax Appeal Counsel

Councilman Smith made a motion to close to Executive Session at 7:53 pm. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vidovich and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Jacobs absent).

  
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Mayor John Duthie  
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Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk

Approved: March 7, 2017

**ROLL CALL**

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