

**BOROUGH OF ROSELAND
COUNTY OF ESSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

FEBRUARY 27, 2024
19 HARRISON AVENUE
6:30 PM EXECUTIVE SESSION
7:00 PM OPEN SESSION

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The February 27, 2024 meeting of the Roseland Mayor and Council was called to order at 6:30 PM by Mayor Spango. 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, sent to the official newspapers, posted on the public bulletin board in the Municipal Building and filed in the office of the Borough Clerk. This meeting was also available via Zoom conference call.

IN ATTENDANCE:

James R. Spango, Mayor
Christopher Bardi, Council President
John Biront, Councilman
Eileen Fishman, Councilwoman
Roger Freda, Councilman
Jean Perrotti, Councilwoman
Marcelino Trillo, Councilman

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Maureen Chumacas, Borough Administrator
Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk
Joni McDonnell, Borough Attorney

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to approve Resolution No. 80-2024 Approval to Close to Executive Session to discuss the following:

1. Contract Negotiations
2. Personnel

The motion was seconded by Councilman Freda and approved by a 6-0 voice vote. Council adjourned executive session at 7:00 PM. Mayor Spango read the Sunshine Statement again at 7:03 PM and called the meeting to order. Clerk Watkins called the roll noting that all members were present.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Mayor Spango led the salute to the flag.

PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Spango acknowledged the members of the Roseland Thorns, the 1st – 2nd grade girls fall soccer league champions. The team members in attendance were presented with trophies by Mayor Spango and Recreation Program Supervisor Patricia Gentile.

Councilman Trillo acknowledged the members of Roseland United, the 3rd – 4th grade boys fall soccer league champions. The team members in attendance were presented with trophies by Councilman Trillo and Recreation Program Supervisor Patricia Gentile.

Mayor Spango acknowledged the members of the Roseland Thorns, the 2023 1st – 2nd grade girls fall soccer league champions. The team members in attendance were presented with trophies by Mayor Spango and Recreation Program Supervisor Patricia Gentile.

Mayor Spango acknowledged the members of the Roseland Purple People Eaters, the 2023 5th – 7th grade youth fall kickball champions. The team members in attendance were presented with trophies by Mayor Spango and Recreation Program Supervisor Patricia Gentile.

Mayor Spango acknowledged the members of the Roseland Pride, the 3rd – 4th grade girls fall soccer league co-champions. The team members in attendance were presented with trophies by Mayor Spango and Recreation Program Supervisor Patricia Gentile.

Mayor Spango acknowledged the members of the Roseland Spirit, the 3rd – 4th grade girls fall soccer league co-champions. The team members in attendance were presented with trophies by Mayor Spango and Recreation Program Supervisor Patricia Gentile.

Police Director Cioffi provided a summary of the police department's response to an emergency 9-1-1 medical call on December 28, 2023. Mayor Spango presented commendations to Officer Gerard Conzentino and Officer Carlos Gonzalez in recognition of the officers' professional and compassionate response.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael Gesario
Elaine Perna

Vice President, Roseland Board of Education
68 Freeman Street

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 02-2024: "An ordinance amending Chapter 2 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland entitled "Department of Administration", amending Subsection 2-24.4 entitled "The Appropriate Authority and the Police Committee". The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 6-0 voice vote. The public hearing will be held on March 19, 2024.

Councilman Bardi made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 03-2024: “An ordinance amending Section 2-39 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland entitled “Nepotism Police for Borough Employees””. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trillo and approved by a 6-0 voice vote. The public hearing will be held on March 19, 2024.

Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 04-2024: “An ordinance to amend Chapter 30 “Land Development” Article IV “Zoning” regarding the rezoning of Block 32, Lot 9.01 from R-6 to B-2, the rezoning of Block 30.01, Lot 3 from R-2 to OB-2, and the repeal of the R-2A single family overlay district”. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 6-0 voice vote. The public hearing will be held on April 23, 2023.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Councilman Trillo made a motion to approve Resolution No. 81-2024 approving the February 23, 2024 and the February 27, 2024 bill lists in the total amount of \$3,240,025.36. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Councilman Trillo made a motion to approve the sixteen resolutions on the agenda:

Resolution No. 82-2024 ratification of salaries – January 2024

Resolution No. 83-2024 cancellation of water and sewer billing balances

Resolution No. 84-2024 awarding a required disclosure contract in the amount of \$31,721.59 to Edmunds & Associates for proprietary computer software

Resolution No. 85-2024 authorizing an alternate calculation of the reserve for uncollected taxes pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-41.c.(1)

Resolution No. 86-2024 accepting the proposal from Boswell Engineering Services to provide ArcGIS online services and support for 2024

Resolution No. 87-2024 accepting the proposal from Boswell Engineering to provide engineering services associated with tax map updates

Resolution No. 88-2024 approving the appointment of recreation spring seasonal employees

Resolution No. 89-2024 authorizing the recreation department to conduct a new senior advisory board yoga program and establish fees

Resolution No. 90-2024 approving the hiring of Linda Wheeler to run a senior yoga program

Resolution No. 91-2024 approval the hiring of Valencia Brown as administrative assistant to the police department

Resolution No. 92-2024 authorizing the mayor to sign a contract with DCRS, LLC for deer carcass removal services on private property for 2024

Resolution No. 93-2024 rescinding Resolution No. 89-2022 “Authorizing the Mayor to Sign a Shared Service Agreement with the Borough of West Caldwell for Dispatch Services from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2025” in lieu of a new agreement authorized by Resolution No. 94-2024

Resolution No. 94-2024 authorizing the mayor to sign a shared service agreement with the Borough of West Calwell for dispatch services from March 1, 2024 through December 31, 2026

Resolution No. 95-2024 accepting the donation of Leupold Deltapoint Pro Reflex Sights from the Roseland Police Foundation

Resolution No. 96-2024 authorizing the mayor to sign a grant extension for the 2023 Lead Grant Assistance Program (LGAP)

Resolution No. 97-2024 acknowledging the governing body’s certification of compliance with the “United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission’s “Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964”

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Spango congratulated all of the children in attendance on their respective championships.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Councilman Bardi reported that Council held its third budget meeting this past Saturday and the date of the fourth and final budget meeting will be announced.

RECREATION

Councilman Trillo reported that the regular basketball season has concluded and that the basketball playoffs will be concluding within the next couple of weeks. Baseball and softball registration have begun and will run through March 1st.

SENIOR & FAMILY SERVICES

Councilwoman Fishman announced that the seniors have been provided a lot of interesting programs to date. The next event will be a celebration of St. Patrick's Day in March, followed by the annual senior luncheon on May 17th.

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilman Freda had no report. Mr. Freda announced his resignation from Council effective following the conclusion of the meeting. Members of Council thanked Mr. Freda for his service and wished him well in the future.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilwoman Perrotti thanked Officer Conzentino and Officer Gonzalez for the wonderful job they did last December. Mrs. Perrotti thanked the Roseland Police Foundation for their donation of license plate readers in the past, and for their recent donation of gun sights. Police dispatch was transitioned to the West Caldwell Police Department last Tuesday and is running smoothly. Councilwoman Perrotti thanked Police Director Cioffi and Assistant Director Matheis for coordinating the transition. This shared service agreement will result in more police officers on the road for patrol in Roseland.

CAPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE & ENGINEERING

Councilman Biront noted that he reviewed the plans for upcoming improvements to Lincoln Street and provided comments to the Borough Engineer.

Mayor Spango expressed his support for the upcoming vote on the school referendum, noting that one third of the cost will be for improvements to the existing school, and two thirds of the cost will be for the construction of additional classroom space.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Bardi made a motion to approve the February 6, 2024 caucus meeting minutes, the February 6, 2024 executive session minutes, and the February 20, 2024 budget meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 5-0 voice vote with Councilman Freda recusing himself from the vote.

Councilman Biront made a motion to approve the February 24, 2024 budget meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 4-0 voice vote with Councilman Bardi and Councilman Freda recusing themselves from the vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Deborah Sacco-Calderone 3 Pier Lane

John Matheis

Deputy Police Director

ADDITIONAL EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Trillo made a motion to return to executive session at 7:58 PM to discuss personnel matters. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilman Biront and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.



Mayor James R. Spargo



Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk

Approved: April 9, 2024

VOICE VOTE

Aye: Bardi, Biront, Fishman, Perrotti, Trillo

Nay: None

Recuse: Goldstein

Abstain: None

Absent: None