

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

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

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The March 19, 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
Neal Goldstein, Councilman
Jean Perrotti, Councilwoman

ABSENT:

Marcelino Trillo, Councilman

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Maureen Chumacas, Borough Administrator
Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk
Joni McDonnell, Borough Attorney (Via Zoom)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to approve Resolution No. 109-2024 Approval to Close to Executive Session to discuss the following:

1. Sale of Borough Property

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Trillo absent). Council adjourned executive session at 6:54 PM. Mayor Spango read the Sunshine Statement again at 7:00 PM and called the meeting to order. Clerk Watkins called the roll noting that Councilman Trillo was absent.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Mayor Spango led the salute to the flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Essex County Liaison Dan Salvante presented the County's spring event schedule.

PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Spango introduced Roseland Police Foundation president Jack Gordon and other Foundation members present, and thanked the Foundation for their continued support of the Roseland Police Department.

Mayor Spango introduced Running 4 Answers founder Carolyn Mastrangelo. Ms. Mastrangelo announced that this year run would be the fifteenth and final outing to support Alzheimer's research. Mayor Spango presented a proclamation to Ms. Mastrangelo.

Mayor Spango read a proclamation acknowledging Greek Independence Day and presented the proclamation to representatives in attendance from Ss. Nicholas, Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church.

APPOINTMENTS

Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to approve the following appointments:

MAYOR WITH ADVICE AND CONSENT OF COUNCIL

Board of Adjustment

Almir Kureshepi

4 Years

1/1/2023 – 12/31/2026

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS

Beautification Committee

Leslie Barrett

3 Years

1/1/2024– 12/31/2026

Michele Tolli

3 Years

1/1/2024– 12/31/2026

Alice Batta (From Alt. 1 to Unexpired)

3 Years

1/1/2024– 12/31/2024

Jean Capasso (From Alt. 2 to Alt. 1)

3 Years

1/1/2024– 12/31/2025

The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Trillo absent).

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 05-2024: "An ordinance amending Chapter 30 of the Land Development Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland, Section 30-1101 entitled "Affordable Housing Mandatory Set-Aside"". The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Trillo absent). The ordinance was forwarded to the planning board to ensure compliance with the Borough Master Plan. The public hearing will be held on April 23, 2024.

Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 06-2024: "Calendar Year 2024 ordinance to exceed the municipal budget appropriation limits and to establish a cap bank (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)". The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Trillo absent). The public hearing will be held on April 23, 2024.

PUBLIC HEARING/ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 02-2024 by title only for the second time: "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"". Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 02-2024. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Trillo absent).

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

There being no one wishing to be heard, Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Trillo).

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 02-2024 for the third and final time: "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"". Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 02-2024. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 5-0 roll call vote (Trillo).

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 03-2024 by title only for the second time: "An ordinance amending Section 2-39 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland entitled "Nepotism Policy for Borough Employees". Councilman Bardi made a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 03-2024. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Trillo absent).

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

There being no one wishing to be heard, Councilman Goldstein made a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Trillo).

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 03-2024 for the third and final time: "An ordinance amending Section 2-39 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland entitled

“Nepotism Policy for Borough Employees”. Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 03-2024. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 5-0 roll call vote (Trillo).

INTRODUCTION OF THE 2024 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Councilman Bardi narrated a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the proposed 2024 municipal budget. Councilman Bardi made a motion to approve Resolution No. 110-2024 Introduction of the 2024 Municipal Budget. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Trillo absent). The Public Hearing will be held on April 23, 2024.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion to approve Resolution No. 111-2024 approving the March 15, 2024 bill list in the amount of \$799,246.97. The motion was seconded by Councilman Biront and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Trillo absent).

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Councilwoman Perotti made a motion to approve the first seven resolutions on the agenda:

Resolution No. 112-2024 ratification of salaries – February 2024

Resolution No. 113-2024 approving cancellation of water and sewer billing balances

Resolution No. 114-2024 cancelling capital ordinance funding

Resolution No. 115-2024 accepting bid from Suburban Sports Group for 2024/2025 recreation assignor services for an amount no to exceed \$79,295.00

Resolution No. 116-2024 authorizing the extension of State Contract 86004 with P&A Auto Parts through February 25, 2025

Resolution No. 117-2024 authorizing funds for 2024 Board of Adjustment professional services

Resolution No. 118-2024 approving the hiring of 2024 SCRAM staff directors

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

Resolution No. 119-2024 amending Resolution No. 66-2024 “Approval to Appoint Recreation Spring Seasonal Employees” was withdrawn.

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Councilman Biront made a motion to approve the remaining six resolutions on the agenda:

Resolution No. 120-2024 approving budget transfers

Resolution No. 121-2024 approving a water and sewer payment plan for 2 Kensington Drive

Resolution No. 122-2024 approving the appointment of NW Financial Group LLC for an amount not to exceed \$7,500.00 as financial advisor for the redevelopment at 85 Livingston Avenue and 6 Becker Farm Road

Resolution No. 123-2024 ratification of bills – January through March 2024

Resolution No. 124-2024 authorizing the rejection of bids for 2024 lawn maintenance services

Resolution No. 125-2024 authorizing the mayor to sign a hold harmless agreement with MediCentral to provide comprehensive wellness vascular physical exams for borough employees

The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Trillo absent).

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion to approve the two items on the Consent Agenda:

Approval of Raffle Application RA-403 from Alzheimer's NJ to Conduct an Off Premise Merchandise Raffle on June 28, 2024

Approval for Jock Watkins and Ashley Kennedy to Attend an Essex County Election Kick-Off Meeting in Newark, NJ on March 20, 2024

The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Trillo absent).

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Spango announced that the annual Easter celebration is this Saturday. If the weather report warrants, a decision will be made on Thursday to determine if the celebration will be rescheduled to the rain date on the following Saturday.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

No report

RECREATION

Mayor Spango updated the audience on the status of the Harrison Field complex. The fields look good, but the area is still an active construction site and is therefore not ready to open.

SENIOR & FAMILY SERVICES

Councilwoman Fishman reported that the Municipal Youth Guidance Subcommittee met recently and collected food and toys for pets at the Home Town Pet Shop in West Caldwell which were then donated to the Mt. Pleasant Animal Shelter in West Orange. The group will also be assisting with activities at the annual Easter egg hunt. The Roseland Food Bank is in need of donations. The seniors had a luncheon at Danaher's to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. A trip is planned to Branch Brook Park to view the Cherry Blossoms on April 9th.

PUBLIC WORKS

No report

PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilwoman Perrotti thanked the Roseland Police Foundation for their recent fund-raising event to support the Roseland Police Department. Mrs. Perrotti will be attending the Roseland First Aid Squad meeting tomorrow.

CAPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE & ENGINEERING

Councilman Biront reported that the Planning Board meeting was cancelled due to lack of agenda, and he attended the recent Board of Adjustment meeting. The final coat of asphalt on Ridge Road should be completed shortly after the asphalt plant reopens for the season on April 8th.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion to approve the March 5, 2024 caucus meeting minutes and the March 5, 2024 executive session minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Biront and approved by a 4-0 voice vote with Councilwoman Fishman recusing herself from the vote and Councilman Trillo absent.

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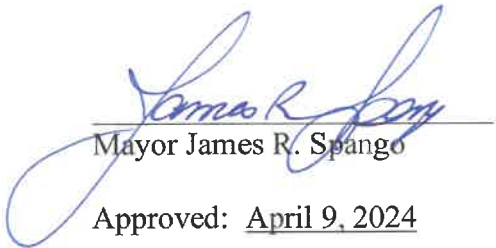
Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to approve the March 12, 2024 budget meeting minutes and the March 12, 2024 executive session minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 4-0 voice vote with Councilman Biront recusing himself from the vote and Councilman Trillo absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

William Tedesco 20 Meeker Court
Victor Marzullo

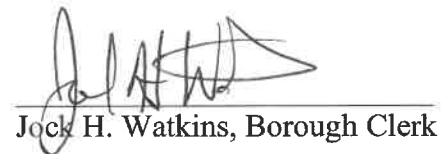
ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Trillo absent).



Mayor James R. Spango

Approved: April 9, 2024



Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk

VOICE VOTE

Aye: Bardi, Biront, Fishman, Goldstein, Perrotti
Nay: None
Recuse: Trillo
Abstain: None
Absent: None

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