

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

MARCH 5, 2024  
19 HARRISON AVENUE  
7:00 PM OPEN SESSION  
EXECUTIVE SESSION WILL  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOW

**CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES**

The March 5, 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  
Jean Perrotti, Councilwoman  
Marcelino Trillo, Councilman

**ABSENT:**

Eileen Fishman, Councilwoman

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

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

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Mayor Spango led the salute to the flag.

**ELECTION TO FILL VACANCY ON GOVERNING BODY**

Councilman Bardi nominated Neal Goldstein to fill the unexpired term of council member through December 31, 2024. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trillo and approved by a 4-0 roll call vote with Councilwoman Fishman absent.

**OATH OF OFFICE – NEW COUNCIL MEMBER**

Mayor Spango administered the oath of office to Councilman Elect Neal Goldstein.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion to approve Resolution No. 99-2024 to approve the March 1, 2024 bill list and the March 5, 2024 bill list for a combined total of \$182,720.57. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 4-0 voice vote with Councilman Goldstein recusing himself from the vote and Councilwoman Fishman absent.

### **ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

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

Resolution No. 100-2024 approving the extension of an unpaid leave of absence for Jenelle Sorisi through May 27, 2024

Resolution No. 101-2024 approving the emergency temporary budget

Resolution No. 102-2024 approving amendment of Section V of the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual entitled "Nepotism Procedures"

Resolution No. 103-2024 authorizing a senior citizen trip to Danaher's Pub, Fairfield NJ on March 13, 2024 and establishing fees

Resolution No. 104-2024 authorizing the release of final payment in the amount of \$2,875.58 to Colonnelli Brothers for 2022 emergency pipeline work

Resolution No. 105-2024 approving a one-year renewal of employee life insurance policy with MetLife Insurance Company

Resolution No. 106-2024 approving the 2024 Recreation Trust Fund fee schedule

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

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilman Bardi made a motion to approve the two items on the consent agenda:

Approval for Sergeant Williams to attend and Internal Affairs Policy and Procedure seminar on September 19-20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 for a total cost of \$25.00

Approval for Jock Wakins and Ashley Kennedy to attend the March 14, 2024 Essex County Municipal Clerk's Association meeting in Belleville, NJ for a total cost of \$80.00

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

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Spango reported that the new turf field is expected to be completed within the next two months. Council discussed the potential fees for use by outside organizations. Mayor Spango explained that the field will only be available for outside use when there are no local recreation programs scheduled. Mrs. Chumacas will distribute a spread sheet summarizing proposed use fees, which are comparable to those in neighboring communities. An ordinance establishing the fees may be ready for introduction at the March 19<sup>th</sup> Council meeting with the public hearing scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mayor Spango announced that Councilman Goldstein will be filling the committee assignments vacated by the resignation of Councilman Freda.

### **FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION**

No report

### **RECREATION**

No report

### **SENIOR & FAMILY SERVICES**

No report

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

No report

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

No report

### **CAPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE & ENGINEERING**

No report

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilman Trillo made a motion to approve the February 24, 2024 executive session minutes. The motion was seconded by Bardi and approved by a 3-0 vote with Councilman Bardi and Councilman Goldstein recusing themselves from the vote, and Councilwoman Fishman absent.

Councilman Bardi made a motion to approve the February 27, 2024 executive session minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trillo and approved by a 4-0 voice vote with Councilman Goldstein recusing himself from the vote and Councilwoman Fishman absent.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion at 7:18 PM to approve Resolution No. 98-2024 Approval to Close to Executive Session to discuss the following:

1. Tax Appeal Litigation
2. Caldwell Water/Sewer Litigation

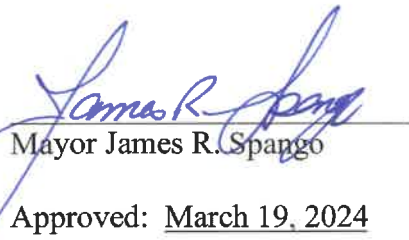
The motion was seconded by Councilman Trillo and approved by a 5-0 voice (Fishman absent). Council returned to open session at 8:15 PM.

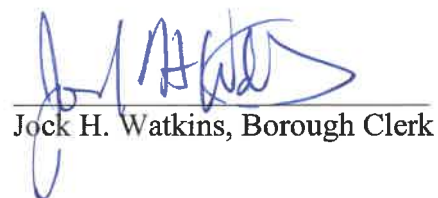
### **ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION**

Councilman Trillo made a motion to approve Resolution No. 107-2024 Authorizing the mayor to sign the Caldwell water and sewer settlement agreement. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 5-0 roll call vote (Fishman absent).

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Fishman absent).

  
Mayor James R. Spango  
Approved: March 19, 2024

  
Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk

### **VOICE VOTE**

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