

BOROUGH OF ROSELAND
NEW JERSEY

MAY 2, 2017
19 HARRISON AVENUE
6:30 PM EXECUTIVE SESSION
7:30 PM PUBLIC MEETING

CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER & SUNSHINE STATEMENT

The May 2, 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
Michelle Tolli, Councilwoman
Thomas Tsilionis, Councilman
Mark Vidovich, Council President

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Maureen Chumacas, Borough Administrator
Ethan Jesse Sheffet, Borough Attorney
Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk
Gary Schall, Superintendent of Public Works

Councilman Jacobs made a motion to approve Resolution No. 161-2017 to close to Executive Session to discuss the following:

1. West v. Borough of Roseland
2. Personnel

Councilman Smith 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.

SWEARING IN OF POLICE OFFICER MARK R. AUE

SWEARING IN OF POLICE OFFICER RICHARD C. ROMEO

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. William Tedesco, 20 Meeker Court, commented that as a member of the Zoning Board, he is saddened to see Mary Comito leaving the Zoning Board of Adjustment, thanking Ms. Comito for her many years of professional and dedicated service to the Board.

PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCES

Councilman Tsilionis made a motion to open the public hearing on **Ordinance No. 02-2017** Calendar Year 2017 – An Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation limits and to Establish a Cap Bank in Accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14 in the Borough of Roseland, New Jersey. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

Upon invitation for public comment, no one wished to be heard. Councilman Jacobs made a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilman Smith and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

Councilman Smith made a motion to adopt **Ordinance No. 02-2017** - Calendar Year 2017 – An Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation limits and to Establish a Cap Bank in Accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14 in the Borough of Roseland, New Jersey. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jacobs and approved by a 6-0 roll call vote.

PRESENTATION 2017 BUDGET

Councilman Vidovich presented a PowerPoint presentation of the proposed 2017 municipal budget.

PUBLIC HEARING OF 2017 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Clerk Watkins read Resolution No. 153-2017 authorizing the reading of the 2017 Municipal Budget by title only. Councilman Vidovich made a motion to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jacobs and approved by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Clerk Watkins read the opening statement: “Mayor, this is the time fixed for the public hearing on the 2017 Municipal Budget. The Budget was approved by the Governing Body on March 28, 2017, was advertised as required by law on April 5, 2017, together with notice of

hearing for this time. Printed copies have been made available to the public during the past week and copies of the User Friendly Budget are available for anyone desiring a copy”.

Councilman Smith made a motion to open the public hearing on the 2017 Municipal Budget. Councilwoman Tolli seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 6-0 voice vote. Mayor Duthie declared open the public hearing.

Scott Gorman, 4 Cooper Avenue, asked if any of the water sewer surplus was put toward system improvements. Gary Schall, Superintendent of Public Works responded that capital improvement projects are scheduled every year, noting that approximately one half million dollars (\$500,000.00) has been spent during the past five to ten years. Mayor Duthie added that the water/sewer engineer will be present at the May 16th meeting to review the results of the recently completed systems analysis.

Claudia Reis, 4 Cooper Avenue, asked if there is any money budgeted in the 2017 budget for water/sewer capital improvements. Mrs. Chumacas noted that one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) has been budgeted for water main replacement in the 2017 budget. Mr. Vidovich added that the engineer’s system analysis will provide the framework for system improvements moving forward.

Upon there being no further comments or questions from the floor regarding the budget, Councilman Vidovich made a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Clerk Watkins read Resolution No. 154-2017 Adoption of Municipal Budget for year 2017. Councilman Vidovich made a motion to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Smith and approved by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Clerk Watkins read Section 2 of the Budget, the adopting resolution. Councilman Vidovich made a motion to approve the adopting resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Leonard and approved by a 6-0 roll call vote. Mayor Duthie declared the Budget Resolution adopted.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Councilman Jacobs made a motion to adopt the six resolutions and the seven Consent Agenda items:

Resolution No. 155-2017 approving the rejection of all bids for the CDBG Elevator Upgrade project at 140 Eagle Rock Avenue and authorizing rebid of the project

Resolution No. 156-2017 approving the April 28, 2017 Bill List

Resolution No. 157-2017 authorizing the Mayor to sign the 2017 Municipal Aerial Mosquito Control Agreement between the Borough of Roseland and the Division of Environmental Services of the Essex County Department of Public Works

Resolution No. 158-2017 approving the 2017 substitute municipal court employees

Resolution No. 159-2017 approving the hiring of Assignors and Umpires for Youth Baseball Softball

Resolution No. 160-2017 authorizing funds for 2017 Zoning Board of Adjustment professional services

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval for Michael Wells to perform an Internship with the Roseland Police Department for 130 hours

Approval for Joshua Krasner of the Roseland Fire Department to attend Engine Company Operations course to be held at the Morris County Public Safety Academy on May 12, 2017 for a total cost of \$100.00

Approval of Blue Light Permit Applications for Marwa Ibrahim, Mark Bugdanoff, and Thomas Morano of the Roseland First Aid Squad

Accept with regret the resignation of Mary Comito from the Board of Adjustment

Accept with regret the resignation of Nancy Gately Sayer from the Planning Board

Accept with regret the resignation of William Panitch from the Shade Tree Commission

Appoint John Piserchia to the Shade Tree Commission to fill the unexpired term of William Panitch through December 31, 2019

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

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Duthie announced that on Saturday, May 6th from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM, there will be a Meet and Greet Open House at the fairgrounds by the tennis courts. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held in the multi-purpose room at 19 Harrison Avenue.

Mr. Duthie reported that he and Councilwoman Tolli will be meeting tomorrow night with other members of the Community Conversation Committee to begin planning for the Conversations.

Mayor Duthie closed his report wishing everyone a Happy Mother's Day.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilman Smith reported that bids were received for providing solid waste & recycling collection and hauling services. Discussion of the bids and award of the contract will take place at the next meeting.

Discussion of Grass Clipping Disposal was tabled for additional discussion by the committee.

Superintendent of Public Works Gary Schall reported that the Borough Architect recommended rejecting all bids for the CDBG grant project for elevator upgrade at 140 Eagle Rock Avenue as the prices bid were too high. Mr. Schall advised of the need for a letter to Community Development before May 5th requesting an extension of time to complete the grant project.

Mr. Schall also reported that the Borough is one of eighteen municipalities in Essex County that is part of the CDBG Urban County Consortium with Essex County. Mr. Schall noted that the County requires a letter of intent by May 5th if Roseland plans to continue in the consortium. Mr. Schall was authorized to send a letter and Mayor Duthie added that the formal resolution acknowledging participation in the program will be on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

Councilman Smith reminded residents that tire recycling and paper shredding will take place in parking lot next to tennis courts on Saturday, May 6th from 9:00 AM until 11:00 AM.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilman Jacobs expressed sorrow in accepting the resignation of William Panitch from the Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Jacobs thanked John Piserchia for returning to the Commission to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Panitch's resignation.

Mr. Jacobs thanked the police department for coordinating and supervising the community service efforts to clean beneath the highway overpasses on Eagle Rock Avenue and Passaic Avenue.

Councilman Jacobs congratulated new police officers Aue and Romeo on their appointment and wished them well.

After discussion, the proposed amendments to the Borough's Noise Ordinance were tabled for further review by the committee.

RECREATION

Councilman Tsilionis asked Councilman Jacobs to discuss the need for increased enforcement of the truck ban on Lincoln Avenue with the Police Department, noting receipt of several complaints, and observations while meeting with one complainant.

Mr. Tsilionis reported that a number of the scoreboard controllers at various fields are not working. After discussion, Mr. Tsilionis will advise Recreation Director Colitti that in order to replace controllers in time for baseball/softball season, he is authorized to spend up to \$6,000.00. If additional funds are necessary, the matter will be placed on a future agenda. It was noted that the storage boxes for the controllers need to be secured better as open boxes are likely exposing the controllers to the weather and vandalism.

Under communications and technology, Councilman Tsilionis noted that the Borough previously had over 3,800 e-mail subscribers and 1,260 text subscribers for the Roseland Insider Newsletter. Noting that the Swift 9-1-1 system is good for emergency notification, Mr. Tsilionis suggested that the Insider was a better format for promoting recreation activities and community events. After discussion, Council authorized renewal of the Eye Contact contract which is necessary in order to begin distributing the Insider.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Councilman Leonard reported that he and Councilman Jacobs attended the Arbor Day Celebration held at Noecker School on April 21st, noting that former teacher Armella Kent was honored.

Mr. Leonard recommended that Council recognize retiring volunteer Board and Commission members Bill Panitch, Nancy Sayer, and Mary Comito at an upcoming Council meeting for their many years of service.

Councilman Leonard thanked John Matheis for coordinating with the County rectifying a dangerous raised curbing at 256 Eagle Rock Avenue.

Mr. Leonard congratulated Carolyn Mastrangelo and Barbara Geiger for coordinating the very successful, Running 4 Answers event for eight consecutive years, raising over \$250,000 for the Cure Alzheimer's Fund.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Councilwoman Tolli announced that there is still one opening on the Senior Transportation Committee, asking that anyone interested in serving should complete and submit a Citizen Leadership Form which can be downloaded from the Borough's website.

Mrs. Tolli stated that she has received reports of fox and coyotes sightings. Residents are reminded to report to any sightings to the Roseland Police Department at the non-

emergency phone number. The Police Department will investigate and refer the reports to the Health Department and the West Orange Animal Control as appropriate.

Councilwoman Tolli reminded residents that the Memorial Day celebration will begin on May 29th at 8:30 AM in Monument Park, followed at 9:30 AM by the West Essex Parade.

Mrs. Tolli also announced that the first Community Picnic will be held on June 10th from 1:00 PM until 5:00 PM. Prior to the picnic, the Roseland Police and Fire Departments will face off in the annual Mayor's Trophy softball game at 11:00 AM at O'Beirne Field.

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

After a brief discussion, Councilman Vidovich made a motion to authorize the Borough Administrator to advertise for a full-time Land Use Administrator to replace a recently retired full-time employee. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 5-0 voice vote with Councilman Leonard abstaining.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Leonard made a motion to table approval of the February 28, 2017 Council Meeting minutes and the April 18, 2017 Council Meeting minutes for further review prior to the June Caucus meeting. Councilwoman Tolli seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Claudia Reis, 4 Cooper Avenue, noted that the March 2016, October 2016, and November 2016 minutes are not posted on the Borough's website. Clerk Watkins answered that the minutes are available, and that he will check tomorrow to see why they are not posted on the website. Ms. Reis also noted that Videos of meetings from previous years have apparently been removed from the website.

Candy Blau, 80 Schweinberg Drive, asked when the Farmer's Market is scheduled to open. Councilwoman Tolli answered that the Market would likely open either Friday, June 2nd or Friday June 9th. Ms. Blau also noted that the steps in the front of the building [19 Harrison Avenue] are in disrepair and require maintenance.

Scott Gorman, 4 Cooper Avenue, stated that he is active with the Recall Committee, and that Councilman Tsilionis needs to be held accountable for the May 2016 tweets.

Marjorie Schmidt, 15 Cortlandt Street, resident for over thirty years commended council members for the time committed to borough business but stated that she is embarrassed by the current state of the governing body.

Candy Blau, 80 Schweinberg Drive, expressed her dissatisfaction with Councilman Tsilionis' decision not to resign from Council.

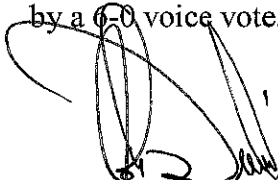
Maureen Serchio, Roosevelt Street, stated her dissatisfaction with how the matter of the inappropriate texts has been handled, suggesting that it should have been handled in house.

Scott Gorman, 4 Cooper Avenue, stated that Councilman Tsilionis should resign from office.

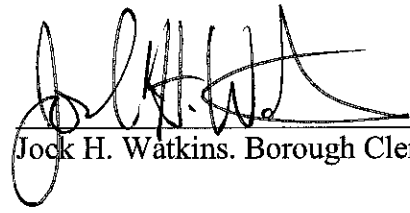
Claudia Reis stated that Councilman Tsilionis should have resigned from office when he originally announced his resignation earlier this year.

Margo McCormack, 14 Lyons Avenue, referenced online communications between herself and Councilman Tsilionis, and quoted an article in the March 16th edition of the Progress newspaper. Mayor Duthie noted that Borough is not aware of any investigation by the State Attorney General's office.

There being no one else wishing to be heard, Councilman Vidovich made a motion to close the meeting at 10:23 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jacobs and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.



Mayor John Duthie



Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk

Approved: June 20, 2017

ROLL CALL

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