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

FEBRUARY 19, 2019
PUBLIC MEETING ROOM
19 HARRISON AVENUE
6:30PM EXECUTIVE SESSION
7:30PM OPEN SESSION

# **COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

The February 19, 2019 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 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.

IN ATTENDANCE:

James R. Spango, Mayor

Christopher Bardi, Council President

Eileen Fishman, Councilwoman

Roger Freda, Councilman David Jacobs, Councilman Michele Tolli, Councilwoman

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Maureen Chumacas, Borough Administrator

Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk

Joni Noble McDonnell, Borough Attorney

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Councilwoman Tolli made a motion to approve Resolution No. 38-2019 Approval to Close to Executive Session to discuss the following:

- 1. Contract Negotiations
- 2. Potential Litigation
- 3. Personnel

The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 5-0 voice vote. Council adjourned executive session at 7:16 PM in order to begin the regularly scheduled public portion of the meeting. Mayor Spango read the Sunshine Statement again at 7:30 PM and called the public 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.

# ELECTION TO FILL VACANCY ON GOVERNING BODY

Councilman Jacobs nominated Jean Perrotti to fill the vacancy on Council. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 5-0 voice vote.

Mayor Spango administered the Oath of Office to Councilwoman Elect Perrotti. Councilwoman Perrotti was joined by her husband Frank, sons Frank and Anthony, and Angela Basirico. Following the Oath of Office, Councilwoman Perrotti took her seat on the dais.

# COMMITTEES AND APPOINTMENTS

Councilman Jacobs made a motion to make the following annual appointments:

Deputy Coordinator – OEM 1 Year (1/1/19 – 12/31/19) Jessica Kelly Deputy Coordinator – OEM 1 Year (1/1/19 – 12/31/19) Michael Boettinger

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

# **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Neile Weissman

Lower Manhattan, representing "Complete George"

Scott Gorman

4 Cooper Avenue

William Tedesco

20 Meeker Court

# **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 03-2019 by title only for the first time: "An ordinance amending Chapter IV of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland entitled "Licensing and Business Regulations", creating new Section 4-12 entitled "License to Operate Food and/or Beverage Vending Machines on Borough Property". Councilwoman Tolli made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 03-2019. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 6-0 roll call vote. The public hearing will be held at 7:30 PM on March 19, 2019 at 19 Harrison Avenue, Roseland, NJ.

# PUBLIC HEARING/ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 01-2019 for the second time: "An ordinance amending and supplementing Chapter II of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland entitled "Administration", Section 6 entitled "Standing Committees of the Borough Council". Councilman Bardi made a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 01-2019. The motion was seconded by Councilman Freda and approved by a 5-0 voice vote, with Councilwoman Perrotti abstaining from the vote.

# Public Comment

William Tedesco

20 Meeker Court

There being no one else wishing to be heard, Councilman Jacobs made a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 5-0 voice vote, with Councilwoman Perrotti abstaining from the vote.

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 01-2019 for the third and final time: "An ordinance amending and supplementing Chapter II of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland entitled "Administration", Section 6 entitled "Standing Committees of the Borough Council". Councilman Jacobs made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 01-2019. The motion was seconded by Councilman Freda and approved by a 5-0 roll call vote, with Councilwoman Perrotti abstaining from the vote.

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 02-2019 for the second time: "An ordinance amending and supplementing Chapter II of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland entitled "Administration". Councilman Jacobs made a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 02-2019. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 5-0 voice vote, with Councilwoman Perrotti abstaining from the vote.

# Public Comment

There being no one wishing to be heard, Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 5-0 voice vote, with Councilwoman Perrotti abstaining from the vote.

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 02-2019 for the third and final time: "An ordinance amending and supplementing Chapter II of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland entitled "Administration". Councilman Jacobs made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 02-2019. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 5-0 roll call vote, with Councilwoman Perrotti abstaining from the vote.

# APPROVAL OF BILLS

Councilman Jacobs made a motion to approve Resolution No. 39-2019, approving the February 15, 2019 Bill List in the amount to \$721,136.69. The motion was seconded by Councilman Freda and approved by a 5-0 voice vote with Councilwoman Perrotti abstaining from the vote.

#### **ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

Councilman Bardi made a motion to approve the additional eighteen resolutions on the agenda, and the six items on the consent agenda:

Resolution No. 40-2019 authorizing the execution of a right of access agreement with Shell Oil Products Inc. to install a monitoring well within the public right-of-way on Roseland Place

Resolution No. 41-2019 cancellation of water sewer billing - balances and refunds

Resolution No. 42-2019 approving Tax Lien Redemption Certificate 15-00002 for 6 Wingate Way

Resolution No. 43-2019 authorizing refunds, overpayments or cancellations in the Tax Office

Resolution No. 44-2019 awarding a contract to RIO Supply Inc. for the purchase of water meters and e-coders through Morris County Co-Op contract #47 for an amount not to exceed \$162,000.00

Resolution No. 45-2019 appointing William Zois as a Utilityman Grade 1 laborer for the Department of Public Works

Resolution No. 46-2019 appointing Andrew Getz as a Utilityman Grade 1 laborer for the Department of Public Works

Resolution No. 47-2019 appointing John Voight of Bleakley Financial Group as Broker of Record and Financial Advisor for 2019

Resolution No. 48-2019 amending Section IV of the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual entitled "Conference and Seminars Policy"

Resolution No. 49-2019 amending Section III of the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual entitled "Sick Leave Policy"

Resolution No. 50-2019 Ratification of Salaries - January 2019

Resolution No. 51-2019 appointing McManimon, Scotland, Bauman as Bond Counsel for 2019 with an estimated contract amount of \$20,000.00

Resolution No. 52-2019 appointing Inglesino, Webster, Wyciskala & Taylor, LLC as Redevelopment Attorney for 2019 with an estimated contract amount of \$50,000.00

Resolution No. 53-2019 appointing Inglesino, Webster, Wyciskala & Taylor, LLC as Real Estate Attorney for 2019 for an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00

Resolution No. 54-2019 appointing Inglesino, Webster, Wyciskala & Taylor, LLC as Tax Appeal Attorney for 2019 for an amount not to exceed \$75,000.00

Resolution No. 55-2019 appointing Friend & Wenzel LLC as Special Litigation Attorney for 2019 with an estimated contract amount of \$50,000.00

Resolution No. 56-2019 appointing Lite DePalma Greenburg LLC. as Labor Attorney for 2019 for an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00

Resolution No. 57-2019 approving the hiring of Gym Supervisors and Time-Score Keepers for the Recreation Basketball Program

# **CONSENT AGENDA**

Approval for Maureen Chumacas to attend "Implementation of Internal Controls" on March 15, 2019 in New Brunswick, NJ for a cost of \$125.00 plus reimbursement for mileage

Accept with Regret the resignation of Sharon Sitnik from the Beautification Committee effective February 11, 2019

Accept with Regret the resignation of Serkin Elibuyk as an OEM Auxiliary Officer effective January 30, 2019

Approve rescheduling of June 4, 2019 Caucus Meeting to Thursday, June 6, 2019

Approval of Treasurer's Report

Approval for Maureen Chumacas to Attend Essex County Board of Taxation Seminar on 3/22/19 in West Orange, NJ at no cost to the Borough

The motion was seconded by Councilman Jacobs and approved by a 5-0 voice vote, with Councilwoman Perrotti abstaining from the vote on all resolutions and all Consent Agenda items, and Councilwoman Fishman abstaining from the vote on Resolution Nos. 52-2019, 53-2019, and 54-2019.

#### MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Spango congratulated Councilwoman Perrotti upon her election to Council. Mr. Spango noted that a snow storm is predicted for tomorrow into Thursday and recommended that residents make sure that cell phone batteries are charged, they have emergency utility company phone numbers available in case needed, and that fuel tanks are full in cars and snow removal equipment.

Mayor Spango reported that Roseland recently hosted s shared services summit with the Mayors of Caldwell, North Caldwell, West Caldwell, Essex Fells, Livingston, and Verona. Mr. Spango noted that the Mayors plan to meet monthly to discuss subjects such as equipment purchases that can be shared amongst the participating towns. In light of recent newspaper headlines about lead in borough water supplies throughout New Jersey, Mayor Spango asked the Borough's water system engineer for information regarding the Borough's water system. Mr. Spango advised that there is no lead in the water on the borough owned side of the water system. Roseland receives their water from Essex Fells. Essex fells last tested for lead in September of 2018, and none of the samples contained a detectable amount of lead. Essex Fells has no recorded violations for exceeding lead allowances. The Borough is also required to test water samples and have experience similar results indicating that none of the samples exceeded lead limits established by state of federal regulations.

Mayor Spango thanked the police department for good work related to two recent incidents. In one case, the efforts of the detective bureau resulted in an arrest last week. In the other case, an arrest was made for a stolen car on the first or second night of operation of the task for that was formed by West Essex towns to combat the rise in vehicle thefts. Mr. Spango also thanked the DPW and the police department for their storm preparation efforts, adding that DPW overtime for the storm did not exceed two hundred dollars, and the police department incurred only eight hours of overtime. Mayor Spango enjoyed attending the fire department's award banquet last weekend, and congratulated firefighters Piltzecker and LaBrunda who were honored for forty years of service and thirty years of service respectively.

# **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

# **ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE**

Councilman Bardi congratulated Councilwoman Perrotti on her election to Council. Mr. Bardi announced that the final budget meeting will be held this coming Thursday night at 6:00 PM at 140 Eagle Rock Avenue and that Council plans to introduce the 2019 Municipal Budget introduction at their March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Bardi reported that the Administration and Finance Committee is currently interviewing website vendors, with plans to design a new website that will be easier for residents to use and easier for the Borough to update.

Mayor Spango interjected that there is a scholarship opportunity for junior and senior high school students who are residents of Roseland. A notice was sent to area high schools, and anyone interested in the one thousand dollar scholarship should visit the Borough's website for eligibility requirements and application information. Mr. Spango reported that the Department of Public Works is investigating a variety of options to combat the problem of geese congregating at Bond Force Park.

Essex County Department of Parks and Recreation Director Dan Salvante asked Mayor Spango to make the following announcements: there are five days left in the County's Deer Management Plan – today, Thursday February 21<sup>st</sup>, Tuesday April 26<sup>th</sup>, Thursday April 28<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday March 5<sup>th</sup>. South Mountain Reservation will be closed to the public on those Tuesdays and the Hilltop Reservation will be closed to the public on those Thursdays; there will be a job fair on March 2<sup>nd</sup> at the education building at the Turtle back Zoo; and the Cherry Blossom Run is scheduled for April 7<sup>th</sup> in Branch Brook Park – applications are available on the Park system's website.

# PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Councilwoman Fishman reported that the Borough will resume legal advertising with The Progress newspaper, following assurances that The Progress has corrected customer service issues. Mrs. Fishman explained that the Public Affairs Committee is evaluating changes to the Municipal Youth Guidance Council ordinance and the Municipal Alliance Committee. Councilwoman Fishman explained that the Borough has received the preliminary report from Brightview Engineering and that the Borough plans to install a second traffic

monitor on Lincoln Street upon the Traffic Engineer's report. Ms. Fishman congratulated Mrs. Perrotti on her election to Council.

# CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

No report

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

Councilman Freda congratulated Mrs. Perrotti on her election to Council. Mr. Freda stated that he met with Superintendent of Public Works Schall and Deputy Superintendent Critchett and toured the DPW facilities and inspected their equipment. Mr. Freda thanked the DPW for their recent storm response efforts. Councilman Freda reported that National Water Main Cleaning has completed televised inspection of 16,000 lineal feet of sanitary sewer lines. Mr. Freda will follow up with Mr. Schall regarding any necessary repairs identified by the inspection.

The DPW will be cleaning off catch basin inlets in preparation for pending snow/rain storms, and they have been performing in-house repairs of equipment. Mr. Freda and Mr. Schall will be developing an equipment plan to schedule replacement of aged equipment and identify new equipment that would improve the department's productivity, such as different types of leaf collection equipment and pot hole repair systems. Councilman Freda, Mr. Schall, and Mr. Critchett were invited to visit Branchburg Township to look at their equipment. They were able to witness some of the equipment of interest which included a brine system that was built in-house, and equipment that sprays pothole repairs. Branchburg Township employees offered to provide training on these systems if so desired.

Councilman Freda received the monthly activity report from the Roseland First Aid Squad. The RFAS responded to thirty-two medical calls in January, two of which were CPR calls. The RFA also responded to six accidents and two mutual aid calls. The First Aid Squad is looking for new members, and reminds residents that the cadet program allows members age sixteen and above. Mr. Freda thanked OEM Coordinator Matheis for his activity report and commended the auxiliary police force for providing seventy-two hours of volunteer service through January.

# **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Councilman Jacobs congratulated Mrs. Perrotti on her election to Council. Mr. Jacobs encouraged residents to assist the police department in reducing auto thefts by locking their cars and removing keys, wallets and other valuables form their cards. Mr. Jacobs thanked the police department for the professional response to his personal emergency call. Councilman Jacobs cautioned residents to be careful driving, and to wear reflective clothing when walking and participating in other activities after dark. Mr. Jacobs enjoyed the Fire Department's awards banquet, and commented on the longevity of the volunteers, and thanked them all for their service to Roseland.

# **RECREATION**

Councilwoman Tolli announced that the Senior Transportation committee still has one vacancy. Anyone interested in service should submit a Citizen Leadership Form to the Borough. Mrs. Tolli directed residents to the Borough website for the annual spring flyer of activities which includes the annual opening day baseball activities on April 22nd. Councilwoman Tolli thanked Sharon Sitnik for her seven years of service upon her resignation from the Beautification Committee. Mrs. Tolli also welcomed new members Alice Batta ad Patricia Braga. Councilwoman Tolli cautioned residents to be wary of phone scams from familiar phone numbers. Mrs. Tolli advised residents that Senior Transportation postcards with service information are available at the recreation office. Mrs. Tolli welcomed Mrs. Perrott to Council.

# APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Jacobs made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2019 budget meeting and the February 5, 2019 caucus meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 5-0 voice vote, with Councilwoman Perrotti abstaining from the vote.

# **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Michael Bellantonio President of Roseland Patrolman's FOP Lodge No. 184, representing FOP and PBA Members

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to close the meeting at 8:23 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

Mayor James R.

Watkins, Borough Clerk

Approved: March 19, 2019

# **VOICE VOTE**

Aye:

Bardi, Fishman, Freda, Jacobs, Perrotti, Tolli

Nay:

None

Abstain: None