

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

JULY 21, 2020  
VIA CONFERENCE CALL  
6:30 PM OPEN SESSION  
EXECUTIVE SESSION TO IMMEDIATELY FOLLOW

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER & SUNSHINE STATEMENT**

Due to the ongoing Coronavirus (COVID-19) emergency, the July 21, 2020 meeting of the Roseland Mayor and Council was called to order at 6:30 PM via teleconference 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. The change of the location of the meeting to telephonic, the teleconference access telephone number, and the teleconference access were advertised in The Progress, sent to the Star Ledger, posted on the Borough's website, posted on the doors of the municipal building, and filed in the office of the Borough Clerk. The public was invited to join the Roseland Council Meeting via computer by logging in to: <HTTPS://ZOOM.US/J/93530484582> or via telephone by calling +1 646-558-8656, Webinar ID: 935 3048 4582

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

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

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

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

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Mayor Spango led the salute to the flag.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 17-2020 by title only for the first time: "An ordinance of the Borough of Roseland amending the Land Development ordinance concerning the collection of Affordable Housing Development Fees to comply with current state Affordable Housing regulations.". Councilman Bardi made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 17-2020. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 6-0 voice vote. The public hearing will be held at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, August 18, 2020 via teleconference.

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 18-2020 by title only for the first time: "Ordinance repealing Section §30-1101 "Mandatory Growth Share Affordable Housing Production" and replacing with Affordable Housing Mandatory Set-Aside". Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 17-2020. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 6-0 voice vote. The public hearing will be held at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, August 18, 2020 via teleconference.

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 19-2020 by title only for the first time: "An ordinance replacing the entire contents of the existing Affordable Housing Ordinance of the Borough of Roseland to address the requirements of the Fair Housing Act and the Uniform Housing Affordability Controls (UHAC) regarding compliance with the Borough's Affordable Housing obligations". Councilman Trillo made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 19-2020. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 6-0 voice vote. The public hearing will be held at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, August 18, 2020 via teleconference.

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 20-2020 by title only for the first time: "Bond ordinance providing for various road improvements in and by the Borough of Roseland, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, appropriating \$1,074,600 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$767,420 bonds or notes of the Borough to finance part of the cost thereof.". Councilman Freda made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 20-2020. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 6-0 voice vote. The public hearing will be held at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, August 18, 2020 via teleconference.

### **PUBLIC HEARING/ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES**

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 16-2020 by title only for the second time: "An ordinance amending and supplementing Chapter 17 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland entitled "Water and Sewer"". Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 16-2020. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

#### **Public Comment**

None

There being no one wishing to be heard, Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 16-2020 for the third and final time: "An ordinance amending and supplementing Chapter 17 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland entitled "Water and Sewer"". Councilman Bardi made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 16-2020. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 6-0 roll call vote.

### **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 216-2020 approving the July 17, 2020 bill list in the amount of \$625,726.80. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

### **ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

Councilwoman Tolli made a motion to approve the nine resolutions on the agenda:

Resolution No. 217-2020 ratification of salaries – June 2020

Resolution No. 218-2020 ratification of bills – April through June 2020

Resolution No. 219-2020 approval to purchase storage shelving from Grainger at a cost of \$295.75 to store food collected for the COVID-19 food distribution program

Resolution No. 220-2020 approving the 2020-2021 liquor license renewal for VFW Post 2619

Resolution No. 221-2020 accepting the quote from Ceramic Tile Installers at a cost of \$17,300.00 for the purchase and installation of tile in the Council chambers and hallway of the 19 Harrison Avenue building

Resolution No. 222-2020 authorizing the termination of Xavier Sanchez

Resolution No. 223-2020 authorizing inclusion in the Essex County Urban County Community Development Program

Resolution No. 224-2020 acceptance of the proposal from Boswell Engineering in the amount of \$8,450.00 to prepare an encroachment survey for the property purchased from the Morristown & Erie Railroad

Resolution No. 225-2020 approving the 2020-2021 liquor license renewal for Fairchild Retail, LLC

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

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to approve the four items on the Consent Agenda:

Accept with regret the resignation of Auxiliary Lieutenant Pat Lorenzo from the Roseland Auxiliary Police effective July 11, 2020

Approve application of Vincent Rubino to become a member of the Roseland Fire Department

Approval to appoint William Tedesco to the Board of Adjustment to fill the unexpired term of John Derites through December 31, 2022

Approval to appoint Lauren K. Seiner to the Recreation Committee to fill the unexpired term of Jeff Liddle through December 31, 2021

The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 6-0 voice vote. Mayor Spango thanked Auxiliary Lieutenant Pat Lorenzo for his service, and thanked Vincent Rubino, William Tedesco, and Lauren Seiner for volunteering to serve on the Fire Department, Board of Adjustment, and Recreation Committee respectively.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Spango gave a Covid-19 update noting that the total number of cases since the last meeting decreased by one from eighty-six to eighty-five. This was due to contract tracing determining that one case was not a resident of Roseland. There have been no deaths recorded since the last meeting. Mr. Spango thanked Borough residents and credited the positive results to residents' adherence to social distancing restrictions and mask requirements.

Mayor Spango thanked Recreation Director Colitti, OEM Coordinator Matheis, and the police department for a flawless movie night. All but six residents of Lincoln Street responded to the Borough's street survey. The Borough is maximizing reimbursement requests for Covid-19 expenses to FEMA and the CARES Act.

Mr. Spango thanked the performers of the variety show, Neil Grabowski for organizing and videotaping the show, Recreation Director Colitti for his hard work, and the people from the community who contributed. Mayor Spango thanked Lauren Seiner for her assistance with movie night and Silvana Verola and her husband for the food truck. Bids are due next week for the improvement to Harrison Park. Work is expected to begin next month and be completed by October. The Borough is still planning a fall festival as conditions allow.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL**

Councilman Bardi thanked Recreation Director Colitti, the Auxiliary Police, and the Police Department for their assistance with a very successful movie night. Mr. Bardi

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welcomed William Tedesco back to the Board of Adjustment. Councilman Bardi thanked Director Colitti, the Recreation Committee, and the SCRAM counselors for the great job getting the SCRAM program open and running in a safe manner. Mr. Bardi wished everyone a safe and enjoyable summer.

### SHARED SERVICES

Councilman Trillo echoed the kudos to the Recreation Department for getting the SCRAM program up and running despite the Covid-19 health emergency.

### REDEVELOPMENT AND LEGAL

Councilwoman Fishman reported that plans for the Harrison Park improvements are moving ahead. Mrs. Fishman congratulated Vincent Rubino upon his appointment to the fire department, William Tedesco upon his appointment to the Zoning Board, and Lauren Seiner upon her appointment to the Recreation Committee. Mrs. Fishman also thanked Auxiliary Police Lieutenant Pat Lorenzo for his years of service with the Auxiliary Police, and Jeff Liddle for his service on the Recreation Committee. The Borough is improving storage for the food pantry. The Borough anticipates and increased demand when unemployment benefits run out.

Mayor Spango added that a letter was hand delivered to all Nob Hill and Avalon tenants with details of the State's rental assistance program during the Covid-19 emergency.

Councilwoman Fishman thanked Health Officer DiLizia for his efforts to get the SCRAM program approved by the State for opening.

### PUBLIC WORKS

Councilman Freda reported that the Office of emergency Management (OEM) has completed the upgrade of the traffic light at the intersection of Passaic and Harrison Avenues with a backup, external generator. This upgrade will allow the traffic light to function during power outages, and will eliminate the need for a police officer to stand by at the intersection during such events.

Mr. Freda thanked Pat Lorenzo for his sixteen years of service as an Auxiliary Police Officer. Mr. Freda thanked the OEM for their assistance with the recent movie night. Anyone interested in serving as an Auxiliary Police Officer can contact Captain Matheis at 973-403-6840. Council agreed to add a sign to the public notice sign structures soliciting volunteers to serve on the fire department, first aid squad, and auxiliary police, and asked that the communications officer prepare a flyer for posting on the Borough's website.

Mayor Spango suggested that Council consider offering a stipend to Auxiliary Police officers, similar to that provided to members of the fire department and first aid squad.

### PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilwoman Perrotti welcomed Vincent Rubino to the fire department. The fire

department now has thirty-seven members, and responded to eighty-five alarms in June. This compares to one hundred twelve in June of 2019.

Mrs. Perrotti congratulated the police department, and thanked police officers from West Caldwell, North Caldwell, Essex Fells, Verona, and East Hanover for their apprehension of five car thieves and two stolen cars.

Councilwoman Perrotti reported that the police department voice recorder, license plate readers, and computers authorized by the capital improvement plan are now operational. Mrs. Perrotti received a quote for thirty (30) body cameras in the amount of \$27,000. Mayor Spango added that there will also be a cost of approximately \$1,700 per camera for data storage. Neither Board of Education has adopted a plan for return to school as of yet. Any plan will have to be approved by the Health Officer and the State before implementation.

### RECREATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Councilwoman Tolli reported that SCRAM is going well. The movie night was a great success, and everyone is looking forward to the next movie. Mrs. Tolli thanked members of the Department of Public Works (DPW) for watering the hanging baskets in the center of town. Essays from student members of the Municipal Youth Guidance Subcommittee have been received. Scholarship recipients will be announced in the near future. The Library is now open on Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM, and on Saturday, from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM. Roseland residents can still take advantage of the Caldwell Food Bank on Wednesday between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM. The senior bus is not operating at the present time.

Councilwoman Tolli thanked Pat Lorenzo and Jeff Liddle for their service, and congratulated Vincent Rubino, William Tedesco, and Lauren Seiner upon their respective appointments.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilwoman Tolli made a motion to approve the **January 15, 2019** executive session minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 4-0 roll call vote with Councilman Bardi, Councilwoman Fishman, Councilman Freda and Councilwoman Tolli voting in the affirmative, and Councilwoman Perrotti and Councilman Trillo abstaining.

Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion to approve the **October 1, 2019** executive session minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 5-0 roll call vote with Councilman Bardi, Councilwoman Fishman, Councilman Freda, Councilwoman Perrotti and Councilwoman Tolli voting in the affirmative, and Councilman Trillo abstaining.

Councilman Bardi made a motion to approve the **November 26, 2019** executive session minutes and the **December 3, 2019** executive session minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 4-0 roll call vote with Councilman Bardi, Councilman Freda, Councilwoman Perrotti and Councilwoman Tolli voting in the affirmative, and Councilwoman Fishman and Councilman Trillo abstaining.

Councilman Freda made a motion to approve the **December 17, 2019** executive session minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 5-0 roll call vote with Councilman Bardi, Councilwoman Fishman, Councilman Freda, Councilwoman Perrotti and Councilwoman Tolli voting in the affirmative, and Councilman Trillo abstaining.

Councilman Freda made a motion to approve the July 7, 2020 executive session minutes and the July 7, 2020 caucus meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trillo and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to open the meeting for public comment. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trillo and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

John Matheis                      OEM Coordinator

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

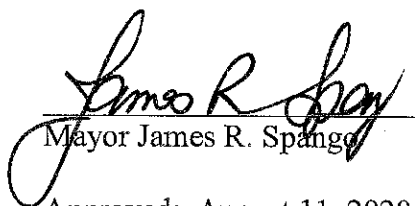
Councilwoman Tolli made a motion at 7:13 PM to close public comment and to approve Resolution No. 226-2020 Approval to Close to Executive Session to discuss the following:

1. Personnel

The motion was seconded by Councilman Freda and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

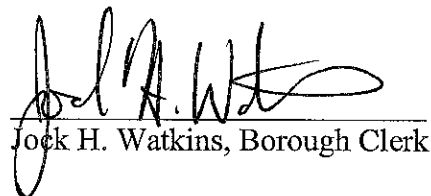
### **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to close the meeting at 7:47 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.



Mayor James R. Spango

Approved: August 11, 2020



Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk

### **VOICE VOTE**

Aye:        Bardi, Freda, Perrotti, Tolli  
Nay:        None  
Abstain:   None  
Absent:    Fishman, Trillo