

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

APRIL 20, 2021
VIA CONFERENCE CALL
6:00 PM OPEN SESSION

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO IMMEDIATELY FOLLOW

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Due to the ongoing Coronavirus (COVID-19) emergency, the April 20, 2021 meeting of the Roseland Mayor and Council was called to order at 6:00 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 sent to the official newspapers, posted on the Borough's website, and filed in the office of the Borough Clerk. The public was invited to join the Roseland special Council meeting via computer by logging in to:

<https://zoom.us/j/95597784464?pwd=b0dNdHFjZE9lQ2tSamFIT3orS1BUdz09>

or via telephone by calling +1-312-626 6799, or +1-646-558-8656, or +1-301-715-8592, Webinar ID: 955 9778 4464, Passcode: 705407.

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

ABSENT:

Eileen Fishman, Council President

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

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

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Mayor Spango led the salute to the flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lauren Seiner from the Roseland Library announced the winners, their guesses, and the prizes for the recent jelly bean counting contest

1 st place Isabella Gillespie	3125 jelly beans	\$100
2 nd place Gabriel Cotugno	3100 jelly beans	\$50
3 rd place Logan Takkel	3025 jelly beans	\$25

Ms. Seiner reported that there were over one hundred entries to the contest, and that the actual number of jelly beans was 3,140, weighing seventeen pounds. Ms. Seiner thanked the mayor and members of Council for donating the contest prizes.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Councilwoman Tolli made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 11-2021: “An ordinance to amend Chapter 2-6 entitled “Standing Committees of Council”. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trillo and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Fishman absent). The public hearing will be held on May 18, 2021.

Councilman Bardi made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 12-2021: “An ordinance to amend Chapter 20 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland entitled “Soil and Soil Moving””. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Fishman absent). The public hearing will be held on May 18, 2021.

Councilman Trillo made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 13-2021: “Bond Ordinance providing for improvements to tennis courts in and by the Borough of Roseland, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, appropriating \$124,000 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$117,800 bonds or notes of the Borough to finance part of the cost thereof.”. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Fishman absent). The public hearing will be held on May 18, 2021.

PUBLIC HEARING/ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 07-2021 by title only for the second time: “An ordinance to amend Chapter 10 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland entitled “Building and Housing”, to amend various fees”. Councilman Bardi made a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 07-2021. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trillo and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Fishman 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 Councilman Trillo and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Fishman absent).

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 07-2021 for the third and final time: “An ordinance to amend Chapter 10 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland entitled “Building and Housing”, to amend various fees”. Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 07-2021. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trillo and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Fishman absent).

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 08-2021 by title only for the second time: “An ordinance of the Borough of Roseland to repeal Ordinance No. 05-2020 as amended which provided for salaries and compensation to be paid to non-union employees of the Borough of

Roseland and substitute therefore salaries and compensation for the year 2021". Councilman Freda made a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 08-2021. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Fishman absent).

Public Comment

None

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

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 08-2021 for the third and final time: "An ordinance of the Borough of Roseland to repeal Ordinance No. 05-2020 as amended which provided for salaries and compensation to be paid to non-union employees of the Borough of Roseland and substitute therefore salaries and compensation for the year 2021". Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 08-2021. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trillo and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Fishman absent).

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Councilwoman Tolli made a motion to approve Resolution No. 124-2021 approving the April 16, 2021 bill list in the amount of \$74,007.66. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Fishman absent).

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

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

Resolution No. 125-2021 ratification of salaries – March 2021

Resolution No. 126-2021 amending Section II of the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual entitled "Early Closing and Delayed Opening Policy"

Resolution No. 127-2021 amending Section IV of the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual Entitled "Educational Assistance and Training Policy" and "Overtime Compensation Policy"

Resolution No 128-2021 approving the hiring of SCRAM Staff Directors

Resolution No 129-2021 approving submission of a 2021 Recreation Improvements Grant

Resolution 130-2021 approving the proposal from Boswell Engineering in the amount of \$1,750.00 to provide engineering services for the preparation of the 2021 Local Recreation Improvement Grant application

Resolution 131-2021 appointing Ryan Schwertfeger as Public Information Officer

Resolution 132-2021 awarding a contract in the amount of \$6,493.76 to ACCSES for 2021 Janitorial Services for a two-month period May 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021 under State Contract 77110

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilman Freda made a motion to approve the two items on the Consent Agenda:

Approve Running 4 Answers to use the 19 Harrison Avenue complex on Saturday, April 24, 2021 from 6:00 AM to 10:00 AM for their annual race and to waive the associated fees

Accept with regret the resignation of Angelo Traina as Technical Assistant and Affordable Housing Liaison effective April 30, 2021

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

MAYOR'S REPORT

Running for Answers, which supports Alzheimer's research, is scheduled for this Saturday, April 24th. Last week was the first week Since August 2020 with no new cases of Covid-19 reported. Work at Borino Park is progressing with some of the playground equipment installed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Councilman Bardi congratulated Ryan Schwertfeger on his promotion to Public Information Officer. The hearing on adoption of the 2021 municipal budget is scheduled for the May 4th Caucus meeting.

Mayor Spango added that quotes are being solicited to construct a turf field at O'Beirne Field. Preliminary plans are underway for summer concerts, summer movies, and Roseland Day in October. Plans for Roseland Day include an internal, town soccer tournament, food truck festival, lighting of bonfire, and a culminating with a movie. The Borough is working on new signage reflecting the increased fines and mandatory court appearance for large truck that use Lincoln Street. Efforts to get GPS routes to direct traffic away from Lincoln Street appear to be working.

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND OUTREACH

Councilwoman Tolli wished Recreation Director Colitti a happy birthday. Fifteen students on the Municipal Youth Guidance Subcommittee are planning to visit the Community Food Bank in Hillside on May 1st. Covid-19 precautions will be followed and the students will assist with sorting and boxing food for distribution. Opening day baseball is scheduled for Saturday, April 24th beginning at 11:00 am.

REDEVELOPMENT AND LEGAL

No report

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilman Freda introduced Joanna Bermingham from Remington & Vernick Engineers who explained status of water tank painting project. The project has been on hold over the course of the winter and the painting was postponed until spring to deal with some water valve issues. The ideal time to paint a water tank is in the spring or fall. Recently, Essex Fells has expressed concern over taking the water tank offline because several of their water operators have either retired or left the system. Essex Fells is concerned that the new operators are just learning the system, and may not be able to meet peak demand that comes with spring and summer. Ms. Bermingham presented to options:

The Borough can move forward and paint the exterior of the tank now, and then come back in the fall, take the tank offline, and paint the interior of the tank. The negative to this approach is the potential for condensation on the exterior of tank. Condensation may prevent the paint from adhering to the tank; or

The Borough can postpone the project until the fall, when the weather is more suitable for painting the tank. It will be cheaper to leave scaffolding in place over the summer than to remove the scaffolding now and then reinstall it in the fall. Council asked Ms. McDonnell to contact Essex fells to see if they will cover the cost of leaving the scaffolding up over the summer, and ask when Essex Fells expects to be comfortable allowing the tank being taken offline for painting.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilwoman Perrotti reported that the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) auxiliary police performed sixty-seven hours of traffic control and continued in-service training during the past month. The auxiliary police also assisted with the Easter Bunny drive around town. The OEM has two, new, electronic sign boards that have been placed around town with Covid-19 messaging. The draft fire department ordinance has been transmitted to fire department for their comments. The fire department reported thirty-seven members in March, conducting one meeting, two drills, and responding to eighteen alarms. This compares to thirty-seven alarms during March of 2020.

The West Essex Board of Education reported that the cohorts are going well. Mrs. Perrotti noted that the American flag at Fernwood Field is deteriorating and asked if the flag could be replaced before baseball opening day. Mayor Spango added that baseball opening day will be held at O'Beirne Field this year because there is more room to maintain social distancing. Mr. Spango asked Mrs. Chumacas to have the DPW take a look at the flag at Fernwood Field.

RECREATION

Councilman Trillo reported that the high school is now conducting a single cohort with students going in five days a week for half days. The middle school is still doing a hybrid offering. Noecker School is scheduled to begin five days per week next week, with students attending half days.

Pool membership applications will be posted on the recreation website very soon. The Fairfield Pool will be closed this summer. Roseland residents can still make application for the pools in Livingston, West Caldwell, North Caldwell, and East Hanover. All of the lights at all of the fields have been repaired. Opening day baseball is this Saturday. Mayor Spango added that multi-purpose court is about to be resurfaced and lined for street hockey and whiffle ball. T-ball has kicked off Sundays at O'Beirne Field with fifty children registered.

Mr. Trillo acknowledged the great job of customer service by Mrs. Maria Porreca, the new part-time recreation assistant. SCRAM registration is open. Whiffle ball begins next Friday and Pitch Hit and Run is scheduled for June 11th. With the closing of Eagle Rock Lanes, recreation is looking into scheduling the father child bowling event at Hanover Lanes. The Senior Luncheon, normally held in June, is being rescheduled for the fall. Councilman Trillo made his first visit to Camp Wyanokie on Sunday and assisted with the spring cleanup. Camp Wyanokie day is being rescheduled to the fall, tentatively on October 16th.

Mayor Spango noted that recreation cancellations are now being posted on the Borough's website and social media outlets. Councilman Trillo made a motion to reduce the Covid-19 sanitation fee for non-sanctioned groups by fifty percent, and to reduce the fee for sanctioned groups to a \$25.00 flat fee. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Fishman absent).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Annamaria Bellino

Mayor Spango announced that the winner of the Christmas Decorating contest was the DeMarco family on Evergreen Place.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

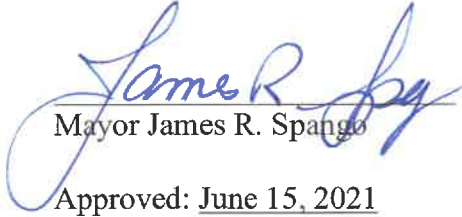
Councilman Bardi made a motion at 7:00 PM to approve Resolution No. 133-2021 Approval to Close to Executive Session to discuss the following:

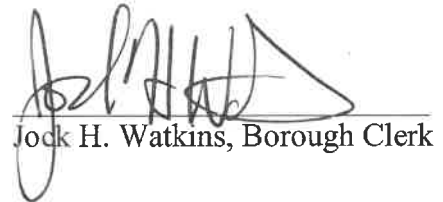
1. Personnel

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

ADJOURNMENT

Council returned to open session at 7:20 PM. Councilman Freda made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Fishman absent).


Mayor James R. Spango
Approved: June 15, 2021


Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk

VOICE VOTE

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

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