

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

SEPTEMBER 20, 2022
19 HARRISON AVENUE
6:30 PM EXECUTIVE SESSION
7:00 PM OPEN SESSION

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The September 20, 2022 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
Eileen Fishman, Councilwoman
Roger Freda, Councilman
Jean Perrotti, Council President
Marcelino Trillo, Councilman

ABSENT:

Christopher Bardi, Councilman
Michele Tolli, Councilwoman
Joni McDonnell, Borough Attorney

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Maureen Chumacas, Borough Administrator
Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk
Elnardo Webster, Borough Attorney

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Freda made a motion to approve Resolution No. 261-2022 Approval to Close to Executive Session to discuss the following:

1. Potential Litigation
2. Contract Negotiations
3. Personnel

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 3-0 voice vote (Bardi, Tolli, and Trillo absent). Councilman Trillo arrived shortly after the beginning of executive session. Council adjourned executive session at 6:50 PM. Mayor Spango read the Sunshine Statement again at 7:00 PM and called the meeting to order. Clerk Watkins called the roll noting that Councilman Bardi and Councilwoman Tolli were absent.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Honorary Mayor Andrew Mercadante led the salute to the flag.

SWEARING IN CEREMONY

Mayor Spango administered the oath of office to Honorary Mayor Andrew Mercadante.

Mayor Spango administered the oath of office to Acting Police Director John A. Matheis.

PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Spango invited members of the police department and fire department that were present, to join Council at the front of the meeting room. Mayor Spango asked OEM Coordinator John Matheis to elaborate on the events of a recent, serious house fire at the home of Mark and Cherie Castellano on Thackeray Drive. Mr. Matheis explained that members of the fire department rescued the family dog "Cruiser" from the house and resuscitated the dog. Members of the police department transported the dog to the emergency hospital where Cruiser was treated. Mayor Spango asked Cherie Castellano, accompanied by Cruiser, to come to the podium to address the audience. Mrs. Castellano thanked the police officers and firefighters for their efforts at the fire, and particularly with saving Cruiser's life. OEM Coordinator Matheis, police officer Dylan Hughes, police officer Jason Hiter, OEM Coordinator John Matheis, and Fire Chief Richard Loveless were given citations for their efforts at the fire. Chief Loveless accepted the citation on behalf of all members of the fire department.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Councilman Trillo made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 16-2022: "An ordinance of the Borough of Roseland to repeal Ordinance No. 07-2022 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 2022". The motion was seconded by Councilman Freda and approved by a 4-0 voice vote (Bardi, Tolli absent). The public hearing will be held on October 18, 2022

PUBLIC HEARING/ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 15-2022 by title only for the second time: "Bond Ordinance providing for various capital improvements in and by the Borough of Roseland, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, appropriating \$6,038,804 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$5,708,837 bonds or notes of the Borough to finance part of the cost thereof.". Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 15-2022. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved 4-0 voice vote (Bardi, Tolli 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 Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 4-0 voice vote (Bardi, Tolli absent).

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 15-2022 for the third and final time: "Bond Ordinance providing for various capital improvements in and by the Borough of Roseland, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, appropriating \$6,038,804 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$5,708,837 bonds or notes of the Borough to finance part of the cost thereof". Councilman Trillo made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 15-2022. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 4-0 roll call vote (Bardi, Tolli absent).

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Councilman Trillo made a motion to approve Resolution No. 262-2022 approving the September 16, 2022 bill list in the amount of \$535,968.53. The motion was seconded by Councilman Freda and approved by a 4-0 voice vote (Bardi, Tolli absent).

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to approve the eight resolutions on the agenda:

Resolution No. 263-2022 ratification of salaries – August 2022

Resolution No. 264-2022 Governing Body certification of 2021 Annual Audit

Resolution No. 265-2022 approving the appointment of Dennis Cleary as Interim Public Defender with an annual salary of \$10,000.00

Resolution No. 266-2022 ratification of bills – July through September

Resolution No. 267-2022 authorizing acceptance of donations from the Roseland Public Library for Roseland Day and authorizing the Roseland Boosters Club to host a charity fund raising beer garden at Roseland Day

Resolution 268-2022 authorizing the mayor to sign an escrow agreement for 55 Livingston Avenue and 80 Livingston Avenue

Resolution No. 269-2022 approving a non-union employee salary increase effective January 1, 2022

Resolution No. 270-2022 authorizing a senior citizen trip to the Black Forest Inn in Stanhope New Jersey on October 7, 2022 and establishing fees

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 4-0 voice vote (Bardi, Tolli absent).

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Council Meeting Minutes September 20, 2022

Accept with regret the resignation of Emily Podolak from the Library Board of Trustees effective September 2, 2022.

Approve the waiving of the fire permit fee for the Roseland Boosters Club for September 9, 2022.

Authorizing Michael Colitti and Patrick Nichols to attend the NJRPA fall workshop on October 6, 2022 for a total cost \$130.00

Authorize Cub Scouts Pack 801 to Utilize Borough Grill at their October 15 Fernwood Overnight Camp Out and Waive Fire Prevention Permit Fee

The motion was seconded by Councilman Freda and approved by a 4-0 voice vote (Bardi, Tolli absent).

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Spango reminded residents that Roseland Day is scheduled for October 1st. The Mayors Ball is scheduled for October 22nd. Proceeds from the Mayor's Ball will benefit the Roseland Library and the Roseland First Aid Squad.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

No report

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND SHARED SERVICES

Councilwoman Fishman announced that the East Hanover/Roseland Health Department will be administering flu vaccines to Roseland residents 65 years of age and older on Monday, October 24th at the Roseland First Aid Squad building from 10:00 AM until 12:00 noon. There is no cost for the vaccine, but pre-registration and appointments are required.

Councilwoman Perrotti reported that high school student members of the Municipal Youth Guidance Subcommittee will be participating in upcoming community service projects. Students will be handing out popcorn and snacks at the fall festival movie night. The Roseland Food Bank is still accepting donations of non-perishable food items. Residents were reminded that the Run 4 the Roses and the Junior Olympics will be held on Saturday, September 24th beginning at 9:00 AM.

REDEVELOPMENT AND LEGAL

No report

PUBLIC WORKS

No report

PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilwoman Perrotti congratulated Director Matheis on his appointment. Mrs. Perrotti thanked Fire Chief Loveless and the members of the fire department, police officer Hughes, and police officer on their commendations, noting that they were well deserved.

The fire department will be conducting a breast cancer t-shirt fundraiser. All of the proceeds will be donated to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation. Announcements will be posted on the Borough's Facebook Page and included in the Borough newsletter.

RECREATION

Councilman Trill announced that the Run 4 the Roses is this coming Saturday, with the Junior Olympics beginning at 11:00 AM. The St. Nicholas, Constantine and Helen Greek Church is hosting their annual Greek Festival next Saturday. Fall sports are in full swing with cross country and soccer going strong. Adult kickball started back up this past Friday night.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

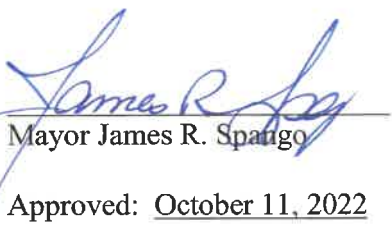
Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to approve the September 6, 2022 caucus meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trillo and approved by a 4-0 voice vote (Bardi, Tolli absent).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kathy Shwiff of the Progress announced that The Progress along with the League of Women Voters will be conducting a candidates' forum for Roseland council candidates on Thursday, September 29th at 7:00 PM here in the public meeting room.

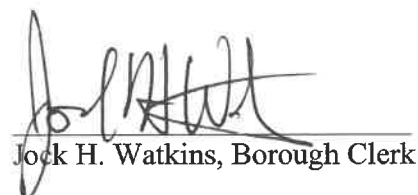
ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Freda made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 4-0 voice vote (Bardi, Tolli absent).



Mayor James R. Spargo

Approved: October 11, 2022



Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk

VOICE VOTE

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

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