

BOROUGH OF ROSELAND
COUNTY OF ESSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

APRIL 4, 2023
140 EAGLE ROCK AVENUE
5:30 PM EXECUTIVE SESSION
7:30 PM OPEN SESSION

CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES

The April 4, 2023 meeting of the Roseland Mayor and Council was called to order at 5:42 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. Forty-Eight Hour Notice of the earlier start time of the meeting was sent to the official newspapers and posted on the Borough's website. The meeting was also available via Zoom conference call.

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to approve Resolution No. Resolution No. 124-2023 Approval to Close to Executive Session to discuss the following:

1. Personnel

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 6-0 voice vote. Council adjourned executive session at 7:59 PM. Mayor Spango read the Sunshine Statement again at 7:30 PM and called the 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.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul Sarabando 68 Pitcairn Drive
William Tedesco 20 Meeker Court

Councilman Freda excused himself from the meeting following the public comments.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Councilwoman Tolli made a motion to approve Resolution No. 125-2023 approving the March 31, 2023 bill list in the Amount of \$227,609.26. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Freda absent).

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

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

Resolution No. 126-2023 memorializing the refund of taxes

Resolution No. 127-2023 amending Resolution No. 162-2023 “Approval of Task I and Task II of Proposal from Boswell Engineering to Provide Engineering Services for O’Beirne Field Improvements” to increase the amount not to exceed by \$6,000.00 for an adjusted amount of \$531,500.00.

Resolution No. 128-2023 awarding a contract to Johnston Communications for telephone system maintenance under State Contract 80802

Resolution No. 129-2023 appointing Remington and Vernick as water and sewer engineer to complete outstanding projects for an amount not to exceed \$17,500.00

Resolution No. 130– 2023 accepting the proposal from Boswell Engineering for the 2023 water main improvements project on Freeman Street, Roseland Place and Cooper Avenue at a cost of \$162,000.00

Resolution No. 131-2023 accepting the proposal to Boswell Engineering for the 2023 Ridge Road improvement project at a cost of \$112,850.00

Resolution No. 132-2023 authorizing a senior citizen trip to the Black Forest Inn, Stanhope, NJ on October 13, 2023 and establishing the fees

Resolution No. 133-2023 authorizing the mayor to sign an agreement with the Essex County Department of Public Works, Division of Environmental Services, for 2023 aerial mosquito control

Resolution No. 134-2023 authorizing the return of \$4,354.75 of unused escrow funds from police side jobs to nine different contractors

Council Caucus Meeting Minutes April 4, 2023

Resolution No. 135-2023 authorizing the extension of the 2022-2023 NJ Division on Mental Health and Addiction (DMHAS) Youth Leadership Grant through June 30, 2023

Resolution No. 136-2023 awarding a Morris County Co-Op contract #47 to RIO Supply Inc. for the purchase of water meters and -Coders for an amount not to exceed \$400,000.00

Resolution No. 137-2023 authorizing the termination of the contract with the firm of Inglesino, Webster, Wyciskala & Taylor for Municipal Attorney services, and authorizing the appointment of the firm of Connell Foley for Municipal Attorney services through April 30, 2023

Resolution No. 138-2023 approving the Emergency Temporary Budget

Resolution No. 139-2023 awarding a contract in the amount of \$46,095.00 to LCC Landscapes, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for grass cutting and lawn maintenance

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion to approve raffle application no. RA-397 from Alzheimer's New Jersey to conduct an off-premise merchandise raffle on June 30, 2023. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Freda absent).

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Spango announced that there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony on April 24th, at a time to be determined, at Stella's Restaurant at 33 Eisenhower Parkway. Mr. Spango initiated a discussion on safety concerns of lithium batteries. The primary concern is the development of safety precautions at multiple family complexes where dwelling units are attached or very close together.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Councilman Bardi reminded residents that the public hearing on adoption of the 2023 municipal budget is scheduled for the April 18th Council meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS

No report

PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilwoman Perrotti commented on her experience while attending a recent fire department training exercise. The fire department practiced using new battery-operated tools for vehicle extrication.

RECREATION

Councilman Trillo announced that opening day of baseball and softball season is scheduled for April 22nd, weather permitting. The baseball fields are in great shape. Roseland children will be participating in shared softball teams with Fairfield and Essex Fells.

Mayor Spango added that one hundred children registered for Easter activities last year, and two hundred twenty-five children registered this year.

Mr. Trillo noted that he expects that the proposed improvements to the dugouts at Fernwood Field, which include an American flag mural and town seal mural, will be completed in the near future. Mr. Trillo stated that with the opening of the new pickle ball courts, discussions are taking place about adding pickleball lessons for youths and adults. Rules and procedures are also under consideration to ensure that Roseland residents receive priority over non-resident users when reserving pickle ball courts. Rules may include reservation of certain courts for residents only, and fees for non-resident users.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND SHARED SERVICES

Councilwoman Tolli reported that the new three-year contract for shared services for the senior transportation bus are in their final stage of review by Caldwell officials. Ridership by Roseland residents increased by thirty-two trips in March. The Beautification Committee is preparing flowers and planters that will be displayed around town. Student members of the Municipal Youth Guidance Subcommittee assisted with the Easter Bunny activities. The students also have a trip planned to the Community Food Bank in Hillside.

REDEVELOPMENT AND LEGAL

Councilwoman Fishman expressed her excitement with the start of excavation for new buildings on Livingston Avenue. Members of the senior society recently took a trip to observe the Cherry blossoms in Essex County, and they are planning additional events for the summer. Council approved a resolution earlier in the meeting, which authorized the seniors to take a trip to the Black Forest Inn in Stanhope on October 13th for Octoberfest. Council also approved the extension of the NJ Division on Mental Health and Addiction Services grant funding from March 15th through June 30th due to decreased state funding.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion to approve the March 21, 2023 Council meeting minutes and the March 21, 2023 executive session minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Freda absent).

PUBLIC COMMENT

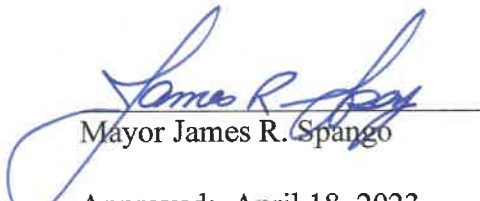
Paul Sarabando 68 Pitcairn Drive

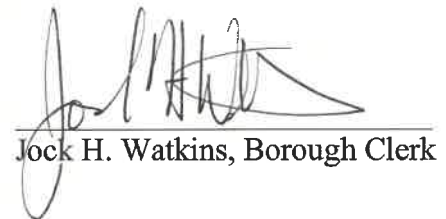
OEM Coordinator John Matheis announced the passing of retired Police Lieutenant Howard Struck. A memorial service is planned on April 15th outside the municipal building at 140 Eagle Rock Avenue.

Mayor Spango announced that plans are being developed for a memorial tribute to held during the opening day baseball ceremonies to remember twenty-two-year-old, former Roseland resident Valerie Shaw.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Freda absent).


Mayor James R. Spango
Approved: April 18, 2023


Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk

VOICE VOTE

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

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