BOROUGH OF ROSELAND
COUNTY OF ESSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

APRIL 23, 2019
PUBLIC MEETING ROOM
19 HARRISON AVENUE
6:30PM EXECUTIVE SESSION
7:30PM OPEN SESSION

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The April 23, 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 (6:35 PM)  
Roger Freda, Councilman (6:40 PM)  
David Jacobs, Councilman  
Jeanne Perrotti, Councilwoman  
Michele Tolli, Councilwoman

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:  
Maureen Chumacas, Borough Administrator  
Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk  
Joni Noble McDonnell, Borough Attorney

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Bardi made a motion to approve Resolution No. 100-2019 Approval to Close to Executive Session to discuss the following:

1. Contract Negotiations  
2. Pending Litigation  
3. Tax Appeal Litigation

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 4-0 voice vote (Fishman, Freda absent). Council adjourned executive session at 7:26 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.
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SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Mayor Spango led the salute to the flag.

SWEARING IN CEREMONY

Councilman Jacobs and OEM Coordinator John Mathies joined Mayor Spango as he administered the oath of office to Eric Meehan as a member of the Auxiliary Police.

PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Spango read and presented a proclamation to Glenn Bynum upon his retirement after thirty-one years of service with the Roseland Department of Public Works.

Mayor Spango read and presented a proclamation to Herman Jaegel upon his retirement after thirty-three years of service with the Roseland Department of Public Works.

Mayor Spango read and presented a proclamation to James Fallat upon his retirement after thirty-seven years of service with the Roseland Department of Public Works.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 08-2019 by title only for the first time: “An ordinance authorizing the lease of certain space within Borough Hall located at 19 Harrison Avenue, Roseland to the ARC of Essex County, Inc.” Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 08-2019. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jacobs and approved by a 6-0 voice vote. The public hearing will be held at 7:30 PM on Thursday, May 23, 2019 at 19 Harrison Avenue, Roseland, NJ.

PUBLIC HEARING/ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

Councilwoman Tolli made a motion to postpone the public hearing on ordinance No. 05-2019 amending and supplementing Section 2-50 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland entitled “Municipal Youth Guidance Council”. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 6-0 voice vote. The public hearing will be held at 7:30 PM on Thursday, May 23, 2019 at 19 Harrison Avenue, Roseland, NJ.

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 06-2019 for the second time: “Calendar Year 2019 Ordinance to exceed the municipal budget appropriation limits and establish a Cap Bank”. Councilman Bardi made a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 06-2019. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.
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There being no one 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 6-0 voice vote.

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 06-2019 for the third and final time: “Calendar Year 2019 Ordinance to exceed the municipal budget appropriation limits and establish a Cap Bank”. Councilman Bardi made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 06-2019. The motion was seconded by Councilman Freda and approved by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 07-2019 for the second time: “Bond Ordinance providing for various improvements to the water/sewer utility in and by the Borough of Roseland, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, appropriating $1,038,600.00 therefor and authorizing the issuance of $1,038,600.00 bonds or notes the Borough to finance the cost thereof”. Councilman Freda made a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 07-2019. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

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

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 07-2019 for the third and final time: “Bond Ordinance providing for various improvements to the water/sewer utility in and by the Borough of Roseland, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, appropriating $1,038,600.00 therefor and authorizing the issuance of $1,038,600.00 bonds or notes the Borough to finance the cost thereof”. Councilman Bardi made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 07-2019. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jacobs and approved by a 6-0 roll call vote.

PUBLIC HEARING & ADOPTION OF THE 2019 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Councilman Bardi made a motion to approve Resolution No. 101-2019 to read the budget by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Councilman Bardi made a motion to open the public hearing on the 2019 Municipal Budget. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 6-0 roll call vote. There being no one wishing to be heard on the adoption of the 2019 budget, Councilman Bardi made a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Clerk Watkins read Section 2, the adopting resolution for the Budget. Councilman Bardi made a motion to approve Section 2, the adopting resolution for the budget. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Councilman Bardi made a motion to approve Resolution No. 102-2019 adoption of 2019 Municipal Budget. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.
APPROVAL OF BILLS

Councilman Jacobs made a motion to approve Resolution No. 103-2019 to approve the April 19, 2019 Bill List in the amount of $268,750.90. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Spango announced that Resolution No. 126-2019 was being withdrawn from consideration in that it is redundant to the earlier introduction of Ordinance No. 08-2019. Councilman Bardi made a motion to approve the remaining twenty-six resolutions on the agenda:

Resolution 104-2019 authorizing the Mayor to sign Contract with Corrpro in the amount of $2,890.00 for a cathodic protection system

Resolution No. 105-2019 ratification of bills from October 2018 through December 2018 in the amount of $7,184,521.91

Resolution No. 106 ratification of salaries for March 2019 in the amount of $610,898.02

Resolution No. 107-2019 award non-fair and open contract in the amount of $17,888.75 to Edmunds & Associates for proprietary computer software

Resolution No. 108-2019 approval to renew life insurance policy with MetLife from April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020

Resolution No. 109-2019 cancellation of water sewer billings – balances

Resolution No. 110-2019 authorizing return of street opening permit deposit in the amount of $500 for 9 Woodland Road

Resolution No. 111-2019 authorizing funds for 2019 Planning Board professional services

Resolution No. 112–2019 establishing the Borough of Roseland as a Stigma Free Zone and creating a Task Force for Mental Health Awareness

Resolution No. 113–2019 approving 2019 Payment Schedule for Municipal Court Substitutes

Resolution No. 114-2019 authorizing refunds, overpayments or cancellations in the Tax Office
Resolution No. 115-2019 amending Section II of the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual to create a media policy

Resolution No. 116-2019 amending the general provisions of the Borough of Roseland Employee Personnel Policies and Procedures to define employee

Resolution No. 117-2019 awarding contract to Northeast Communications in the amount of $2,800.00 for Zeton 911 System Maintenance under State Contract 83924

Resolution No. 118-2019 amending Resolution No. 78-2019 “Approval to Extend Employment Offer to Daniel Brown as a Seasonal T-Ball Assistant Program Director Pending Results of Background Check”

Resolution No. 119-2019 rejecting bids for 2018-2019 emergency services associated with pipeline work for the Water & Sanitary Utility

Resolution No. 120-2019 declaration of Emergency for water main break on April 5, 2019 and authorizing emergency contracts to Matina & Sons for the repairs to Eagle Rock Avenue

Resolution No. 121-2019 authorizing funds for Board of Adjustment professional services

Resolution No. 122-2019 awarding contract to Rapid Pump & Meter in the amount of $74,470.00 for emergency maintenance and repair of electrical and mechanical equipment associated with the Water and Sanitary Utility

Resolution No. 123-2019 appointing Shirley Bishop as a consultant to the Affordable Housing Board for an amount not to exceed $2,000.00

Resolution No. 124-2019 appointing Piazza & Associates as Affordable Housing Administrator for an amount not to exceed $4,000.00

Resolution No. 125-2019 authorizing purchase order agreement with Costco Business Center for supplies for recreation and public events

Resolution No. 126-2019 – Withdrawn

Resolution No. 127-2019 awarding of three-year contract to LCC Landscaping, LLC, 1260 Bloomfield Avenue, Fairfield, NJ 07004 for Alternates A, B, C, and D in the amount of $7,260.00 per year for lawn maintenance

Resolution No. 128-2019 rescind Resolution No. 8-1995 “Establishing a Recreation Commission Dedication by Rider Trust Fund”
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Resolution No. 129-2019 authorizing a two-year contract in the amount of $17,000.00 with Enforsys through December 31, 2020 for support and maintenance to their propriety computer software for the Police Department

Resolution No. 130-2019 approving Senior Service Volunteers for the Recreation Department

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

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Approval to Reschedule the Tuesday, May 21, 2019 Council Meeting to Thursday, May 23, 2019

Accept with Regret the Resignation of Steve Hoffman from the Affordable Housing Board Effective April 4, 2019

Approval of March 31, 2019 Treasurer’s Report

Approval for Ashley Passafiume to Attend Principles of Public Purchasing II to be held on July 10, 17, 24, 31 & August 7 in New Brunswick, NJ for a Total Cost of $977.00 Plus Mileage Reimbursement

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Spango reported that the Borough has been informed of the award of a 2019 NJDOT Municipal Aid in the amount of $124,000.00 for improvements to Conover Avenue.

Mayor Spango read a letter from John and Mary Arvanitopoulos thanking police officer Bellantoni for going above and beyond the call of duty in his response is to a broken water main on Sunday, Sunday March 10, 2019.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Spango reported that a group of residents spearheaded by Dave Veneri, reached out to Congresswoman Sherrill, Governor Codey, County Executive DiVincenzo, and Mayor Spango expressing their displeasure with local postal service since the US Postal Service relocated Roseland’s letter carriers to the Livingston post office. In response correspondence from Congresswoman Sherrill, Governor Codey, County Executive DiVincenzo, and Mayor Spango, the Mayor read a letter received from USPS Operations Manager Mateo advising that Roseland letter carriers will be returning to the Roseland post office.
Following a meeting between the Fire Department Executive Board, Mayor Spango, and Councilman Jacobs, the Mayor thanked the fire department for rescheduling their wet down in order to eliminate a conflict with the Borough picnic.

Mayor and Councilwoman Fishman attended walk run for Team 94 autism color run in North Caldwell raised approx. $85,000.00 to support programs for adult children with autism.

Mayor Spango commented that the NJ Legislature has not yet passed the legalization of marijuana bill. Council has been considering adopting ordinances that would prohibit vaping shops and the sale of marijuana. Upon advice from state legislature and the Attorney General’s office, the Borough will be holding off on adopting local regulations until after passage of state legislation so as to avoid any potential conflicts.

Mr. Spango reported that the police department has been conducting targeted enforcement of oversized trucks and speeding on Lincoln Street. Many summonses have been issued and the police department will continue to monitor conditions. Additional police efforts have focused on the problem area at the intersection of Hyer Farm Road and Harrison Avenue. In response to car thefts on Green Avenue, increased police presence has been effective.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL

Councilman Bardi thanked Mike Colitti, the recreation department, and all other volunteers who made the annual Easter egg hunt successful. Mr. Bardi announced that Civic Plus has been selected as the vendor who will revamp the Borough’s website. The new website is projected to go live in about two months. The Committee will be reviewing proposals to repair and upgrade the Borough’s public access television equipment and expects to select a vendor by the next Caucus meeting. The upgrade will enable the Borough to communicate with residents more effectively.

Councilman Bardi thanked administrator Chumacas and department heads for a great job on a newsletter that is scheduled to be distributed in early May. The newsletter contains important information about borough services and will include scheduled town events, as well as garbage collection, and recycling collection schedules. Tax bills are expected to be finalized in June or July and a presentation regarding the new tax bills will be made at either the June or July televised Council meeting as available.

Mr. Bardi announced that the Roseland against the Compressor Station group has scheduled a protest on Monday April 29th from 4:00 – 6:00 PM in front of the compressor station at 563 Eagle Rock Avenue.

SHARED SERVICES

Councilwoman Perrotti reported that she, along with Mayor Spango and Councilwoman
Fishman, attended the shared services meeting with neighboring municipalities on March 28th. Discussion of shared services of interest included purchasing a portable stage, police dispatch, street sweeping, fleet mechanic, and a combined senior citizen holiday party. The Livingston police headquarters has adequate space available to host dispatch. The next meeting will be hosted by Livingston in May.

Councilwoman Perrotti, Councilman Jacobs, and Councilwoman Fishman attended an intergenerational prom hosted by West Essex High School. The West Essex Board of Education will be presenting their budget next Monday night. The Board is currently conducting interviews for a new superintendent. The West Essex High School band participated in a competition at Disney World.

Noccker School in conjunction with the Roseland Public Library hosted a multicultural fair at the Library. Mayor Spango and Councilwoman Perrotti attended the Arbor Day assembly at Noccker School. Mrs. Perrotti encouraged residents to support Noccker School at their upcoming fund-raising event to be held at the Hanover Manor on May 21st. The Landmarks and Historic District Commission held a reorganization meeting on April 17th and plan to hold quarterly meetings.

REDEVELOPMENT AND LEGAL

Councilwoman Fishman reported that the committee is working on proposed changes to the affordable housing board ordinance. The Senior Citizens have two programs currently being planned. The committee is working to get the Senior Transportation bus to take seniors to the County’s senior luncheon program. The Committee is looking into starting a park conservancy noting the potential advantages of a park conservancy. The Committee is prioritizing improvements to Borough parks and will be looking into changes in the Borough’s lighting ordinance. Mrs. Fishman thanked the Easter Bunny for a great job at Easter Egg Hunt and thanked Livingston for adopting a resolution supporting Roseland against the expansion of the compressor station.

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilman Freda congratulated Glenn Bynum, Herman Jaegel and James Fallat upon their retirement after a combined one hundred and one years of service with the Roseland Department of Public Works. Two new public works employees started in March and a third is schedule to start soon. The Department of Public Works has been busy repairing pot holes, water meter replacement, clearing catch basins and culverts, and prepping the baseball and softball fields for opening day. Mr. Freda commended public works for a great job repairing a challenging water main break on April 5th on Eagle Rock Avenue near County Environmental Center, citing complications due to extensive underground traffic signal controls in the immediate vicinity.

Councilman Freda reported that the Auxiliary Police provided thirty-two hours of traffic control for Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament church over the Easter weekend, plus and additional twelve hours for Easter week services. All members of the Auxiliary Police
completed CPR recertification provided by members of the Roseland First Aid Squad. The Office of Emergency Management is still in the process of the changeover to the new Verizon telephone service, which is expected to be completed soon. The Roseland First Aid Squad has an open house scheduled on June 22nd from 11:00 until 3:00 PM at their building at 300 Eagle Rock Avenue. The RFAS responded to thirty-eight medical calls, six motor vehicle accidents, and three mutual aid responses this past month, for a year to date total of one hundred and thirty calls. Volunteers are needed.

Mayor Spango added that next year is the First Aid Squad’s fortieth anniversary and Council is looking forward to assisting with planning a large celebration.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilman Jacobs reported that the Planning Board held a Master Plan review meeting at 8:00 AM on April 19th. The Police Department will be conducting a Click-it or Ticket campaign soon and residents are advised that there will be zero tolerance. The Police Department just completed a distracted driver campaign. Members of the Police Department recently completed an active shooter training with the Livingston Police Department. Mr. Jacobs reminded residents to lock their cars and houses. The Roseland Fire Department encourages residents to clean and maintain their barbecue grills. Councilman Jacobs congratulated the Police Auxiliary upon the swearing in of a new member.

Mayor Spango added that Council is looking to create an ad hoc committee of residents to work with the Planning Board on the Master Plan update.

RECREATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Councilwoman Tolli reported that Saturday is opening day for baseball and softball. The Opening Day Parade will kick off at 9:30 AM. Those participating in the parade should be at Bond Force Park at 9:00 AM. After the opening day ceremonies, there will be an Eagle Scout presentation. The annual Run 4 Answers supporting Alzheimer’s research will be held on Saturday, May 4th beginning at 8:30 AM, with registration beginning at 7:30 AM. Camp Wyanokie will be hosting an event on June 15th to celebrate their 100th anniversary.

Mrs. Tolli thanked the Easter Bunny for his assistance with the Easter Egg Hunt. The Roseland Junior Women’s Club hosted their annual cupcake contest on April 4th. The annual pitch-hit-run contest will be held on Friday, May 3rd and is open to boys and girls ages 7-14. Pre-registration is required. The 26th annual fishing derby is scheduled for Thursday, May 9th. Registration will be held from 5:00 PM until 6:00 PM, with fishing beginning at 6:00 PM and trophies presented at 7:30 PM. Councilwoman Tolli reminded residents not to blow lawn debris into street.

Mayor Spango added that there will be an unveiling of an Eagle Scout Project of a library at Fernwood Avenue following the opening day baseball/softball ceremony.
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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the April 11, 2019 special meeting minutes was postponed until the May 7, 2019 meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Aristotle Popolizio 206 Passaic Avenue
Gerald Goldberg 23C Nob Hill Drive

RETURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Jacobs made a motion to return to Executive Session at 8:51 PM to continue discussion of items on the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Bardi made a motion to close the meeting at 9:23 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

Mayor James R. Spango

Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk

Approved: June 6, 2019

VOICE VOTE

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