CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES

The May 7, 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
Eileen Fishman, Councilwoman
Roger Freda, Councilman
David Jacobs, Councilman
Jean Perrotti, Councilwoman
Michele Tolli, Councilwoman

ABSENT:

Christopher Bardi, Council President

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilwoman Tolli made a motion to approve Resolution No. 131-2019 Approval to Close to Executive Session to discuss the following:

1. Potential Litigation
2. COAH Litigation

The motion was seconded by Councilman Jacobs and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Bardi absent). Council adjourned executive session at 7:15 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 except Councilman Bardi.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Mayor Spango led the salute to the flag.
PRESENTATIONS

John Yakimik from Boswell Engineering made a presentation of a conceptual layout for the upgrade of Harrison Avenue Park. The concept includes inclusionary playground equipment and layout, and an artificial, rubberized surface.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Janet Treamont 31 Leonard terrace
William Tedesco 20 Mecker Court

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 09-2019 by title only for the first time: “Bond Ordinance providing for various improvements to the Harrison Avenue Park in and by the Borough of Roseland, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, appropriating $650,000.00 therefore and authorizing the issuance of $500,000.00 bonds or notes of the Borough to finance part of the costs thereof”. Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 09-2019. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jacobs and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Bardi absent). The public hearing will be held at 7:30 PM on Thursday, May 23, 2019 at 19 Harrison Avenue, Roseland, NJ.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 132-2019 approving the May 3, 2019 Bill List in the amount of $259,979.01. The motion was seconded by Councilman Freda and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Bardi absent).

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Councilman Jacobs made a motion to approve the five resolutions on the agenda:

Resolution No. 133-2019 approving the hiring of part-time seasonal employee for the Department of Public Works

Resolution No. 134-2019 approving the hiring of 2019 SCRAM staff directors

Resolution No. 135-2019 requesting permission from the Director of the DLGS for the Dedication by Rider for donations to support the Summer Concert Series

Resolution No. 136-2019 approving the advertisement of Notice to Bidders for 2019-2020 Emergency Services Associated with Pipeline Work for the Water & Sanitary Utility

Resolution No. 137-2019 awarding the bid to Jo-Med Contracting, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, at a cost of $332,670.00 for 2019 Laurel Avenue Water Utility Improvements
The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Bardi absent).

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to approve the one item on the Consent Agenda:

Approval to rename Lynn DeBell Field to Mayor Lou and Lynn DeBell Field

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

CORRESPONDENCE

None

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Spango reported that the Planning Board Master Plan Committee has begun the required Master Plan review. Mr. Spango recommended that an Ad Hoc Master Plan committee be formed to assist the Planning Board. Mayor Spango announced that the Roseland First Aid Squad will be celebrating their 40th anniversary next year, and recommended that an Ad Hoc committee be formed to assist the First Aid Squad with planning an appropriate anniversary celebration. Anyone wishing to serve on either committee should contact the Clerk's office.

Plans are underway to refurbish the main hallway in the municipal building at 19 Harrison Avenue. The walls will be painted, the portraits of the Mayor's will be removed from the meeting room and hung in the hallway, and appropriate plaques and commemorations will be hung in the hallway. The Borough has reached out to two high schools for suggestions to paint a mural on the meeting room wall behind the dais. The backstop at the Noecker field is in disrepair. The town has offered to split the cost of replacement with the Board of Education.

The Borough has partnered with Ring Door Bell so that residents can register with the company to provide law enforcement access to video upon authorization from the resident. The Memorial Day service will be held at Borough Hall on Monday, May 7th and the annual West Essex Parade will follow beginning in Caldwell. Parade

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL

Council agreed to put resolutions on the May 23rd agenda to accept the low quote from Lighthouse Computers in the amount of $23,260.00 to upgrade the Borough's Public, Educational, and Governmental Channel (PEG) equipment, to accept the low quote from Quickteks in the amount of $23,100.00 to provide IT Services for 2019, and to support Senate Bill S-3385 which provides paid sick leave to employees to vote in certain circumstances.
Caucus Meeting Minutes May 7, 2019

Council agreed to an ordinance change to remove the salary for the Municipal Attorney. Council agreed to authorize the Bond Counsel to prepare a $76,000.00 capital improvement ordinance, to be funded from the Capital Improvement Fund, to purchase a time and attendance system at a cost of $25,000.00, an access control system at a cost of $16,000.00, security systems at municipal buildings at a cost of $25,000.00, and smart boards at a cost of $10,000.00. Both ordinances will be on the May 23rd agenda for introduction.

SHARED SERVICES

Council agreed to put a resolution on the May 23rd agenda to approve the Senior Transportation shared service agreement with Caldwell and West Caldwell. Council agreed to amend the Senior Transportation Committee ordinance by reducing the number of members from three to two as specified by the shared service agreement. An ordinance will be drafted for introduction at the May 23rd meeting.

Councilwoman Perrotti reported that the West Essex Board of Education budget has been approved with a 2.64% increase from last year. Roseland’s share of the budget will lower than last year. West Essex High School will be holding the chorus concert on May 21st, the orchestra concert on May 22nd, and the band concert on May 29th. The West Essex Board of Education has begun interviewing for a new superintendent.

Mrs. Perrotti advised that the Roseland Board of Education was approved with a 2.85% increase. Noecker School’s Tricky Tray fund raiser will be held at the Hanover Manor on May 21st, their spring concert will be held on May 22nd, and their field day will be held on May 29th.

Livingston will be hosting next shared service meeting. Livingston will be submitting a report for consideration to host a regional, shared police dispatch. Verona submitted a proposal to provide street sweeping and mechanic services. Mayor Spango advised that any shared services will not be at the cost of any Borough employees.

REDEVELOPMENT AND LEGAL

Council agreed to allow the recreation budget line items for senior programs and the senior citizens’ club to be combined into one line item for senior programs. A resolution was passed creating an Ad Hoc committee on Mental Health Awareness. Four Stigma Free Community signs have been erected. The committee does not support Assembly Bill A-4658 to convert the Senior Freeze Reimbursement Program into a credit program because it would stop providing reimbursement checks directly to residents, and would instead submit payment to the Borough and would require the Borough to provide a credit to the residents.

Council agreed to an ordinance change to Chapter XXX Land Development which will clarify the responsibilities of the Affordable Housing Administrator, the Affordable Housing Liaison, and the Governing Body. An ordinance will be on the May 23rd agenda for introduction.
PUBLIC WORKS

The committee recommends that the Borough begin smoke testing of the sanitary sewer system to identify illegal connections. The Caldwell sewer treatment plant is operating close to maximum capacity and Caldwell has encouraged sending municipalities to reduce infiltration and inflow. Council agreed to put resolutions on the May 23rd agenda accepting the proposals for Remington Vernick Engineers to provide consulting engineering services for upgrades to the one million gallon water storage tank at a cost of $96,350.00, the 2019 sanitary system CCTV inspection services at a cost of $17,200.00, water system pressure regulator valve upgrades at a cost of $19,800.00, preparation of an Asset Management Plan at a cost of $10,000.00, and preparation of a GIS water utility infrastructure system mapping at a cost of $36,500.00. Council put a hold on the proposal for engineering services for electrical improvements at the domestic water pump stations.

Discussion - Request from Livingston to connect five houses and the church on Laurel Avenue in Livingston to the Roseland water system because they would have to go under interstate route 280 to make water main improvements. Council declined the request pending some incentive from Livingston to take on the added liability of providing water to the Livingston properties.

Councilman Freda reported that the hydrant flushing hours will start and end earlier than in past years to allow employees a reasonable break before they have to return to regular work. The new hours will begin at 8:00 PM and end at midnight.

Council agreed to an ordinance change to the means of reading water meters and determining fees for defective or inoperative meters, prohibiting discharge of stormwater into the sanitary sewer system, expanding the borough inspectors’ right of entry, and expanding the powers and authorities of the inspectors. An ordinance will be on the May 23rd agenda for introduction. The committee is still reviewing Ordinance 16-2018 Private Roads for possible amendments.

PUBLIC SAFETY

The police department is participating in the Click it or Ticket seatbelt enforcement program. Council agreed to authorize the purchase of equipment for the police department including a voice recorder(s) at a cost of $17,500.00, vehicle plate reader(s) at a cost of $62,625.00, and Draeger safety diagnostic equipment at a cost of $20,875.00. Council postponed a decision on the purchase of mobile vision cameras pending receipt of additional information. Preparation of the capital improvement ordinance to purchase the equipment was deferred until a decision is made on the mobile vision cameras.

Councilman Jacobs reported that the fire department has rescheduled their wet down to September 7th in order to avoid a conflict with other community activities.

RECREATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Memorial Day service at the monument park at 140 Eagle Rock Avenue will begin at 8:30 AM on May 27th. The Memorial Day parade will kick off at 9:30 am in Caldwell. Fifty-
five children participated in the recreation department’s annual Pitch Hit and Run contest last Friday. Sixty children have registered for the annual Fishing Derby which will be held at Grover Cleveland Pond on Thursday. Camp Wyanokie will be hosting a 100th anniversary celebration on June 15th. Mothers of the year for 2019 have been selected and will be announced at the May 23rd meeting. The Beautification committee has purchased new, self-watering planters, filled them with flowers, and placed them at key locations throughout the center of town.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Freda made a motion to approve the April 2, 2019 caucus meeting minutes and the April 11, 2019 special meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Bardi absent). The April 23, 2019 Council meeting minutes were not ready and will be voted on at another meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Matheis
OEM Coordinator
Janet Treamont
31 Leonard Terrace

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Jacobs made a motion to close the meeting at 9:08 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Bardi absent).

James R. Spango, Mayor

Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk

Approved: June 6, 2019

VOICE VOTE

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