COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The August 20, 2019 meeting of the Roseland Mayor and Council was called to order at 6:35PM 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
Roger Freda, Councilman
David Jacobs, Councilman
Jean Perrotti, Councilwoman
Michele Tolli, Councilwoman

ABSENT:

Eileen Fishman, Councilwoman

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Freda made a motion to approve Resolution No. 216-2019 Approval to Close to Executive Session to discuss the following:

1. Personnel

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Fishman absent). Council adjourned executive session at 6:58 PM. Mayor Spango read the Sunshine Statement again at 7:30 PM and called the public meeting to order. Upon roll call by the Borough Clerk, Councilwoman Fishman was absent.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Mayor Spango led the salute to the flag.
PUBLIC COMMENT

Councilman Bardi made a motion to open the meeting to public comment. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Fishman absent).

Steve Hoffman 42 Bovensiepen Court
Bob Czvornyek 46 Bovensiepen Court
Dr. Marc Schlemovitz 98 Schweinberg Drive
Deborah Lashley 8 Bovensiepen Court
Kathy Adams 46 Bovensiepen Court
Richard Fischer 36 Bovensiepen Court
Jason Demeo 13 Cheryl Lane
Eric Friedman 7 Cheryl Lane
Marc Wells Hudson Construction Group (Contractor)

Councilman Jacobs made a motion to close public comment. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Fishman absent).

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 23-2019 by title only for the first time: “An ordinance amending and supplementing Chapter XIX of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland entitled “Streets and Sidewalks””. Councilman Bardi made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 23-2019. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Councilwoman Fishman absent). The public hearing will be held at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 19 Harrison Avenue, Roseland, NJ.

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 24-2019 by title only for the first time: “An ordinance amending and supplementing Chapter XXX of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland entitled “Land Development””. Councilwoman Tolli made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 24-2019. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Councilwoman Fishman absent). The public hearing will be held at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 19 Harrison Avenue, Roseland, NJ.

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 25-2019 by title only for the first time: “Ordinance authorizing the leasing of certain capital equipment by the Borough of Roseland, New Jersey from the Essex County Improvement Authority and the execution of a lease and agreement relating thereto. Councilman Freda made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 25-2019. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jacobs and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Councilwoman Fishman absent). The public hearing will be held at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 19 Harrison Avenue, Roseland, NJ.

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 26-2019 by title only for the first time: “An ordinance amending and supplementing Chapter III of the Revised General Ordinances of the
Borough of Roseland entitled “Police Regulations””. Councilman Bardi made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 26-2019. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Councilwoman Fishman absent). The public hearing will be held at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 19 Harrison Avenue, Roseland, NJ.

PUBLIC HEARING/ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 10-2019 for the second time: “An ordinance amending and supplementing Section 13-2 of the revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland entitled “Fire Zones; Stopping or Standing Prohibited””. Councilman Jacobs made a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 10-2019. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Councilwoman Fishman absent).

Public Comment

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

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 10-2019 for the third and final time: “An ordinance amending and supplementing Section 13-2 of the revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Roseland entitled “Fire Zones; Stopping or Standing Prohibited””. Councilman Jacobs made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 10-2019. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 5-0 roll call vote (Councilwoman Fishman absent).

Councilman Bardi made a motion to withdraw Ordinance No. 19-2019 in lieu of Ordinance No. 26-2019 which was introduced earlier in the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Councilwoman Fishman absent).

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 21-2019 for the second time: “An ordinance amending and supplementing the Board of Health Code Chapter BH:XIV of the Revised General ordinances of the Borough of Roseland entitled “Tobacco Sales””. Councilwoman Perrotti made a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 21-2019. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Councilwoman Fishman absent).

Public Comment

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

Jacobs made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 21-2019. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 5-0 roll call vote (Councilwoman Fishman absent).

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 22-2019 for the second time: “Ordinance appropriating $63,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund for the acquisition of three (3) vehicle plate readers for the Police Department in and by the Borough of Roseland, in the County of Essex New Jersey”. Councilwoman Tolli made a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 22-2019. The motion was seconded by Councilman Freda and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Councilwoman Fishman absent).

Public Comment

Richard Wilcox       18 Memorial Road, West Caldwell
William Tedesco     20 Meeker Court

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

Clerk Watkins read Ordinance No. 22-2019 for the third and final time: “Ordinance appropriating $63,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund for the acquisition of three (3) vehicle plate readers for the Police Department in and by the Borough of Roseland, in the County of Essex New Jersey”. Councilman Jacobs made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 22-2019. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 5-0 roll call vote (Councilwoman Fishman absent).

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Councilman Bardi made a motion to approve Resolution No. 217-2019 to approve the August 16, 2019 bill list in the amount of $800,839.78. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Fishman absent).

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Councilwoman Tolli made a motion to approve the ten resolutions on the agenda:

Resolution No. 218-2019 authorizing the Mayor to sign a contract with West Publishing Corp. in the amount of $675.00 for West Pro Flex Services

Resolution No. 219-2019 establishing the recreation trust fee for the Senior Citizen Octoberfest bus trip

Resolution No. 220-2019 authorizing the sale of surplus personal property

Resolution No. 221-2019 approving non-union salary increases for 2019
Resolution No. 222-2019 waiving late fees and accepting registered participants from Essex Fells (2) to participate in the Roseland 7th and 8th grade boy’s soccer program

Resolution No. 223-2019 appointing Melissa Barnes as the Affordable Housing Liaison effective September 1, 2019

Resolution No. 224-2019 ratification of salaries – July 2019

Resolution No. 225-2019 amending Resolution No. 29-2019 “Appoint Jeffrey Surenian as COAH Attorney for 2019” to decrease the “Not to Exceed” amount by $15,000.00 for a new amount not to exceed $85,000.00

Resolution No. 226-2019 authorizing cancellation of water sewer billing balances

Resolution No. 227-2019 approving the release of Final Payment with Change Order #1 to Jo-Med Contracting Corp. in the amount of $291,704.85 for 2019 Water Utility improvements for Laurel Avenue

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilman Bardi made a motion to approve the July 2019 Treasurer’s Report, the only item on the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Tolli and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Fishman absent).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Freda made a motion to approve the August 5, 2019 caucus meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bardi and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Fishman absent).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

RECREATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Councilwoman Tolli announced that the Men’s softball championship game is being played tonight at O’Beirne Field. Senior citizens can schedule senior bus transportation by calling 973-228-7765. The Municipal Youth Guidance Council will hold their kickoff meeting at 7:30 PM on Monday, September 23rd at the Roseland First Aid Squad building. Soccer practices are over and games have begun. The annual Run 4 the Roses will be held on Saturday, September 28th. Registration for recreation basketball is now open. Clean Communities Day is scheduled for Saturday, September 14th from 8:30 am until 12:00 noon. Participants will assemble at Noecker School. Anyone interested in participating can register on the Borough’s website or call 973-403-6047. The Senior Citizen’s Advisory Board will be
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hosting a free program on dancer Fred Astaire at the Roseland Library on Friday, September 20th at 1:30 pm. The Infernos concert will be held tomorrow at 7:00 pm, weather permitting.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Spango reiterated that the final summer concert is scheduled for tomorrow night. Council has been discussing enhancing Halloween and December holiday activities. Plans include a house decorating contest for Halloween and again in December. Enhancements to existing holiday programs are being considered.

Mayor Spango reported that a local resident contacted him to discuss the Operation Blue Angel program. The program is intended to provide lock box access to allow first responders to gain access to participating seniors’ homes in the event of an emergency.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL

Councilman Bardi suggested that the November 19th meeting be rescheduled to November 26th due to a conflict with the League of Municipalities Conference. The matter will be added to the September 3rd consent agenda for approval. The November 5th caucus meeting was previously rescheduled for Thursday, November 7th to avoid a conflict with election day. Mr. Bardi reported that tax bills went out last week and are due by September 3rd, including the grace period. The new public access television equipment has been installed and the final design of the new website has been approved. Councilman Bardi encouraged everyone to enjoy the rest of the summer and wished everyone a happy Labor Day.

SHARED SERVICES

Councilwoman Perrotti attended the recent West Essex Board of Education meeting and noted that Board reported that recent NJQSAC scores exceeded requirements. The Board approved their district goals for 2019-2020. School starts on September 3rd. There will be a parent information meeting for parents of incoming 7th graders on September 5th. The marching band is in full swing. Freshman orientation is scheduled for August 26th, and teacher orientation is this week. Teachers start on August 28th and 29th.

REDEVELOPMENT AND LEGAL

No report

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilman Freda reported that the Borough will be going out to bid soon for TV inspection of the sanitary sewer system, and a second bid for repair of the lateral sewer main on Roosevelt Street. After the sewer repairs are completed and the repairs have had time to settle, the road will be repaved. The Borough has held meetings with the water engineer to
discuss plans to refurbish the Borough’s one-million-gallon water storage tank and plans to upgrade zone regulator valves. Mr. Freda thanked OEM, the auxiliary police, and the first aid squad for standing by at the recent summer concert.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilman Jacobs stated that he is looking forward to the concert tomorrow night. Mr. Jacobs thanked the fire department for their work during hot summer months, and reminded residents to change their smoke detector and carbon monoxide alarm batteries. Councilman Jacobs thanked the police department for their work to keep the town safe, and noted that the application before the planning board was continued to the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gerald Goldberg 23C Nob Hill

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Bardi made a motion to close the meeting at 8:25 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilman Freda and approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

Approved: September 3, 2019

VOICE VOTE

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