

MINUTES OF THE BOROUGH OF EAST RUTHERFORD

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORK SHOP MEETING
Tuesday, June 20, 2017**

WORK MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR CASSELLA AT 6:13PM.

FLAG SALUTE WAS HELD AND THE FOLLOWING OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT WAS READ:

This meeting is a Work Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of East Rutherford and is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. This meeting was transmitted to the three newspapers listed below on January 03, 2017 posted on the bulletin board at the Municipal Building and has remained continuously posted as the required notices under the State Statute. In addition, a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

The Herald News

The Record

The Bergenite

ROLL CALL:

Councilmember	Present	Absent
Cronk	X	
Sorbera	X	
Lahullier	X	
Perry	X	
Stallone	X	
Ravettine	X	

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Gerald Salerno – Council Attorney

Glenn Beckmeyer – Borough Engineer

Tamar Lawful – Deputy Municipal Clerk

TAX OFFICE HOURS OF OPERATION

The Mayor discussed the newly appointed tax collector for the Borough and addressed a minor change to the office hours of operation. The Tax Office, which consist of two workers, opens from 9:00 to 4:00pm Monday through Friday; however, the office typically closes at noon for lunch. To ensure the tax office stays accessible during the entire business hours for the convenience of the public, it was proposed by Mayor Cassella to have the newly appointed tax collector begin work at 9:00am and break for lunch at 1:00pm (instead of noon). The assistant to the tax collector will begin work from 1:00pm to 4:00pm (instead of 9:00am-12:00pm).

Councilman Ravettine expressed concerns about the functionality of the Fire Safety Department and questions whether the Fire Official is comfortable with the change in schedule considering that the tax collector's assistant is also the assistant to the Fire Official. Nonetheless, the council agrees on implementing the schedule change to the tax office.

110-138 ROUTE 17 STRIP MALL

The Mayor asked the Borough's Engineer, Glenn Beckmeyer, about his visit to the strip mall located at 110-138 Route 17th North. The owner of the strip mall is searching for additional space to accommodate a dumpster. According to Mr. Beckmeyer, the only way to expand to create room for an additional dumpster is to eliminate one parking space. The strip mall currently complies with the minimum parking space requirement.

AUCTION

The mayor discussed the sweeper that was placed on auction on Govedeal.com for bidding. The bid amount for the sweeper was \$20,650.00. A motion was made to accept this bid offer.

Moved: Councilman Ravettine
Second: Councilman Perry
Roll Call: All Ayes

AMERICAN DREAM/TRIPLE 5

Mayor Cassella stated that the deal with American Dream could be completed by June 30th. There has been progress with the American Dream project explained Mayor Cassella. In the near future, the Borough is expected to receive 1.5 million in upfront payment with additional funding towards the sewer connection fees. The funding to be received in the future will be a great financial relief in the Borough's debt. The mayor further stated that there is a stipulation within the agreement between Triple 5 (or American Dream) and JP Morgan (the private financial lender for the project), which specifies that the retail component of the project must be complete and ready to open by March, 2019; or otherwise be penalized. The waterpark is set to open October, 2019.

PART TIME DPW SUMMER WORKERS

According to Mayor Cassella, a list of Summer DPW Workers were submitted pending approval at interview by the DPW Supervisor, Paul DeRosa. Upon the approval of Paul DeRosa, the following DPW candidates were approved by the Mayor & Council to begin work starting June 26, 2017 through September 16, 2017 at a rate of \$8.38:

- Alexander Almacky
- Joseph Almacky
- Anthony Argento
- Matthew Gonzalez
- Thomas Kasper
- David Roxas
- Christopher Stoebling
- Joey Pardo

Moved: Councilman Ravettine
Second: Councilman Cronk
Roll Call: All Ayes

COMMITTEE REPORTS

POLICE/COURT – COUNCILMAN STALLONE

Councilman Stallone requested approval of payment for the following invoices:

VENDOR	PAYMENT AMOUNT
POWER DMS	\$3,095.50
AGE’S AUTO LLC	\$9,995.00
NORTHEAST DISTRIBUTION SERVICES	\$31,717.53
MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS	\$17,540.85
MJA PROMOTIONS	\$2,975.00

Moved: Councilman Stallone
Second: Councilman Phil
Roll Call: All Ayes

Councilman Stallone, requested executive session to discuss personnel matter(s).

RECREATION – COUNCILMAN CRONK

Councilman Cronk requested approval of the following school taxes:

VENDOR	PAYMENT AMOUNT
LOCAL SCHOOL TAXES	\$1,234,267.88
REGIONAL SCHOOL TAXES	\$446,385.90

Moved: Councilman Cronk
Second: Councilman Stallone
Roll Call: All Ayes

FIRE DEPT/SQUARE/PW&UC – COUNCILMAN LAHULLIER

Councilman Lahullier has nothing to report at this time.

BOROUGH ATTORNEY – GERALD SALERNO

Attorney Salerno discussed the property maintenance of a commercial property on Paterson Avenue and the lack of response from the property owner. A letter was sent to the property owner allotting 10 days to remediate the property maintenance concern. Also, Attorney Salerno further mentioned that the property owned by the Republic of Egypt was resolved. Lastly, an executive session was requested to discuss litigation matters.

BOROUGH ENGINEER – GLENN BECKMEYER

The Borough's Engineer, Glenn Beckmeyer, requested approval of payment for the final 2013 Road Improvement Program, awarded to contractor, Smith Soudy, in the amount of \$42,327.20. The project was inspected and approved by NJDOT and is currently pending the completion of paperwork. Per the request of Mr. Beckmeyer, the payment request was approved and the check will be held at the Borough Hall until he authorizes the release of said check.

Moved: Councilman Lahullier
Second: Councilman Stallone
Roll Call: All Ayes

Mr. Beckmeyer further informed the Mayor & Council that business owners and residents at Atkins Terrace requested to have street lights installed in front of the property. The monthly cost to the Borough will be approximately \$8.36 per month through PSE&G. Due to the extent of darkness, street light will also be added on Enoch Street (and Paterson Avenue by the island). The Mayor and Council approved the street lights installation for Atkins Terrace and Enoch Street.

Moved: Councilman Lahullier
Second: Councilman Perry
Roll Call: All Ayes

Glenn Beckmeyer also informed the Mayor and Council that the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) submitted a letter to the Borough regarding the storm water management program. The letter informs the Borough that inspections of all basins within the Borough is required along with a log to ensure that all basins are cleaned. A report must be completed and submitted to the DEP.

Mr. Beckmeyer informed the Mayor & Council that High Street was paved today from Hackensack and Paterson. Also, Prospect Terrace was milled. Mr. Beckmeyer stated that Orchard Street cannot be paved because gas pipes are being installed by PSE&G. Once the pipes are installed, the street can be repaired. Upon completion of the road improvement project, 148 trees will be planted to complete the 2015 project.

Due to Mr. Beckmeyer's absence at the last Mayor & Council meeting held on May 16, 2017, it was brought to his attention that there were parking concerns at Eros Café to which he would like to address. It was questioned by the council that two of the parking spaces were over the property line encroaching on the Borough's property (side walk). Councilman Lahullier stated he wants to bring the matter before the Attorney's attention for possibly ramification.

In response to the parking concerns, Mr. Beckmeyer stated that the front patio of Eros Café may be in zoning violation. The zone requires a minimum of 40 parking spaces. However, the property is not capable of accommodating the parking requirements. However, the Planning Board approved the parking variance, to which he's not objecting to. Beckmeyer states that he's in search of the license agreement on the two parking spaces.

Councilman Lahullier mentioned that the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) approved the 2017 Roadway Preservation Project in the amount of \$165,621.00.

In regards to Carlton Avenue, Attorney Salerno stated he followed up with the county but didn't get anywhere. Councilman Lahullier stated that the county has budgeted for the project. Councilman Sorbera inquired about the delay. It was replied that the delays are due to the ADA ramps and technical design for the ramps.

DPW/RECYCLING/VEHICLE MAINT. – COUNCILMAN RAVETTINE

Councilman Ravettine discussed the approved 2017-2018 Liquor Licenses referenced under Resolution 93-2017; one of which is inactive and requires special ruling from the state.

Councilman Ravettine requested an executive session.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS/CIVIC AFFAIRS – COUNCILMAN PERRY

Councilman Perry submitted a list of concerns to be addressed by the DPW.

FINANCE/TECHNOLOGIES/BLDG DEPT. – COUNCILMAN SORBERA

Councilman Sorbera briefly discussed the department spending budget.

The Final Daft of implementing the proper procedures of purchasing goods and services is almost complete. He emphasized that following the proper procedure is vital.

On June 7, 2017, Councilman Sorbera stated that he met before the Borough Engineer, CFO, and the Secretary for the Planning and Zoning Board to discuss the audit report. Currently the Borough is working on addressing the concerns highlighted on the audit.

The shared service agreement concerning the Building Departments for the Boroughs of East Rutherford, Carlstadt and Rutherford was discussed.

Councilman Sorbera further discussed the new phone system installed at the Bough Hall and the DPW; which is also connected to the Police Department. The council is also looking into connecting the Building Department to the new phone system.

Councilman Sorbera requested an executive session to discuss personnel matter(s).

Mayor Cassella requested a motion to adjourn the Workshop Session at 7:23pm.

Moved: Councilman Stallone

Second: Councilman Lahullier

Roll Call: All present voted aye
