

**MINUTES OF THE BOROUGH OF EAST RUTHERFORD
MAYOR & COUNCIL
WORK MEETING HELD ON
SEPTEMBER 19, 2017**

WORK MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR CASSELLA AT 6:01PM. FLAG SALUTE WAS HELD AND MAYOR CASSELLA READ 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 3, 2017, posted on the bulletin board at the Municipal Building and has remained continuously posted as the required notices under the 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
Lahullier	X	
Perry		X
Stallone	X	
Ravettine	X	
Cronk	X	
Sorbera	X	

Also present were Borough Clerk Danielle Lorenc, Attorney Gerald Salerno and Borough Engineer Glenn Beckmeyer

Mayor Cassella stated that the tax assessor, Denis McGuire, was requested by the Council to attend tonight's meeting for questions regarding tax appeals. Councilman Ravettine stated that he was concerned on what is authority is regarding the settlement of tax appeals without the Mayor and Council approval. Mr. McGuire explained that for refunds amounts only, anything less than \$15,000 per year for no more than three years can be approved by him, refunds between \$15,000 - \$25,000 need the Mayor's approval and anything over \$25,000 needs to come before the Council. Councilman Ravettine asked why the Council is not informed of the decisions. Mr. McGuire stated that he was never asked. Councilman Ravettine stated that he has an issue with not being notified. Councilman Sorbera suggested that the Council get a monthly report that shows each case. Mayor Cassella suggested that Councilman Sorbera work with the CFO to get a list of the pending tax appeals. Councilman Ravettine wants to be notified when appeals come in.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

POLICE/COURT – COUNCILMAN STALLONE

Councilman Stallone submitted the following requisitions for approval:

Foremost Promotions	\$1,083.84
Avant Garde	\$1,223.88
Gold Type	\$2,670.00
Fairleigh Dickinson	\$1,800.00
Exec Leadership Program	\$4,500.00

Moved: Councilman Stallone
Second: Councilman Sorbera
Roll Call: All present voted aye

Councilman Stallone requested an executive session for personnel.

RECREATION – COUNCILMAN CRONK

Councilman Cronk submitted the following requisitions for approval:

ER Board of Education	\$1,314,679.92
Regional Board of Education	\$ 458,396.42

Moved: Councilman Cronk
Second: Councilman Lahullier
Roll Call: All present voted aye

FIRE DEPT/SQUAD/PW&UC – COUNCILMAN LAHULLIER

Councilman Lahullier submitted the following requisition for approval in Councilman Perry's absence:

Ray's Cleaning \$3,690.00

Moved: Councilman Lahullier
Second: Councilman Stallone
Roll Call: All present voted aye

ENGINEER'S REPORT – GLENN BECKMEYER

Engineer Beckmeyer reported on the following:

1. Met with Williams Gas – referred them to the Meadowlands Commission as the property falls within their jurisdiction
2. Received a letter from NJ Transit regarding their positive train control program. They are looking to install a 60' antennae in East Rutherford
3. The contractor for the 2015 Road Project will be in tomorrow to pave Prospect Terrace then Glen Court
4. There was an issue with a sewer line in the area of Herrick Street and Swan Court. The line will have to be replaced and repaved
5. Submitted Application #1 from Smith Soudy for the 2015 Road Program (Orchard Street portion) in the amount of \$82,861.37
Moved: Councilman Ravettine
Second: Councilman Stallone
Roll Call: All present voted aye
6. Submitted Application #4 from Smith Soudy for the 2015 Road Program in the amount of \$385,022.33
Moved: Councilman Ravettine
Second: Councilman Sorbera
Roll Call: All present voted aye
7. The 2018 Road Program applications are due. He asked for approval to submit the application to include Mozart, Laurel, Humboldt, White, Bobbink and Garden:
Moved: Councilman Ravettine
Second: Councilman Sorbera
Roll Call: All present voted aye
8. Waiting for further information regarding the Carlton Avenue Road Project
9. Met with Councilman Cronk and Field Turf regarding the turf at Riggin Field. The turf can be purchased through Keystone Co-op. The approximate cost for the project which includes new turf for all of Riggin (football, baseball, soccer) is \$1.175million with a 10 year warranty. Councilman Cronk also requested a quote for new dugouts.
10. Councilman Ravettine asked Engineer Beckmeyer to check the lighting in the area of Hackensack and Union. It is very dark at night. Engineer Beckmeyer will contact PSE&G

ATTORNEY'S REPORT – GERALD SALERNO

Attorney Salerno reported on the following:

1. Attorney Salerno reached out to the attorney for the Regional Board of Education regarding the Riggin Field lease but has not yet received a response back. He will reach out again
2. Sent a letter to the property owner of 33 Mozart Street and gave them 10 days to clean up the property before the borough comes in.
3. Sent a letter to the person that purchased the borough DPW vehicle through auction to remove the decals on the truck.
4. Requested an Executive Session for litigation

Mayor Cassella also requested an executive session for litigation/contract negotiations.

DPW/RECYCLING/VEHICLE MAINT – COUNCILMAN RAVETTINE

Councilman Ravettine submitted a request from the DPW to purchase two new plows for the winter as a cost of \$9,670.00. He approved this with the stipulation that the pricing is under State Contract and we can use bond money if available:

Moved: Councilman Ravettine
Second: Councilman Stallone
Roll Call: All present voted aye

FINANCE/TECHNOLOGY/BLDG DEPT – COUNCILMAN SORBERA

Councilman Sorbera distributed the monthly spending report to the Council. So far the budget is in pretty good shape.

Councilman Sorbera requested an executive session for personnel.

Councilman Sorbera reported on the following:

1. Starbucks requested to do interior work overnight. The Construction Official approved this request.
2. Reached out to Virtual Town Pages regarding upgrading the borough's website
3. Emails for property maintenance were set up
4. The new special compliance officer with working with the Construction Official
5. There is an issue with fees for zoning reviews – they would like the fees to be \$25 across the board. Attorney Salerno will have to prepare an ordinance
6. The Building Department has processed over 2,579 inspections so far this year

Councilman Sorbera would like to start online payments. Through Cite-E-Net the cost would be \$1,500 for the annual subscription plus a \$2,000 onetime set up fee. He made a motion for its approval:

Moved: Councilman Sorbera

Second: Councilman Ravettine


Roll Call: All present voted aye

Mayor Cassella asked for a motion to adjourn the Work Meeting at 7:22PM:

Moved: Councilman Ravettine

Second: Councilman Stallone

Roll Call: All present voted aye



Danielle Lorenc, RMC