

**MINUTES OF THE EAST RUTHERFORD
MAYOR & COUNCIL
WORK MEETING HELD ON
FEBRUARY 17, 2015**

WORK MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR CASSELLA AT 5:40PM. 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 5, 2015, 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
Brizzi	X	
Homaychak	X	
Lahullier	X	
Perry	X	
Stallone	X	
Banca	X	

Also present were Borough Clerk Danielle Lorenc, Attorney Richard Allen and Engineer Glenn Beckmeyer

Mayor Cassella asked for Committee Reports:

RECREATION – COUNCILMAN STALLONE

No report for work meeting

COURT – COUNCILMAN RAVETTINE

Councilman Ravettine questioned the bills from Garbarini & Co. on pages 1, 6 and 7 of the List of Bills. Mayor Cassella explained the costs and explained that his numbers are in the RFQ that was submitted.

Mayor Cassella asked Attorney Allen to update the Council on the Federal Reserve tax appeal. Attorney Allen explained that it is currently pending in federal court. The borough filed a motion to dismiss the appeal. The deadline for discovery is coming up soon. A trial date has yet to be determined.

FINANCE/FIRE DEPT/SQUAD – COUNCILMAN LAHULLIER

Councilman Lahullier submitted a change order from LKL Construction in the amount of \$4,785.00 for the borough hall renovation project, which was needed in order to level the floors:

Moved: Councilman Lahullier

Second: Councilman Perry

Roll Call: All Ayes

Councilman Lahullier requested an Executive Session

ATTORNEY'S REPORT – RICHARD ALLEN

Attorney Allen wanted to advise the Council that the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission and the Sports Authority will be merged. He discussed the merger and stated that there is an option in the bill which allows the borough to take over the approval process for properties in the Meadowlands (that are not on sports authority property) on the planning end only – not zoning. The fees would then go to the borough. There is also a change in the tax sharing formula however that does not affect the borough too much. The Council needs to consider whether or not they want the borough to assume responsibility and have the Planning Board consider the approvals or to leave the approvals with the NJ Meadowlands Commission. No action was taken at this time.

Attorney Allen requested an executive session for pending litigation. Councilman Brizzi also requested personnel and contract negotiations.

ENGINEER'S REPORT – GLENN BECKMEYER

Engineer Beckmeyer discussed the following:

1. Senior bus bid opening is this Thursday
2. The DPW exhaust system is out to bid
3. Part of Stanley Street will be closed from Monday to Wednesday for the lining of the storm pipe
4. The landscaping bid has a third year option – he recommends extending this option to Outdoor Living:

Moved: Councilman Brizzi

Second: Councilman Perry

Roll Call: All Ayes

5. In regard to the Riggan Field entryway project, Sanzari was requesting a payment of \$24,500 for the down payment of two items that were ordered for the project. Engineer Beckmeyer requested copies of the cancelled checks showing that Sanzari made payments for these items; however he never received them. A motion was made to pay Sanzari the \$24,500 with the stipulation that Engineer Beckmeyer receives copies of his cancelled checks:
Moved: Councilman Brizzi
Second: Councilman Stallone
Roll Call: All Ayes
6. Mayor Cassella stated that a bond ordinance from last year included \$100,000 to perform a flood study on the west end of town. Engineer Beckmeyer started the research however he feels that it would be best if he works with a company that has experience with these situations. He recommends going out for proposals (RFP) that would give us quotes on preparing such a study. Councilman Ravettine feels that we can't address our problems without the other towns addressing their problems as well. Mayor Cassella feels that we need to start somewhere so we should take the lead and then if feasible reach out to other towns. Councilman Stallone asked if this would help alleviate the flood insurance costs to the homeowners. He would also like to include other towns. Councilman Brizzi made a motion to put things in motion. Mayor Cassella said that we need reports in order to find out what is causing the flooding issues in the west end and what we can do. Councilman Stallone asked if an RFP affects the flood insurance for the residents. Mayor Cassella stated that the motion is for an RFP only which would give quotes from companies for the cost to perform a flood study.
Moved: Councilman Brizzi
Second: Councilman Stallone
Roll Call: All Ayes
7. Councilman Ravettine asked Engineer Beckmeyer to look into the possibility of having PSE&G repave the entire street during their projects rather than half the street if the borough shared in the cost.
8. Councilman Ravettine asked Engineer Beckmeyer to look into the water situation on Chadwick Street.

Mayor Cassella asked Fire Chief Lahullier his opinion on the Monarch being so close to the meadows if there were a fire. Councilman Ravettine asked if we could put a moratorium on building in town. Mayor Cassella stated that only the State could do that.

Councilman Lahullier questioned the Oak Street property being in the redevelopment zone. He asked what the status was of the study by Remington & Vernick and the costs associated.

Councilman Ravettine questioned the fencing projects. He asked Mr. Jones what the projects were and asked why the Council doesn't get to vote on the spending anymore. Mr. Jones explained that if it's a planned capital project then the approval was already granted however the smaller jobs will come before the Council for approval unless it is an emergency.

POLICE/BUILDING DEPT/RECYCLING/CIVIC – COUNCILMAN BRIZZI

Councilman Brizzi submitted the following requisitions for approval:

General Sales	\$23,188.00
Gallucci	\$ 2,075.00
Cody Systems	\$ 1,468.75
Foremost Promotions	\$ 506.60

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

Panorama	\$795.00
Panorama	\$995.00
Panorama	\$595.00
Panorama	\$695.00
Panorama	\$695.00
Panorama	\$495.00
Panorama	\$495.00

Moved: Councilman Brizzi
Second: Councilman Homaychak
Roll Call: All Ayes

Councilman Brizzi made a motion to authorize Mayor Cassella to sign the agreement with the Bergen County Utilities Authority which allows them to act as a Certified Recycling Professional on behalf of the borough in order to sign off on our grant applications:

Moved: Councilman Brizzi
Second: Councilman Homaychak
Roll Call: All Ayes

Councilman Brizzi stated that the Hudson Energy contract is up. The borough has saved approximately \$70,000. He made a motion to have another reverse auction only if we will see at least a 10% savings:


Moved: Councilman Brizzi
Second: Councilman Homaychak

Councilman Stallone asked if we could see the rate from PSE&G. Councilman Brizzi said it should be in the quote.

Roll Call: All Ayes

Mayor Cassella asked for a motion to adjourn the work meeting at 7:00PM:

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



Danielle Lorenc, RMC