



MINUTES
BOROUGH OF EMERSON
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
Tuesday, April 12th, 2011
7:30 P.M.
Borough Hall-Council Chambers
Emerson, NJ 07630



Mayor Colina called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm. Police Officer Ryan Sokerka led the salute to the flag followed by a moment of silence and kind thoughts at the request of Mayor Colina for all the emergency service workers and their families that go out each and every night, weather good or bad, and perform heroic lifesaving deeds.

O.P.M.A. Statement

Mayor Colina read the Sunshine Statement announcing that the meeting of April 12th, 2011 had been adequately noticed and was in compliance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. Further, that the meeting was included in the Annual Meeting Notice Resolution transmitted to the Bergen Record and Ridgewood News on December 22, 2010; posted on the bulletin board in the Borough Hall, Municipal Place, Emerson, NJ 07630 and has remained continuously posted as the required notices under the Statute. In addition, a copy of the notice was on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk and had been available to the public since its approval by the Governing Body.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT:

Mayor Colina, Councilwoman DiPaola, Councilwoman Garis, Councilman Lazar, Councilman Rivers, Council President Shaw

ABSENT:

Councilman Browne

Also present were Borough Clerk Carol Dray, Borough Attorney Scott Mooney and Borough Administrator Joseph Scarpa.

III. PROCLAMATIONS & CITATIONS

Arbor Day – Saturday, April 30

Mayor Colina read a Proclamation proclaiming April 30th Arbor Day in the Borough of Emerson.

CPR Save- P.O.Velez & Duardo; members of EVAC

Mayor Colina invited Police Officers Randy Velez and Rocco Duardo and members of the Emerson Volunteer Ambulance Corps to the front of the chambers and read proclamations honoring their heroic deed that saved the life of Leonia Fire Department Chief Troy Wright on December 27th, 2010. Officer Duardo thanked everyone for coming, including Chief Wright, the Mayor and Council, his family and friends, and coworkers including Officer Velez who came to his aid in helping bring the Chief back to life. Officer Velez also thanked his family and friends, the Mayor and Council for recognizing the service they rendered on that date, and added that he was glad the Chief Wright was doing well. Mayor Colina also recognized the members of the Leonia Fire Department that attended the ceremony. Chief Wright thanked the police officers and ambulance corps members who saved his life. The crowd erupted in applause.

Most DWI Arrests-P.O. Alasio

Mayor Colina invited Police Officer Joseph Alasio and his wife and children Isabella and Matthew to the front of the council chambers and read a proclamation honoring him for leading the Emerson Police Department in the most Driving While Intoxicated arrests in the Borough in six years since he was hired in 2002 and tied for the lead in one of those years. The Mayor proclaimed April 12, 2011 as Emerson Officer Alasio Day in the Borough. Officer Alasio thanked everyone for coming and said that this was a passion of his and he appreciated the recognition.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Before opening the meeting for comments from the public, Mayor Colina reminded everyone to turn off their cell phones, keep their comments as brief as possible and try to limit them only to governmental issues of concern to an Emerson resident. He further requested that if a subject matter was addressed and answered, to please refrain from repeating it unless they had something new to contribute. A five-minute rule was in effect for each speaker at the discretion of the Council. Mayor Colina asked that everyone do their part to be civil, to the point and respectful of another's point of view and opinion. He further warned that speaking out without recognition would not be tolerated and a second warning could result in removal from the Council Chambers.

☛ **Motion** to open the meeting for comments from the public was **moved** by Council President Shaw, **seconded** by Councilman Rivers and carried.

Afrim Hoxsa discussed an issue concerning the Recreation Commission.

Peter Weiss, 158 Jordan Road discussed the selection process of coaches for the Recreation Commission and related issues.

Kenneth Hoffman, 61 Emwood Drive provided information about a letter that he had distributed on the Historic Preservation Commission that would add an historic preservation element to the Master Plan. He requested that the Governing Body move on this quickly as it was a long process.

Tom Carlos, 375 Main Street supported the Recreation Commission coaching program.

James Casey, 163 Vivian Avenue supported the administration of the Baseball program and its coaching program.

Jill Dunican, 19 Kensington supported the Recreation sports program and volunteers in regard to a coaching issue.

Tom Callagee, 235 Grand Blvd. supported the volunteers of the Recreation sports programs in regard to a coaching issue.

Kraig Brunelle, 42 Spruce Avenue shared his concerns about a potential development on 32 Spruce Avenue.

Seeing no more hands, Mayor Colina asked for a motion to close the meeting to comments from the public.

☛ **Motion** to close the meeting for comments from the public was **moved** by Councilwoman DiPaola, **seconded** by Councilwoman Garis and carried at 8:36 p.m.

V. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS – None

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Colina stated that copies of the correspondence were available in the office of the Borough Clerk.

- Letter dated March 16, 2011 from Library board of Trustee Treasurer Marcia DeSalvo; re: Funding request
- Letter dated March 17, 2011 from Governor Chris Christie; Re: proposed 2012 Fiscal Year Budget
- Letter dated March 18, 2011 from Priscilla Maney, District Manager; Re: U.S. Postal Service in Emerson
- Letter dated April 7, 2011 from BCUA Executive Director Robert Laux; Re: BCUA Sewer Connection Fee, Municipal Incentive Program Rebate check for \$3,074.26
- Letter dated April 8, 2011 from Stop & Shop Manager John Encke; Re: Request for outdoor garden display

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Library Renovation-Jodi Fulgione, Director - Councilwoman Garis said that this item was being rescheduled.
- b. Background Check Ordinance – Council President Shaw said that this item was being rescheduled to May 3rd.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Stop & Shop – Request for outdoor garden retail flower display – April through August pursuant to ordinance
☛ **Motion** to grant permission to Stop and Shop for their display was **moved** by Council President Shaw, **seconded** by Councilwoman Garis and carried unanimously.

IX. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES - None

X. REPORTS

- Mayor & Council

Councilman Lazar said that Arbor Day was Saturday, April 30th where trees would be planted in different areas in town. If anyone wanted a tree planted in front of their home, he said they should get in touch with the **Shade Tree Commission**. He also stated that former Councilman Ken Hoffman had brought the historic plan element to the Governing Body's attention and explained that it needed to be put in place. He gave the Police Department report for the month of March.

Councilwoman Garis had no report.

Councilman Rivers gave the **Fire Department** report for the month of March.

Councilwoman DiPaola gave the March **Volunteer Ambulance Corps** report. She referenced Mr. Brunelle's idea to make lots larger on Spruce Avenue so that they would be conforming as well as other options under consideration.

Council President Shaw had no report.

Mayor Colina said that it was a glorious opening day for baseball and softball recently and they had some fun.

- Administrator Joe Scarpa reported that PNC offered a \$2,000 public safety benefit for police equipment. He and Mayor Colina had met with a company called MBI-GluckShaw that did municipal grant applications for a number of municipalities Mayor Colina stated that in this tough economic period, the Borough should become a bit more aggressive grant wise and this firm was experienced with government agencies and officials which gave them a lot of connections and helped in identifying which grants were obtainable. Mr. Scarpa said that all the OEM paperwork was submitted for last December's blizzard and totaled \$20,592. The Borough had received a Community Development grant for \$33,000 for re-roofing the Senior Citizens Center which will begin the week of May 2nd. Senator Cardinale and Assembly members Vandervalk and Schroeder were present at the Pascack Valley Managers meeting where they presented a resolution that they suggested governing bodies pass for Bill S-54 to streamline the desnagging process for local bodies of water. He added that the road project was going out to bid. A Bergen SWAN meeting took place to address severe runoff and erosion off Main Street and part of the Emerson Woods. They were looking to obtain a \$300,000 grant to do work there.
- Borough Clerk Carol Dray had no report.
- Borough Attorney Scott Mooney had no report.

XI. RESOLUTIONS ON CONSENT AGENDA NO. 85-11

☞ **Motion** to approve Consent Agenda Resolution #85-11 pending verification on the current item 20694 dated March 31, 2011 refund on a tax appeal was **moved** by Councilman Rivers, **seconded** by Council President Shaw and carried by roll call vote.

RC: Council members:

YES: Rivers, DiPaola, Shaw, Garis, Lazar

Ca 86-11 Bill List

Ca 87-11 Approve Mayor & Council meeting minutes of March 1, 2011 & March 15, 2011

XII. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION - Resolution No. 88-11

☞ **Motion** to go into an executive session to discuss matters exempt from the public as duly noticed by Resolution No. 88-11 was **moved** by Council President Shaw, **seconded** by Councilwoman DiPaola and carried by roll call vote.

RC: Council members:

YES: Rivers, DiPaola, Shaw, Garis, Lazar

#11-4/12-09	Personnel-Police	N.J.S.A. 10:4-8
#11-4/12-10	Potential Litigation-Maser	N.J.S.A. 10:4-7
#11-4/12-11	Potential Litigation – Recreation	N.J.S.A. 10:4-7
#11-4/12-12	Potential Litigation- Democratic Primary Petition	N.J.S.A. 10:4-7

XIII. RECONVENE

☞ **Motion** to reconvene was moved, seconded and carried.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to address, at the request of Mayor Colina, a motion to adjourn was **moved** by Councilwoman DiPaola, **seconded** by Councilman Lazar and carried at 10:20 p.m.