



MINUTES  
BOROUGH OF EMERSON  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
January 20, 2015  
7:30 P.M.  
Borough Hall-Council Chambers  
Emerson, NJ 07630



I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lamatina called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and identified the emergency exits.

II. ROLL CALL

Mayor Lamatina asked Ms. Dietsche to call the roll of the Governing Body.

**Present:** Mayor Lamatina, Councilwoman DiPaola, Councilman Knoller, Councilman Paino, Council President Rivers, Councilman Tripodi, Councilman Worthington

Also present was Borough Attorney Daniel Zwillenberg.

III. EXCUSED ABSENCE OF GOVERNING BODY MEMBER

- Council President Rivers for his absence from the Regular Meeting of December 9, 2014  
☛ **Motion** to excuse Council President Rivers for his absence from the Regular Meeting of December 9, 2014 was **moved** by Councilman Knoller, **seconded** by Councilman Tripodi and carried unanimously.

IV. PROCLAMATIONS & CITATIONS

- Honoring Anthony Basile for volunteer service to the Borough of Emerson and SCORE Bergen
- Swearing in ceremony of Patrol Officer Jorge Fujita

V. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

- Resignation of Recreation Commission member Marty Porcello effective December 31, 2014
- Resignation of DPW employee Phillip Mazzo effective February 9, 2015
- Resignation of Fire Safety Inspector J.D. Mara effective January 7, 2015

☛ **Motion** to accept the resignations of Marty Porcello, Phillip Mazzo and J.D. Mara was **moved** by Councilman Knoller, **seconded** by Councilman Paino and carried unanimously.

VI. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

- Regular Meeting Minutes of December 9, 2014  
☛ **Motion** to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 9, 2014 was **moved** by Councilman Knoller, **seconded** by Councilman Tripodi and carried unanimously
- Closed Session Meeting Minutes of December 9, 2014  
☛ **Motion** to approve the Closed Session Meeting Minutes of December 9, 2014 was **moved** by Councilman Paino, **seconded** by Councilman Knoller and carried unanimously.

- Sine Die/Reorganization Meeting Minutes of January 6, 2015  
☛ **Motion** to approve the Sine Die/Reorganization Meeting Minutes of January 6, 2015 was **moved** by Council President Rivers, **seconded** by Councilman Knoller and carried unanimously.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Lamatina announced that copies of the correspondence were available in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

- Letter dated December 2, 2014 from Justin Shefty; Re: Leaf collection
- Letter dated December 3, 2014 from William Dressel, NJSLOM; Re: Retirement
- Letter dated December 3, 2014 from PERMA Risk Management Services; Re: 2015 Adopted Budget
- Letter dated December 17, 20154 from Hon. Brian Wahler, NJSLOM President and Mayor, Piscataway; Re: NJSLOM 2015 Legislative Priorities
- Email dated December 14, 2014 from Judith Abrams; Re: Kudos to Emerson Police Department
- Letter dated December 22, 2014 from NJDEP Assistant Commissioner Jane Herndon; Re: E-Waste Law

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Lamatina announced that there was no unfinished business.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- Election polling places – The Governing Body was informed that the Emerson Board of Education had requested that the polling locations be moved out of the schools to different locations for security reasons. A discussion about alternative locations took place. Mayor Lamatina asked Councilwoman DiPaola to explore this issue and report back at the next meeting.
- Department of Public Works staffing – The Governing Body and DPW Superintendent Joe Solimando discussed staffing needs in his department. The consensus was to advertise for a full time replacement for one departing employee and take his request for an additional employee into consideration during the upcoming budget process.
- Airing council meetings on CC-TV – Councilwoman DiPaola stated that she had done some preliminary research on televising council meetings and asked for feedback on this issue. Topics included in the discussion included equipment, manpower, cost and increased transparency. The Governing Body consensus was to look into this further and continue the discussion at the next meeting.

X. FINANCIAL BUSINESS

- Resolution xx-15 Bill List - **PULLED**

XI. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

**First Reading:**

**1496-15** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 274, VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC; ARTICLE VII, SCHEDULES, SECTION 274-53, SCHEDULE XVII, TIME LIMIT PARKING

Council President Rivers asked to have this item pulled for further evaluation and moved to the next meeting for first reading.

XII. ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

Mayor Lamatina announced that there were no ordinances being adopted this evening.

XIII. REPORTS

- Mayor and Council

Councilwoman DiPaola said the **Shade Tree Commission** would be submitting a budget request of approximately \$100,000.00 to allow them to catch up with tree work. She anticipated that if this goal was met, the budget for 2016 would be smaller.

Councilman Tripodi had no report.

Councilman Paino had no report.

Council President Rivers gave the December 2014 report for the **Police Department**.

Councilman Knoller said that the **Fire Department** had held their annual dinner where Joe Mara was honored for 55 years of service and Rich Masiello was honored for 50 years of service. The **Recreation Commission** had several new members and was discussing the annual town celebration and fireworks and perhaps bringing back the annual picnic.

Councilman Worthington had no report.

Mayor Lamatina discussed developments related to improvement of the Kinderkamack Road corridor, noting that a meeting was scheduled between borough officials and the county on Friday. He said they were moving forward and starting to get things done. He anticipated that some work might start by spring and emphasized the need to keep the public informed. In addition the Board of Education had appointed Leann Guarini as the student liaison to the council. He thought this was an excellent way to help communicate with the school and parents.

- Borough Administrator/Clerk – Mayor Lamatina read a memo from Mr. Kolodziej providing some background on items on the upcoming Consent Agenda.
- Borough Attorney Dan Zwillenberg had no report.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT

☞ **Motion** to open the meeting to comments from the public was **moved** by Councilwoman DiPaola, **seconded** by Councilman Knoller and carried at 8:40 p.m.

Vince Donato, 128 Vivian Avenue commented on moving polling places, televising council meetings, Kinderkamack Road improvements and the 9-11 Memorial. In addition he asked about Mr. Kolodziej's contract with the Borough.

Elizabeth Garis, 174 Jordan Road, read a statement about Mr. Kolodziej's contract.

Joe Solimando, 17 Palisade Avenue provided details about the status of the 9-11 Memorial.

Ken Hoffman, 61 Emwood Drive commented on polling places, televising council meetings and Mr. Kolodziej's contract.

Marguerite Pellegrino, 152 Hartland Avenue commented on Kinderkamack Road improvements and asked about vehicles parking on grass and commercial vehicle parking.

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

☞ **Motion** to close the meeting to comments from the public was **moved** by Council President Rivers, **seconded** by Councilwoman DiPaola and carried at 9:00 p.m.

XV. RESOLUTIONS ON CONSENT AGENDA NO. 44-15

☞ **Motion** to approve Consent Agenda #44-15 was **moved** by Council President Rivers, **seconded** by Councilman Knoller and carried by a roll call vote of 6-0.

**RC: Council members:**

**YES: DiPaola, Tripodi, Paino, Rivers, Knoller, Worthington**

- Ca 45-15 Interlocal Services Agreement – Mutual Aid Plan & Rapid Deployment Force
- Ca 46-15 Confirm Endorsement of Community Development Projects
- Ca 47-15 Confirm Endorsement of Community Development Projects
- Ca 48-15 Award Contract for Handicap Lift Replacement to Iecony Corp. in the amount of \$28,900.00
- Ca 49-15 Cancellation of evening tax collection hours for first quarter 2015
- Ca 50-15 Advertising for the position of Fire Safety Inspector
- Ca 51-15 Land Use Board review of display lighting ordinance

XVI. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION - Resolution No. 52-15

☞ **Motion** to go into an executive session to discuss matters exempt from the public as duly noticed by Resolution No. 52-15 was **moved** by Council President Rivers, **seconded** by Councilman Knoller and carried by roll call vote of 6-0.

**RC: Council members:**

**YES: DiPaola, Tripodi, Paino, Rivers, Knoller, Worthington**

- #15-1/20-1 Police Chief Contract N.J.S.A. 10:4-8
- #15-1/20-2 Police – Personnel N.J.S.A. 10:4-8
- #15-1/20-3 Personnel - Rice Notice – Borough Administrator N.J.S.A. 10:4-8

XVII. RECONVENE

☞ **Motion** to reconvene was **moved** by Council President Rivers, **seconded** by Councilman Knoller and carried at 10:36 p.m.

☞ **Motion** to allow the Labor Attorney to begin discussions with the Borough Administrator about his current contract was **moved** by Councilman Knoller, **seconded** by Council President Rivers and carried by roll call vote of 6-0.

**RC: Council members:**

**YES: DiPaola, Tripodi, Paino, Rivers, Knoller, Worthington**

☞ **Motion** to rescind the acceptance of the resignation letter of Police Captain George Buono conditioned upon the Captain agreeing to use appropriate vacation or sick time to cover him from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January, 2015 to the date of his return was **moved** by Council President Rivers, **seconded** by Councilman Worthington and carried by roll call vote of 6-0.

**RC: Council members:**

**YES: DiPaola, Tripodi, Paino, Rivers, Knoller, Worthington**

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to address, at the request of Mayor Lamatina, a motion to adjourn was **moved** by Councilman Knoller, **seconded** by Councilman Tripodi and carried at 10:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Joseph Kolodziej, MPA  
Borough Administrator/Clerk