



MINUTES  
BOROUGH OF EMERSON  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
March 5, 2013  
7:30 P.M.  
Borough Hall-Council Chambers  
Emerson, NJ 07630



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I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Colina called the meeting to order at 7:41 p.m. and identified the emergency exits.

II. ROLL CALL

Mayor Colina asked Ms. Dray to call the roll of the Governing Body.

**Present:** Mayor Colina, Councilwoman DiPaola, Councilwoman Garis, Councilman Knoller  
Councilman Paino, Council President Rivers, Councilman Worthington

Also present were Borough Attorney Scott Mooney and Borough Administrator Joe Scarpa.

III. PROCLAMATIONS & CITATIONS

- Honoring Boy Scout Mason Gerard Law – A proclamation was read by Mayor Colina honoring new Boy Scout Mason Gerard Law in the presence of his family, friends and fellow troop members.

IV. FINANCIAL BUSINESS

- a. Resolution #71-13 Emergency Temporary Budget  
☞ **Motion** to approve Resolution #71-13 Emergency Temporary Budget was **moved** by Councilman Worthington, **seconded** by Councilman Knoller and carried by roll call vote of 6-0.  
**RC: Council members:**  
**YES: Knoller, DiPaola, Worthington, Rivers, Garis, Paino**
- b. Resolution #72-13 Temporary Capital Budget  
☞ **Motion** to approve Resolution #72-13 Temporary Capital Budget was **moved** by Councilman Knoller, **seconded** by Councilman Worthington and carried by roll call vote of 6-0.  
**RC: Council members:**  
**YES: Knoller, DiPaola, Worthington, Rivers, Garis, Paino**

V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Land Use proposed changes to zoning - Chairman Orecchio of the Municipal Land Use Board outlined the proposed summary list of zoning changes that a subcommittee of the LUB had recommended. The discussion included changes to the sign ordinance – changing the period for temporary banners to 60 days from 30 days, fencing heights related to grade height, and other items. He provided clarification to the Governing Body on several of the proposed changes.

VI. INTRODUCTION OF BOND ORDINANCES

Mayor Colina announced that Ms. Dray would read the following ordinance by title and it would be further considered at a Public Hearing to be held on March 19th, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Borough Hall, Municipal Place, Emerson, N.J. and published in the March 8th, 2013 edition of the Ridgewood News by summary. He added that the ordinance was on file in the Clerk's Office and posted on the official bulletin board of the Municipal Building where copies would be available to the General Public at no charge.

**1453-13 BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF EMERSON, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$400,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.**

☞ **Motion** to approve the introduction of Bond Ordinance #1453-13 was **moved** by Councilman Knoller, **seconded** by Councilman Worthington and carried by roll call vote of 6-0.

**RC: Council members:**

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

VII. REPORTS

- ~~Borough Administrator Joe Scarpa reported on various borough housekeeping matters; informed the Council of the Tax Assessor Claire Psota's recommendation to hire an independent firm to defend property tax assessment appeals at the rate of \$50.00 per appeal; and made recommendations to hire personnel.~~

- Borough Administrator Joe Scarpa said the Senior Center kitchen was completed. The Municipal Budget was being worked with an introduction due on March 19th. He said they were well under the 2% cap. He discussed hiring someone to defend tax assessments at \$50.00 per appeal based on the recommendation of Tax Appraiser Claire Psota, hiring Art Balsamo as an Alternate Prosecutor for one court session, and hiring a replacement for the court assistant who resigned, working from 1-5 p.m. at a salary per the salary ordinance.

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- ☞ **Motion** to hire Realty Appraisal Company to defend residential tax appeals at a cost of \$50 per appeal was **moved** by Council President Rivers, **seconded** by Councilman Worthington and carried by roll call vote of 6-0.

**RC: Council members:**

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

☞ **Motion** to appoint Arthur Balsamo as the temporary Alternate Prosecutor for the March 14<sup>th</sup> court session was **moved** by Council President Rivers, **seconded** by Councilman Worthington and carried by roll call vote of 6-0.

**RC: Council members:**

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

<sup>1</sup> Correction from meeting of 5/28/13

APPROVED FOR CONTENT AND RELEASE

☞ **Motion** to hire Sarah Henderson as the part time Assistant Court Clerk at the rate set by the salary ordinance was **moved** by Council President Rivers, **seconded** by Councilwoman DiPaola and carried by roll call vote of 6-0.

**RC: Council members:**

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

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public are welcome to speak on any topic by coming to the table and stating your name and address for the record. In the interest of time, speakers are limited to five (5) minutes. In consideration of all who may wish to speak, please keep your comments brief and concise.

☞ **Motion** to open the meeting to comments from the public was **moved** by Councilman Worthington, **seconded** by Councilwoman Garis and carried.

Brian Todd, 207 Palisade Avenue requested additional information about the introduced bond ordinance and explained the reasoning behind the Land Use Board decision to set the maximum height of buildings to three stories in the redevelopment zone.

Seeing no more hands, Mayor Colina 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 Councilman Worthington, **seconded** by Councilwoman DiPaola and carried unanimously.

IX. RESOLUTIONS ON CONSENT AGENDA NO. 73-13

Matters listed below are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion to the Council and one roll call vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member requests an item be removed for consideration.

☞ **Motion** to approve Consent Agenda Resolution #73-13 was **moved** by Councilman Worthington, **seconded** by Councilwoman Garis and carried by roll call vote of 6-0.

**RC: Council members:**

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

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| Ca 74-13 | Authorizing Renewal of Cooperative Pricing System 107-PVCPS  |
| Ca 75-13 | Resolution Authorizing the Preparation of Bid Specifications for the 2013 Municipal Road Paving Program by Skrable Engineering for \$500 |
| Ca 76-13 | Tax Court Judgment Refund – Block 1301, Lot 1.02 - 411 Old Hook Road & Lot 1.01 495 Old Hook Road  |
| Ca 77-13 | Approve the sale of obsolete property from the Borough of Emerson to the Borough of Tenafly for \$1,500                                  |

☞ **Motion** to authorize the Borough Administrator to begin the process of interviewing candidates to fill the Finance Office Assistant position was **moved** by Council President Rivers, **seconded** by Councilman Knoller and carried by roll call vote of 6-0.

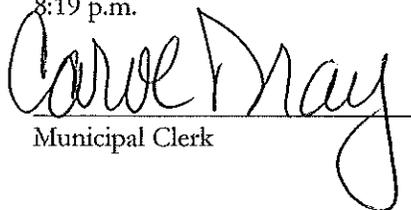
**RC: Council members:**

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

X. ADJOURNMENT

APPROVED FOR CONTENT AND RELEASE

With no other business to address, at the request of Mayor Colina, a motion to adjourn was moved by Councilwoman DiPaola, seconded by Council President Rivers and carried at 8:19 p.m.

  
Municipal Clerk