



MINUTES
BOROUGH OF EMERSON
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
May 19th, 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 were Borough Administrator Robert S. Hoffmann, Borough Attorney Wendy Rubinstein and Deputy Clerk Jane Dietsche.

III. PROCLAMATIONS & CITATIONS

There were no proclamations or citations.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- COAH – Presentation by Borough Planner Brigitte Bogart – Ms. Bogart gave a brief presentation and reviewed recent court decisions as well as upcoming deadlines. She noted that Emerson had submitted its COAH documentation which was deemed complete but never approved. Mayor Lamatina said the RFP needed to be revised by Ms. Bogart and released to interested parties. The consensus was to continue to discuss this topic at the next meeting during Closed Session.
- Memorial Garden Presentation by Franklin Praschil – Mr. Praschil, an eighth grader at Villano School and Boy Scout, presented a proposal to create a memorial garden outside the Emerson Public Library as his Eagle Scout project. He discussed potential locations as well as fund raising options and explained that no Borough funds would be required. Shade Tree Commission Chair Ken Hoffman agreed that it was a nice proposal and offered assistance. The Governing Body praised Mr. Praschil and his proposal and agreed to allow him to proceed to the next level of approval necessary to move forward with his project.

☞ **Motion** to approve Franklin Praschil's Eagle Scout project 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

V. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

- Swearing in Ceremony – Police Auxiliary
 - Joseph Kalachian
 - Erik Wegner
 - Sean Croal

- DPW Full Time Temporary Summer Help – Donald Fusco

☞ **Motion** to appoint Donald Fusco as a DPW Full Time Temporary Summer Helper at a salary of \$10.00 per hour was **moved** by Councilman Paino, **seconded** by Council President Rivers and carried unanimously.

VI. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

- Regular Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2015
- Closed Session Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2015

☞ **Motion** to approve the Regular and Closed Session Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2015 was **moved** by Council President Rivers, **seconded** by Councilman Paino and carried unanimously.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

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

- Letter dated April 17, 2015 from Rev. Paolo Tanzini, Pastor Church of Assumption; Re: Carnival July 8-12
- Letter dated April 17, 2015 from Robert Laux, Executive Director, BCUA; RE: Sewer Connection Fee – Municipal Incentive Program
- Letter dated April 17, 2015 from Jack Fanous, Executive Director, The GI Go Fund; Re: Memorial Day Jeans for Troops drive
- Letter received May 11, 2015 from Rich Desimone, Conference Coordinator, The Jersey Access Group; Re: Video content services
- Letter dated May 11, 2015 from Jewish Federation of Northern NJ; Re: Annual Legislative Gathering June 10th
- Letter received May 12, 2015 from Tammie Hage; Re: Kudos to Shade Tree Commission
- Letter received May 13, 2015 from Stan Znutas; Re: street paving

VIII. FINANCIAL BUSINESS

- Public Hearing on 2015 Municipal Budget Amendment Resolution #100-15

☞ **Motion** to open the meeting to comments from the public on Resolution #100-15 2015 Municipal Budget Amendment only was **moved** by Council President Rivers, **seconded** by Council Paino and carried.

Seeing no 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 on Resolution #100-15 2015 Municipal Budget Amendment only was **moved** by Councilman Knoller, **seconded** by Councilman Tripodi and carried.

- Resolution No. 128-15 Amendment to the 2015 Municipal Budget

☞ **Motion** to approve Resolution No. 128-15 Amendment to the 2015 Municipal Budget was **moved** by Councilman Worthington, **seconded** by Councilman Knoller and carried by a roll call vote of 6-0.

RC: Council members:

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

- Resolution No. 129-15 Adoption of 2015 Municipal Budget

☞ **Motion** to approve Resolution No. 129-15 Adoption of the 2015 Municipal Budget was **moved** by Councilman Worthington, **seconded** by Councilman Knoller and carried by a roll call vote of 6-0.

RC: Council members:

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

- Resolution No. 130-15 Self Examination of the Budget

☞ **Motion** to approve Resolution No. 130-15 Self Examination of the Municipal Budget was **moved** by Councilman Worthington, **seconded** by Councilman Knoller and carried by a roll call vote of 6-0.

RC: Council members:

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

- Resolution No. 131-15 Bill List

☞ **Motion** to approve Resolution No. 131-15 Bill List was **moved** by Councilman Worthington, **seconded** by Councilman Knoller and carried by a roll call vote of 6-0.

RC: Council members:

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

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Lamatina stated that there was no unfinished business.

X. NEW BUSINESS

- RFP Process – Redevelopment – Mayor Lamatina explained there was interest in redeveloping a five acre parcel in the downtown area and therefore a need to restart the redevelopment process. He wanted the Borough go out for RFP's as part of the development of this area and requested authorization to have an RFP prepared. The Governing Body consensus was to agree to start the process but they also shared opinions about the reach of the Council related to taking properties and the needs of current property and business owners. The consensus was that there was a need to set the stage for the potential for some progress downtown and allow for the preparation of an RFP.

☞ **Motion** to authorize the Borough Planner to move forward with the RFP for the redevelopment of the five parcels of land on Linwood Avenue and Kinderkamack Road was **moved** by Councilman Tripodi, **seconded** by Council President Rivers and carried by a roll call vote of 4-1.

RC: Council members:

YES: Tripodi, Rivers, Knoller, Worthington

NO: DiPaola

ABSTAIN: Paino

- Social Media Policy discussion – Mr. Hoffmann asked for feedback on a Social Media Policy packet he had previously distributed and requested that the Council review it and provide comments for further discussion at the next meeting.
- PSE&G Purchase of Permanent Utility Easement – Mr. Hoffmann explained that PSE&G was seeking an easement to install a cabinet at the Department of Public Works property and behind Stop & Shop. PSE&G was proposing to pay a fee for the easement and said he would consult with the Tax Assessor as to whether this was a good value and report back at the next meeting.

XI. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Mayor Lamatina announced that Ms. Dietsche would read the following ordinances by title and they would be further considered at a Public Hearing to be held on June 9, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Borough Hall, Municipal Place, Emerson, N.J. and published in the May 22, 2015 edition of the Ridgewood News by summary. He added that these ordinances were 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.

First Reading:

1500-15 BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW ADDITIONAL OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY, NEW INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT AND NEW AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLES, INCLUDING ORIGINAL APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT, IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF EMERSON, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$1,584,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO APPROPRIATE FEDERAL AND STATE GRANTS, 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 Ordinance 1500-15 on first reading was **moved** by Councilman Worthington, **seconded** by Councilman Knoller, and carried by a roll call vote of 6-0.

RC: Council members:

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

1501-15 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 7 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF EMERSON ENTITLED "AMBULANCE CORPS" SECTION 7-7 "MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS"

☛ **Motion** to approve Ordinance 1501-15 on first reading was **moved** by Councilman Paino, **seconded** by Council President Rivers, and carried by a roll call vote of 5-1.

RC: Council members:

YES: Tripodi, Paino, Rivers, Knoller, Worthington

NO: DiPaola

XII. ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

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

XIII. REPORTS

- Mayor and Council

Councilwoman DiPaola reported that Public Health Nurse Kay Hodges had hosted a dinner for the **Board of Health** members and other guests to mark the occasion of her 48 years of service to the Borough of Emerson.

Councilman Tripodi had no report.

Councilman Paino gave the **Building Department** report for the month of April.

Council President Rivers gave the April report of the **Police Department**.

Councilman Knoller gave the **Fire Department** for the month of April. He also reported that the **Recreation Commission** would be sponsoring a Town Picnic on June 20th which would honor the memory of Kevin Bayley and focus on organ donation. Activities would include sports, a homerun derby, bands and fireworks.

Councilman Worthington had no report.

Mayor Lamatina stated that he had been meeting with a potential redeveloper, discussed property tax implications and emphasized that the Borough needed to increase the revenue side of the tax equation.

- Borough Administrator Robert Hoffman discussed the upcoming Memorial Day Ceremony, preparing the 2015 Salary Ordinance for introduction on June 9th, reviewing loss experience for health insurance and workers compensation and thanked the **Department of Public Works** for their maintenance work and improvements around Borough Hall. He said the DPW would begin work at Washington Park on June 1st to make it accessible for the handicapped and discussed the upcoming cooperative road paving program. In addition he said he was working on changing the process of preparing RFP's for Borough professionals. Changes to the meeting agenda and deadlines for its preparation would be proposed and the Community Development Block Grant submission was discussed. He outlined a request to purchase property on the corner of Union Street and Palisade Avenue and his plan to review a recent appraisal and have the Borough offer it to the two adjoining property owners. He addressed information about the potential deployment of a DPW employee and requested authorization to advertise for a floater position in Borough Hall.

☞ **Motion** to authorize the advertisement for a floater position to support the Administrator and Clerk and cross train with a salary not to exceed the dollar amount in the 2015 Salary Ordinance was **moved** by Council President Rivers, **seconded** by Councilman Paino, and carried by a roll call vote of 6-0.

RC: Council members:

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

- Deputy Borough Clerk Jane Dietsche had no report.
- Borough Attorney Wendy Rubinstein had no report.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Jeff Brenner, 75 Pascack Avenue discussed the recent fatal accident at the corner of Hasbrouck and Pascack Avenues and suggested making the block a dead end.

Peter Grompone, 199 Hasbrouck Avenue said speeding vehicles needed to be deterred at this location and suggested a dead end between Hasbrouck and Pascack Avenues.

Paul Coombes, 74 Pascack Avenue said there was speeding at this location every day and suggested the installation of a barrier.

Spiro Georgatos, 218 Hasbrouck Avenue asked that a stop sign and speed limit sign be placed at this location. He also suggested that it become a dead end.

Ken Hoffman, 61 Emwood Drive shared his concern with speeding vehicles in the Borough. He also asked about the Social Media Policy and potential redevelopment.

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 Councilwoman DiPaola, **seconded** by Councilman Knoller and carried at 9:35 p.m.

XV. RESOLUTIONS ON CONSENT AGENDA NO. 132-15

☞ **Motion** to approve Consent Agenda #132-15 was **moved** by Councilman Knoller, **seconded** by Council President Rivers and carried by a roll call vote of 6-0.

RC: Council members:

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

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| Ca 133-15 | Resolution authorizing plans and specifications for recycling pickup and recycling disposal |
| Ca 134-15 | Authorize preparation of specifications for technology consultant |
| Ca 135-15 | Authorize preparations of specifications for banking RFPs |
| Ca 136-15 | Authorize preparations of specifications for cleaning of borough buildings |
| Ca 137-15 | Block Party Application – Eagle Drive – Saturday, June 6 th |
| Ca 138-15 | Municipal Court Shared Service Agreement Renewal for 2015 |
| Ca 139-15 | Redeem Tax Sale Certificate – 154 Colonial Road |
| Ca 140-15 | Tax Sale Reduction – 143 Munsey Road |

Ca 141-15 Tax Appeal Adjustments
Ca 142-15 Tax Court Judgment Refund – Block 609, Lot 2 – 72 Kinderkamack Rd
Ca 143-15 Tax Deduction Adjustments
Ca 145-15 2014-2015 CDBG Senior Citizen Activities – Resolution to Enter into a Grant Agreement for \$5,000.00

XVI. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION - Resolution No. 144-15

☞ **Motion** to go into an executive session to discuss matters exempt from the public as duly noticed by Resolution No. 144-15 was **moved** by Councilwoman DiPaola, **seconded** by Councilman Knoller and carried by roll call vote of 6-0 at 9:36 p.m.

RC: Council members:

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

#15-5/19-22	Borough Planner - Contract	N.J.S.A. 10:4-7
#15-5/19-23	Property Acquisition – Kinderkamack Road	N.J.S.A. 10:4-5
#15-5/19-24	Potential Litigation – Tax Sale Liens	N.J.S.A. 10:4-7
#15-5/19-25	Contract Negotiations – Municipal Court	N.J.S.A. 10:4-7
#15-5/19-26	Litigation – Indemnification Follow-up	N.J.S.A. 10:4-7

XVII. RECONVENE

☞ **Motion** to reconvene was **moved** by Councilman Paino, **seconded** by Council President Rivers and carried.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to address, at the request of Mayor Lamatina, a motion to adjourn was **moved** by Council President Rivers, **seconded** by Councilman Knoller and carried at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Dietsche, RMC
Deputy Borough Clerk