



MINUTES
BOROUGH OF EMERSON
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
October 3, 2017
7:30 P.M.
Borough Hall-Council Chambers
Emerson, NJ 07630



I. 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 Downing, Councilman Falotico, Council President Knoller, Councilman Lazar, Councilman Worthington

Also present were Borough Administrator Robert Hoffmann, Borough Attorney Wendy Rubinstein, Borough Engineer Gary Ascolese and Borough Clerk Jane Dietsche.

III. EXCUSED ABSENCE OF GOVERNING BODY MEMBER

Mayor Lamatina said that no members of the Governing Body were absent from the previous meeting.

IV. PROCLAMATIONS & CITATIONS

There were no proclamations or citations.

V. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

There were no appointments or resignations.

VI. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

There were no minutes for approval.

VII. FINANCIAL BUSINESS

There was no financial business.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Update on Kinderkamack Road Improvement Project – Borough Engineer Gary Ascolese 7:45 pm – 8:00 p.m. – Mr. Ascolese began by reading a report, attached hereto to the minutes, providing the Governing Body and members of the public with a summary of the improvements to Kinderkamack Road to date. At the conclusion of his report, the Governing Body, Mr. Hoffmann and Mr. Ascolese discussed topics including the timing of lights, right turns on red, traffic volume, the number of bus stops, traffic issues related to the railroad crossing, resolving technical challenges and increasing the number of pedestrian crossings. Mr. Ascolese requested feedback so that the County could fine tune any issues. He emphasized that there were certain parameters that could be changed to improve traffic flow.

☞ **Motion** to open the meeting to comments from the public on this topic only was **moved** by Councilwoman DiPaola, **seconded** by Councilman Lazar and carried.

Robert Obernauer, 161 Kinderkamack Road, owner of the Valero gas station shared his appreciation for assistance in coordinating a meeting with Mr. Ascolese, Mr. Maisano of New Prince Construction and the County to review ingress/egress issues at his gas station. He requested that the County follow through on its verbal agreement to amend the design.

Pat Hulburt, 55 Jefferson Avenue commented on Kinderkamack Road improvements and noted that he had observed that buses were not using the cutouts on Kinderkamack Road.

Jill McGuire, 154 Linwood Avenue said that buses were not using the cutouts because vehicles would not allow the busses to easily return to the traffic lane.

Theresa Wallace, 114 Palisade Avenue commented on observations she had made related to traffic, trains, and signs on Kinderkamack Road.

Paul Hulburt, 55 Jefferson Avenue commented on traffic volume and conditions in the center of town on Kinderkamack Road.

Michael Myers, 38 Allison Way asked questions related to Kinderkamack Road improvements and traffic volume and made suggestions regarding signage.

Robert Obernauer, 161 Kinderkamack Road commented on the number of signs on Kinderkamack Road.

Ed Bueti, 91 Chestnut Street discussed a safety issue on Lincoln Boulevard, noting that the bell did not go off when the train was preparing to enter the station.

☞ **Motion** to close the meeting to comments from the public on this topic only was **moved, seconded** and carried.

Mr. Ascolese departed the council chambers at 8:51 p.m.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- Discussion of Community Development Block Grant Application – Mr. Hoffmann said this grant application was due by Friday, December 8th and asked for recommendations from the Governing Body on what to apply for. He suggested funding for additional drainage improvements in the area of Pine, Eagle and Emwood Drive. He explained that the Borough would be receiving a \$40,000 grant but this would allow the Borough to do another section. He also recommended submitting a grant application for senior citizens' recreation program. This item would be discussed further at the October 17th meeting.
- Discussion of Police utilizing the 1033 Program – Mr. Hoffmann explained that the Defense Logistics Agency disposed of military property and offered an opportunity for the Police Department to obtain helmets and other equipment which could be used by the Office of Emergency Management and the Department of Public Works at no cost. Governing Body consensus was in favor of this program.

☞ Motion to add Resolution CA 248-17 to the Consent Agenda approving the Police 1033 Program was moved by Councilwoman DiPaola, seconded by Council President Knoller and carried by a roll call vote of 6-0.

RC: Council members:

YES: DiPaola, Falotico, Lazar, Knoller, Downing, Worthington

X. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

First Reading:

Mayor Lamatina announced that Ms. Dietsche would read the following ordinance by title and it would be further considered at a Public Hearing to be held on October 17, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Borough Hall, Municipal Place, Emerson, N.J. and published in the October 6th, 2017 edition of the Ridgewood News. He added that this 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.

1547-17 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 208-9, PEDDLING AND SOLICITING, LICENSE FEES OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF EMERSON

☞ Motion to introduce Ordinance No. 1547-17 on first reading was moved by Councilwoman DiPaola, seconded by Council President Knoller and carried by a roll call vote of 6-0.

RC: Council members:

YES: DiPaola, Falotico, Lazar, Knoller, Downing, Worthington

XI. ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

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

XII. REPORTS

- Borough Administrator Robert Hoffmann reported on the following:
 - Two display cases had been donated to the Historic Preservation Committee by the Pascack Valley Historical Society. He said this was a reflection of the good and positive work of this committee.
 - The New Jersey Department of Transportation had approved the \$145,000 grant for Vivian Avenue drainage in cooperation with Westwood's grant.
 - A ceremony had taken place the previous Sunday to honor an Eagle Scout who had installed new signs at Emerson Woods.
 - At the upcoming meeting scheduled for October 17th, the Governing Body would be evaluating the provisions of the County road paving contract they had been requested to sign. The Borough and Borough Engineer would have to design and certify ADA compliance but the County would be reimbursed for those costs. He noted that the County would like to pave Kinderkamack Road and Soldier Hill Road in 2018.
 - The Borough had received six requests for the solid waste bid specifications and ten others had been sent out to additional contractors to ensure that there would be more than one response.
 - The Request for Proposals for Borough Engineer, Land Use Engineer and Borough Planner had been released. Responses were due back by November 3rd.

 - He and CFO Lauren Roehrer had reviewed the third quarter budget and department heads were doing a very good job of managing their allocated funds.
 - He noted that the Mayor and Borough Clerk would be celebrating birthdays this month.
 - Joseph D'Arco, the Paramus Borough Administrator, would be receiving an award from the ICMA for 55 years of service in local government. Mr. D'Arco was the only person in the United States to receive this award this year.

- Councilwoman DiPaola said that the Board of Health had a table at the library in support of participating in the Knock Out Opioid Abuse initiative.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

☞ **Motion** to open the meeting to comments from the public was **moved** by Councilman Lazar, **seconded** by Councilwoman DiPaola and carried at 9:10 p.m.

Ryan Roy, 167 North Leswing Avenue, Saddle Brook introduced himself as an autism advocate and asked that Emerson become a stigma-free zone and outlined how to create an Access for All Committee. The Governing Body consensus was to move forward with this initiative and take action at the next meeting.

Joseph Letizia, 21 James Street, Westwood thanked the Governing Body for achieving the grant funding for drainage improvements in the area of Vivian Avenue. All residents in the area were extremely grateful.

☞ **Motion** to close the meeting to comments from the public was **moved** by Councilman Lazar, **seconded** by Council President Knoller and carried at 9:16 p.m.

XIV. RESOLUTIONS ON CONSENT AGENDA NO. 243-17

☞ **Motion** to approve Consent Agenda No. 243-17 with the addition of CA 248-17 Resolution for the Emerson Police Department to Acquire Demilitarized Equipment Utilizing the 1033 Program was **moved** by Councilman Lazar, **seconded** by Council President Knoller and carried by a roll call vote of 6-0.

RC: Council members:

YES: DiPaola, Falotico, Lazar, Knoller, Downing, Worthington

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| CA 244-17 | Authorize Purchase of DPW Superintendent SUV and Associated Equipment |
| CA 245-17 | Confirm the Authorization to Purchase Police Interceptor Vehicle and Associated Equipment |
| CA 246-17 | Authorize Mayor Lamatina to sign Habitat for Humanity contract |
| CA 247-17 | Authorization to go out to bid for All Tree Services including Emergency Call Outs |
| CA 248-17 | Resolution for the Emerson Police Department to Acquire Demilitarized Equipment Utilizing the 1033 Program |

XV. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION - Resolution No. 249-17

☞ **Motion** to go into an executive session to discuss matters exempt from the public as duly noticed by Resolution No. 249-17 with the removal of #17-10/03-49 was **moved** by Council President Knoller, **seconded** by Councilman Downing and carried by a roll call vote of 6-0.

RC: Council members:

YES: DiPaola, Falotico, Lazar, Knoller, Downing, Worthington

~~#17 10/03 49~~ ~~Discussion of Tax Appeal Settlements~~ ~~N.J.S.A. 10:4-7~~

XVI. RECONVENE

The Borough of Emerson reserves the right to return to Open Session and, if appropriate, take formal action.

☞ **Motion** to reconvene was **moved** by Councilwoman DiPaola, **seconded** by Councilman Falotico and carried.

☞ **Motion** to approve Resolution No. 250-17 Authorizing Mayor Lamatina to Sign the DPW Teamsters Local 125 Contract was **moved** by Councilman Lazar, **seconded** by Councilwoman DiPaola and carried by a roll call vote of 6-0.

RC: Council members:

YES: DiPaola, Falotico, Lazar, Knoller, Downing, Worthington

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to address, at the request of Mayor Lamatina, a motion to adjourn was **moved** by Councilwoman DiPaola, **seconded** by Councilman Falotico and carried at 9:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Dietsche, RMC
Borough Clerk