



MINUTES  
BOROUGH OF EMERSON  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
February 4, 2014  
7:30 P.M.  
Borough Hall-Council Chambers  
Emerson, NJ 07630



I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Colina called the meeting to order at 7:35 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, Councilman Griffin, Councilman Knoller, Councilman Paino, Councilman Worthington

**Absent:** Council President Rivers

Also present was Borough Attorney Ron Gordon.

Mayor Colina noted there were residents present who wished to discuss the budget before they Governing Body adjourned to Closed Session.

**Motion** to open the meeting to comments from the public on the DPW budget only was **moved** by Councilwoman DiPaola, **seconded** by Councilman Worthington and carried.

Maria Walsh, 2 Allison Way said she represented the homeowner's association of Allison Village and requested that Allison Way be included in this year's budget for road paving and storm drainage repairs.

Mayor Colina asked Mr. Shenkler to confer with DPW Superintendent Joe Solimando to visit this location so they could take the residents' wishes into consideration. Councilman Paino suggested that the Borough Engineer accompany them on the inspection.

**Motion** to close the meeting to comments from the public on the DPW budget only was **moved** by Councilwoman DiPaola, **seconded** by Councilman Griffin and carried.

III. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION - Resolution No. 57-14

**Motion** to go into an executive session to discuss matters exempt from the public as duly noticed by Resolution No. 57-14 was **moved** by Councilman Knoller, **seconded** by Councilwoman DiPaola and carried by roll call vote of 5-0.

**RC: Council members:**

**YES: DiPaola, Griffin, Paino, Knoller, Worthington**

|             |   |                 |
|-------------|---|-----------------|
| #14-2/04-01 | Personnel - Jersey Professional Management;<br>Re: Management Consultant Study Report | N.J.S.A. 10:4-8 |
| #14-2/04-02 | Litigation-Ratification of Personnel Policy   | N.J.S.A. 10-4-7 |
| #14-2/04-03 | Teamster Grievance - Clarification of terms   | N.J.S.A. 10-4-7 |

IV. RECONVENE

☞ **Motion** to reconvene was **moved** by Councilman Worthington, **seconded** by Councilman Griffin and carried.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Resolution No. 58-14 - Ratification of Personnel Policy - Labor Attorney Charles Shaw –This matter was tabled for lack of information.
- Elm Street, LLC- There was no discussion on this matter.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- Departmental Budget Work Session
  - ❖ Emerson Police Department – Chief Rossi presented his budget and made his capital requests. They included a recommendation to start the process of hiring one or two officer since an officer has the intention of retiring. He also reviewed maintenance contracts, vehicle replacement, computer systems and communications, internal and external video upgrades for Borough Hall. He noted that Park Ridge, Upper Saddle River, Woodcliff Lake and Emerson presented the Prosecutor’s Office a letter indicating that the Park Ridge Pistol Range needed to be upgraded. The Prosecutor’s Office denied the request as it did not meet their criteria. Park Ridge’s range was in need of substantial repairs and they were requested sharing the cost since the range was shared. He noted ranges were limited and the cost when they were used the Paramus range in the past was \$750 a day. He said they now spent \$3,500 a year to use the Park Ridge range one day a week for the entire year was very cost effective and gave them the opportunity to train. He added that they tried to prevent overtime to make it as cost effective as possible. He said it would be a worthwhile expense to maintain a range for the future of qualifications. The total price for upgrades was \$72,000 to be divided among five towns for a cost of \$14,575 for Emerson.
- CFO Catherine Henderson gave a report on the bond sale and said they had received five bids and our bond rating had been raised from AA to AA+. The Borough also did well on the interest rate.
- 2014 Road Repaving Projects – Councilman Paino had a list of roads recommended for repaving by DPW Superintendent Joe Solimando. He said an upcoming Pascack Valley Cooperative meeting was scheduled. The roads included Hasbrouck Avenue from Lincoln Boulevard north to Pascack Avenue, Pine Drive from Eagle Drive to the dead end, Lozier Avenue from Hasbrouck Avenue to Grand Boulevard, the entire length of John Street and Kenneth Street from Lincoln Boulevard to the end of Borough property. He recommended that they should look into Allison Way.
- Resolution No. 61-14 Bergen County Community Development – Mayor Colina said they needed to designate a representative for the County for grant applications, etc. He chose Mr. Shenkler as the representative and Councilman Knoller as the alternate since he was on the Finance Committee. Councilman Knoller said he would be more than happy to do that if the Council agreed.

☞ **Motion** to appoint Councilman Knoller as the Alternate Community Development Liaison and the Mayor’s appointment of Mr. Shenkler as the representative was **moved** by Councilwoman DiPaola, **seconded** by Councilman Worthington and carried by roll call vote of 5-0.

**RC: Council members:**

**YES: DiPaola, Griffin, Paino, Knoller, Worthington**

☞ **Motion** to extend Jersey Professional Management’s consulting service through May 31<sup>st</sup> under the same terms and conditions for 15 to 25 hours maximum per week through that time period was **moved** by Councilman Knoller, **seconded** by Councilman Griffin and carried by roll call vote of 3-2.

**RC: Council members:**

**YES: Griffin, Knoller, Worthington**

**NO: DiPaola, Paino**

☞ **Motion** to authorize Mr. Shenkler to advertise for the position of Full Time Clerk/Administrator was **moved** by Councilwoman DiPaola.

Councilman Griffin queried if they had discussed the options and made that decision. He opined that if the Council was to advertise for the position it should know what the job was going to be. Mayor Colina opened the floor for further comments. Councilwoman DiPaola agreed there would be a cost savings but she thought they would all concur that going with a full time administrator and part time clerk was the way to go. Councilman Paino stated that if they don’t advertise for a dual position, then they were advertising for two positions. Mr. Gordon said that part of their difficulty was that they had just received a recommendation that evening that they had not yet digested. He added that the JPM report was still a confidential document and they had not yet made the decision and they had a committee that had not even talked about it yet. He said he understood the need for speed but they were trying to move forward and make the decisions that evening as to what they needed, how they would advertise it and how they were going to procure it.

Councilman Paino **seconded** the motion made by Councilwoman DiPaola.

Mr. Gordon asked if the motion was to advertise for a position of a combined administrator and clerk. Councilwoman DiPaola agreed and said 20% Clerk and 80% Administrator full time. Mr. Shenkler corrected Councilwoman DiPaola stating that was not the position; it would be a full time Clerk/Administrator, and the 20% or 80% was a reference used to determine how the pay might be distributed; not the duties.

Mayor Colina proposed that if the Council members felt it was of such an urgent nature, they should schedule a special meeting and include Council President Rivers as he was on the transition committee and that it was important to have as many votes or a unanimous vote on this item.

Mr. Shenkler said he had been through the vetting process with Jersey Professional Management and described the screening process in detail.

Councilwoman DiPaola agreed there was value in including Council President Rivers. She said if they could set the date for a special meeting, she would be willing to remove the motion. Mayor Colina said that earliest would be the following Tuesday but would want to check with Council President Rivers and asked Ms. Dray to send out an email to check on everyone’s availability.

Councilwoman DiPaola withdrew her motion.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

☞ **Motion** to open the meeting to comments from the public was **moved** by Councilman Knoller, **seconded** by Councilman Worthington and carried at 10:40 p.m.

Seeing no 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 Griffin, **seconded** by Councilman Knoller and carried.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS ON CONSENT AGENDA NO. 59-14

☞ **Motion** to approve Consent Agenda #59-14 was **moved** by Councilman Knoller, **seconded** by Councilman Griffin and carried by roll call vote of 5-0.

**RC: Council members:**

**YES: DiPaola, Griffin, Paino, Knoller, Worthington**

Ca 60-14 Authorize Tax Appeal Settlement with Emerson Real Estate, LLC

Ca 61-14 Approve Community Development Delegate and Alternate for term commencing

On January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014

IX. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to address, at the request of Mayor Colina, a motion to adjourn was **moved** by Councilman Griffin, **seconded** by Councilman Knoller and carried at 10:41 p.m.

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Carol Dray, RMC CMC CMR