



MINUTES  
BOROUGH OF EMERSON  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
June 27, 2017  
7:30 P.M.  
Borough Hall-Council Chambers  
Emerson, NJ 07630



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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, Councilman Downing, Councilman Falotico, Council President Knoller, Councilman Lazar

**Absent:** Councilwoman DiPaola, Councilman Worthington

Also present were Special Counsel Douglas Doyle substituting for Borough Attorney Wendy Rubinstein and Borough Clerk Jane Dietsche. Borough Administrator Robert Hoffmann was absent due to vacation.

III. EXCUSED ABSENCE OF GOVERNING BODY MEMBER

Mayor Lamatina announced that no members of the Governing Body were absent from the last meeting.

IV. PROCLAMATIONS & CITATIONS

- Honoring Coach Stan Woods Half Century of Dedication to the Emerson/Park Ridge Wrestling Program

V. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

- Volunteer Ambulance Corps
  - Appointment of Danielle Strathman as a Probationary Member effective immediately

☞ **Motion** to appoint Danielle Strathman as a Probationary Member of the Emerson Volunteer Ambulance Corps effective immediately was **moved** by Councilman Downing, **seconded** by Council President Knoller and carried unanimously.

VI. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

- Regular and Closed Session Meeting Minutes of June 13, 2017

☞ **Motion** to approve the Regular and Closed Session Regular Meeting Minutes of June 13, 2017 was **moved** by Councilman Downing, **seconded** by Council President Knoller and carried. Councilman Falotico abstained due to his absence from a portion of that meeting.

## VII. CORRESPONDENCE

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

- Letter dated May 17, 2017 from Richard T. Hammer, Acting Commissioner, NJDOT; Re: Grant Award for FY 2017 Municipal Aid Program for Main Street/Linwood Avenue (Section 4) in the amount of \$165,627
- Letter received May 30, 2017 from Thomas Murphy, Director, BC Division of Community Transportation; Re: Annual Public Hearing on Transportation Funding for Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities
- Letter dated May 18, 2017 from Robert Abbatomarco, Executive Director, Open Space Trust Fund; Re: Bergen County Open Space Public Hearing Notice
- Letter dated May 30, 2017 from United States Congressman Josh Gottheimer; Re: Fifth District's Mayors' Day Summit
- Letter received May 30, 2017 from Thomas Murphy, Director BC Division of Community Transportation; Re: Public Hearing on Transportation Funding for Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities
- Letter dated June 2, 2017 from Robert Laux, Executive Director, Bergen County Utilities Authority; Re: 2017 BCUA Environmental Awareness Challenge Grant
- Email received from Allison McLeod on behalf of Kerry Pflugh, NJDEP; Re: 2017 Environmental Excellence Awards, 2017 Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards
- Letter received June 2, 2017 from Congressman Josh Gottheimer; Re: Grant Application Assistance
- Letter dated June 2017 from Jack Terhune, President, 200 Club; Re: Grant Funding Availability
- Letter dated June 7, 2017 from Joseph Femia, P.E.; Bergen County Department of Planning & Engineering; Re: Interpretation Letter – Markings Between Double Lines
- Letter dated June 13, 2017 from Mary Jo Aiello, Director, Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste; Re: Increasing New Jersey's Recycling Rate
- Letter dated June 13, 2017 from Debbie Hirt, Community Relations Manager, NJDOT; Re: Retirement

## VIII. FINANCIAL BUSINESS

- Resolution No. 187-17 Bill List

☞ **Motion** to approve Resolution No. 187-17 Bill List was **moved** by Council President Knoller, **seconded** by Councilman Falotico and carried by a roll call vote of 4-0.

**RC: Council members:**

**YES: Falotico, Lazar, Knoller, Downing**

## IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Lamatina announced that there was no unfinished business.

## X. NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Lamatina announced that there was no new business.

## XI. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Mayor Lamatina announced that there were no ordinances being introduced.

XII. ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

**Second Reading & Public Hearing:**

**1542-17** BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE UNDERTAKING OF GIS MAPPING AND TELEVISION INSPECTION OF THE SANITARY SEWER AND STORMWATER SYSTEMS IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF EMERSON, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$100,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, 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 open the meeting to comments from the public on Bond Ordinance 1542-17 only was **moved** by Council President Knoller, **seconded** by Councilman Downing and carried unanimously at 7:40 p.m.

Seeing no hands, Mayor Lamatina asked for a motion to close the meeting to comments from the public on Bond Ordinance 1542-17 only.

☞ **Motion** to close the meeting to comments from the public on Bond Ordinance 1542-17 only was **moved** by Council President Knoller, **seconded** by Councilman Falotico and carried unanimously.

☞ **Motion** to adopt Bond Ordinance 1542-17 on second reading was **moved** by Council President Knoller, **seconded** by Councilman Falotico and carried by a roll call vote of 4-0.

**RC: Council members:**

**YES: Falotico, Lazar, Knoller, Downing**

XIII. REPORTS

- Mayor and Council

Councilman Falotico said the previous month had been very busy for him on a personal level. His daughter, a graduating senior at Emerson Junior/Senior High School, had received a bunch of accolades due to her outstanding performance in softball. His family had just returned from her college orientation. His sixth grader was promoted to the high school.

Since the end of May he had reached out to several legislative representatives to get assistance with NJ Transit with regard to the trains that block Kinderkamack Road on a daily basis in the morning. He received verbal commitments from Assemblyman Auth, Assemblywoman Schepisi, Senator Sacco, Senator Gordon, Congressman Gottheimer and Senator Cardinale. They each offered to try to assist Emerson in facilitating a meeting with NJ Transit to see if they could stop the trains from blocking the road.

He also noted that he had attended the Memorial Day Ceremony which had a very nice turnout from residents. He attended two Land Use Board meetings and several Personnel Committee meetings with Councilman Downing and Mr. Hoffmann due to several recent resignations from positions in the Borough. He attended the Summer Kickoff and fireworks event which was excellent and had a good turnout.

Councilman Lazar said that Department of Public Works Superintendent Perry Solimando was ill and had been unable to submit a report. He also noted that he had not received a report for the Building Department and would report on both departments at the next meeting.

Council President Knoller congratulated Councilman Falotico on his daughter's graduation and her stellar career as a softball player for Emerson Junior/Senior High School. He thanked the Governing Body for their support in the execution of the Police Chief's contract. He also commended Officer Sean Croal for his efforts in spearheading the Police Department Movie Night, noting that it was another great example of Emerson's finest providing for the community. He said at the next meeting they were going to approve the Police Chief's recommendation for two officers to have their status changed from probationary to regular status. PBA negotiations were still ongoing.

He also thanked the members of the Recreation Commission, led by Dave Rector, for their tireless hours and hard work for the Summer Kickoff Picnic and fireworks. It had become a wonderful tradition for the community and he hoped it could continue for many more years. He thanked Dave Cannici for being a great grill master. He said he appreciated the assistance of Josh and Noah Weiss, and Michael and Gabriel Cannici, whose efforts were great examples of parents teaching their children to volunteer and give back and be selfless. He thanked Bill Bierman and Ereneia Saldares for their help at the grill. Finally, he thanked all the volunteers who contributed to the Home Run Derby and soccer skills. He thanked the Department of Public Works, the Fire Department, Police Department, Police Reserves and Ambulance Corps for their help and support. He thanked all the sponsors for their continued support and donations which helped make the event possible with minimal cost to residents. He thanked the members of the Historic Preservation Committee for their hard work and exhibit at the kickoff. He commended Chairperson Jill McGuire and the entire committee for their energy and enthusiasm and for having such an informative and fun exhibit for residents to enjoy. He thanked the members of the Environmental Commission for their hard work on the Community Garden which looked tremendous as well as DPW Superintendent Perry Solimando and the staff for moving that forward and getting it ready for residents to use.

The Stephanie Morgan Memorial Tournament had taken place the previous weekend and was a lot of fun. There were tragic circumstances that led to the event but the tournament was a great way to remember her and show support for her family.

He asked the Mayor to set up a subcommittee to review ordinances that should be updated, changed or removed. A number of ordinances should be looked at again, including the no-knock ordinance. He, Mayor Lamatina and Councilman Downing said they would be on the subcommittee.

Council President Knoller also asked to withdraw, rescind or amend information technology bid specifications that went out after the last meeting. After review, he said information was included that did not relate to the Borough and it was requiring people to come in and have experience with things that the Borough did not have. He said it did not make sense and they were done incorrectly. He wanted the Technology Committee to review it with the Borough's technology provider, as well as the person who was authorized to help create the bid specs, before re-advertising.

☞ **Motion** to amend the agenda to add rescinding the information technology bid specs was **moved** by Council President Knoller, **seconded** by Councilman Downing and carried by a roll call vote of 4-0.

**RC: Council members:**

**YES: Falotico, Lazar, Knoller, Downing**

☞ **Motion** to rescind the information technology bids specs was **moved** by Councilman Lazar, **seconded** by Council President Knoller and carried by a roll call vote of 4-0.

**RC: Council members:**

**YES: Falotico, Lazar, Knoller, Downing**

Council President Knoller asked that they bring the information technology bids specs back to the Governing Body for discussion at the next meeting under unfinished business. Councilman Lazar thanked Council President Knoller for all the hard work that he did to keep things going correctly and in the right direction.

Mayor Lamatina asked if the Borough could discuss purchasing grills for future events. He requested that Councilman Downing bring this to the Recreation Commission for discussion.

Councilman Downing thanked the Volunteer Ambulance Corps for their help at the Summer Kickoff. He echoed Council President Knoller's comments about how everything fell into place because of the assistance of all the volunteers. He said the fireworks were great and thanked Dave Rector and everyone involved. The Volunteer Fire Department had participated in a drill on Eagle Drive and all had gone well. In addition, the Environmental Committee had only two gardening plots still available at the Community Garden. Mayor Lamatina and Councilman Downing said the garden looked gorgeous. The Environmental Commission was also working on new plantings and new walkways at Centennial Park.

Mayor Lamatina said he had visited the Shine on for Stephanie Softball Tournament. He had also attended the Mayors' Challenge at the Oradell Reservoir. He spoke to fellow mayors about getting access to the reservoir. He would continue the discussion at their July meeting. The goal was to get more access and run kayaks out of the reservoir as well as a sailing school.

- Borough Administrator Robert Hoffmann was absent due to vacation.
- Borough Clerk Jane Dietsche had no report
- Special Counsel Doug Doyle had no report.

#### XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT

☞ **Motion** to open the meeting to comments from the public was **moved** by Councilman Falotico, **seconded** by Council President Knoller and carried.

Seeing no hands, Mayor Lamatina asked to close the meeting to comments from the public.

☞ **Motion** to close the meeting to comments from the public was **moved** by Councilman Lazar, **seconded** by Councilman Falotico and carried.

#### XV. RESOLUTIONS ON CONSENT AGENDA NO. 188-17

☞ **Motion** to approve Consent Agenda No. 188-17 was **moved** by Council President Knoller, **seconded** by Councilman Falotico and carried by a roll call vote of 4-0.

**RC: Council members:**

**YES: Falotico, Lazar, Knoller, Downing**

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|-----------|--|
| CA 189-17 | Renewal of Taxi/Limousine License for one year term July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 – MetroPro Limousine          |
| CA 190-17 | Borough Planner Brigitte Bogart not to exceed \$4,800 for study of Blocks 616 and 617.01                             |
| CA 191-17 | Authorize Borough employees to use a Floating Holiday/Personal Day for July 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Borough Offices Closed |

- CA 192-17      Liquor License Renewals
- 123 Lincoln LLC (Cinar Turkish Restaurant #4) 0214-33-001-009
  - Scalco Inc. (Cork and Keg) 0214-44-002-002
  - Hackensack Golf Club 0214-33-004-002
  - KD Liquors LLC (Shop Rite Liquors of Emerson) 0214-44-007-009
  - Jack Fricke Inc. (Pocket License) 0214-33-005-002
  - Emerson F&B LLC (Emerson Golf Club) 0214-33-006-07
  - Emerson Hotel – Cheng Investments, Inc. 0214-33-003-005

XVI. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION - Resolution No. 193-17

Council President Knoller requested that the PBA Negotiations be pulled and added to the next agenda.

☞ **Motion** to go into an executive session to discuss matters exempt from the public as duly noticed by Resolution No. 193-17 was **moved** by Council President Knoller, **seconded** by Councilman Lazar and carried by a roll call vote of 4-0.

**RC: Council members:**

**YES: Falotico, Lazar, Knoller, Downing**

~~#17-06/27-38 PBA Negotiations – Memorandum of Agreement N.J.S.A. 10:4-4~~  
#17-06/27-39 Litigation – Just Pups Appeal N.J.S.A. 10:4-7

XVII. 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 Council President Knoller, **seconded** by Councilman Falotico and carried at 8:37 p.m.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to address, at the request of Mayor Lamatina, a motion to adjourn was **moved** by Councilman Downing, **seconded** by Councilman Lazar and carried at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jane Dietsche, RMC  
Borough Clerk