



**SPECIAL MEETING
BOROUGH OF EMERSON
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
December 13, 2017
3:30 p.m.
Borough Hall-Council Chambers
Emerson, NJ 07630**



I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lamatina called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. and identified the emergency exits.

II. ROLL CALL

Mayor Lamatina asked Deputy Borough Clerk Coleen Goddel to call the roll of the Governing Body.

Present: Mayor Lamatina, Councilwoman DiPaola, Council President Knoller, Councilman Falotico

Councilman Downing arrived at 3:53 p.m.

Absent: Councilman Lazar, Councilman Worthington

Also present were Borough Administrator Robert Hoffmann and Deputy Borough Clerk Coleen Goddel substituting for Borough Clerk Jane Dietsche.

Borough Attorney Wendy Rubinstein arrived at 3:55 p.m.

Labor Counsel Mark Ruderman arrived at 4:04 p.m.

III. NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Lamatina announced that there was no new business.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

V. OLD BUSINESS

- Televising of Council Meetings – Presentation by Nick Besink (3:30 – 4:00 p.m.) – Mr. Besink and two colleagues presented options for the Borough to televise Council meetings. Among the topics discussed were the costs involved for their services and equipment, compatibility with the Borough’s current technology, training volunteers, the possibility of obtaining grant funding and the value to the public of televising meetings. Councilwoman DiPaola requested that this item be added to the next agenda for further discussion and a decision as to whether to move forward.
- Continuation of Hearing – Former Fire Chief Dan O’Brien – Labor Counsel Mark Ruderman updated the Governing Body on the hearing which had begun in April of 2016 and ended at the point where Mr. O’Brien’s counsel at that time, Gina Calogero, Esq., was to present her case. They had attempted to enter into a settlement negotiation but were unsuccessful. Mr. Ruderman stated that Mr. O’Brien had retained new counsel at 2:00 p.m. that afternoon. Mr. Paul Krauss, Esq. of the Law Offices of Albert Wunsch, explained to Mr. Ruderman that if they could not reach a resolution he would seek an adjournment; Mr. Ruderman agreed. Mr. Ruderman also noted that Mr. O’Brien did not want the hearing or discussion to be held in public.

VI. CLOSED SESSION Resolution No. 283-17

☞ **Motion** to go into an executive session to discuss matters exempt from the public as duly noticed by Resolution No. 283-17 was **moved** by Councilman Falotico, **seconded** by Councilwoman DiPaola and carried by a roll call vote of 4-0:

RC: Council members:

YES: DiPaola, Falotico, Knoller, Downing

#17-12/13-58

Personnel – Fire Department

N.J.S.A. 10:4-8

VII. 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 Councilman Falotico, **seconded** by Councilwoman DiPaola and carried

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to address, at the request of Mayor Lamatina, a motion to adjourn was **moved** by Council President Knoller, **seconded** by Councilwoman DiPaola and carried at 5:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Coleen Goddel, RMC
Deputy Borough Clerk