

**BOROUGH OF DUMONT
BERGEN COUNTY, N.J.
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
SENIOR CENTER
FEBRUARY 20, 2018
6:30 PM**

Mayor Kelly called the meeting to order.

Flag Salute, Moment of Silence

Sunshine Law: The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey have been satisfied by the inclusion of the date, time and place of this public meeting. Notice was sent to *The Record* and *The Ridgewood News*, filed with the Borough of Dumont, and posted on the Borough website and the official bulletin board.

Roll Call:

Council members: Di Paolo, LaBruno, Manna, Riquelme, Stewart-present

Mayor Kelly-present

David Lafferty, Borough Attorney is also present.

Motion to Accept Agenda as presented: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Riquelme

All in favor.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to accept the February 6, 2018 Executive Meeting and Closed Session minutes:

Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

Roll call vote: Council members Di Paolo, LaBruno, Manna, Riquelme, Stewart-yes

Mayor's Report

Mayor Kelly reported that this morning Barbara Correa submitted her resignation from the Council by email to him, Borough Clerk Connelly and the Council members.

The developer at D'Angelo's has received permits to demolish the buildings on the property. They haven't picked up the permits yet.

Administrator's Report

The paving on Thompson Avenue has been delayed to March 1st. The Borough Engineer is going to do borings at Borough Hall to test the soil to prepare it for foundation work. The Police Chief is looking to move the communication equipment in preparation for demolition of the building. Mr. Richards is looking to rent part of the old armory for storage. United Water is trying to get CSX to fix the leak under the tracks. The tracks on both sides are cracked so the railroad was notified and made the repairs.

Council Committee Reports

- Councilman Di Paolo

Recreation

At the last meeting Cesar Papetti was elected Vice-chairman

- Councilman LaBruno

DPW

Thank you to the DPW for doing a great job during the storm this past week.

Building Department

There were 86 building inspections, 46 electrical inspections, 6 fire inspections and 53 plumbing inspections.

- Councilman Manna

The Councilman thanked Barbara Correa for her time and dedication.

Finance

The Committee will be meeting this week to work on the budget.

Personnel Committee

They will be meeting with Mr. Richards regarding his contract

- Councilman Riquelme

Fire Department

In January there were 37 alarms and 665 total manhours. There was one car fire and three carbon monoxide incidents.

- Councilwoman Stewart

Ordinance Committee

They are currently working on three ordinances: no-knock policy, expanding the parking ordinance to include pervious material following a recommendation from our engineer and one addressing abandoned and vacant properties.

Library

The library continues to do a great job in spite of the BCCLS debacle.

Shade Tree Commission

April 28th they will be celebrating Arbor Day. Thank you to Mary Normoyle for accepting the position as manager of our tree nursery.

Review of Consent Agenda Items: All items with an asterisk are considered to be non-controversial by the Council and will be approved by one motion. There may be further discussion prior to the vote upon request of a member of the public or a Council member. Also, any item may be removed for further discussion or for roll call vote in which case the item will be removed and considered in its normal sequence as part of the general order of business.

RESOLUTIONS

#18-66 Bills List *

#18-67 Approval of DHS Music Boosters On-premise Cash Raffle to be held March 22nd, 23rd, and 24th, 2018; ID#109-5-36714, RL#499 *

#18-68 Approval of DHS Music Boosters On-premise Cash Raffle to be held April 21, 2018; ID#109-5-36714, RL#500 *

#18-69 Approval of DHS Music Boosters On-premise Cash Raffle to be held April 25, 2018; ID#109-5-36714, RL#501 *

#18-70 Approval of DHS Music Boosters On-premise Merchandise Raffle to be held April 21, 2018; ID#109-5-36714, RL#502 *

#18-71 Approval of Bergenfield Friends of the Library On-premise Cash Raffle to be held May 5, 2018; ID#32-5-23649; RL#503 *

- #18-72 David Gluckman-Hire as Part-time Fire Inspector-\$10.00 per inspection, \$5.00 per re-inspection *
- #18-73 Joseph Woska-Reappointment as Tenant Representative to the Rent Leveling Board *
- #18-74 Coleman Szely-Reappointment as Alternate Tenant Representative to the Rent Leveling Board *
- #18-75 Thomas Richards-Appointment as the New Jersey Cash Management Fund Signatory for Dumont *
- #18-76 Kyle Wengerter-Accept Resignation from the Dumont Fire Department *
- #18-77 Sean Galligan-Accept Application to the Dumont Fire Auxiliary *
- #18-78 Approval of Boy Scout Troop #1345 to Hold a Car Show July 14, 2018 *
- #18-79 Recognition of India Stevenson, Nicholas McMahon and David Chang as New Members of the Dumont Police Reserve *
- #18-80 P.O. Joseph Villone-Change from Probationary to Permanent Police Officer Status within the Dumont Police Department *
- #18-81 P.O. Lauren Morgan-Change from Probationary to Permanent Police Officer Status within the Dumont Police Department *
- #18-82 2017 LOSAP Contribution-Fire Department and Ambulance Corps-\$39,550 *
- #18-83 Acquisition of Surplus Equipment from the LESO 1033 Federal Program *

Motion to open to the Public-Consent Agenda Items: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

1. Mary Normoyle, Randolph Avenue, asked for an explanation of #83. Councilman Manna explained that the Police Department is participating in this program for surplus items: laptops, sensors and a safe.

2. Lili Binney, Roxbury Road, had questions on the bills list: Open Space Trust Fund-says school taxes, Gregg Paster, Lerch, Vinci, Higgins and Suez Water. Mr. Richards will let her know tomorrow and the Mayor will get a copy of the bill for Gary Vinci.

Motion to close to the public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman LaBruno

All in favor.

Motion to adopt the Consent Agenda: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Riquelme

Roll call vote: Council members Di Paolo, LaBruno, Manna, Riquelme, Stewart-yes

ORDINANCES

First Reading

#1538 Calendar Year 2018 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman LaBruno

All in favor.

Mr. Richards explained that the State allows a 2% budget increase but every year you can pass an ordinance, which allows you to go to 3.5% in case of an emergency. If the

money is not used it goes into reserve for uncollected taxes. Every municipality passes this ordinance at this time of year.

Motion to pass on first reading: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman LaBruno

Roll call vote: Council members Di Paolo, LaBruno, Manna, Riquelme, Stewart-yes

#1539 Ordinance Amending Chapter 21, Section 31.1 of the Borough of Dumont Code Concerning Handicapped Parking

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman LaBruno

All in favor.

It was explained that Lt. Tamburro recommended that a handicapped space be provided on Grant Avenue where Dumont Eye Care is moving.

Motion to pass on first reading: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Riquelme

Roll call vote: Council members Di Paolo, LaBruno, Manna, Riquelme, Stewart-yes

Motion to open to the public for general comments: Councilman LaBruno

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

All in favor.

1. Lynne Vietri, Wilkens Drive, asked why vendors can't be paid quicker through a Recreation account, rather than the Borough. The Mayor explained that the auditor had recommended it be handled this way. Mr. Richards stated that the Borough procedure for payment has changed, which should streamline the process. Ms. Vietri asked where the police trailers will be when borough hall is demolished. The Mayor replied the trailers will stay where they are but the communications will have to be moved.

2. Kevin Murphy, 20 Church Street, Bergenfield, spoke about second hand smoke.

3. Bruce deLyon, 67 Beacon Street, stated he feels, after reading the OPRA'd Council emails, that the Sunshine Act was violated. The Council does not follow procedures in their by-laws, which in his opinion, invalidates the actions taken. The Mayor stated that they feel there was no violation. Dr. deLyon questioned whether the borough attorney is up to handling the job. He contacted the ACLU. He objects to police presence at Council meetings and feels the Mayor tries to intimidate residents into saying nothing. He asked for the Mayor's resignation.

4. Tom Kelly, 70 Beacon Street, questioned the misinformation in the ordinance which states that the JLUB agreed with the area in need of redevelopment study and asked if it would be revised prior to the second reading. The Mayor said that the JLUB will be voting on that at their meeting Tuesday and asked Mr. Kelly to forward the information to him. Mr. Kelly asked if there has been any progress on the Quackenbush property and whether there is a date for demolition of the building yet. The Mayor replied that Quackenbush will be spoken about in closed session and that the developer has not picked up the permits yet. He plans on speaking with them to get a better idea of their schedule. Councilman LaBruno is going to contact them to see what their schedule is in order to keep everyone apprised. Mr. Richards stated that in the next few weeks inmates from Bergen County will be coming to help clean out Borough Hall. Mr. Kelly

asked about D'Angelo's remediation results on the website. The Municipal Clerk explained where on the website to find the information.

5. John Sansone, Beacon Street, asked if there is a new Rec. Commissioner. The Mayor responded that Gerry Aponte is the new chairman.

6. Karen Valido, Overlook Drive, is distressed to hear that Councilwoman Correa resigned. It takes a special person to stand true to their convictions and stand up to adversity. She listened to the residents.

7. Mary Normoyle, 106 Randolph Avenue, asked Councilman Di Paolo if he had followed up on the Board of Ed unredacted emails. He replied that he had forwarded her question and will follow up. In response to her question regarding driveway surfaces, Councilwoman Stewart said it will include pervious surfaces. Ms. Normoyle asked Councilman Manna about the emails pertaining to the by-laws he sent. The Councilman explained that he asked each council person for their input, not for a vote. Ms. Normoyle questioned the fact that the Municipal Clerk had sent 73 emails to other Municipal Clerks asking what their public participation time limits were. The Mayor explained that the clerk belongs to a Clerk's Association and shared their responses with the Council. Mr. Richards added that he had a question about salaries and asked Ms. Connelly to do the same thing. She does a blast to the clerks, so it goes out to all the clerks at one time. Ms. Normoyle questioned the "Mayor and Council" addressee. The Mayor said that it includes the Mayor and the six council members. Ms. Normoyle was disappointed and shocked at Councilman LaBruno's comment suggesting police presence at the meetings. The Councilman responded explained that he strives to have orderly meetings. We are holding meetings in an unsecured location; it is a safety issue for everyone, not just for the Mayor and Council. When we move to the new Borough Hall there will be police presence there because it is a government building. He has been a police officer for seventeen years and will err on the side of caution, always. If the meetings had moved to the Library, there would have been two police officers present.

8. Lili Binney, 32 Roxbury Road, said that the Governing Body did not follow the by-laws in setting up the by-laws. She asked if Chief Venezio and Chief Faulborn received payouts for unused days upon retirement. She mentioned an article about Ramsey, which is not allowing officers accumulate sick days beyond December, 2020 because it is bankrupting the town. She said the State Best Practices checklist recommends municipalities discontinue these payouts. Councilman LaBruno stated that the State is supposedly discussing freezing payouts. Municipalities are afraid of lawsuits.

9. Jared Geist, 53 Overlook Drive, said he has worked in several towns and there hasn't been police presence. He doesn't think it's automatic that if you are in a government building you need security. The Mayor said that in many towns the Department Heads are at the meetings, including the Police Chief. We, however, have Council committees which report on each of the departments. Councilwoman Stewart said that Ridgewood has their meetings videotaped; the police department is downstairs with a direct line to the Council Chambers. Councilman LaBruno said that he feels it's a safety issue; in the atmosphere that we are in, there is no reason we shouldn't feel safe in our own building.

10. Daniel Rowel, 106 Randolph Avenue, disagrees with Councilman LaBruno's email stating confirmation from the Police Chief would be needed that the meeting will be properly manned by police reserves or on-duty personnel; to enforce these new

changes we must have police presence to provide order. He said he lived during Kent State and his family suffered in East Germany during the war. This is intimidation. He's sorry he voted for the Councilman.

Motion to close to the public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman LaBruno

All in favor.

The Municipal Clerk read the resolution to enter closed session to discuss:

Purchase, Lease or Acquisition of Real Property

Motion: Councilman LaBruno

Second: Councilman Manna

Roll call vote: Council members Di Paolo, LaBruno, Manna, Riquelme, Stewart-yes

Following closed session:

Motion to go back into public: Councilman Riquelme

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

All in favor.

Motion to adjourn: Councilman Riquelme

Second: Councilman Di Paolo

All in favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Susan Connelly, RMC

Municipal Clerk