

**BOROUGH OF DUMONT
BERGEN COUNTY, N.J.
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
SENIOR CENTER
APRIL 17, 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, Manna, Riquelme, Rossillo (arrived 7:10PM), Stewart-present

Councilman LaBruno-absent

Mayor James J. Kelly-present

Motion to Accept Agenda as presented: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Riquelme

All in favor.

A Proclamation was presented to the Roller Hockey Senior Champion team by Mayor Kelly

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the March 6, 2018 Executive Meeting minutes: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

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

Motion to approve the March 20, 2018 Public Meeting and Closed Session minutes:

Councilman Riquelme

Second: Councilman Manna

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

Motion to approve the April 4, 2018 Executive Meeting and Closed Session minutes:

Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

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

Mayor's Report

No Report

Administrator's Report

Mr. Richards reported on Extel Communications. They have done a complete analysis of the Borough's phone system. The savings over a five-year period will be

\$174,285.60 for about 80 phones. The phones have a life expectancy of 15-20 years. After five years, the phones will be ours for \$1.00 and the savings will double.

In the future, if committees wish to have input from the engineer, it has to be approved by the Mayor and Council or the Administrator. There were many meetings over the course of two weeks, which cost the Borough a lot of money.

There was a question about contamination at Gina's Field. That was taken care of and is filled with clean fill.

Mr. Richards met with the Director of Bergen County Disabilities Association. Dumont does not have a committee on handicap accessibility. Mr. Richards suggested to the Mayor and Council President that the borough develop a committee. It will help with new construction and if there is a business that is not handicap accessible they will make suggestions to rectify the problem. In most cases, there will be no expense to the property owner.

Mr. Shellman, the code enforcement official, will take courses for certification as a multiple housing inspector, which the borough is required to have.

There will be a Community Development meeting tomorrow at the Senior Center.

Council Committee Reports

- Councilman Di Paolo

Recreation

Little League and Softball opening day was held this past weekend.

The Councilman remarked that it was an incredible experience coaching the hockey team. They represented Dumont very well. He suggested people try coaching; it is very rewarding.

- Councilman Manna

Opening Day turnout was incredible.

Finance

The Committee has been working with the Auditor and Administrator on the capital plan and the budget once more prior to its adoption.

- Councilman Riquelme

No report

- Councilwoman Stewart

Shade Tree Commission

April 28th is our Arbor Day celebration at 1PM at the arboretum. The Commission will be holding their annual plant sale as a fundraiser.

Attorney's Report

No report

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

#18-105 Bills List *

- #18-106 Approval of Knights of Columbus “Shake the Can” April 19th-April 22nd *
- #18-107 Colleen Ranucci-Hire as Full-time Administrative Assistant-\$35,000 annually *
- #18-108 Jason Dalton-Accept Resignation from the Dumont Fire Department *
- #18-109 John Murray-Accept Application to the Dumont Fire Auxiliary *
- #18-110 Katie Sullivan- Accept Application to the Dumont Fire Auxiliary *
- #18-111 Dumont Elks #2593-Approval of Pull Tab Raffle Application *
- #18-112 Approval of “Freeze Act” Resolution Fixing the 2017 Assessment of the Volpe Property (219 Washington Avenue) to the Figure Stipulated to in the 2016 Tax Year *
- #18-113 Authorization for the Municipal Clerk to Advertise for Borough CFO *
- #18-114 Approval of St. Mary’s Church Carnival Application to be held June 6th through June 9, 2018; ID#109-1-471; RL#508 *
- #18-115 Approval of St. Mary’s Church On-premise Cash Raffle Application to be held June 6th through June 9, 2018; ID#109-1-471; RL#509 *
- #18-116 Approval of St. Mary’s Church Off-premise Raffle Application to be held June 6th through June 9, 2018; ID#109-1-471; RL#510 *
- #18-117 Bill Ebenhack-Authorization of Execution of Separation Agreement *
- #18-118 Approval of Two Coin-Operated Machines at Giovanni’s Pizzeria *
- #18-119 Approval of DHS Music Boosters On-premise Merchandise Raffle Application to be held June 15, 2018; ID#109-5-6714; RL#511 *
- #18-120 Approval of DHS Music Boosters On-premise Cash Raffle Application to be held June 15, 2018; ID#109-5-6714; RL#512 *
- #18-121 Approval of Remington & Vernick Proposal for CDBG Columbia Avenue I Road Program-\$24,150 *
- #18-122 Karen Peragallo-Approval of Appointment to the Board of Health *
- #18-123 Authorization of Appraisal on 19 W. Quackenbush Avenue-not to exceed \$2,500 *

Mr. Bailey explained Resolution #112. If someone appeals their taxes, there is a statute called the Freeze Act; if the value is set, for example, for 2016, that value has to remain the same for 2017 and 2018. There are exceptions, however.

Motion to open to the public on Consent Agenda items: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

1. Lili Binney, 32 Roxbury Road, questioned Resolution #113. Councilman Manna explained that although the borough is permitted to use a consortium for two years, we have to advertise after one year. Ms. Binney referred to Resolution #117 and asked if all retiring employees have a separation agreement. The Mayor replied that it applies to employees who have a contract. She asked for a copy of Mr. Ebenhack’s agreement.

2. Maryann Russini, 141 Roosevelt, asked about Resolution #112 again and senior freeze.

3. Michael Sullivan, 125 Andover Avenue, asked about the Freeze Act being affected by the school tax. Mr. Bailey responded that he is referring the senior freeze, which is different than Resolution #112.

Motion to close: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

All in favor.

Motion to adopt the Consent Agenda: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Manna

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

ORDINANCES

Second Reading

#1540 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 306 of the Dumont Borough Code to Add a New Article to Establish Standards for the Registration and Maintenance of Vacant and Abandoned Residential Properties including Properties in Foreclosure

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

All in favor.

There was no discussion from the Council.

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Riquelme

All in favor.

Motion to close: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

All in favor

Motion to adopt on second reading: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Manna

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

#1541 Ordinance Authorizing the Lease of a Portion of Real Property known as 85 West Madison Avenue in the Borough of Dumont, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

All in favor.

Mr. Richards explained that this a lease to store Building and Court records.

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Riquelme

All in favor.

Motion to close: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

All in favor.

Motion to adopt on second reading: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Di Paolo

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

#1543 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 455 of the Dumont Borough Code to include Definitions Relating to Pervious Driveway Surfaces and Pervious Surface

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Di Paolo

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

There was no discussion from the Council

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

All in favor.

Motion to close: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Riquelme

All in favor.

Motion to adopt on second reading: Councilman Di Paolo

Second: Councilman Manna

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

First Reading

#1544 Ordinance Authorizing the Lease of a Portion of Real Property known as 62 Washington Avenue in the Borough of Dumont, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Riquelme

All in favor.

Mr. Richards explained that the borough is leasing a small portion of 62 Washington Avenue for Police storage and their communications. It is less costly than moving it elsewhere. It will be secure.

Motion to pass on first reading: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

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

Motion to open to public for general comment: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

1. deLyon, 67 Beacon Street, wanted to verify facts in the budget publication-budget increase, bonds and debt service and increase in taxation (a 40% increase in debt service).

2. Lynne Vietri, Wilkens Drive, said the November Recreation Commission meeting minutes are not on the website.

3. Adrian Green, 68 Juniper Street, asked if the Building Department is taking photos of the farm property. Is anyone checking on them? The Mayor explained that they have an LSRP who oversees the remediation and is reporting to the State.

4. Cesar Papetti, 340 New Milford Avenue, had been on the Recreation Commission but resigned. A meeting was called Saturday, January 20th because two companies were coming to give a presentation. A quorum was not expected but two new commissioners were present, sworn in by the Mayor and voted on items. He has an issue with what is going on with the programs. The Mayor said he will look into it with the Recreation Director and Councilman Di Paolo.

5. Dennis Boos, 60 Romano Drive, requested consideration to replace Mr. Papetti on the Recreation Commission. He will send a resume to the Mayor. Councilwoman Stewart pointed out that if a commissioner resigns, the appointment of a new commissioner is voted upon by the Council.

6. Lili Binney, 32 Roxbury Rd., reiterated her request of the Mayor to ask the CFO's opinion on the appropriate amount Dumont should spend on an auditor in a year.

According to her calculations, we spent over \$202,000 last year. Councilwoman Stewart

stated she has been working closely with the auditor, who has been educating her on our debt service and our whole financial process. You can't necessarily compare municipalities because everyone isn't in the same financial position. This town has had two instances when our debt rating was lowered and if it wasn't for the work of our auditors we would not have a AA rating now. The auditor's expense will be less this year. Councilman Manna added that the CFO didn't start until the end of July so the auditor was helping the borough in the meantime. Ms. Binney questioned the Municipal Clerk about an OPRA being researched by JIF. Ms. Binney asked the amount the Borough can borrow. Mr. Richards replied it has to do with the worth of the Borough. Ms. Binney remarked that since Barbara Correa left, there have been no questions from the Council on the bills list. Why do we buy things from Benjamin Brothers? Mr. Richards said we do use Home Depot. We are restricted on using credit cards.

7. Karen Valido, 24 Overlook Avenue, asked about the County Open Space fund and asked why it is listed under school taxes on the February bills list. What is it used for? Councilman Manna explained that the Borough submits an application for a grant for parks, etc. Mr. Richards will check why it is under the school tax account. Ms. Valido asked if police presence at meetings requires a resolution.

8. Denise Wrightington, 559 Prospect Avenue, said the Recreation bylaws aren't followed. At this point, the Commission should become a committee. Recreation is for the kids.

9. Gerry Aponte, 88 Hickory Street, is Chairman for the Recreation Commission. Since January more has been done than in past years. They're trying to have transparency for all programs. People seem to be having trouble with change. We are trying to come up with ways to raise money without costing people additional funds. Fields need improvement. Bylaws are frozen due to certain circumstances.

10. Maryann Russini, 141 Roosevelt, is a Recreation commissioner and asked if they are allowed to raise money for projects. There are people who have their own agenda. She is the only female on the Commission.

Motion to close: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

In response to a question about payment to a Robert DelVecchio, Councilwoman Stewart stated that the payment was for a tax lien. DelVecchio was not an employee and did not receive money in a pension.

The Municipal Clerk read the resolution to enter Closed Session:
Purchase, Acquisition or Lease of Real Property with Public Funds

Motion: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Manna

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

Following closed session, motion to go back into public: Councilman Riquelme

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

Mr. Richards requested that the Mayor and Council review the Extel phone information.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Susan Connelly, RMC
Municipal Clerk