

**BOROUGH OF DUMONT  
BERGEN COUNTY, N.J.  
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES  
SENIOR CENTER  
NOVEMBER 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 LaBruno, Manna, Riquelme, Rossillo-present  
Council members Di Paolo and Stewart-absent  
Mayor James Kelly-present

Motion to Accept Agenda as presented: Councilman Manna  
Second: Councilman Riquelme  
All in favor.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve the October 16, 2018 Public Meeting and Closed Session: Councilman Manna  
Second: Councilman LaBruno  
Roll call vote: LaBruno, Manna, Riquelme, Rossillo-yes  
Motion to approve the November 8, 2018 Closed Session minutes: Councilman Manna  
Second: Councilman LaBruno  
Roll call vote: LaBruno, Manna, Riquelme, Rossillo-yes

**Council Committee Reports**

- Councilman LaBruno

*50 Washington Avenue*

The asbestos abatement is in its final stages and should be completed by November 26. Demolition should begin shortly after the building permit and Bergen Soil Conservation permits are issued. We have received the design documents. As of right now, there will be a presentation at the December 4<sup>th</sup> Mayor and Council meeting. On November 12<sup>th</sup> the Mayor, Council President and he met with our construction management team, bond counsel, auditor and CFO to prepare for the Borough to go out to bid on the project.

*COAH and New Development*

The Councilman had a brief discussion with our planner, Mr. Szabo, about our overlay zone in reference to developing a realistic plan and how to address our COAH requirements. We just received our Judgement of Compliance so he will now resume discussion with Mr. Szabo.

## *DPW*

The DPW did a great job during the recent snowstorm.

### *Garden Homes*

They are now working on the drain pipes, sanitary sewer and water main on lot 20. Lot 1, which is 511 Washington, is being graded. The utility company will begin soon and paving will begin in the next couple of weeks. Hickory sanitary bypass and the pipe bursting on Barbara Road have been completed. The footings and foundations have been completed for Building A and the clubhouse. Underground plumbing is complete. Exterior framing is underway in building A and will begin on the clubhouse next week. The footings and foundations are underway on Building C. Boswell, the Joint Land Use Board engineer said they are doing everything according to code and the settlement.

- Councilman Manna

Last week they spoke to vendors down at the League about electric and hybrid vehicles. He spoke to OSI about wiring the new building with phone, internet and electric. He spoke to representatives from PSE&G about decorative lighting poles, which was brought up by the beautification committee. He also spoke to them about a new equipment program. The Councilman also spoke to a vendor who deals with DPW equipment. He also spoke to SDL about keeping track of abandoned properties. He found the budget and auditing, vacant properties, the administrative role of maintaining technology and JIF classes very interesting.

- Councilman Riquelme

### *Fire Department*

There were 19 alarms and 1,035 total man hours in October.

### *Police Department*

In October there were 2,153 telephone calls for service-90 telephone calls for medical reasons and eleven for fires. The patrol division issued 139 traffic summonses and investigated 32 motor vehicle crashes. The Detective Bureau conducted 6 firearms investigations, handled 48 criminal cases and investigated 9 domestic violence incidents. 25 officers received mandated firearms qualification training, 32 officers and 7 dispatchers performed mandated review of Chapter 75 and 32 officers received mandated training and review of use of force and vehicle pursuit policies.

- Councilwoman Rossillo

### *Board of Education*

The meeting was postponed to tonight.

- Administrator's report

Mr. Richards reported that the new phones have been installed and are up and running. We were paying the previous phone people \$4,605 for lease of the phones. The new phones will be leased for about five years at a monthly cost of just over \$1700. The savings per month is \$2904.75. Over a five-year period, it's \$174,256 savings to the Borough.

T&M Engineers have been monitoring the contamination at DPW.

Our grant writers have submitted seven grants totaling \$1,300,000.

At the last Department Head meeting, he received the departments' six-year capital plan.

He will meet with each to go over them and submit the final numbers to the Council.

We received a credit of \$34,485.79 from PERMA.

The biometric time system has been installed.

Mr. Richards and Councilman Manna have been looking at the lights on Washington and Madison Avenue, which are owned by PSE&G and would be involved in our street lighting program.

**Attorney Lafferty'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**

**#18-268** Bills List \*

The Mayor opened to the public on Consent Agenda

1. Bruce deLyon, 67 Beacon Street, questioned bills, which included rent, fees for storage, charges for the new phone system, Boggia and Boggia, our tax appeal attorney, American Fence Company. Why are we paying Espinosa? Mr. Richards replied that it is a tax refund. Dr. deLyon asked about the transfer of \$463,902. Mr. Lafferty replied that it is for the 19 W. Quackenbush property, which we bought. The family will be staying in the house for a while until they find another home.

2. Maryann Russini, 141 Roosevelt, complained that the current bills list is not the same as previous ones. She asked about the petting zoo bill, JLA Party rentals, Ken's Magic Shop and Fun Center, which are for the Winterfest. Is there a line item for Celebrations? Mr. Richards will look at the budget.

3. Mike Gaeckle, 44 Wilkens Drive, asked about the Board of Education checks.

Motion to close to the public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman LaBruno

All in favor.

Motion to adopt the consent agenda: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman LaBruno

Roll call vote: LaBruno, Manna, Riquelme, Rossillo-yes

**ORDINANCE**

*First Reading*

**#1554** An Ordinance to amend, revise and supplement Ordinance no. 1525 and its progenies as to the establishment of certain compensation ranges and related items for certain officers and employees (previously tabled)

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman LaBruno

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

Councilman LaBruno stated he had asked the Municipal Clerk to reach out to a town similar to ours in size and budget. She received New Milford's and we are pretty much

in the same range. He said when he first started, it seemed that employees were getting trained here and then moving to other towns, which paid more.

Motion to pass Ordinance #1554: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman LaBruno

Roll call vote: LaBruno, Manna, Riquelme, Rossillo-yes

Motion to open to the public for general comment: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman LaBruno

All in favor.

1. deLyon, Beacon Street, asked where the block and lot for the Asplint lease came from. Mr. Richards explained that it came from the numbers on the old tax maps. Dr. deLyon asked about a Green Acres grant. There is a rumor that two more lawsuits are coming. He asked if Mr. Paster is representing us in litigation work involving affordable housing. The Mayor said he is continuing to work on leftover work. Dr. deLyon commented that by creating overlay, it cost more for the properties on W. Quackenbush. He spoke of the shed on the Asplint property and was told that he sold it. Mr. Richards explained that the borough was going to knock it down and it was not economically sound to remove it. The truck that is left will be used by the Fire Department as a drill.

2. Mike Gaeckle, Wilkens Drive, asked about the grade at the Washington Avenue Promenade. Will they put a retaining wall up since it's next to his property?

3. Maryann Russini, Roosevelt, asked if there is an update with DEP regarding the Gina's Field parking lot. Mr. Richards stated that there had been an Open Space sign there but he spoke to a representative at Open Space and they have no record of that. He was told that the parking lot was not paid for with borough money. Ms. Russini would like to have communication from DEP as to whether it is Green Acres or not. Mr. Lafferty said DEP is reviewing it and have not gotten back to him yet. Ms. Russini asked how much Asplint will pay the fourth and fifth year. The reply was \$1,000. She asked how we're keeping track of affordable housing. Councilman Manna said he feels we should put a plan together addressing the affordable component to housing. Councilman LaBruno said we are going to take a proactive approach to it. It's up to developers to want to come into town to build. We can't force them to build. We now have the judgment of compliance. We have until 2025. Ms. Russini asked how much is in the Recreation Trust. How many active lawsuits do we have? The response was two.

4. Tom Gorman, Calabash, N.C., asked if we have a grant writer and if they have applied for Green Acres. Mr. Richards stated we have a grant writer but you have to have a project to apply for money. Mr. Gorman asked about Gina's Field. Councilman LaBruno said we should be breaking ground in February or later. Mr. Gorman asked about the salary ordinance, which are ranges. He asked the Construction Official's hours.

5. Mike Gaeckle asked how long Washington Avenue will be closed. There is no notification. The Mayor said he will check with the Police Chief and have him send out a Nixle. There were piles of leaves on Wilkens where the buses were being sent. He feels the leaves should have been cleaned up before traffic was sent that way.

Motion to close: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman LaBruno

All in favor.

Motion to adjourn: Councilman Manna  
Second: Councilman LaBruno  
All in favor.  
Meeting was adjourned at 7:30PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Susan Connelly, RMC  
Municipal Clerk