

**BOROUGH OF DUMONT
BERGEN COUNTY, N.J.
GOVERNING BODY MEETING MINUTES
DUMONT SENIOR CENTER
MARCH 5, 2019
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 regular meeting in the annual schedule and notice of regular meetings of this Governing Body. Such annual schedule and notice of regular meetings are posted at Borough Hall, was sent to *The Record* and the *Ridgewood News*, posted on the Borough website and filed with the Borough of Dumont.

Roll Call:

Council members Chae, Englese, LaBruno, Manna, Rossillo, Stewart-present

Mayor James J. Kelly-present

Motion to accept agenda as presented: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

Mayor and Council Work Session:

- Ordinances-Councilwoman Stewart reported the ordinances that the Ordinance Committee will be looking at: solicitor permits, traffic control fees, signs for prohibition of overnight parking, sump pump discharge of water into the street, drone regulations, timely removal of dumpsters from homes, commuter parking restrictions and restrictions on short-term leases of homes.

- Marijuana Legislation-Mayor Kelly stated that the idea would be to ban the possible sale of recreational marijuana in Dumont. Councilwoman Stewart said that after looking at a map of the town we don't have an area we could zone for sale of marijuana. She is no longer in favor of sale of marijuana in town. Councilman Manna explained that the drug-free zones for schools, churches and no smoking in parks ordinance are very restrictive. There are towns in New Jersey, which are already selling medical marijuana. People who are concerned should contact their legislators. Borough attorney Leibman said that local zoning approval would be required for anyone who wants to open one of these facilities. Therefore, if you would like to prevent it, you should make it clear in the land use ordinance that it is a prohibited use.

- Live Streaming- Councilman LaBruno contacted our Verizon state representative to investigate a temporary option for live streaming our meeting until we are in the new borough hall. The first option is a jet pack but it has a threshold. The second option would be an iPad. We would have to purchase a tripod for the iPad. He was advised by our website provider to start a Dumont YouTube channel. Once it is uploaded to

YouTube it could be put on the Borough website. The Councilman will get numbers for review.

Dara Melchionni from Acacia Financial was present and gave an overview of funding options for the municipal complex. Option 1 would be to bond for the full amount and option 2 would be to bond a portion and issue notes for the remaining amount. There are many variables that would determine what the final financing would be. The Borough has an excellent rating - AA, which is a benefit for financing. Mayor Kelly opened the meeting to the public.

1. Maryann Russini, Roosevelt Avenue, asked what determines the credit rating. Ms. Melchionni explained that you go through a rigorous rating review process with one of the credit agencies. AAA is very difficult to attain.

2. Judy Parker, Susan Drive, Closter, asked if the borrowing rate of 2.5% is good for the twenty-five years. Ms. Melchionni explained that it is for a one-year note. Prepayment is not permitted.

3. deLyon, 67 Beacon Street, confirmed that the aggregate debt is \$2,064,920 and if the town borrows more money they would be more in debt. Councilman Manna pointed out that we have bonds that are maturing.

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

#19-85 Tony Ramos-Change in Position, Salary Increase-\$5,000 *

#19-86 Approval of Remington & Vernick's Proposal for Assisting with the Gina's Field Green Acres Application-not to exceed \$4,800 *

#19-87 Approval of Remington & Vernick's Proposal for Gina's Field Improvements-not to exceed \$19,900 *

#19-90 Nicholas Marino-Authorization to Hire as a Per Diem Crossing Guard-\$16.00 per hour *

Councilwoman Stewart requested #89 be moved to Non-consent. She and Councilman LaBruno will be abstaining since they are members of the Community Group.

Councilman LaBruno requested that #91, #92 and #93 be moved to Non-consent.

Motion to open to the public for Consent Agenda: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

1. Maryann Russini, Roosevelt Avenue, asked about Resolution #85. Mr. Richards will email her the salary range.

2. deLyon, Beacon Street, said it's important for the finance committee to look at salaries and bonding. The town, board of education and county increases will cause a large increase in taxes. You can eliminate services, eliminate personnel or stop bonding.

Motion to close to the public: Councilman Chae

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

Motion to adopt Resolutions #85, #86, #87, and #90: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Englese

Roll call vote: Chae, Englese, LaBruno, Manna, Rossillo, Stewart-yes

Non-consent Agenda

#19-88 Authorization for the Mayor to Execute a Contract to Purchase the Property at 23 W. Quackenbush Avenue

#19-89 Dumont Community Group Inc.-Approval of Off-premise Cash Raffle to be held September 7, 2019; RL#531, ID#109-5-41928. The revenue will go toward Dumont Day.

#19-91 Alexis Ackerman-Hire as Full-time Dispatcher-\$44,559

#19-92 Troy Hilcken-Accept Resignation as Full-time Dispatcher

#19-93 Troy Hilcken-Approval as Per-Diem Dispatcher-\$25.00 per hour

Councilman LaBruno asked Captain McKeary to explain the three resolutions. The Captain said that Mr. Hilcken was at top pay and left to pursue another profession but would like to be accepted as a per diem in the future. We currently have three per diem dispatchers. Captain McKeary said that we are down two dispatchers and one on maternity leave and Ms. Ackerman applied for the position of dispatcher. She had more than three years of experience with another dispatch center. After discussing it with the Borough Administrator and the Chief, permission was given to hire her at the third-year rate. At this point, we will have to advertise for future dispatch positions. They have to be 9-1-1 certified and have EMD and CPR training. Mr. Richards explained that when a police officer is brought in to cover the dispatch position, they get overtime, which can amount to \$1,000 a day. Councilman LaBruno asked Captain McKeary to compare salaries with other towns.

Motion to open to the public on Non-consent items: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman LaBruno

All in favor.

1. deLyon, Beacon Street, recommends that the dispatchers be the highest paid around.

2. Maryann Russini, Roosevelt Avenue, asked why #88 is different than the others. Mr. Leibman replied that there was an ordinance and he requested the resolution in addition.

Motion to close: Council: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

All in favor.

Motion to adopt Resolutions #88, #89, #91, #92 and #93: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Englese

Councilman LaBruno and Councilwoman Stewart abstained on #89.

The remaining resolutions were voted by affirmation.

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

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

1. Bruce deLyon asked previously the tax impact of a bond ordinance in the amount of \$1,858,900. Has that money been bonded yet? Mr. Richards answered questions Dr. deLyon had emailed regarding the senior trip, health waivers, minutes from January 5th, Court Administrators' salaries. He called Green Acres and asked questions about Asplint, which Mr. Leibman directed not to answer. He asked Mr. Leibman's billable hours. The response was \$125 per hour. Dr. deLyon complained that Mr. Paster continued working in 2018 on several cases besides affordable housing-Asplint lease and property work. There are bills showing he was paid. There was no real transition period to the attorney replacing him. There was no tangible email stating the courts directed Mr. Paster to continue with the affordable housing case. Mr. Paster was permitted to finish with the papers he had in his hand the previous year despite what residents were told. Dr. deLyon reiterated his complaint that his remarks from Reorganization were found to be inaudible.

2. Michael Sullivan, 125 Andover Avenue, asked how decisions are made as to what streets should be paved. The Mayor explained that the DPW keeps lists and when we have the money, the worst streets are paved. DeLong will be paved with a DOT grant. The Mayor said he will check on what streets will be paved.

3. Mary Normoyle, 106 Randolph Avenue, asked Councilman Manna if he was on the Council when Gina's Field was designated Green Acres and what years he served on the Council. Councilman Manna was not sure when it was designated. He served from 2004-2009. He was off and came back for a year and then ran for the last three years.

4. Mary Gilmore, 26 Fleetwood, asked if there is more information on the railroad crossings. Mr. Richards reiterated that Columbia and New Milford crossings will be done. She suggested that we collaborate with other towns. Mayor Kelly said that Congressman Gottheimer has been contacted and has done as much as he could.

5. Maryann Russini, Roosevelt Avenue, confirmed that fifteen bids were opened March 1st. The project manager reviews them for completion. Ms. Russini questioned payment for the \$16,000 lawsuit and if there is a deductible. Could the bills list be printed the way it used to be? Do we have the remediation results for the Quackenbush properties? The response was no. She said that the engineer was going to put the projects on a spreadsheet. Councilwoman Stewart said we haven't received it yet.

Motion to close to the public: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

The Municipal Clerk read the resolution to enter Closed Session:

Potential Litigation-Rucereto Property

Motion: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Chae

Roll call vote: Council members Chae, Englese, LaBruno, Manna, Rossillo, Stewart-yes

Following closed session, motion to go back into public: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

Motion to adjourn: Councilman Manna
Second: Councilman LaBruno
All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by

Susan Connelly, RMC
Municipal Clerk