

**BOROUGH OF DUMONT  
BERGEN COUNTY, N.J.  
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES  
SENIOR CENTER  
MARCH 19, 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, Rossillo, Stewart-present

Councilman Manna-absent

Mayor James J. Kelly-present

Motion to Accept Agenda as presented: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

Mayor Kelly presented a proclamation to the 12U Dumont Softball Tournament Champions

Mayor Kelly presented a proclamation to Ambulance Corps Retiree Heather Hayden

**Hearing** - Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Application for Gina's Field Improvements presented by Don Norbut, Borough Engineer. Mr. Norbut explained that the project is a complete renovation of the park. It includes taking the existing infield from the southeast corner and moving it to the southwest corner, improving drainage, new backstop, bleachers, open air dugouts and ADA accessible areas. The preliminary construction cost estimate is \$850,000 and soft costs and preliminary evaluation of site. The Borough is applying for \$942,527. There is money from other sources. There is an Open Space grant in the amount of approximately \$64,000 and money from another bond ordinance, which can be used. Remington and Vernick has done an environmental impact assessment. Any trees removed will be replaced at a 2-1 ratio. The design should be completed by the end of June and then send the information to Green Acres. We have the option to submit the application by March 30<sup>th</sup> and indicate we would like to advance the project.

Councilwoman Stewart questioned the early submission. She was shocked at the amount of money Mr. Norbut is talking about.

Motion to open to the public: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

1. Ed McCarten feels the plan is terrible. His house has been damaged by baseballs.

Spring Drive is landlocked-a fire truck or ambulance cannot get through. They should think about the other side, which is commercial. He doesn't understand why improvements are needed.

2. Maryann Russini, Roosevelt Avenue, asked if the playground equipment will be new. Can it be used in other parks? The answer was no. She asked how far the field is from the street. Mr. Norbut said it's the same distance as it has been.

3. Michael Sullivan, Andover Avenue, said \$850,000 is a lot of money and it will be a matching grant. Volunteers should fix the field. We're in a hole as it is.

4. Gerry Aponte, Hickory Street, said improvements are needed. The fill is very expensive. They would look for fill to be brought in because that's very expensive.

5. Bruce deLyon, Beacon Street, said they would be about \$500,000 short. Mr. Norbut explained that Green Acres will provide a low interest loan for the remainder of the funds. Breakage money can be used to help the taxpayers. We have to look at what we can afford. We need street and sewer improvements. We have the Municipal Building project. He suggested we limit projects, maybe altogether, until we have a handle on our debt.

6. John Sansone asked what items are on the wish list. The response was batting cages, bullpens, rubberized surface for the playgrounds, bathrooms. The current plan includes a new irrigation system and bringing in two feet of fill and putting up a retaining wall to meet the safety standards address drainage. Mr. Sansone asked why it's necessary to change the configuration. Why can't the minor league field be used for softball instead.

7. Linda Lee, Tobin Court, said the area is landlocked. Emergency vehicles can't get to her street and there is not enough parking. She said she doesn't understand spending money we don't have.

8. Carol Sadowski, Dance Blvd., said that the way the field is now is commercial. Parking does not present a problem for emergency vehicles. It would be better to build up the soil, which would be safer for children. Seniors sit there so what would happen to them? Her mother had spoken to the Administrator, who didn't mention the hearing tonight so maybe the public did not have enough notice of the hearing.

9. Dan Monti, Second Street, read a letter from Myrle Sadowski, who resides at Dance Blvd. citing safety concerns and emergency assistance obstacles. Mr. Monti cited his concerns-one way in and out, drainage issues and emergency vehicle access. He agrees that the field is in bad shape. Foul balls, noise, lightning detection monitor would be loud if placed at the field, trash and smoking prohibition is not enforced. Video security is needed and property values would be lower. A study should be done.

10. Tom Kelly, Beacon Street, asked if the parking lot is part of the plan for the park. Would this application be denied because the parking lot is being used without the acceptance of DEP? He is in favor of equality for boys and girls in respect to fields. He suggested that soil samples be taken to be sure there is no contamination.

Motion to close to the public: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman LaBruno

All in favor.

## **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Richards reported that the County was paying \$3.00 less than Dumont was paying per ton of waste. He spoke to people at the facility and we were able to reduce the cost by \$1.50. In six months, we saved \$6,363. We should move to the County in the future. The Finance Committee and CFO have been meeting with Department Heads pertaining to the budget. The DOT engineers told him that the new railroad crossings will be made of cement. The DPW Superintendent met with the people who handle the yard waste, logs, etc. and they were increasing their rates dramatically. RER Supply's rates are much lower. Addressing the pothole issue, the County has a program which uses a truck that lines the pothole with glue, which grabs the asphalt. We'll rent the truck for two days at a cost of \$3,000. Right now, two men can do twenty potholes a day. The pothole killer can do two hundred potholes a day. The Borough received \$64,000 from Open Space. Mr. Richards asked Suez for a total amount of water purchased in town. He has the amount of flow from the BCUA. He will compare the numbers.

## **COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Councilman Chae

No report

- Councilman Englese

No report

- Councilman LaBruno

Borough Hall demo should be finished May 1<sup>st</sup>. We are still in bid review for the new project. Our new Development Committee met with our COAH planner, John Szabo, to go over our future requirements for the overlay zone and revitalizing our downtown. Mr. Szabo believes the Economic Committee would be the first step to work with the Joint Land Use Board. Anyone with business and economic expertise who would like to serve on the committee should send a resume to Ms. Connelly-[sconnelly@dumontboro.org](mailto:sconnelly@dumontboro.org).

- Councilwoman Rossillo

No report

- Councilwoman Stewart

The Stigma-free committee has been resurrected this year. The committee will be a Mayoral appointment committee. We are holding a meeting March 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 at Vantage Health.

### *Recreation*

April 6<sup>th</sup> is opening day. They have several events planned as well as games.

April 13<sup>th</sup> is the annual Easter Egg Hunt at Memorial Park.

### *Shade Tree Commission*

Arbor Day Celebration will take place April 27<sup>th</sup>.

### *Senior Citizens*

There was a misstatement at the last meeting regarding a certain bill. When the bill came in, Ms. Faulborn presented it to them. She had worked with a travel agent whose husband had recently passed away. Because of this, the money to be paid in advance was not calculated properly. Sadly, we will be changing travel agents so that the Borough in the future we would get the proper credits and it wouldn't cost the town additional expenses.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve the February 19, 2019 Public Meeting minutes: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman LaBruno

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

Motion to approve the March 5, 2019 Public Meeting and Closed Session-Councilman Chae

Second: Councilman Englese

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

**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**

**#19-94** Bills List \*

**#19-95** 2018 Budget Appropriation Reserves Transfer \*

**#19-97** Hire DPW Seasonal Employees-\$12.00 per hour \*

**#19-98** Vincent Tamburro Jr.-Resignation from Hose Co. 3 \*

**#19-99** Kevin Reissner-Accept Application to Company 1 \*

**#19-100** RER-Execution of Vegetative Waste Disposal Contract \*

**#19-101** T&M-Memorial Park Drainage Improvements-not to exceed \$3,750 \*

**#19-102** Approval of St. John's Knights of Columbus 1345 On-premise Merchandise Raffle to be held April 26, 2019; ID#109-6-7021, RL#532 \*

**#19-104** Steven Hugelmann-Accept Application to the Fire Auxiliary \*

**#19-105** Thomas Borgaro-Hire as Part-time Plumbing Sub-code Official-\$12,000 annually \*

**#19-106** Approval of 2018 LOSAP Contribution for Ambulance Volunteers and Firefighters-\$37,750 \*

**#19-107** Authorization of Execution of Contract of Sale and Closing Documents for 23 W. Quackenbush Avenue \*

Councilwoman Stewart requested #96 and #103 be placed on Non-consent.

Motion to open to the public on Consent Agenda items: Councilman Chae

Second: Councilwoman Rossillo

All in favor.

1. Dan Monti, Second Street, asked why there is a resolution when the subject is listed for closed session. Mr. Leibman explained that negotiations are concluded and there are some changes to the contract.

2. Lynne Vietri, Wilkens Drive, asked about items on the bills list. There is an item listed for funeral arrangement of flowers-account Fire Department/Celebrations. Mr. Richards will find out tomorrow.

3. deLyon, Beacon Street, asked about petty cash accounts on the bills list. What bond ordinances are included in the wire transfer? What is the interest rate on the Bond Anticipation Note? He questioned Bond Ordinance #1519. He had received information

on Bond Ordinance #1549 in the amount of \$1,858,000-it adds \$16.84 to the average household.

4. Maryann Russini, Roosevelt Avenue, asked the difference between the resolution at the last meeting and this meeting. Mr. Leibman explained that the second resolution authorizes the Mayor to sign the closing documents on behalf of the Borough. The Mayor added that this would not delay construction. Ms. Russini asked how petty cash works. Mr. Richards explained that if an employee has a small amount of money they have laid out, they can bring the receipt and be reimbursed. You can submit an OPRA for information.

5. Tom Kelly, Beacon Street, asked if there was an ordinance for the sale of 23 W. Quackenbush and if there are any concerns with contamination. Mr. Leibman responded there was an ordinance and with the demolition of any building, it has to be done properly, asbestos must be removed and an exterminator to kill any vermin there.

6. Michael Sullivan, Andover Avenue, asked if authorization is needed for petty cash. Do they really need the item? Mr. Richards said that an employee will ask permission from him or the department head.

7. Karen Valido, Overlook Drive, asked if there was an oil tank on 23 W. Quackenbush. Mr. Richards will let her know.

Motion to close: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

Motion to adopt consent agenda minus #96 and #103: Councilman Chae

Second: Councilwoman Rossillo

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

### **Non-consent Agenda**

**#19-96** Green Acres Endorsing Resolution

**#19-103** Approval of DHS Music Boosters On-premise Cash Raffle to be held April 30, 2019; ID#109-5-36714; RL#533

Councilwoman Stewart stated that there is definitely a need to improve Gina's Field. However, she doesn't have adequate answers to the questions posed tonight. Councilman LaBruno asked if the plans can change. The Mayor said that this resolution is just for the endorsement to apply to Green Acres. It does not lock us in to the plan presented tonight. Councilwoman Stewart asked if we could extend the hearing-what impact would it have on the application. Mr. Norbut replied that the application is due March 30<sup>th</sup> so we would probably miss this year's funding. She confirmed that this resolution does not commit us to anything.

Motion to open to the public on the Non-consent items: Councilman LaBruno

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

The Mayor stated that the Committee will meet with Recreation, Fire Department and Police Department to address some concerns.

1. Dan Monti, Second Avenue, asked what happens if more money is needed for the project. The Mayor replied that they are planning on doing the project in phases.

2. Maryann Russini, Roosevelt Avenue, asked if the current application looked into just Gina's Field. The response was that it can't be shifted.

3. Gerry Aponte, Hickory St., said that the field was turned due to safety guidelines. TwinBoro was considered for parking. Cones would be used to facilitate usage for Emergency Services.

Motion to close to the public: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

Motion to adopt Resolution #96: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Chae

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

Motion to adopt Resolution #103: Councilman Chae

Second: Councilwoman Rossillo

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

Councilwoman Stewart-abstain

Motion to open to the public for general comments: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

1. Tony Como, Shadyside Avenue, said that opening day there will be a parade starting at 8:45.

2. deLyon asked the cost of Ordinance #1559. He had requested petty cash information for 2018 and 2019. Is there a policy for workers to purchase food? Mr. Richards explained that sometimes during snow emergencies, food is purchased for the men working. On one or two occasions he will buy coffee and bagels for the people and on one or two occasions he will explain working procedure for new employees. Dr. deLyon asked if there is a policy for purchasing food for prisoners who come in to work. Mr. Richards replied that in order to utilize the prisoners as labor, you must provide lunch. Dr. deLyon said there were receipts for cigarettes and chewing tobacco that Mr. Richards approved. He asked that the Governing Body investigate this for theft of services. He said he saw receipts above \$50. He questioned a receipt for a lunch in Ridgewood with Mr. Richards, Ms. Hickey and Ms. Connelly.

3. Lynne Vietri, Wilkens Drive, had asked at a previous meeting why the Board of Education had two liaisons because it is very important. She feels there should be multiple liaisons for all. She asked if there had been any discussion regarding marijuana. Are we still working on the Building Department lawsuit? The Mayor said it's still ongoing. Ms. Vietri asked about a USA Football bill, which was paid after the season. Mr. Aponte said the purchase orders were not signed until after a number of requests. Ms. Vietri said there are three petty cash items over \$50. Speaking about Green Acres, she asked if someone had come to the Council, would they have listened. Councilman LaBruno said there are six new council people now and he would have listened. Ms. Vietri said there are residents who have been on committees in the past and have knowledge of subjects the Council might not have.

4. Mary Normoyle, Randolph Avenue, asked if the Mayor and Councilman Manna are running this year. She said she has put off doing things for her house so that she can pay her taxes. She complained about the petty cash receipts.

5. Tom Kelly, Beacon Street, questioned the residents not being timed during the

hearing but timed during comment section of the meeting. He feels the lunch with a candidate was unethical. He hopes the Mayor and Council will look at the bills as closely as the residents. He looks for transparency.

6. Karen Valido, Overlook Dr., spoke of Haworth having to build high density housing. She is concerned about traffic. She suggested a non-fee permit for those who live there. Is Garden Homes going to be handling the applications? Councilman LaBruno said there will be a third party handling it. Ms. Valido asked if it would be advertised. The Councilman said that it will be advertised all over. Ms. Valido said the overlay zone will cause a parking problem.

7. Maryann Russini, Roosevelt Avenue, asked about the studies on the three acquired properties. The response was that it will be checked with the engineer. How much did 23 W. Quackenbush cost? The reply was \$462,000. We need to tighten our belts. She wanted everyone to understand that she didn't go to DEP to start trouble.

8. Dan Monti, 107 Second Street, gave Mr. Richards pictures of a large pothole. There is a new person in the Building Department. Rumor has it that it was an appointee and it wasn't advertised. Councilwoman Stewart asked if we are obligated to advertise. The answer was no. There has been a town vehicle parked on the grass for over a month. Residents should not be given violations for the same thing. It is hypocritical.

Motion to close to the public: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Englese

All in favor.

## **ORDINANCES**

### *First Reading*

**#1560** Amendment of Article V-Traffic Control Officers, Chapter 209-Fees

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Englese

Second: Councilwoman Rossillo

All in favor.

There was no discussion from Council.

Motion to pass on first reading: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Englese

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

**#1561** 2019 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A.40A:4-45.14)

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Chae

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

All in favor.

There was no discussion from the Council.

Motion to pass on first reading: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Chae

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

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

Contract Negotiations-23 W. Quackenbush Avenue

Potential Litigation-Green Acres

Motion: Councilman Englese

Second: Councilman Chae

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

Following closed session, motion to return to public: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilwoman Rossillo

All in favor.

Motion to adjourn: Councilwoman Rossillo

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Susan Connelly, RMC

Municipal Clerk

*Agendas Subject to Revision*