

**BOROUGH OF DUMONT  
BERGEN COUNTY, N.J.  
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES  
SENIOR CENTER  
JUNE 11, 2019  
6:30 PM**

Flag Salute-Colors presented by Dumont Cub Scout Pack 131  
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: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Englese

All in favor.

Mayor Kelly presented a Proclamation to Vincent Tamburro for 50 years of service to the Dumont Fire Department.

Cub Scout Pack 131 asked the Mayor and Council questions regarding recycling.

Following a brief recess:

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

No report

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

We've had emergency repair work recently on First Street, McKinley Avenue and Dakota Avenue by Montana Construction through the Riverside Co-op. The County has awarded the contract for ADA curb installation and roads to Reggio Construction. We will be reimbursed for a good portion of the curb cuts by the County. Mr. Richards complimented the DPW for filling over 2,000 potholes since early Spring and 107 tons of asphalt in potholes. This year we are using a portion of our Clean Communities money to hire part-time DPW employees to clean up the commercial areas and parks in town.

**COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Councilman Chae

No report

- Councilman Englese

No report

- Councilman LaBruno

*New Borough Hall*

The permits have been issued to begin construction on the new Borough Hall.

*DPW*

The Councilman has asked that the DPW Superintendent and Administrator reach out to our current waste management company, Roselle. We would like to extend our current contract for a year. We have been talking about bringing our waste management back to town as a cost savings over a five-year period. We would have two years from November to plan that.

- Councilman Manna

*Beautification Committee*

They will be meeting at the Senior Center at 7:00 tomorrow.

*Police*

In April there were 1,793 telephone calls for service-71 calls for service, 71 for medical reasons, 6 telephone calls for fires and 3 for commitments. Patrol issued 92 traffic summonses-13 parking and 79 moving violations. There was 1 DWI arrest, 39 motor vehicle crashes investigated, 20 burglar alarms responded to, 10,151 miles were traveled in patrol activities. The Detective Bureau constructed 11 firearms investigations, handled 26 criminal cases and 12 domestic violence incidents investigated with 2 mandated arrests. The total in training was 222 hours.

- Councilwoman Rossillo

*Ambulance*

In January they had 100 calls, in February 108 calls, in March 92 calls, in April 94 calls and 129 calls in May. As of June 10<sup>th</sup>, they've had a total of 570 calls.

- Councilwoman Stewart

No report

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Mr. Leibman stated that we were contacted by another municipality that is engaging in litigation with Verizon regarding tax collection on telephone poles. He spoke with Mr. Betesh who said that it would amount to about \$3.00 per year-not worth litigating.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve the May 21, 2019 Public Meeting and Closed Session minutes:

Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Chae

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**

**#19-165** Bills List \*

**#19-166** Approval of Towing Companies for the Dumont Police Department \*

**#19-167** Approval of Coin Machine Permits \*  
**#19-168** Approval of Limousines and Taxis Permits \*  
**#19-169** Matthew Kalamaris-Resignation from Police Reserves \*  
**#19-170** Sean Mullins-Accept Application to the Fire Department \*  
**#19-171** Richard Bolan-Hire for FEMA and CRS Assistance-\$3,500 annually \*  
**#19-172** Authorization to Advertise for Part-time Violations Clerk \*  
**#19-173** Cesare Papetti-Appointment to the Beautification Committee \*  
**#19-174** Approval of Block Party on Beverly Road August 24,2019 \*  
**#19-175** Authorization to Rehire Jonathan Byrd as Police Dispatcher-\$63,122.58 \*  
**#19-176** Renewal of Liquor License for Valgest t/a Nazca \*  
**#19-177** Municipal Appointees to Bergen County Community Development Regional Committees \*  
**#19-178** Approval for T&M Preliminary Assessment of the Gas Station and Residential Property at Washington and Grant Avenues-\$10,000 \*  
**#19-179** Jarred Tolotti-Hire as DPW Seasonal Employee-\$12.00 per hour \*  
**#19-180** Kieran Brady-Hire as DPW Seasonal Employee through Clean Communities-\$12.00 per hour \*  
**#19-181** Matthew Ballard- Hire as DPW Seasonal Employee through Clean Communities-\$12.00 per hour \*  
**#19-182** Michael Schmidig- Hire as DPW Seasonal Employee through Clean Communities-\$12.00 per hour \*  
**#19-183** Resolution Authorizing the Cancellation of Unexpended Improvement Authorization Balances \*  
**#19-184** Tyler Dzadik- Hire as DPW Seasonal Employee through Clean Communities-\$12.00 per hour \*  
**#19-185** Paul D'Ambrosio- Hire as DPW Seasonal Employee through Clean Communities-\$12.00 per hour \*  
**#19-186** Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a DOT Grant Contract for the Grant Avenue Improvements Project \*  
**#19-187** McNerney & Associates, Inc.-Approval of Proposal for rental study of 387 New Milford Avenue-\$1,500 \*

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

Second: Councilwoman Rossillo

All in favor.

1. Mary Normoyle, 106 Randolph Avenue, appreciated the Ambulance report. She referred back to last month's bills list, which included a payment to Gregg Paster. She said it took a long time to receive the March 14<sup>th</sup> cover letter and response through OPRA.

2. Michael Sullivan, 125 Andover Avenue, asked why we are paying T&M Engineers \$10,000. Mayor Kelly explained that we are looking to straighten out the intersection at Gordon, Washington and Grant. T&M will be doing a study to see if it's worth doing. Councilman Manna explained that traffic studies have shown that there is no letup in the amount of traffic on that County road. That's why people use Andover and all the secondary streets as cut-throughs. That intersection is as bad as the

Washington, Virginia intersection was. We need to know about remediation of the property. T&M will be conducting a study of the gas station and the residential property.

3. deLyon, 67 Beacon Street, asked the long-term plan to finance this project. Mayor Kelly replied that we don't know the cost yet. That's why the study is being done-it might end up that we don't do the project at all. Dr. deLyon asked for an explanation of #187. The Mayor responded that Gerard's on New Milford Avenue may be used for the landscaper and, in the future, for DPW storage. Dr. deLyon questioned #183. What will happen with this money? Is there a possibility this will go into tax levy reduction? Mayor Kelly responded that it's going back into the capital account. A good part of it will be going into road improvement.

4. Maryann Russini, 141 Roosevelt Avenue, asked about the studies on Gordon Avenue in the past. Mr. Leibman said that we have contacted the attorney for the tenant and they sent some of their environmental studies, which are being shared with our professionals. Ms. Russini would like to know future construction costs to see if we can afford it. Councilwoman Stewart explained that we are trying to involve the residents from the beginning and do our due diligence. She is very frustrated. If the project is too expensive, we won't proceed. Councilman LaBruno said that this is an initial step by spending a small amount to make sure we can move forward with the project. There also has to be a conversation with the County to see how much they're going to assist us. She said that Cesare Papetti is happy to be appointed to the Beautification Committee.

5. Karen Valido, 24 Overlook Drive, said that the residents are frustrated, also. You are putting the cart before the horse. Mr. Leibman said that the engineers will tell you what properties you need to acquire in order to have the optimal intersection. This will probably take eighteen months to two years. They installed a remediation device on the residential property and it's been working. It's tested every three months.

Motion to close to the public: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

Motion to adopt the Consent Agenda: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman LaBruno

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

## **ORDINANCES**

### *Second Reading*

**#1565** An Ordinance Replacing Borough Code Chapter 13 and Adopting/Updating the Fair and Open Process for Awarding Professional Service Contracts

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Chae

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

Councilman Manna remarked that this changes the amount from \$300 to \$100. It also brings it in line with the State statutes.

Motion to open to the public: Councilman LaBruno

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

All in favor.

1. Michael Sullivan, Andover, asked what Chapter 13 is and what the change is. The Mayor said that this mirrors the state regulations.

Motion to close to the public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman LaBruno

All in favor.

Motion to adopt on second reading: Councilwoman Stewart

Second Councilman Manna

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

*First Reading*

**#1566** Amendment to Salary Ordinance #1554

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Chae

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

Councilman Manna explained that this relates to the position in Municipal Court going from full time to part time so this ordinance reflects that change.

Motion to pass on first reading: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman LaBruno

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

**#1567** Bond Ordinance for Various Capital Improvements by the Borough of Dumont, Appropriating the Aggregate Amount of \$2,350,000, Therefore, including \$359,000 from the Borough's General Capital Fund Balance and Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,902,000 Bonds or Notes of the Borough to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Chae

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

All in favor.

Councilman LaBruno said that he consulted our Borough Auditor who explained that these amounts will be issued in a bond anticipation note, and for two or three years we don't pay anything against the principal. It is 2% interest against anything that is actually purchased. Afterwards we will be looking at going with a permanent bond note. At that time there will be other debt falling off.

Motion to pass on first reading: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilwoman Rossillo

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

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

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

All in favor.

1. Liz Marchese, 235 Larch Avenue, asked the percentage of completion by Garden Homes and whether C.O.'s are issued at that time. How long is the PILOT in effect? Councilman LaBruno replied that the clubhouse and the main building before the end of the year. There is contact information on the Borough website. C.O.'s will be issued on each building. Once the C.O.'s are issued we can begin to collect PILOT money. Mayor Kelly said 20, 25 years. If the amount goes down, they still have to pay what we agreed to; if it goes up, they have to pay that amount. Ms. Marchese asked what the loss in tax revenue is. Councilman Manna stated that if there wasn't a PILOT program, there would be several tax appeals filed.

2. Mary Normoyle, 106 Randolph Avenue, questioned Councilman LaBruno's statement that there is nobody on the Council now who had anything to do with Landmark-the Mayor was here then. She thinks we don't collect PILOT money until all the buildings have a C.O.

3. Bruce deLyon, Beacon Street, mentioned the radio communications bid received. Mr. Leibman stated that the bid was defective so we would have to rebid. Dr. deLyon spoke about Bond Ordinance #1567. He asked if the Mayor and Council are going to chastise Councilman LaBruno for misinformation he wrote on several websites. He accused him of lying.

4. Maryann Russini, Roosevelt Avenue, asked about hiring a part-time violations clerk in the Court. Councilwoman Stewart explained that we had a full-time Court Administrator and a full-time Deputy Court Administrator, who resigned to take another job outside of the Court system. It was determined that the work load was too small for a full-time Deputy. Therefore, we are planning on hiring a part-time violations clerk. Ms. Russini asked whether the \$16,000 settlement was reimbursed by the insurance company. Councilman Manna explained that it was money due to time accrued. Ms. Russini asked about traffic studies. Councilman Manna said that Landmark's study didn't seem correct so the Joint Land Use Board engineer and the Borough engineer both did studies. Ms. Russini asked about the lease with the landscaper and Green Acres. Mr. Leibman responded that Green Acres needs some paperwork to formally acknowledge the lease that's in place and he suggested some possible solutions.

5. Karen Valido, Overlook Drive, questioned some items on Councilman LaBruno's Facebook page. She said that it did sound like residents would be getting a reduction in taxes. She asked about the hiring of five police and getting two new police cars. Councilman LaBruno stated that due to the promotions earlier in the year, positions have to be filled and three officers are planning on retiring. Councilwoman Stewart stated that there is a lot of mileage on police cars and some need to be replaced every year. It will be paid for through the bond ordinance.

6. Liz Marchese asked what open litigations we still have? The Mayor responded the Building Department and the Snell case.

7. Gerry Aponte, 88 Hickory, said that they are getting quotes for Gina's Field. He would like to see security at the summer recreation camp. Dumont football helped with Dumont Girls Softball Day.

Motion to close to the public: Councilman Manna  
Second: Councilman Chae  
All in favor.

Councilman LaBruno stated he stands by his comments, which Dr. deLyon had refuted, calling him a liar. Last year the tax impact was \$98 per household. This year it is \$78 per household. Rutherford and Bergenfield had 0 increase. They have economic growth, which we don't have. We have to maintain our services. That is the reason he worked to establish an Economic Development Committee. It was no surprise that the Municipal Complex project was going to be immense and cost the taxpayers. It is a project spanning the past five years. The current Council finally got the job done and we will be breaking ground hopefully in the next month.

The Municipal Clerk read the closed session resolution to discuss:

Personnel-Police

Potential litigation-Rent Leveling

Potential litigation-Green Acres

Motion to enter closed session: Councilman Manna

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 Chae

All in favor.

Motion to adjourn: Councilman Chae

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Susan Connelly, RMC

Municipal Clerk