

**BOROUGH OF DUMONT
BERGEN COUNTY, N.J.
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
SENIOR CENTER
NOVEMBER 12, 2019
6:30 PM**

Council President Manna 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 meeting of the Governing Body having been posted at Borough Hall, 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, LaBruno (via phone), Manna, Rossillo, Stewart-present
Councilman Englese-absent
Mayor James J. Kelly-absent

Motion to Accept Agenda as presented: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

Council President Manna thanked Frank Uvenio from the Dumont VFW Post for coordinating the ceremony yesterday and Principal Jim Wickman for the flag-raising ceremony. Thank you to all veterans.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Councilman Chae

No report

- Councilman LaBruno

Our building meeting was postponed until tomorrow.

The Councilman had asked Boswell Engineering to look into several complaints at the Garden Homes site.

- Councilman Manna

Police Department

Yesterday Chief Conner, Captain McKeary, Lt. Foti and the Police Committee conducted second round interviews for hiring two police officers, as approved in Resolution 19-236. Out of the forty candidates, ten were interviewed. Of the ten, two will be offered a letter of intent.

In September there were 1984 telephone calls for service, 80 for medical reasons, 10 telephone calls for fires and 3 for commitments. Patrol issued 108 traffic summonses and investigated 18 motor vehicle crashes. The detective bureau conducted 5 firearms investigations, handled 42 criminal cases, investigated 10 domestic violence incidents with 1 mandated arrest. There were 4 drug-related arrests.

- Councilwoman Rossillo

Board of Education

The Board of Ed meeting will be held Thursday.

Ambulance

From October to the present they have responded to 110 calls, 89 transported to the hospital, 3 standbys, 1 fire. There was a motor vehicle accident on Madison Avenue with multiple patients.

- Councilwoman Stewart

No report

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Leibman is still working on the Police Department ordinance so its modernized consistent with the changes recommended by the Rogers Group. The Police Chief and one of the lieutenants made some comments. Councilman LaBruno offered some comments, also.

Councilwoman Stewart called upon Karen DeMarco, chair of the Stigma-free Committee to present a certificate to the Dumont Women's Club for their work on Stigma-free. The people on the committee were also invited up.

Work Session

Councilwoman Stewart explained that the Best Practices Inventory is a State document we fill out. The Borough receives State aid based upon the number of yes answers on the inventory. The minimum to receive State aid is 30. We achieved a score of 38.5. There was no discussion from the Council.

Mr. Leibman stated that he was told that there are many old two-family homes in town. It's a significant number and a significant problem because the Police Department, the Fire Department and Ambulance Corps do not know the layout and makeup of the houses. It's a life-safety issue as well as a tax issue. The new building official is attempting to rectify a lot of problems that are coming under his review. It's creating conflicts. There are definitely people operating two-families in one-family zones. The problem seems to be so widespread and has been going on for so long, there's outrage when some people are caught. He suggests passing a moratorium for one year and the multi-families have one calendar year to submit an application to the Joint Land Use Board for approval. If an application is not submitted to the JLUB, there would be a fine of \$2,000 a week until the issue is rectified. This should be widely advertised. Councilman Chae is the liaison to the Building Department and sits on the JLUB and feels that this is something that needs to be done and tax revenue we can possibly capture. We are losing approximately \$300,000 a year on these illegal units. A resolution can be done at the Reorganization meeting. Councilman LaBruno also asked the Building Department to look into ordinances to limit Airbnb in town.

Councilman LaBruno had spoken to AirGov, our website provider, about making the website a little more user-friendly and abide by ADA requirements. Councilman Chae will be donating his photography skills by taking photos of the town and of the Governing Body and Department Heads and putting them on the website so that residents

know who represents their town. A few months ago, the Councilman, Sue Connelly, Jeanine and AirGov met to discuss how to put out a better product.

Council President Manna stated that RFQ Committee will be the personnel committee. However, all members of the Council should review the RFQ's and if there are any questions or if interviews are needed, it should be recommended to the RFQ Committee.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the October 15, 2019 Public Meeting and Closed Session minutes:
Councilman Chae

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

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

#19-271 Bills List *

#19-272 Authorization to Advertise for RFQ's for 2020 Professionals *

#19-273 Approval of DHS Music Boosters On-premise Cash Raffle to be held November 21st, 22nd, 23rd and December 18th, 2019; ID# 109-5-36714, RL#548 *

#19-274 Authorization for the DPW to Lease a Two-way Radio System including Mobile, Portable and Base Stations-\$1,325 per month *

#19-275 Authorization to Appoint Boswell Engineering to Conduct a "Development Feasibility Study"-not to exceed \$5,000 *

#19-276 RVE Engineers-Approval of Proposal for Delong Avenue, Phases 1&2-not to exceed \$76,000 *

#19-277 Authorization for the Tax Collector to Cancel Taxes for 23 W. Quackenbush *

#19-278 Authorization of Settlement of Tax Appeal with Repka Invest Group III, LLC *

#19-279 Approval of Lincoln School PTO Raffle to be held December 7, 2019; RL#549; ID#109-5-30683 *

#19-280 Approval of Lincoln School PTO Raffle to be held December 7, 2019; RL#550; ID#109-5-30683 *

#19-281 Child Health Care to be Provided by Hillsdale-\$250 annually, \$35 per child *

#19-282 Endorsement of the Submission of the Bergen County Community Development Block Grant Application *

#19-283 Approval of Selzer School PTO Pocketbook Bingo to be held January 24, 2020; BL#551, ID#109-5-37089 *

#19-284 Authorization to Advertise for a Part-time or Full-time CFO *

#19-285 Thomas Richards-Accept Resignation as Borough Administrator as of December 31, 2019 *

#19-286 Authorization to Advertise for a Full-time Borough Administrator *

DPW Superintendent Anthony Schiraldi was asked to explain Resolution #274. The DPW has had the same low-band radios in their trucks for up to twenty years. You cannot get parts for these radios any longer. The new system will enable them to communicate with other towns if anyone needs assistance. This will allow him to contact the police directly. Right now, we don't have that ability. The new radios will never become obsolete like the ones we have now. If something breaks, there is no cost to replace it. For every radio we will be getting a \$5.00 credit per radio per month. Right now, we have no repeater, whereas EMS does.

Councilman Chae questioned Resolution #281. The Municipal Clerk explained that it is health care for children who are residents of Dumont. Hillsdale is one of the few towns that offer this.

Motion to open to the public for public comment on the consent agenda: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

1. John Sansone, 119 Beacon Street, asked for an explanation of Resolution #275. Mr. Leibman explained that White Beeches has tax litigation against the Borough and other towns it is located in. One of the things that will get addressed at the trial is the value of the property. Boswell has been engaged by the other towns and Dumont is engaging them also so that there is a more cohesive defense. Mr. Sansone asked what the \$76,000 is in Resolution #276. Council president Manna explained that this was their original proposal. If the bid comes in low, we might be able to do more work on Delong. Mr. Sansone asked about Boswell's bills. Mr. Leibman explained that these are all inspections from Garden Homes so the developer has to pay for those.

2. deLyon, 67 Beacon Street, pointed out a typo in Resolution #272. He asked when the Radio system for the new municipal complex will go out for rebid. He asked about the Delong Avenue project. He also asked about a privileged memorandum from the tax appeal attorney. He asked how many tax appeals we have in a typical year. He asked about Resolution #284 and what the rationale would be as far as part-time or full-time. President Manna said it depends upon the resumes received but he feels a full-time CFO is needed. Dr. deLyon asked for confirmation that Mr. Richards would be leaving as of December 31st.

3. Lynne Vietri, Wilkens Drive, asked about Resolution #275. Mr. Leibman explained that Boswell is being engaged as an expert witness for the trial. Ms. Vietri questioned whether the Foveonics bill was monthly. She was told it is not.

Motion to close to the public: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman LaBruno

All in favor.

Motion to adopt the Consent Agenda: Councilman LaBruno

Second: Councilman Chae

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

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

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

1. Lynne Vietri, Wilkens Drive, asked how the respective parties obtain emails

during campaign time. Councilman LaBruno said that parties can obtain emails from sites that have voter information. Ms. Vietri asked about Gina's Field status. Is there a deadline for Asplint to leave the site they're on now? Mr. Leibman said nothing terrible would happen but he would like to take care of it sooner than later. Ms. Vietri asked whether people who sell their homes have to get a CO. Mr. Leibman replied that you do and that's when people get caught. Ms. Vietri questioned RSC's resolution. Mr. Leibman would like to check the amounts. Ms. Vietri asked about rats by the tracks. She agrees that a full-time CFO is needed.

2. deLyon, 67 Beacon Street, asked that for the next meeting he would like the following information. Is 10% recommended by the State for surplus? How would the surplus be used? He requested an OPRA on Bond Ordinance #1519. Is there a plan if the money runs out?

3. John Sansone, 119 Beacon Street, asked if the building is on schedule. The construction manager should make sure the builder is staying on schedule. Councilman LaBruno said there is a meeting tomorrow but as of a couple of weeks ago everything is moving forward. If the weather continues to cooperate, we'll be ok.

Motion to close to the public: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

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

Potential Litigation-Asplint

Personnel-Police

Litigation-Cavadias

Litigation-Snell

Purchase, Lease or Acquisition of Property

Personnel-Building Department

Motion to enter: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Chae

Roll call vote: Council members Chae, LaBruno, Rossillo, Stewart, President Manna-yes
Open to the public

Labor Counsel Lustig read resolution #287: Whereas the Dumont Borough Council went into closed session to discuss the employment of Plumbing sub-code Official Thomas Borgaro: and pursuant to Borough Code section 69-63, a preliminary notice of disciplinary action shall be issued to Mr. Borgaro seeking to terminate him without pay; As such Mr. Borgaro has five days to notify the Borough Clerk whether he desires a hearing on disciplinary charges. If no hearing request is received within five days, he will be deemed to have waived his rights and the disciplinary sanction shall be imposed. A final notice of disciplinary action will be served without further vote or action by the Council.

Motion: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Chae

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

Motion to close: Councilman Chae

Second: Councilwoman Rossillo

All in favor.

Meeting is adjourned at 8:40PM

Minutes are respectfully submitted by:

Susan Connelly, RMC
Municipal Clerk