

**BOROUGH OF DUMONT
BERGEN COUNTY, N.J.
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 27, 2020
6:30 PM**

Administrator Tully announced that he is hosting this electronic meeting of the Governing Body from Borough Hall, 80 W. Madison Avenue, Dumont. Flag Salute. Council President Stewart asked for a moment of silence for all those suffering from COVID-19 and a special thought for Councilwoman Rossillo, who lost her father this evening.

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 time, location and change in date of this public meeting of the Governing Body by means of communication equipment to the Borough's two official newspapers, N.J.S.A. 10:4-8(b) on the Borough website, Borough Hall and Facebook.

Roll Call:

Council members: Chae, Englese, Gorman, Stewart-present
Council members Manna and Rossillo-absent
Mayor LaBruno-absent

Motion to accept agenda as presented with the exception of the September 15, 2020 minutes, which will not be voted on tonight because of lack of quorum for those minutes:
Councilman Englese
Second: Councilman Chae
All in favor.

Administrator Tully reported on the paving of Washington and New Milford Avenues. The handicap ramps have been upgraded. Over \$47,000 was approved by Bergen County CARES to reimburse the Borough of Dumont. Another application will be going out next week. We included our Library and informed the Board of Education that they also have the ability to apply for funding. There was a question last meeting regarding Resolution #197 as to whether it is prudent to move forward. The Governing Body and Administration believe it is prudent to alleviate infrastructure issues and road paving issues.

Borough Attorney Leibman explained that information has been gathered regarding the dates that CO's were issued for each of the units at the Garden Homes property. The Borough is entitled to collect pro rata for each of those units per diem they were collected. A complex mathematical calculation has to be done and it is being vetted and checked. He spoke to the Garden Homes attorney to let him know and to confirm with them how much they have paid so far this year. Under the PILOT they have been receiving quarterly tax bills from the Borough for the land portion of the property. Under the PILOT, they are entitled to a credit for that amount. An invoice will go out by November 1st. They are expecting all of the units to be completed by the end of the year.

Council President Stewart stated that they have been working closely with the Bergen County Task Force for Food Insecurity. We have requested and are getting substantial storage facilities, including a commercial refrigerator. She thanked Administrator Tully and Donna Faulborn.

Discussion-Best Practices Inventory-CFO Abbasi explained that this questionnaire is a tool developed about ten years ago to assess municipalities and how they conduct business. If the score is high enough, the municipality will receive 100% of the State aid due to them. 16 affirmative answers were required. Dumont scored 23.5. Municipal Clerk Connelly submitted the paperwork to the State today, earlier than the deadline.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the September 1, 2020 Executive Meeting minutes: Councilman Englese

Second: Councilman Chae

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

Motion to approve the October 6, 2020 Executive Meeting minutes: Councilman Englese

Second: Councilman Chae

Roll call vote: Council members Chae, Englese, Gorman, 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

#20-198 Bills List *

#20-199 Certification of the 2019 Audit

#20-200 Upgrade to Cadet Corporal Matthew LaPorte Memorial Park *

#20-201 Approval to submit a Grant application and Execute a grant contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation-Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program 2020 for the Grant Avenue Streetscape Project *

#20-202 Authorizing the Submission of a Recreational Opportunities for Individuals with Disabilities Grant Application to the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs *

#20-203 Accept Resignation from Police Officer Aizad Ahmed as of November 1, 2020 *

#20-204 Temporary, Conditional Re-opening of Retail Establishments-Permitting Requirements *

#20-205 Approval of St. Mary's Off-premise Raffle Application to be drawn 1/31/21; ID#109-01-471, RL#561*

#20-206 Award of Bid for Solid Waste and Recycling Services *

#20-207 Award of Quote for Landscaping Services for Bank-owned Properties-\$75.00 per hour *

CFO Abbasi explained that the 2019 audit was completed timely on 9/30/20 and distributed to the Mayor and Council. Usually the audit is completed by June 30th but due to the COVID pandemic, there was a delay. It was done virtually so the staff in-house were providing documents electronically, rather than the auditors being on-site and

getting answers quicker. There were no major findings and a list of recommendation that the staff will be working on.

Councilwoman Stewart thanked retired Chief Conner for all of the work he's planning on doing on the LaPorte Memorial Park.

Motion to open to the public on the Consent Agenda: Councilman Englese

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

1. Lynne Vietri, Wilkens Drive, asked if the Recreation heads of the different sports will receive a report so they know how much money they have in their account? She asked the due date of the COAH report.

2. John Sansone, Beacon Street, asked what we are applying for in Resolution #201.

3. Bruce deLyon, Beacon Street, commented on the audit synopsis in the paper today, the corrective action and recommendations.

4. Maryann Russini, Roosevelt Avenue, asked the same question as Mr. Sansone.

Motion to close to the public: Councilman Englese

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

Motion to adopt the consent agenda: Councilman Englese

Second: Councilman Chae

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

Ordinance

First Reading

#1581 Chief of Police-Promotional Procedures-Amendment of Chapter 75 of the Borough Code

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Englese

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor?

Discussion from the Council? none

Motion to pass on 1st reading: Councilman Englese

Second: Councilman Chae

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

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

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

1. Karen Valido, Overlook Drive, was thankful that we offer Nixle. Recordings are not posted. She explained the process the Board of Ed uses for their meetings. She was surprised at the comment at the last meeting that Council members feel threatened following a resident's comment. She referred to the last meeting again when speaking of a person who attended graduation despite the COVID rules.

2. Bruce deLyon, Beacon Street, spoke of the audit and that there are eight recommendations, five of which carried over from 2018 and 2019. He doesn't understand why there is a comment about encumbrance every year. There are numerous purchase orders for various projects. Escrow balances must be reviewed and adjusted

appears all the time. There is a Mayor's website, which is public. His wife has been blocked and he cited first amendment rights.

3. John Holt, 34 Stratford Road, commented that people from Garden Homes are parking in front of his house overnight. Package delivery people are also parking there. Wasn't an overflow envisioned?

4. Lynne Vietri, Wilkens Drive, asked why the Police ordinance was being revised. At the last meeting the Mayor said he would meet with Acting Chief McKeary and listed to the recording. What was the outcome? She said that she would hope anyone running for the Board of Ed would be non-partisan. The Board of Ed said that the town came to them to use their schools for indoor sports. How would that be approved by the Risk Manager?

5. John Sansone, Beacon Street, said since Garden Homes provided 1.5 spaces per unit, there would be certainly be overflow. He asked the status of the Municipal Complex. He complained that the residents have not time to rebut during meetings. We should have had our own traffic studies for Gordon, Washington Ave, Grant intersection.

6. Maryann Russini, Roosevelt Avenue, complimented Rebecca Vazquez in the Building Department. What is "sale of Borough property" in closed session about?

7. Michael Sullivan, Andover Avenue, said he doesn't get answers, which are given to residents.

Motion to close to the public: Councilman Englese

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

Mr. Tully answered the question someone asked about Resolution #201. It is a NJDOT grant, which strengthens infrastructure.

CFO Abbasi stated that the current audit ends 12/31/19, which predates him and the Administrator.

The Municipal Clerk read the resolution to enter Closed Session to discuss:

Sale of Borough Property

Litigation-Cavadias

Motion: Councilman Englese

Second Councilman Chae

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

Following closed session:

Motion to adjourn: Councilman Englese

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Susan Connelly, RMC
Municipal Clerk