

**BOROUGH OF DUMONT
BERGEN COUNTY, N.J.
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 14, 2022
6:30 PM**

Council President Rossillo called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

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 time, date and location of this public meeting of the Governing Body by means of communication equipment, N.J.S.A. 10:4-8(b) on the Borough website, Borough Hall, The Record and Ridgewood News and Facebook.

Roll Call:

Council members: Gorman, Harvilla, Rossillo, Russell, Stewart, Wrightington: Present
Mayor: Andrew LaBruno: Absent

Motion to accept the agenda as presented: Councilwoman Stewart
Second: Councilman Russell
All in favor.

Council President Rossillo invited the members of 2022 Dumont Middle School Girls Softball team up to the dais and presented them with the Proclamation for their championship season.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the May 24, 2022 Regular Meeting minutes: Councilman Harvilla
Second: Councilman Russell; Roll call vote: Council members: Gorman, Harvilla, Rossillo, Russell, Stewart, Wrightington – yes

ENGINEER REPORT

Mr. Dunlea of Neglia Engineering stated the 2022 Riverside Cooperative Roadway Paving Program includes paving part of Chestnut Street, all of Highwood Drive and part of Garden Street. The low bid was from American Asphalt Trucking in Newark, NJ and the amount in respect to Dumont is \$250,257.40. The resolution is on tonight's agenda and the contracts will be prepared. The next project is Virginia Avenue and Bedford Road Roadway Improvements, which includes DOT funding for Bedford Road. The bids were opened on June 8th, and the low bid was from D&L Paving Contractors of Nutley, NJ for \$705,698.63. The resolution is on tonight's agenda for approval and to move forward with contract preparation. Part of the contract is to have this project completed prior to the first week of September before the 5K. Dixon Avenue and Depew Street were emergency projects that have been completed to date. There is a resolution tonight for the final amount for Dixon Avenue of \$173,975.00 for approval. The final invoice for the Depew Street emergency project was \$26,936.07. There is high ground water there that is currently being tracked by the DPW and Engineer before sealing and completing the area. Regarding the Riverside Cooperative Roadway Paving Program, the numbers came in favorably for the Borough, if they would like to consider paving additional roads. They discussed adding Dixon Avenue into the initial contract.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Gorman

- *Police*

There were 1,819 calls for service, 101 medical service calls and 26 fire calls. There were 84 traffic summonses issued, 39 motor vehicle accident investigations; 16 burglar alarms responded to; 5 warrants served; 7 street lights and 5 decorative lights non-functioning. The Coffee with a Cop Program was held on May 20th and the event was well attended. Cyber bullying for all 5th Grade classes were held this month. The Dumont PD partnered with Bergen County Prosecutor's Office for the Not My Car Auto Theft Awareness Program.

- *Recreation* - No report.
- *Cultural Affairs*

The Cultural Affairs Committee members helped with the Pride Flag Raising event. They walked from the high school to the Borough Hall with the students, and did chalk art in the parking lot.

Councilman Harvilla

- *Library*

The Library Board of Trustees last meeting was held on May 25th. The Board voted to change Saturday operating hours from the current 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. to 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. beginning Saturday, September 10th. They voted to hire the auditing firm of Lerch, Vinci and Bliss to perform the annual audit for the period ending December 31, 2021. Discussions of contracted proposals for landscaping and hardscaping projects on library grounds. Library circulation continues to show growth, up by 38 percent year to date for 2022, reference questions are up 30 percent and new registrations are up 110 percent. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 22nd. The Councilman reported there is a Next Trek Oceans of Possibilities plastic collection program running through September 15th.

- *Arts, Beautification and Economic Development Committee*

The first meeting was held on May 19th, and the next meeting will be on Thursday, June 16th at 7:30 p.m. They discussed a number of housekeeping items on how things will be handled, points of process. Since the arts section of the ABE Committee is new, the following ideas were discussed: Shakespeare in the Park, Senior Band, Children's Band, reading at the Senior Center, Art Shows, Mural Program, Improv Night, Fall and Winter Festival. They decided to focus on two project: the Mural Program and Improv Night.

Councilwoman Stewart

No report.

Councilman Russell

- *Shade Tree Commission*

The next Shade Tree meeting will be Monday, June 20th at 7:30 p.m. Starting on July 6th is Twilight at the Gazebo. It will be held every Wednesday night at 7:30 p.m. at the Arboretum on West Shore Avenue.

Councilwoman Wrightington

- *Board of Health*

The Board of Health met on June 8th. The Sanitarian went over monthly reports, discussed the health budget for 2021-2022, and discussed the County health contract and the Hillsdale nurse contract. The new officer, Ada Aguilar was sworn in. Tony Como came in and discussed the Covid protocol for summer recreation.

Council President Rossillo

- *Board of Education*

The Council President reported on the 8th Grade committee dances which took place last week. Both Honiss School and Selzer School held their dances, and the 8th Grade Graduations are coming up next week. This Thursday, June 16th is the next Board of Education meeting. She stated the dances were well attended and a beautiful send off for this 8th grade class who have missed out on so much over the past three years. She thanked everyone who participated and made it a special occasion for the students.

ATTORNEYS REPORT

Mr. Leibman stated he is working on an ordinance revision for outdoor dining since the Covid restrictions are going to ease. He is also working on the licensing agreement for 32 OLE LLC.

ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Mr. Tully reported on the Grant Avenue project which is scheduled to start in early July, and the Borough informing the school of the timeline of the project. Originally the project was going to end at Oxford Avenue. The Borough is looking to extend it to Washington Avenue and add rumble strips and safety signs in the school area. At Gina's Field, cement was poured today and it is projected to be done early July. The playground surface will be poured by end of June. They are waiting on a date for the bathrooms. Memorial Park is coming along great and on schedule to be completed by June 24th in time for summer camp. Summer camp had a very successful enrollment with over 680 children signed up. Tony Como is doing a great job working with the counselors and getting everything set up for the summer. The quarterly safety meeting was held today and the audit process also began this week. The Borough is looking at paperless payroll to improve functionality, and the website has been delayed but hoping it is complete by July. The annual application for COPS grant was done. Mr. Tully thanked all of the volunteers, Tony Como, DPW, PD, Cultural Affairs, Rec Commission for their help with all of the recent Borough events such as the Coffee with a Cop, Memorial Day Parade, Pride Flag Raising, AAPI Art Show. He also thanked the Governing Body for all of their support to make this such a successful month for the community and volunteers.

Council President Rossillo added that she had the honor of attending the Dumont High School Sports Awards Dinner Ceremony. There are so many gifted children at the high school moving forward and there was a fantastic turnout with a lot of parental support. It was a nice send off for these students and it's great to see things getting back to normal. Congratulations to all.

The Municipal Clerk read the 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

#22-168 – Bills List *

#22-169 – Approval of Coin Machine Permit Renewals *

#22-170 – Liquor License Application Renewals *

#22-171 – Elks Conflict Liquor License (pulled from Consent)

#22-172 – Approval of Limousine Permits *

- #22-173 – Approval of Revision to Council Committee & Liaison Assignments *
- #22-174 – Accept Gregory Khan Resignation as Custodian *
- #22-175 – Approval of Block Party on Moore Avenue *
- #22-176 – Approval of Block Party on Hamilton Avenue *
- #22-177 – Appeal of Denial for Shade Tree Removal at 45 Romano Drive (TABLED)
- #22-178 – Approval of Borough Planner to Perform Re-Examination of Master Plan *
- #22-179 – Authorization of Agreement with Valley Health System *
- #22-180 – Approval to Hire Brianna Mompellier as Police Dispatcher *
- #22-181 – Approval to Submit Grant Application & Execute Contract with NJDOT for Prospect Avenue Phase I Improvement Project *
- #22-182 – Approval to Hire Full-time Finance Clerk – Katia Minaya *
- #22-183 – Amend 2022 Municipal Budget – Chapter 159 Recycling Tonnage Grant *
- #22-184 – Award of Contract for Bedford Road (NJDOT Funded) & Virginia Avenue Roadway Improvements *
- #22-185 – Approval of Emergency Contract for Sewer Repairs on Dixon Avenue & Depew Street *
- #22-186 – Award of Bid for 2022 Riverside Cooperative Road Resurfacing Program *
- #22-187 – Approval of Change to July Mayor & Council Meeting Date – July 20, 2022 *

Councilman Gorman requested to **Pull Resolution #22-171** – Elks Conflict Liquor License from the Consent Agenda for roll call vote.

Councilman Gorman motion to **Table Resolution #22-177** - Appeal of Denial for Shade Tree Removal at 45 Romano Drive so the Council can review documents and visit the site.

Second: Councilwoman Stewart; Roll call vote: Council members: Gorman, Harvilla, Rossillo, Russell, Stewart, Wrightington – yes

Councilwoman Stewart thanked Councilman Gorman for pulling Resolution #22-177, as she would like the opportunity to look at the property.

Public Comment - Consent Agenda Only

Motion to open to the public for Comments on Consent Agenda Only: Councilman Harvilla

Second: Councilman Gorman

All in favor.

1. Lynn Vietri, Wilkens Drive, asked about the Lerch Vinci Bliss bill and how much financial services cost? She also asked if the Borough is getting rid of outdoor dining and what was discussed at coffee with a Cop. She questioned the reexamination of the master plan.
2. Mary Normoyle, Randolph Avenue, asked about the Payroll & Benefits Clerk and the Riverside Coop change order.
3. Maryanne Russini, Roosevelt Avenue, had questions about the Dixon and Depew emergencies and if insurance would cover this. She asked about the Elks liquor license and the resolution numbers.
4. John Celentano, Romano Road, commented on resolution #22-177 being tabled and asked that the Governing Body look at the tree’s proximity to his driveway. The Borough Attorney explained the process that will take place at the next meeting.

Motion to close to the public: Councilwoman Stewart
Second: Councilwoman Wrightington
All in favor.

Motion to adopt the Consent Agenda: Councilwoman Stewart
Second: Councilman Harvilla; Roll call vote: Council members: Gorman, Harvilla, Rossillo,
Russell, Stewart, Wrightington – yes

Motion to adopt **Resolution #22-171** – Elks Conflict Liquor License: Councilman Harvilla
Second: Councilman Russell
Roll call vote: Council members: Harvilla, Rossillo, Russell, Stewart, Wrightington – yes;
Gorman - abstain

ORDINANCES

1st Reading

#1607 (revised) Ordinance Amending Chapter 75 of the Borough Code – Police Department

Motion to waive Formal Reading: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Russell

All in favor.

No discussion from the Council.

Motion to pass on 1st Reading: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Russell; Roll call vote: Council members: Gorman, Harvilla, Rossillo,
Russell, Stewart, Wrightington – yes

Public Comment - General Comments

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

Second: Councilman Russell

All in favor.

1. Cary Stopsky, East Quackenbush Avenue, commented on the Veterinarian office parking on Quackenbush and the DPW looking into the issues with the brook with the DEP. He stated the water backs up from Bergenfield.
2. Mary Normoyle, Randolph Avenue, asked the reason for the PSE&G project in town and about the total net amount received from PILOT program after paying employees and professionals. She also commented on redevelopment and the survey that was done.
3. Maryanne Russini, Roosevelt Avenue, asked about the installation of the equipment at Gina's Field and the warranty. She also asked if Cummings was paid and what was final amount. She asked if basketball court at Memorial is part of phase one, and what the total cost of the building is.
4. Lynn Vietri, Wilkens Drive, questioned if Covid money would be used for park upgrades. She asked about garbage and trash removal savings in the budget, and about the resolution that consolidated the bonds. She thanked Councilman Harvilla for answering her question about the washing machines. Ms. Vietri mentioned that May was National Hearing Month, and discussed struggles with hearing loss.

Motion to close to the public: Councilman Gorman

Second: Councilman Harvilla

All in favor.

Councilman Harvilla stated he empathizes with those who struggle with speech issues and hearing loss. The washing machines were on the five-year plan for expenditures. His comments regarding redevelopment is based on speaking to constituents. His point is they cannot make everyone happy, and they are trying to find some middle ground. The Councilman stated he would like for everyone to be happy, and is thankful for the constituents who speak up and provide their perspective.

Councilman Gorman asked the Administrator to review the phases of Memorial Park one more time. He also thanked the Police Department and the Chief of Police for doing an excellent job at the Pride Flag event. They did a great job directing traffic and keeping everyone safe as the students walked from the high school to the Borough Hall.

Councilman Harvilla added there was another outstanding Torch Run which included our Law Enforcement Officers, as well as students from the high school and middle school.

The Borough Attorney stated the outdoor dining ordinance is not being eliminated. The Borough is updating a current ordinance called a café ordinance. Outdoor dining became very popular with Covid, and there's no desire to stop that. The Borough wants to make sure it's done in a safe fashion, and they are looking to modernize the ordinance for consideration by the Governing Body. There is nothing new on the PILOT. The agreement has been on the Borough website for years. The Borough keeps 95 percent of the collected money, which is about \$412,000.00. There will come a point where 10 percent of the gross income from the property exceeds the \$434,000.00, and additional money will then flow to the Borough from that.

The Administrator commented on the pipes collapsing being sewer lines, and they are the Borough's responsibility to maintain and pay for the entirety of the project.

The Engineer stated the potential contract for the Riverside Coop is about \$250,000.00. If the Borough entered into that contract, the maximum increase is 20 percent. If the Borough would like to do more roadway paving, the decision should be incorporated into the contract upfront, so it does not have to be rebid. Dixon Avenue was considered, and the cost would be approximately \$30,000.00 under the Riverside Coop. Mr. Dunlea stated that based on feedback by the Borough, the paving will be completed this summer, so a decision should be made by the next Mayor and Council meeting. Council President Rossillo asked if there were estimates for the recommended roads that need paving for the Council decision can be made. Mr. Dunlea stated there are estimates for all of the roadways that were considered, which he can now do a dollar amount estimate based on the bid amount. In this particular contract with the Riverside Coop, it is \$83.43 per ton. It is just a mill and pave project. Regarding the collapsed pipes in the roadway, the Borough has old infrastructure. The Dixon Avenue pipe was a clay pipe, which was about twenty feet deep. The pipe is in the Borough right of way, so it is the Borough's responsibility.

The Police Chief discussed the Coffee with a Cop community policing initiative with both off and on-duty officers. The community gets together with the Police Department outside of the normal course of business to ask any questions or talk about any concerns. Griddle This was nice enough to partner with them.

Administrator Tully responded that he met with the resident at Gina's Field, as well as the Construction Official and the contractor, to address his concerns. It is being inspected daily by the Engineer, and also by the inspectors on site and the manufacturer of the playground equipment to make sure it's installed safely. He asked the resident to send an email regarding the Cummings inquiry. He explained the basketball court at Memorial is a separate project, which is not a part of Bergen County Open Space (BCOS). The phases (1, 2 and 3) regarding Memorial Park is really about the BCOS grants program. Phase 1 is specific to the project going on right now; the playground equipment that will be complete by the end of June. Phase 2 was awarded from BCOS last year. Phase 3 was applied for this year, and will hopefully be awarded at the end of 2022. Then the final plans for Phase 2 and Phase 3 will move forward in 2023. The Payroll Clerk position was part of a couple opportunities in our Finance Department as the Borough looks to reorganize the department, and we hired someone tonight as the Finance Clerk. Mr. Tully stated the Borough has been in touch with the DEP multiple times regarding the residents concerns on Quackenbush, and the Chief heard his concerns regarding the parking. The Mayor and the Borough has been working with PSE&G since 2020 to address concerns and upgrading the electrical grid, including the wiring and poles. The Borough is planning on doing a community wide notice, but they are waiting for PSE&G's approval. The information provided on what has been spent on the municipal building and what is left over is accurate. Anything further, such as the ADA doors, would be taken from the Capital account because it's an improvement to the Borough operations. The garbage savings was based on tonnage estimates.


Councilman Harvilla commented that the Economic Development Committee (EDC) survey results were included in the Borough Planner's report from that time. It was not voted on and approved by the Council. The EDC no longer exists, as it is now combined with Arts, Beautification and Economic Development. He does not know if the survey would provide useful in its iteration moving forward. The Councilman feels the report probably needs to be vetted out with some legal advice.

Councilwoman Stewart added that it was a tear off in the calendar and the response was small. She stated she never saw a report from the Economic Development Committee.

Motion to adjourn: Councilman Gorman
Second: Councilman Russell
All in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:



Jeanine E. Siek, RMC
Municipal Clerk

