

**Borough of Garwood  
Meeting of the Mayor and Council**

**WORKSHOP**

January 26, 2016

Start Time: 7:00 p.m.

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided to the Westfield Leader, and UC Local Source, advertised on January 7, 2016, notification was sent to the Star Ledger and prominently posted on the municipal public bulletin board and filed in the office of the municipal clerk informing the Public of the time and place according to the Provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975).

**ROLL CALL:**

<b>Mayor Lombardo</b>	<b>P</b>		
<b>Councilwoman Cuccaro</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Councilman Sarno</b>	<b>P</b>
<b>Councilman Martin</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Councilwoman Todisco</b>	<b>P</b>
<b>Councilman Mathieu</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Council President Petruzzelli</b>	<b>P</b>

Also, present: Borough Administrator/Clerk Christina M Ariemma, and Borough Attorney Robert F. Renaud.

Borough Engineer Donald Guarriello was excused.

Mayor Lombardo sworn in new Police Officer Pridy.

Steve Greet and four RVSA Representatives updated council.

Councilwoman Todisco thanks RVSA members for attending the meeting. She asked them to explain how the estimate decreased after it increased.

The RVSA representative explained how data was compiled for the estimate. Representatives provided charts and handouts and proceeded to explain the figures contained therein.

Councilwoman Todisco commented on the trend regarding increases and decreases and if it is possible to see a decrease in the future. She also asked if being smaller impacts the borough greater and the reply was yes. There was also discussion regarding development and rolling average.

Mayor Lombardo commented on the rolling average, meter failure and other matters.

Bruce Paterson, 325 Willow Avenue thanked RVSA for attending. He commented on the town being small and how it affects cost. The representative clarified the matter.

Borough Attorney Robert Renaud mentioned fire inspection fee ordinance has been prepared for the next meeting.

Administrator/Clerk Christina M Ariemma – no report

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS - NONE**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Lombardo read the following statement:

It is with regret that I have accepted the resignation of Tom Spera as the Mayor's Representative to the OEM council as our Radiological Officer. I personally would like to thank Tom for his many years of service and wish him well in his future endeavors. I am appointing Lt. Sam Rocco to replace Mr. Spera for the balance of 2016.

As a follow up to my announcement at the last council meeting, a hard copy of the application for Union County Infrastructure and Municipal Aid Grant program has been mailed. The application due date deadline is Friday, February 26th, 2016, with the focus remaining on municipal roadways.

I must commend our DPW, Fire, Police, OEM, and First Aid members for their dedication and endurance during this past week's historic blizzard. Even though we received more than 24 inches of snow, we had minimal impact in the borough. There were no trees down, no power outages, no motor vehicle accidents, no injuries or related medical calls. Last but not least, I commend the great residents of Garwood: there was more than 95% compliance with off street parking for snow removal. The department of public works is still in full action for snow removal and widening of streets because of the huge amount of snow accumulation, in addition to regular garbage pickup. Thank you sincerely to all for your full cooperation.

Comments or matters for discussion from members of Council:

Councilwoman Cuccaro – I would like to know if there is any money in the budget to start a study to implement some speed bumps, starting on Walnut Street in front of the school, from and including 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue from the Westfield line . Also I know Bulk is now being paid for by household, is there any money to at least bring it back once a year with a nominal fee for an application.

Councilman Martin – no report

Councilman Mathieu - no report

Councilman Sarno - thanked EMT, Fire and Police for their services during winter storm Jonas.

Councilwoman Todisco – thanked Police, Fire, DPW and First Aid for their services during winter storm Jonas. She commented on the service provided by the DPW and that she was able to ride along with the department. She shared about that and she learned a lot.

Council President Petruzzelli – mentioned that the High School Project Graduation is underway for the Class of 2017. He explained what Project Graduation is.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Is there anyone in the audience that wishes to address the mayor and council please step to the microphone, sign in, state your full name and address. Please limit your comments to three minutes.

Richard King, 412 Hazel Avenue acknowledged the departments for their services during winter storm Jonas. He commented on how clean Garwood streets are compared to our neighbors regardless of the new Shared Service arrangement.

Paul Nevis, 263 Fourth Avenue mirrored Mr. King's comments regarding the DPW and the services they provided during the storm. He commented on the RVSA presentation. He asked for more information on the 2% Garwood pays.

Bill Nierstedt, 320 Hickory Avenue mirrored the others regarding the services during the storm. He mentioned the ability to use South Avenue parking lot during the storm and how important having this available for residents. He asked council how they would manage if they didn't have this option.

Richard McCormick, 101 Fourth Avenue mirrored the comments regarding the services provided by the DPW during winter storm Jonas.

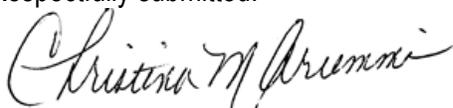
Bruce Paterson, 325 Willow Avenue mentioned donations and it being a personal choice. He commented on RVSA and the I & I as it relates to borough cost.

Mayor Lombardo commented on I & I.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:51 p.m. a motion to adjourn the workshop session was made by Council President Petruzzelli followed by a second from Councilwoman Todisco.

Respectfully submitted:



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**CHRISTINA M. ARIEMMA, Municipal Clerk**  
Borough of Garwood