

# BOROUGH of GARWOOD

## *Workshop Session MINUTES of the* **COUNCIL MEETING** March 11, 2014

Start Time: 7:03

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided to the Westfield Leader, advertised on January 9, 2014, 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.**

**Present:** Mayor Quattrocchi (Not voting), Council President Palmer, Councilman Martin, Councilman Mathieu, Councilman Nierstedt, Councilman Petruzzelli, Councilwoman Todisco.

Also present Borough Attorney Robert Renaud, Borough Engineer Donald Guarriello and Borough Administrator/Clerk Christina M Ariemma.

Borough Engineer Donald Guarriello reported that the DOT project will be out for bid upon approval by DOT. Council President Palmer asked Mr. Guarriello about the AFC schedule. Mr. Guarriello said that he feels they are working and the schedule seems to be in order. Building work is being done, not site work.

Mr. Renaud recommended that council not discuss certain matters concerning the AFC because of potential litigation. Councilman Mathieu wanted Councilwoman Todisco to ask her questions. Mr. Renaud cautioned that he should have the opportunity to hear the questions in closed session before being discussed in public.

Resolution  
14-154.1 at 7:12 pm

### **RESOLUTION NO. 14-154.1**

**CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING ANTICIPATED LITIGATION RELATING TO THE CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE ATHLETIC FIELD COMPLEX PROJECT IN WHICH THE PUBLIC BODY MAY BECOME PARTY, ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY WITH PUBLIC FUNDS, AND MATTERS OF ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE RELATING TO THE ABOVE AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A., 10:4-12, Closed session, Meetings open to public; exclusion of public; subject of matter.**

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary for the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Garwood to conduct an executive session closed to the public in order to discuss the following the above listed matter.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Borough of Garwood hereby move to go into executive session in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et. seq., for the purpose of discussing the subjects stated above; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the matters discussed in and minutes of the closed session shall be disclosed to the public when the reason for confidentiality no longer exists.

**Motion:** Executive Session Resolution, **Action:** Adopt, **Moved by** Councilwoman Todisco, **Seconded by** Council President Palmer.

At 7:50 pm a motion to end executive session was made by Councilman Nierstedt seconded by Councilwoman Todisco.

Borough Attorney Robert Renaud no further report.

Administrator/Clerk – reported the website is live and she is pleased with the results. Mayor Quattrocchi, Council President Palmer and Councilwoman Todisco thanked Ms. Ariemma for getting the site done.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS none

NEW BUSINESS

Councilwoman Todisco mentioned the cap ordinance that was introduced on March 6, 2014. Councilwoman Todisco provided information on the ordinance and separating the appropriation ordinance from the cap bank ordinance. Council President Palmer and Councilman Nierstedt said they support the ordinance as presented. Councilman Mathieu asked Mayor Quattrocchi her opinion and she said at this time she is not prepared to answer without being given the opportunity to fairly review the matter. All agreed to leave the ordinance as presented on March 6, 2014.

Comments or matters for discussion from members of Council:

Council President Palmer asked about resolutions and the contract amount of Flanagans.

Councilman Martin no report.

Councilman Mathieu mentioned the First Aid allotment and the increase that was provided in 2008. Also he mentioned the prosecutor has not received a raise since 2010, and requested a raise for the prosecutor in 2014. Councilman Mathieu asked for support for a pending bill that limits unemployment to seasonal employees. He mentioned the LOSAP increase and suggested that it be on the agenda at the next meeting. Councilwoman Todisco responded that it was very clearly discussed at the March 6, 2014 Budget Workshop meeting. She said that Councilman Mathieu asked her that evening and she responded that it would be on the agenda the evening the budget is adopted. She provided a detail response to Councilman Mathieu's concerns. Councilman Mathieu suggested the resolution be on the next agenda and claimed he didn't recall this conversation. Councilwoman Todisco reminded that it is on YOUTUBE. Councilwoman Todisco said she spoke to Chief Tharaldsen and he expressed that he is on board with waiting until budget is adopted. Council President Palmer said we all agreed on LOSAP, no question; however the budget must pass first. Councilman Martin said the budget must pass first and that is procedure. Councilman Petruzzelli said he recognizes procedure and it must be adhered to. Councilman Mathieu explained his position and recapped the matter and then proceeded to note to the camera when the resolution will be presented which is at budget adoption on April 22, 2014.

Councilman Nierstedt no report.

Councilman Petruzzelli asked if any council members have any questions on the change orders on the agenda. Councilwoman Todisco explained the amounts on the resolution. Mr. Guarriello explained the numbers on the resolution. Councilwoman Todisco mentioned the fence height that was mentioned at the last meeting.

Councilwoman Todisco read the following statement:

I was looking at the February edition of the New Jersey Municipalities magazine and saw an interesting article about how the town of Bloomingdale has a "Street of the Week" program in its Police Department. Basically, this program is where the Police Department puts out a sign each week on a different street in town that they will have increased patrol on. I know from speaking with many residents, especially on particular streets in town, that they feel the police should patrol it more due mostly to speeding. I understand this to be a valid area of concern, but also it is tough for residents to monitor the level of police presence. A program like Bloomingdale's "Street of the Week" seems to me like it would build resident confidence and make them aware of exactly when their street is getting increased patrol and let them know that their Police Department is hearing their concerns. This is something I briefly discussed with Chief Underhill and would like the Police Committee, which I am on, to look at.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Is there anyone in the audience that wishes to address the mayor and council please step to the microphone and state your full name and address. Please limit your comments to three minutes: Rich Bonfanti 340 Second Avenue asked again about the commuter parking on the 300 block of Second Avenue. Council President Palmer said a study was performed and it was determined that it is not commuters but its rather residents. Brief discussion followed. Council President Palmer said we will look at again. Councilwoman Todisco commented that Third Avenue has the same issue.

Al Steiginga, a resident of Second Avenue asked how they determined who the car is owned by. Captain Stoffer answered the police department determines this and perform the study.

Bruce Paterson 325 Willow Avenue mentioned the COLA and CAP Bank ordinance and suggested council split the matter rather than leave it together. He said he wants council to address the matters as individually. He provided other information. He mentioned seasonal workers and unemployment. He suggested if council considers this, they at least give these people a raise. He mentioned the change orders and why video cameras are not on the list. Councilman Petruzzelli provided an answer. He asked about the perimeter fencing and an explanation was provided.

Councilman Mathieu asked for council's support on the unemployment the bill and requested a supporting resolution for the next council meeting. He asked the mayor's position and she responded she is investigating the matter. She suggested that perhaps this is an old bill and would require sometime to investigate. Councilman Mathieu captured that the guards are actually paid for more hours than they work and collect unemployment on those extra hours as well. He said something should be done about this matter.

Ann Leonard 536 Myrtle Avenue mentioned the extra train stops may be contributing to the commuter parking problem.

Paul Tartiontino 520 Beech Avenue asked about the \$100,000 contingency, Council responded.

ADJOURNMENT:

**Motion:** 8:51, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Councilman Petruzzelli, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Todisco.

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