

BOROUGH of GARWOOD

Workshop Session MINUTES of the COUNCIL MEETING **March 24, 2015**

Workshop session was opened by Mayor Lombardo at: 7:01 p.m.

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided to the Cranford Chronicle, advertised on January 16, 2015, 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).

Present: Mayor Lombardo, Councilman Martin, Councilman Mathieu, Councilman Petruzzelli, Councilwoman Tarantino, Councilwoman Todisco and Council President Nierstedt.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 15-165.1

CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD, AND GARWOOD PBA LOCAL NO. 117, 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, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)(6) permits exclusion of the public to discuss "tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public"; and

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 above listed matters.

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.

At 7:05 p.m., a motion was made by Councilwoman Tarantino, seconded by Councilwoman Todisco to enter executive session with respect to contract negotiations for the recycling services contract. At 7:40 p.m., a motion was made by Councilwoman Tarantino, seconded by Council President Nierstedt to resume the workshop session.

Borough Engineer Donald Guarriello mentioned advertising bid for 2014 contract.

Borough Attorney Robert Renaud mentioned ordinance up for adoption and the three ordinances that up for introduction.

Administrator/Clerk Christina M Ariemma mentioned the memo and quote received from Equipment Rental for recycling services for the remainder of 2015. Brief discussion followed. Councilman Mathieu said he doesn't agree with awarding to this vendor because he feels the borough is going backwards. He suggested there is corruption with the administration concerning this vendor. Councilman Martin asked Councilman Mathieu to substantiate his allegations, but Councilman Mathieu did not. The clerk was directed to prepare a resolution to award the quote to Equipment Rental, for 6 months.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – none

NEW BUSINESS –

Mayor's Report:

On Monday March 23, 2015, since many residents have expressed their concerns to me about the parking situation around the school property, I had a meeting with the school superintendent. Dr. Quigley said she would send out a reminder in the Friday packet to all school families to reinforce the Drop off and Pick Up regulations. We also talked about the YMCA Bus parked on Second Ave. that is also causing parking issues. This Friday, March 27, 2015, the Borough Administrator and I will be meeting with Samantha Steinberg, the Regional Director from the Office of the Governor. We will be expressing our concerns and the needs of our Borough at the State level. On Tuesday, March 31, 2015, Council President Bill Nierstedt, Planning Board Chairman Steve Greet, Vice Chair Kathy Villaggio, and I are going to meet with the Union County Strategic Planning and Intergovernmental Relations Department. We will be discussing the Economic Response Team for Union County. I would like to thank Councilwoman Tarantino for joining me at the last Mayor's Saturday. We had three residents visit with us to talk about various concerns they have

concerning Garwood. Their comments were heard and possible solutions are in the works to resolve their concerns. I am extremely pleased that residents are taking advantage of the Mayor's and Council's accessibility, and contacting us when they have comments, questions, or concerns. That's what we're here for.

Comments or matters for discussion from members of Council:

Councilman Martin commented on Mayor's Saturday stating it is beneficial to the residents.

Councilman Mathieu no report.

Councilman Petruzzelli no report.

Councilwoman Tarantino commented on Mayor's Saturday and attending them with Mayor Lombardo.

Councilwoman Todisco mentioned the police officers resolution, and stated it's not supported. It will be reviewed again later.

Council President Nierstedt said yesterday Councilwoman Tarantino and I were privileged to meet and introduce United States Senator Robert Menendez at the Garwood National Pen Company at 520 South Avenue. The Senator was there to introduce new legislation aimed at encouraging American goods, American manufacturers, and American veterans in small and mid-size businesses. While subsequent news articles spoke only of the Senator's financial issues, Councilwoman Tarantino and I welcomed him to Garwood on behalf of its residents and thanked him for highlighting our local 3-generation American owned business. Garwood at least was mentioned in the news article's first paragraph. Also Earth and Arbor Days are celebrated in April, this year on April 22 and 24 respectively. I am working with local groups to have at least one boro event held on one of those days. I will keep you posted.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Cassani, 212 Walnut Street asked about parking on Walnut Street regarding commuters parking on the street for extended periods of time. Councilwoman Tarantino explained that an ordinance is now being prepared for introduction that restricts commuters by issuing a permit to residents.

Bruce Paterson, 325 Willow Avenue spoke of the Open Space Trust Fund and the language that was included in the ballot question put forth in 2000. Mayor Lombardo mentioned he has inquired about the fund and the historic presentation is for buildings, however he is inquiring with other areas in government for records management and does want integrity and honesty in government and is satisfied with the local level. Councilwoman Todisco mentioned the application process states.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: 8:14 p.m. Workshop, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Council President Nierstedt, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Todisco.