

# BOROUGH of GARWOOD

## *Workshop Session MINUTES of the* **COUNCIL MEETING** May 13, 2014

Workshop session was opened by Mayor Quattrocchi at: 7:05 p.m.

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 R. Guarriello and Borough Administrator/Clerk Christina M. Ariemma.

Steve Greet Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority Representative

### **Letter to Garwood from RVSA concerning Deed-Ordinance authorizing the sale of certain real property**

Provided information on the deed correction notice received from RVSA. Mr. Greet asked council if they have any questions. Council President Palmer asked if this is a formality. Mr. Greet responded it is and the other nine members are in agreement. Mr. Greet updated council on other RVSA matters.

Mayor Quattrocchi mentioned during hurricane sandy the plant remained on line. Mr. Greet confirmed. Councilwoman Todisco mentioned the students visiting the site and the rolling average that formulates the cost of sewer in the borough. Mr. Greet provided information and explanation. Councilman Martin mentioned the tax impact RSVA presents to Garwood.

Ms. Ariemma asked if council desires the ordinance being presented at the next council meeting. Ms. Ariemma was directed to present the ordinance for introduction. All agreed.

At 7:16 Ms. Ariemma read the following resolution.

#### **Executive Session: Resolution No. 14-194.1**

**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, 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 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:** at 7:16 p.m., **Action:** Enter Closed Session Adopt Resolution No. 14-194.1, **Moved by** Councilman Petruzzelli, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Todisco.

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 6).

**Yes:** Council President Palmer, Councilman Martin, Councilman Mathieu, Councilman Nierstedt, Councilman Petruzzelli, Councilwoman Todisco.

At 7:41 p.m., a motion was made by Councilman Nierstedt, seconded by Council President Palmer to end the executive session and the workshop session resumed.

Borough Engineer Donald Guarriello had no report. Mayor Quattrocchi asked about the letter to the County regarding curbing on South Avenue. Councilman Mathieu inquired about curbing repairs. Councilwoman Todisco mentioned some areas that need to be addressed specifically pot holes. Councilman Nierstedt asked if AM Water has made the repairs from the work done last year. Mr. Guarriello responded and said he would contact them and find out the status of the repairs. Councilwoman Todisco asked about the schedule for the work being posted on the website. Ms. Ariemma said she would post a notice on the site. Discussion followed regarding who should notify the water company. Mr. Guarriello said the Mayor should.

Borough Attorney Robert Renaud mentioned he prepared the ordinance for sandwich board sign and the planning board suggested changes. He discussed the suggestion from the board and asked for clarification on the request from the board specifically the definition of sandwich

board signs. Mr. Renaud said he prepared an ordinance for dumpsters that is being reviewed by Laws and License.

Administrator/Clerk – Student's In Government, Tuesday May 20, 2014. Due to family obligations I am unable to attend however will have the agenda, etc., prepared.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS NONE

NEW BUSINESS NONE

Comments or matters for discussion from members of Council:

Council President Palmer stated that she wants to continue to discuss the parking matters in the borough. She provided examples relating to parking issues in the borough, including projects approved by the board that aren't providing sufficient parking. Councilman Nierstedt suggested a committee of council, board, engineers and citizens be formed to review the issues. There was discussion regarding the commuter parking issues on Second Avenue which the police performed a traffic study. Chief Underhill commented that parking in the borough is an issue. Brief discussion followed.

Councilman Martin no report.

Councilman Mathieu no report.

Councilman Nierstedt reported on redevelopment and asking the board to study the areas on South Avenue. He suggested council prepare a resolution for the study. Councilman Mathieu requested clarification. It was mentioned that funding was put in the 2014 budget for this purpose. There was discussion regarding the redevelopment process, including eminent domain. Councilman Mathieu commented on his memory of former conversations on this matter. He commented that council was advised that council would need to hire a bankruptcy attorney to consider eminent domain on these properties. All agreed to direct Mr. Renaud to prepare a resolution that includes both scenarios that directs the planning board to conduct a study of certain parcels on South Avenue for council consideration for the May 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. Councilman Nierstedt commented on other matters including the one-seat ride from NJ Transit. He asked about the OEM status and the fact that a plan has not been adopted. Chief Underhill said the OEM Director has what he needs and it is being presented to the County. The status was undetermined and Mayor Quattrocchi said she will contact the director.

Councilman Petruzzelli reported Recreation is advertising for a summer rec director. He said B & G met to discuss spraying the brook. He said he would be reporting next council meeting on the borough generators.

Councilwoman Todisco no report.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The following persons addressed the mayor and council.

Anne Leonard 536 Myrtle Avenue addressed sign problems on homeowner's lawns. She commented on parking and the parking behind Hess Gas Station.

Tom Peddas 401 Chestnut Court commented on taxes and the increases. He commented on the expenses regarding the Athletic Field Complex security system approved at the last meeting.

Bruce Paterson 325 Willow Avenue mentioned the change order regarding the close circuit TV. There was discussion regarding change orders and funding them.

Jim of 653 Myrtle Avenue commented on the Westfield development on behind Myrtle Avenue. Councilman Nierstedt replied that this was discussed a year ago by council and he attended the meetings in Westfield regarding this development. He said on behalf of Garwood he fought the proposal to the best of his ability and in line with law. He further explained.

ADJOURNMENT:

**Motion:** At 8:53, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Councilman Nierstedt, **Seconded by** Council President Palmer.

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