

# BOROUGH of GARWOOD

## *Workshop Session MINUTES of the COUNCIL MEETING May 27, 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:**

**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.

At 7:06 Ms. Ariemma read the following resolution.

### **Executive Session: Resolution No. 14-203.1**

**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: 7:06 p.m., Action: Enter Closed Session, Moved by Council President Palmer, 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 7:34 p.m., a motion was made by Councilman Nierstedt, seconded by Councilman Mathieu to end the executive session and the workshop session resumed.

Borough Engineer Donald Guarriello reported that the Resolution has been approved by DOT for 2013 various work. The contract has been sent for signature. Mr. Guarriello went over the memo sent by the Administrator concerning 2014 DOT award. Ms. Ariemma inquired if council desires to discuss the matter at the next meeting. All agreed.

Borough Attorney Robert Renaud reported on the four ordinances being introduced this evening.

Administrator/Clerk – No report.

Council President Palmer explained the Redevelopment matter that Planner Victor Vinegra was invited to speak on this evening.

Borough Planner Victor Vinegra explained the Redevelopment matter and the need to pass supporting resolution that includes eminent domain.

Councilman Mathieu commented on eminent domain for property that will be used for municipal purposes vs. for the purpose of development. Discussion followed and Councilman Mathieu expressed that land should not be taken for the purpose of development. Mr. Vinegra explained in detail how the eminent domain factor may be utilized in the event the land owner does not move to sell the land for development.

Mr. Vinegra explained further and Councilman Mathieu presented his concerns with the prospect of eminent domain. Councilman Mathieu commented that the borough itself has a delayed project, the AFC and should that qualify for being taken. Councilman Martin commented for the benefit of the audience that the AFC project is NOT delayed. Mr. Vinegra continued to explain the merit for eminent domain after Council President Palmer inquired if eminent domain can present a problem for the developer. Mr. Vinegra spoke more of

development and the NJ Transit study. Councilwoman Todisco asked questions, that Mr. Vinegra answered. Councilman Nierstedt explained the need for eminent domain specifically that the land does have municipal need which is public parking. Councilman Mathieu reminded council that two resolutions were to be prepared one with eminent domain and the other without. All agreed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS NONE

NEW BUSINESS NONE

Comments or matters for discussion from members of Council:

Council President Palmer reported on the NJ AM Water concerning work on certain streets. She asked Ms. Ariemma if any residents have inquired with her concerning this work. Ms. Ariemma said her office did not receive any inquiry. Council President Palmer explained the CDBG resolutions on tonight's agenda. She mentioned she is waiting for information from Captain Stoffer and Councilman Nierstedt on pending Laws and License ordinances. She inquired about a parking review committee and Mayor Quattrocchi responded.

Councilman Martin mentioned the County of Union taxes and possibly passing a resolution by council suggesting voting wards for the County. He made a motion to consider a council resolution suggesting voting wards for the County of Union vs. at the current at large voting. Councilwoman Todisco seconded the motion. Councilman Petruzzelli suggested more information be provided. Brief discussion followed. Councilman Nierstedt explained briefly how certain municipalities out vote other municipalities. Councilman Mathieu suggested a general resolution that other municipalities can consider for voting wards by County be prepared. Mayor Quattrocchi volunteered to find additional information.

Councilman Martin commented on leaf bagging and suggested council revisit the matter to consider rescinding the requirement to bag leaves. He made a motion for revisiting the matter. Councilwoman Todisco seconded the motion and commented on her opinion on the matter. Council President Palmer suggested council seek the Superintendent's opinion. All agreed.

Councilman Mathieu no report.

Councilman Nierstedt no report.

Councilman Petruzzelli reported on the roof condition in the Court office. He said the roof has been patched recently which is not sufficient. The roof company will be evaluating the roof for recommendation. Council commented on the matter briefly.

Councilwoman Todisco inquired how often streets are cleaned. Councilman Nierstedt said they are cleaned more than monthly.

Mayor Quattrocchi mentioned parking and forming a committee to review the matter. She referred the leaf bagging matter to the Streets and Roads Committee. She commented on the County voting wards matter and provided brief information. She mentioned the Court leaking roof matter.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The following persons addressed the mayor and council.

Richard King 412 Hazel Avenue commented on eminent domain. He asked about the bankruptcy of the Casale property. Mr. Renaud commented that he may have seen an order approving a contract from the court. Mr. King thanked Councilwoman Todisco and the Finance Committee for the low tax increase. He thanked council for the AFC project.

Bruce Paterson 325 Willow Avenue mentioned the monument at the school is unbolted. He thanked Councilman Martin for the County ward matter and commented further.

ADJOURNMENT:

**Motion:** 8:33 p.m. Workshop, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Councilwoman Todisco, **Seconded by** Council President Palmer.

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