

BOROUGH of GARWOOD

Workshop Session MINUTES of the COUNCIL MEETING **June 10, 2014**

Workshop session was opened by Mayor Quattrocchi at: 7:02 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.

Mayor Quattrocchi presented an acknowledgement to the Garwood Lion's Club for their 85th Anniversary. Member Eddie Giuliano, Jr., accepted the acknowledgement on behalf of the Lion's Club. Mayor Quattrocchi also presented acknowledgments to Advanced Printing, Michael O'Donnell on behalf of the Knights of Columbus, Brandon Clark, Jessica Knowles and Ann Palmer for their participation in the 2014 Memorial Day Event held on May 26, 2014.

Borough Engineer Donald Guarriello went over the memo sent by the Administrator concerning 2014 DOT award. Brief discussion followed. Council directed the Borough Administrator/Clerk to prepare a Bond Ordinance for \$300,000. All agreed.

Mayor Quattrocchi mentioned the curbing on South Avenue and that the County will not address the matter. Brief discussion followed. Mr. Guarriello was directed to inspect the area to report further to council. Councilwoman Todisco commented on the matter and thanked the Mayor for writing to the County. She commented on the flooding cause by the curbing. Mr. Guarriello mentioned that applications before the board should include curb repair. Councilman Petruzzelli mentioned an area at 400 Myrtle Avenue that the water company has not completed. Mr. Guarriello said he will follow up with the water company.

Borough Attorney Robert Renaud commented on the four ordinances being adopted this evening. He said he has prepared the Redevelopment resolutions as directed.

Administrator/Clerk – No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS NONE

NEW BUSINESS NONE

Comments or matters for discussion from members of Council:

Council President Palmer commended Carol Kearney on the exceptional street fair Garwood Rocks, an outstanding event. Below is her statement.

"I'd like to start off by giving kudos to Carol Kearney, the Greater area of Westfield Chamber of Commerce and the entire team who pulled off Garwood Rocks on Sunday. Not only did Mother Nature provide us with a beautiful day, but the event was one of a kind for Garwood. Everyone involved deserves a personal thank you. I would like to mention just a few... The Garwood Police Department that was fully present. Everywhere you turned there was always an officer walking around, riding a golf cart or even spotted on a bike! You couldn't miss them in the traffic reflective wear which was a great choice to wear that day. Even the Chief of Police was in uniform. The Garwood Fire Dept and First Aid squad was also well represented. I understand there were a few minor incidents that they needed to attend to. And of course the guys from DPW as usual never fail to represent. The garbage was removed and the street sweeper was out not even two hours after the event was over. The Union County Sheriffs Dept as well as other County groups also offered assistance. I'm sure I have not mentioned everyone that was instrumental in making sure the day ran smoothly. Again, everyone involved deserves a pat on the back for pulling this off with minor incidents and minimal complaints. Kudos to all."

Council President Palmer inquired about the parking committee the Mayor mentioned last meeting. Mayor Quattrocchi responded she has not completed that but is making progress.

Councilman Martin no report.

Councilman Mathieu no report.

Councilman Nierstedt commented as follows:

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1. Last year I discussed with Boro Engineer Don Guarriello the possibility of holding a meeting with property owners who live in flood zones. I have discussed this again with Don, and we are tentatively scheduling a meeting for September 16. Details will follow.
2. As council liaison to the Planning Board, I have discussed with the governing body the idea of developing a land use ordinance that would require the owner of any property where by reason of natural or man-made disaster the principal residential structure is destroyed to the foundation to either rebuild the structure or fill in the foundation and re-grade the site. Thanks to a lot of research I have realized that Garwood would not be the first municipality in the state to have such an ordinance, and I look forward to introducing a proposed ordinance to the Planning Board at their next meeting for their consideration. I hope that after that discussion, the PB will forward an ordinance to this body for our consideration.
3. Mayor – Parking Committee? Emergency Management Plan status?

Mayor Quattrocchi reported that the annex has been submitted and the OEM Director has been invited to attend an upcoming meeting.

Councilman Petruzzelli reported that Building and Grounds is still investigating the spraying of the brook for vegetative growth.

Councilwoman Todisco no report.

Mayor Quattrocchi commented on the Garwood Rocks Street Fair. She thanked all the people responsible for producing the fair. She said it's been close to ten years since Garwood had a street fair and this was exceptional. She commented on business and development and how events have a positive impact. She thanked the Street, Police and Fire Departments as well as the Chamber and mostly Carol Kearney, Business and Industry Liaison. She mentioned the car show circuit and thanked them for attending.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The following persons addressed the mayor and council.

Jean Carven 333 Locust Avenue commented on the Street fair and the impact it had on her street. She said she could not get out of her driveway and missed an important family event.

Karen McCarrick 348 Locust Avenue mentioned her letter and the impact the Street fair had on her personal life. She said the noise and inconvenience exceeded normal and was more than a minor inconvenience. She asked who made the decision to put a bouncy ride in front of her house. Councilman Martin said he was part of the planning committee and he said he is very sorry for any and all inconvenience this created. She asked if he would promise that this not happen again. Councilman Martin said he can't promise that but he does promise he will consider her concerns when planning next year. Mrs. McCarrick asked what the difference between Carnivals vs. and Street fairs is. She said this event affected the quality of her life and violated Borough ordinances.

Mayor Quattrocchi said the committee has reviewed the event and is planning improvements for future events.

Bruce Paterson 325 Willow Avenue commented on the estimates for the DOT projects. Mr. Guarriello said he is very close mostly. Mr. Paterson asked about change orders and Mr. Guarriello responded.

Anne Leonard 536 Myrtle Avenue is pleased South Avenue is going to be fixed but doesn't like her street will take five years.

Dennis McCarthy 632 Myrtle Avenue asked about the progress made on the cleanup of the brook based on the tour taken last year. Councilman Nierstedt said none but promised to follow up next meeting. He mentioned curb and cross walk work with new handicapped ramps recently performed. He mentioned drainage in the area and water not flowing correctly.

Mr. Guarriello responded providing information on requirements for DOT handicapped ramp installations.

There was discussion on adding an inlet and Mr. Guarriello was instructed to investigate the matter.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: 7:56 p.m. Workshop, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Councilwoman Todisco, **Seconded by** Councilman Nierstedt.

CHRISTINA M. ARIEMMA, Municipal Clerk
Borough of Garwood