

BOROUGH of GARWOOD

Workshop Session MINUTES of the COUNCIL MEETING

August 25, 2015

Workshop session was opened by Mayor Lombardo at: 7:00 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 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 R. Guarriello.

Councilman Martin is excused.

Borough Engineer Donald Guarriello reported the specifications for sewer and sidewalk are ready to go as soon as the ordinances are ready. Councilwoman Todisco mentioned the water company project being done on Third Avenue. Mr. Guarriello said they are almost done with Third.

Borough Attorney Robert Renaud mentioned the adoption of ordinances. He mentioned he is working on matters requested by council for dumpster and commuter parking ordinances. He mentioned other requests relating to the planning board and a new statute concerning abandoned properties. Council President Nierstedt thanked Mr. Renaud and mentioned the handout for this evening concerning abandoned properties. Brief discussion followed. Councilman Mathieu expressed concern with legislation that may cause more difficulty for lenders, hence affecting buyers.

Borough Administrator/Clerk Christina M Ariemma – no report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – NONE

NEW BUSINESS – Mayor Lombardo reported:

This is just a reminder that the Garwood Sports and Recreation Complex has been selected as a recipient of a 2015 New Jersey Planning Officials Achievement in Planning Award. The presentation will take place at a breakfast on Friday, September 18th, 2015, at 7:30 AM at the Somerset Hills Hotel.

September is National Hunger Action Month and on Wednesday, September 16th, the Garwood Shop Rite will be hosting a "Help Bag Hunger" event, where the cashiers will be accepting donations to help fill the shelves of local food banks. I will be pleased to participate in the "Shop Rite Partners in Caring Day", by contributing my bagging "skills" for about an hour. Please come by to help support this effort. I will be happy to see you there.

September is also Childhood Cancer and Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month. I have asked our Business Administrator to put a Proclamation on our September 8th agenda in support of the efforts of "The Valerie Fund", a program in the metropolitan area that provides support for the comprehensive health care of children with cancers and blood disorders for nearly 40 years.

Comments or matters for discussion from members of Council:

Councilman Martin – absent.

Councilman Mathieu no report.

Councilman Petruzzelli no report.

Councilwoman Tarantino reported on parking matters and the Village at Garwood. Brief discussion followed regarding parking.

Councilwoman Todisco mentioned the social media policy. Councilman Mathieu asked if the full committee reviewed the proposed policy. Councilwoman Todisco said they met however, Councilwoman Tarantino was ill, but did get involved and reviewed the policy. Councilman Mathieu asked if this came out of committee with full support of all three members. Councilwoman Todisco said it did. Councilman Mathieu asked about invites sent last year from Facebook and if that matter is or was ever addressed. Mayor Lombardo responded and read a statement. Brief discussion followed. Councilman Mathieu made a statement.

Council President Nierstedt mentioned a letter written anonymously about work being done at 906 Center Street. He addressed the comments in the letter.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Joe Gola 25 Second Avenue mentioned the speeding problem again and a specific matter that happened at his home.

Liz Mathieu 335 Hazel Avenue read a prepared statement concerning the Facebook invites sent last year. She asked if an investigation was conducted.

Joe Sarno 658 Willow Avenue mentioned the proposed policy and no accountability.

Jean McComb 119 Willow Avenue asked Councilwoman Tarantino how many residents are from Garwood in the Village on Second Avenue. She mentioned the recycling company is being messy by dropping glass. Mr. Renaud suggested the borough be notified when it is happening. She mentioned the dumpster ordinance and Councilwoman Todisco said it is being prepared by the attorney for council discussion.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: 7:40 p.m. Workshop, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Council President Nierstedt, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Todisco.

CHRISTINA M. ARIEMMA, Municipal Clerk
Borough of Garwood