

BOROUGH of GARWOOD

Workshop Session MINUTES of the COUNCIL MEETING **October 27, 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, Councilwoman Kearney, Councilman Mathieu, Councilman Petruzzelli, 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.

Mayor Lombardo presented his Mayor's award for "Under the Stars" to the Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce, Celebrations Committee, Department of Public Works, Police Department, Garwood Y and Spencer Savings Bank.

Borough Engineer Donald Guarriello reported the paving is delayed due to the rain. Bids for sidewalk work are high and should be rejected. He recommended this project be bid again in early spring. He mentioned the sewer bids were received over budget and recommended the bond be amended to \$45,000. Councilman Mathieu asked what company would be awarded the bid. Mr. Guarriello responded the lowest responsible bidder.

Discussion followed regarding the sidewalk project and the bid received.

Council President Nierstedt asked if the DOT project is on time. Mr. Guarriello responded yes.

Councilwoman Todisco agreed with Mr. Guarriello's recommendation concerning sidewalk and sewer. She asked how much to amend the bond and it was recommended to increase to \$45,000. All agreed to amend and award after amending the bond.

Borough Attorney Robert Renaud updated the council on Affordable Housing Litigation. He also mentioned there are two ordinances for adoption this evening and one for introduction. He also mentioned other ordinances to be discussed.

Borough Administrator/Clerk Christina M Ariemma – no report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – NONE

NEW BUSINESS –

Councilwoman Kearney read: I would like to thank Mayor Lombardo, Councilwoman Todisco and Council President Nierstedt for attending the ribbon cutting and grand opening on October 27th of Americare Physical Therapy in the King's shopping center.

Mayor Lombardo read: Since other council members will be reporting on details, my report will be short. I'd like to thank all the groups and individuals that participated in the 17th annual Clean Communities program held this past Saturday. There was a total of 69 participants this year, which was great. This past Friday, we participated in the official ribbon cutting for Garwood's newest businesses, Americare Physical Therapy. Garwood has received a \$2,500 matching grant from the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders under the Greening Union County Grant Program for the purpose of offsetting the cost of planting trees. We have also received a \$5,000 check from the construction firm of the Villages of Garwood who accidentally took down a mature tree on the property and they have given us the check to supplement our tree-planting project in the town.

Councilwoman Kearney no report

Councilman Martin was absent.

Councilman Mathieu no report

Councilman Petruzzelli mentioned the Garwood Sports and Recreation Complex received an award in a 2015 Design Competition.

Councilwoman Todisco mentioned Clean Communities Day was last Saturday and was well attended. Councilwoman Todisco mentioned the recycling resolutions on the agenda, #15-282 and 15-283. She explained the rationale in the Streets & Roads committee's determination to reject or award. She explained Streets & Roads wants to award to Waste Management and take the time to investigate the best method for recycling. Councilman Petruzzelli mentioned he felt it should be awarded to Waste Management. Councilman Mathieu asked for clarity and all agreed to award to Waste Management.

Council President Nierstedt mentioned article in paper that units are available to rent in the new building across from Garwood Mall.

He mentioned the \$5,000 received from the contractor that built the Village at Garwood who removed a tree without permission. He reported trees would be planted with the funding.

He mentioned two proposed ordinances for consideration: First is amending Chapter 106 to allow 6ft fence with pools and also the abandoned property ordinance be introduced at the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Bruce Paterson 325 Willow Avenue mentioned his suggested resolution to block the County from building a sports complex in Rahway Park. He asked council if they would consider the resolution. He asked about the engineer ordinance and mentioned something about drainage. Council President Nierstedt explained how and why the ordinance is being presented. Brief discussion followed. Mr. Renaud explained the ordinance in depth. Mr. Paterson mentioned the FEMA meeting and asked for an overview of the meeting. Council President Nierstedt covered the content of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: 7:37 p.m. Workshop, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by,** Councilwoman Todisco, **Seconded by** Councilman Petruzzelli.