

BOROUGH of GARWOOD

Workshop Session MINUTES of the COUNCIL MEETING **November 24, 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 Martin, Councilman Mathieu, Councilman Petruzzelli, Councilwoman Todisco and Council President Nierstedt.

Also Present: Clerk/Stenographer Kathleen J Wierzbinski and Borough Attorney Robert Renaud
Borough Administrator/Clerk Ariemma was excused.

Presentation from Ken Capobianco, Director, Office of Emergency Management

Mayor Lombardo read "When asked about a proclamation for Officer Tommy I said it would be my honor and privilege to do so. It brought back some emotions and this will bring some closure to the past. At the time of the accident I was the Police Commissioner. It was a trying time in the Borough. No family, friends. Police Department, Council Members and citizens should experience all that emotional stress and heartache. I did not know Tommy personally, but his professionalism was known by all. I had the pleasure of seeing this first hand when Tommy went into action. I went on night duty with Tommy and it was about 12:45 A.M. Some young men were quietly approaching our Police vehicle. Tom said to me to just sit still and be calm as he put his service revolver on the center console. Tommy defused the situation without any incident and the young men went on their way."

Presentation of Proclamation to the Family of Patrolman Thomas Haughton.

There was a brief 5 minute break in the meeting to pay honor to Patrolman Thomas Haughton.

Borough Engineer Donald Guarriello ABSENT/No report

Borough Attorney Robert Renaud mentioned there will be an executive session for matters of Attorney-Client Privilege.

Borough Administrator/Clerk Christina M Ariemma – ABSENT/No report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – NONE

NEW BUSINESS – Mayor Lombardo read: "I recently received notification in the mail to inform borough residents that the Union County New Jersey's Yellowbook will be delivered to residents during the first quarter of 2016. I'd also like to remind residents that the Yellowbook is 100% recyclable.

I would like to thank Councilwoman Todisco for joining me at the last Mayor's Saturday, on November 21st. We had 5 residents come to speak with us on various topics including parking permits, North and South Avenue redevelopment and the Village of Garwood.

This past Saturday we also had a ribbon cutting for Kessler's Corner, a sports memorabilia business located to the right of Quick Check. The store deals with sports memorabilia and collectibles as well as e-bay sales. We wish Scott Kessler much success in this new venture and hope that this little corner of Garwood can bring smiles to the sports fan in all of us.

I am pleased to announce that during the regular meeting I will be appointing seven residents to various town committees. We thank those new members for their volunteerism and dedication.

Last week I attended the 100th Annual League of Municipalities conference - "The Foundation for a Bright Future". During the conference I attended several seminars including "Responsibilities of Municipal Bodies", "Keeping Citizens Informed" and "Transportation Trust Fund Solutions", among others. The seminars were very informative and I was able to connect with many of the presenters for further discussions of the subject materials."

Councilwoman Kearney no report.

Councilman Martin no report.

Councilman Mathieu no report.

Councilman Petruzzelli mentioned Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority will be increasing the fees again in 2016. He stated Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority representatives will be attending a council meeting in January.

Councilwoman Todisco no report.

Council President Nierstedt asked the council to consider adopting a resolution at the December 8th meeting supporting the Gateway Trans-Hudson Tunnel Project. All agreed. Council President Nierstedt stated he has spoken once again to John Leon of NJ Transit about the Garwood train shelter. While I am not holding my breath, he has promised me NJ Transit is expecting delivery of a new, larger shelter for Garwood in the next two weeks. He assured me that installation WILL Occur before the end of the year. I urge all commuters to keep looking.

I also want to make a personal announcement. He read "This Friday morning, November 27 – the day after Thanksgiving - a not-for-profit group called 'Friends of Colin' is scheduled to hold their inaugural 5K Turkey Trot run at 10:00AM at Unami Park. Participants are urged to arrive between 9:00 and 9:45 AM to register, obtain a bib/shirt and warm up for the run. There are two noteworthy items with this event. The first is that Colin is my nephew, who died at age 16 of Ewing Sarcoma bone cancer. 'Friends of Colin' is a 501(c) 3 group composed of Colin's friends and neighbors who have raised, through an annual Easter egg hunt and concert in Cranford- over \$25,000 for pediatric cancer research. Friends of Colin will not rest until a cure is found. The second item is that I believe this is the first 5K to be run almost entirely in Garwood. Chief Underhill has been extremely helpful from the very first meeting where he agreed to hold this event in Garwood and I look forward to working it with the Garwood Police Department. I urge everyone who is able to run or walk the trot this Friday to do so. For those who can't make it, but wish to make a donation, you can bring a check this Friday, visit the "Friends of Colin" web site, or write a check to "Friends of Colin" and mail it to 365 Relford Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016. Thank you."

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Bruce Paterson 325 Willow Avenue expressed his concerns regarding the manner in which the Planning Board records the Executive Sessions.

Motion to suspend the regular order of business made by Councilwoman Todisco seconded by Councilman Martin.

Clerk Stenographer read the following resolution.

RESOLUTION NO. 15-295.1

CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING PERSONNEL 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 subject 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.

At 7:35 p.m., a motion was made by Councilwoman Todisco, seconded by Councilman Martin to enter executive session.

At 7:41 p.m., a motion was made by Councilman Martin, seconded by Councilman Petruzzelli to resume the regular session.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: 7:42 p.m. Workshop, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by,** Council President Nierstedt, **Seconded by** Councilwoman Todisco.