

**Borough of Garwood Workshop Meeting of
The Mayor and Council
WORKSHOP
MINUTES
August 28, 2018**

Start Time: 7:00 p.m.

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided to the Westfield Leader, advertised on January 4, 2018, 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).

Mayor Lombardo	P		
Councilwoman Bianco	P	Councilman McCormack	P
Councilwoman Cuccaro	P	Councilwoman Todisco	P
Councilman Lazarow	P	Council President Blumenstock	P

Also, present: Borough Administrator/Clerk Christina M Ariemma, Attorney Catherine DeAppolonio of Palumbo & Renaud, Esqs.

Michael Bange, Project Manager and RJ Serridge, Construction Inspector of New Jersey American Water Company updated council on the South side water project. Questions were presented and asked.

Al DelConte, 545 Locust Avenue commented on the catch basin matter. He commented on work done by the water company last year. Mr. Bange explained the catch basin matter.

Bruce Paterson, 325 Willow Avenue made a suggestion.

At 7:20 p.m. motion by Councilwoman Todisco, second by Council President Blumenstock to enter Executive Session.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-175A

CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING THE PILOT FINANCIAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF GARWOOD AND THE DEVELOPER OF NORTH AVENUE GARDEN HOMES 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 matters.

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.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Bianco	AYE	Councilman McCormack	AYE
Councilwoman Cuccaro	AYE	Councilwoman Todisco	AYE
Councilman Lazarow	AYE	Council President Blumenstock	AYE

Workshop Session resumed at 8:12 p.m.

Catherine DeAppolonio, Esq. – **NO REPORT**

Administrator/Clerk Christina M Ariemma updated council on the bidding process for recycling. She advised that recycling is out for bid. Bids are due November 1, 2018.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – NONE

NEW BUSINESS - Mayor Lombardo

This evening I am appointing Councilman Rich McCormack to the Joint Council & Planning Committee on Redevelopment Projects in Garwood. I am also asking this joint committee to review the redevelopment agreement for the Paperboard Project.

At the last Council Meeting we were asked about drilling on South Avenue, near the Westfield border. In my investigation, I discovered that a local property owner is working with the DEP an EPA to conduct some soil remediation in that area. There is no current problem, just preventative maintenance work being done.

Comments or matters for discussion from members of Council:

Councilwoman Bianco – NO REPORT

Council President Blumenstock - Last year on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in January, I participated in a day of service at the Scotch Plains/Fanwood YMCA. I brought my children and along with Councilwoman Todisco, we made sandwiches that were to be distributed to the homeless at St. Joseph's. It's important to me that I show my children the importance of giving back so the day was very meaningful to us. They had various other activities that Union County residents were participating in that day– making valentine's for veterans, knitting blankets for the homeless, reading to children. I mentioned this day to a couple of local residents in town who said that, had they known about it, they would have joined in, and that they would like to do something like that the next year. So I thought: why doesn't Garwood hold its own Day of Service on MLK Day? I would like to begin this initiative this year, and will be putting out the call for a core committee of residents to organize it, plan the activities and then gather volunteers for that day. My hope is to have a 2 or 3 hour gathering, possibly at the Fire House or in Borough Hall where groups can sign up for and participate in the day's designated activities. Thought it isn't until January, it is better to start planning early, so to both my fellow councilmembers and the residents, I'd like to ask you to please keep an eye out for the committee sign-up coming soon.

Councilwoman Cuccaro - Bob, I have a question? As I understand it we have 90 days to terminate the deal with Fanwood. Is this correct? I would like to make a motion to terminate the deal via the 90-day termination clause. (Councilwoman Bianco seconded the motion, however after discussion she rescinded her motion.) We would like to bring this service back to Garwood only. We have \$42,000 a year that we pay Fanwood plus we have two open spots on the DPW therefore we hire one of those spots as a hands-on superintendant which means we have more than enough to pay the salary for a superintendent in the meantime we can get somebody certified from within if they so choose to be a superintendent in the future. I don't like the way the street sweeping was done, weaving in and out of cars. I watched them on my block, as there was a car in front of every house. So the streets were not really swept, it was just an added service to push the shared service through. Brief discussion followed.

Councilman Lazarow thanked the Department of Public Works for the park maintenance check list. They are ensuring things are maintained.

Councilman McCormack thanked the Mayor for his new appointment.

Councilwoman Todisco commented on comments made about Garwood becoming a sanctuary city. She commented that she didn't or doesn't advocate for that. Brief discussion followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Is there anyone in the audience that wishes to address the mayor and council please step to the microphone, state your full name and address. Please limit your comments to three minutes.

Tom Hannen, 94 Belmont Avenue, Cranford, also serves as Mayor. He came to discuss development and the flooding impacts in Cranford.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Councilwoman Cuccaro, Second by Council President Blumenstock to adjourn
Time: 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



CHRISTINA M. ARIEMMA, Municipal Clerk
Borough of Garwood