

**MINUTES OF  
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL  
WORKSESSION MEETING  
January 8, 2018**

The Worksession Meeting of the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Complex. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Council President Patil, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Councilmembers Coyle, Diehl, Gomez, Joshi, Lombardi, Patil, and Sendelsky

Also present were Township Clerk Russomanno, Deputy Clerk McCray, Township Attorney Northgrave, Business Administrator Ruane, Health Inspector Spearnock, Township Engineer O'Brien, Fire Chief Latham, Deputy Police Chief Mieczowski and Cameraman Cologne.

The Clerk advised that adequate notice of this meeting as required by the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975, has been provided by an Annual Notice sent to The Home News and Tribune, The Star Ledger and the Sentinel on December 9, 2017 and posted in the Main Lobby of the Municipal Complex on the same date.

Council President Patil opened the meeting for comments from the public.

Lisa Bukachevsky, 11 Outcalt Road, she had picture of her sink which fell off the wall from the noise created from Amazon Warehouse. She did forward to Rebecca at Amazon but hasn't heard from her.

Councilmember Diehl, said he did receive her email and pictures. He along with Councilmember Sendelsky intend to continue to fight for with the residents. It is our responsibility to help the resident to ensure Amazon are good neighbors.

Ms. Bukachevsky, asked where does it say 24 hr. – 7 hours of operation for that site.

Councilmember Sendelsky, we met with Amazon they will be getting a sound expert.

Hearing no further comments, this public hearing was closed, on a motion made by Councilmember Diehl, seconded by Councilmember Gomez, with all in favor.

**5. REVIEW OF MINUTES**

a. and b. No comments were made

**6. ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA:  
FROM MAYOR THOMAS LANKEY:**

a. and b. No comments were made

**7. REPORTS FROM ALL COUNCIL COMMITTEES:**

Councilmember Lombardi report from Public Safety Committee, new year has begun we will be looking at the Promotional procedures for Fire Department this month and should have the proposed Ordinance to Council early next month.

Councilmember Gomez, gave a brief recap of meeting of Finance Committee. He thanked Ken DeRoberts, our Tax Office, and Business Administrator with all their work we were able to achieve our target. Again he thanked all the Members of the Committee and look forward to 2018.

**8. POINTS OF LIGHT**

Council President Patil, today is Councilmember Coyle Birthday. On January 10<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30pm the Art Exhibit which display are Mr. Fernando Desilva's 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. On Saturday January 13<sup>th</sup> our annual Martin Luther King Celebration will be at JP Stevens High School at 1:00pm.

**9. FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:**

a. Councilmember Joshi asked what is the benefit the township gets from Shared Service.

Ms. Ruane, we receive money.

b. Councilmember Coyle asked for explanation of a Public Agency Compliance Officer.

Ms. Ruane explained we are required to appoint each year and she is the contact person.

c. No comment was made

d. Councilmember Joshi asked what type of service is this?

Ms. Ruane, it is a Counseling Service.

e. through g. No comments were made.

**10. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE:**

a. through d. No comments were made

e. Adding to agenda: Resolution of Disbursements

**11. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW:**

a. Councilmember Lombardi, confirm this is directly to the Ordinance that was passed last year.

b. Councilmember Sendelsky asked if this Labor council is for negotiating Fire and Police Contracts.

Mr. Northgrave they cover personnel issues, grievances basic general labor council.

Councilmember Joshi, asked who did we previously use.

Mr. Northgrave replied the same firm. Everyone being appointed are the same as last four years.

Councilmember Coyle asked if we have any contracts open to still negotiate.

Ms. Ruane, nine contracts.

c. and e. No comments were made.

f. Councilmember Sendelsky, asked if we received other bids from outside companies.

Mr. Northgrave, this contract is on a month to month basis. We are considering making this position in house.

Councilmember Sendelsky, felt they didn't represent us very well.

g. Councilmember Sendelsky, is this Hartz Mountain property.

Mr. Northgrave, yes upgrading.

**12. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ENGINEERING:**

a. and b. No comments were made

**13. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:**

a. and b. No comments were made.

**14. FROM THE CHIEF OF FIRE:**

a. No comment was made

**15. FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE:**

a. No comment was made

**14. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION:**

a. No comment was made.

**17. FROM THE TOWNSHIP CLERK:**

a. No comments were made

b. Councilmember Joshi, regards to the Zoning Board, he said he didn't see the resumes for the individuals. He recalled an interview process, was there one? Do you think we should pull off the agenda for now until the interview process.

Council President Patil, the resumes were part of your packet.

Councilmember Diehl, out of respect to our new councilmember that's a good idea. Perhaps we should wait on this until we interview.

Councilmember Coyle, asked how many people are being appointed.

Councilmember Sendelsky, there are two members and one alternate.

Councilmember Diehl, we need to do our best for these boards, to make sure we put the best in place again agree with council colleagues.

Council President Patil, agree only challenge is when the next Zoning Board meeting is. Form a subcommittee to do interview.

Mr. Northgrave, let's be clear you cannot switch to avoid a quorum.

Councilmember Diehl suggested we do a subcommittee.

Council President Patil, he will form a subcommittee. He is going to check on the process that was followed from the last two years.

Councilmember Lombardi, last year or year before believe we took someone from the Alternate position and moved them to a full position.

Councilmember Joshi, he feel we should do our diligence to meet them face to face.

Council President Patil, he couldn't agree more, as long as we have qualified people.

- c. added to agenda at meeting: Resolution appointing Councilmember to Planning Board.

**18. FROM THE COUNCIL MEMBER TO THE PLANNING BOARD:**

Councilmember Sendelsky, no meeting next meeting will be January 17, 2018.

**19. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Council President Patil:**

- a. He thanked Mr. Russomanno for a great job done.

Mr. Russomanno said the Road department does a tremendous job along with everyone.

**Councilmember Coyle:**

- a. He supports Councilmember Joshi on his intuitive on volunteering.
- b. Thanked the administration for answer all his compliant throughout 2017.
- c. Anthony did a great job dispatching man power and time getting things done during the storm.
- d. Could we look into the brim system maybe a shared service agreement with the DOT. Hope we can put that together next year.

Mr. Russomanno, that system is quite expensive to cover the whole town. We have Tandem trucks and we would need drivers to have a tank endorsement. We only have two people.

- e. Beautification project, he would like to discuss the signs enforcement on the banners.

Ms. Ruane said when the fire happened it cost us \$100,000 for mains and bridges.

**Councilmember Diehl**

- a. He asked about an update on our Deer Management Presentation.
- b. He asked for a Top Golf update from Mr. Northgrave.

Mr. Northgrave reported he was in touch with their council regarding their planning board application which is not filed yet. They needed some information from our engineer, hopefully in the next day or so their application will be filed. Everything they could do in short of the Planning Board application has been completed.

We need to stay with this situation.

- c. The flyer investigation is still going on and moving forward.
- d. He is still gathering information from the Board of Elections on Absentee Ballots.

**Councilmember Gomez:**

- a. We like new ideas however the Finance Committee does a cost analysis on capital projects.

**Councilmember Joshi:**

- a. Edison Youth Service Corp. He explained the program which he was involved with when he was a student. He would like to see this program come back.
- b. Community Volunteering: He feels we need to facilitate more opportunity for individuals to volunteer for the Township.
- c. Kiwanis Club: He knows someone who is interested in starting up a Kiwanis Club. You would need at least fifteen members. If anyone is interested please contact him.
- d. This past snow storm he received phone calls by 8pm all main road plowed very well, excellent job to Public Works. They did a very good job.

**Councilmember Lombardi:**

- a. He received an email from a resident today shortly after the storm there was a water main break which formed a big block of ice.

Mr. Russomanno said after we were made aware of it we went out with a backhoe to break up the ice and contacted American Water.

**Councilmember Sendelsky:**

- a. He asked Mr. O'Brien for a report on Nissan.

Mr. O'Brien sent an Engineer and Inspector out there to access everything he will review report and send to administration and take it from there.

- b. He spoke to Anthony about the storm procedure the man power was used very well.
- c. We do discuss at Finance Committee meetings new ideas and analysis the best bang for our buck.
- d. He suggested we reach out to Woodbridge Township for information on the brim system.

On a motion made by Councilmember Diehl , seconded by Councilmember Lombardi , with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.

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Ajay Patil  
Council President

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Cheryl Russomanno, RMC  
Municipal Clerk

01/08/2018