

**MINUTES OF
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
WORKSESSION MEETING
January 25, 2016**

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 6:02 p.m. by Council President Lombardi , followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Councilmembers Diehl, Lombardi, Patil, Sendelsky and Shah.

Councilmember Gomez entered at 6:03pm.

Councilmember Karabinchak was absent.

Also present were Township Clerk Russomanno, Deputy Clerk Kenny, Township Attorney Nee, Business Administrator Ruane, Recreation Director Halliwell, Health Director Elliott, Township Engineer Kataryniak, Fire Chief Latham, Police Chief Bryan and Cameraman Cologna.

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 12, 2015 and posted in the Main Lobby of the Municipal Complex on the same date.

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

Lois Wolke 10 Peake Road, regarding Item 9a. she asked if this is the same amount we paid Shirley Bishop last year. She also asked if the attorney can explain the resolution regarding the Camp Kilmer property.

Ms. Ruane replied she will have the amount which was paid to Shirley Bishop on Wednesday night.

Ms. Nee, explained the reason for the amendment. She said this is the Board of Education property in Camp Kilmer that they are no longer interested in using. The plan is for a development of housing for Veterans campus style living to meet our COAH obligations.

Ms Wolke said this property would need a lot of work and would hurt Edison financially.

Ms. Nee replied we would put out a Request for Proposals to development with no cost to Edison.

Mr. Kataryniak explained the township is in the process of updating our housing plan .He is preparing a report to meet our COAH number. The Kilmer property makes sense to amend the plan to BRAC.

Fred Wolke, 10 Peake Road asked if someone could explain why we have all these overpayments of taxes after the appeals.

Council President Lombardi explained that the taxes are already paid before the appeals are approved.

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

- 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. Accepted as submitted.

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

a through e No comment was made.

f. Councilmember Shah asked Ms. Ruane to look into Mr. Sam Khan business. She said Mr. Khan owns a construction company named Utopha. She feels it would be a conflict to be on the Planning Board.

g. through j. No comment was made.

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

Councilmember Diehl reported on the Public Works committee and said he is looking forward to having Mr. John Haines on board as our DPW Director. He said the resolution was not in the meeting packet.

Ms. Ruane said she saw the resolution.

Council President Lombardi told Ms. Ruane to please forward to the clerk.

8. **POINTS OF LIGHT**

Council President Lombardi announced the Monday, Feb. 8th Worksession meeting is changed to a Combined Council Meeting on Wednesday, February 10, 2016 at 6pm.

Councilmember Sendelsky commented the meeting on January 14, 2016 in Clara Barton was positive and well attended. He said the Dr. Martin Luther King Celebration was a great day. He added the Boy Scout troop is doing a fund raiser today and tomorrow at Anthony's Coal Fire Pizza.

Councilmember Diehl thanked Ms. Halliwell and the Recreation Department for the program they put together every year for Dr. Martin Luther King. All residents should come out and experience this wonderful event.

9. **FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:**

a. though d. No comments were made.

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

a. though I No comments were made.

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

a. No comments were made.

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

a. through c. No comments were made.

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

a. though e. No comments were made.

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

a. though c. No comments were made.

15. FROM THE TOWNSHIP CLERK:

- a. No comments were made.

16. FROM THE COUNCIL MEMBER TO THE PLANNING BOARD:

Councilmember Sendelsky reported all the new members were sworn in and the Chairman and Vice Chairman were voted on. One case was heard a proposal for a minor subdivision at 400 Mount Pleasant Avenue and was approved. The board also received R. 031-012016 for 635 Amboy Avenue from the Council, they decided to read over and make recommendation and comment at the next meeting of February 17, 2016.

17. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ORDINANCES FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION, PUBLIC HEARING, AND FINAL ADOPTION:

O.1919-2016 No comments were made.

O.1920-2016 No comments were made.

18. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Council President Lombardi:

- a. He Thanked all our DPW Workers for their hard work during the storm. He said residents can report any problem they have on our Q alert. It is located at our home page of our Website on the right under Cop Logic.

Councilmember Diehl

- a. He said we haven't seen a storm like this since 1996. We were lucky it was on Saturday. He is concerned on how we did in Edison. He said at the last meeting he asked if we were prepared for the storm and Ms Ruane said absolutely. He asked Ms Ruane to report on the Storm also for an update from Police Chief Bryan. He commented Councilmember Karabinchak is stuck in Florida. The sub-committee will be doing a de briefing meeting.

Ms. Ruane reported we have 1325 streets covering 307 miles. The divisions have been broken up for the last 25 to 30 years and everyone follows a lay out plan. No one prepared for 30 inches. The men came in at 3am and began salting all the roads and worked until 10:30pm Saturday night. With the 50-55 mph winds the snow was falling faster than we could plow. They started again Sunday at 6:30am and worked 20 hours a day since to continue with clean up. It would help if the public did not park on the streets and independent landscapers didn't plow into street. She said she is one hundred percent proud of our men, they did the best they could. She said there is an ordinance that states private contractors shouldn't plow into the street.

Councilmember Diehl said we should be enforcing the ordinance. He said there was equipment that was getting stuck on his block for an hour and a half and asked how do we handle this moving forward.

Ms. Ruane said we have more equipment this year.

Police Chief Bryan reported we were fully staffed during the storm and there wasn't a call we couldn't handle. On Monday along with Ms. Ruane they went through the town, everyone was doing a great job. He said Ms. Ruane did a fantastic job.

Councilmember Gomez:

None

Councilmember Karabinchak:

Absent

Councilmember Patil:

None

Councilmember Sendelsky:

- a. He had the opportunity to ride along with Andy Toth our Emergency Management Coordinator during the storm. Mr. Toth kept in touch with Ms. Ruane on the street conditions during the storm. He was proud of the job performance by Mr. Toth during the storm.

Councilmember Shah:

- a. She thanked everyone for their hard work on the storm. She asked if we are close to finishing the clean up.

Ms. Ruane replied every road will be open. She said residents can continue to use our Q alert system to notify us of any problems.

On a motion made by Councilmember Diehl ,seconded by Councilmember Gomez , with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 6:42pm.

Michael R. Lombardi
Council President

Cheryl Russomanno, RMC
Municipal Clerk