

**MINUTES OF
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
WORKSESSION MEETING
February 26, 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 6:03 p.m. by Council President Patil, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Councilmember Gomez entered meeting at 6:08pm.

Also present were Township Clerk Russomanno, Deputy Clerk McCray, Township Attorney London, Health Inspector Spearnock, Township Engineer O'Brien, Fire Chief Latham, Police Captain Schreck 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 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.

Bruce Diamond, 74 Calvert Avenue West., asked for explanation of item “ a” under law. He also commented on the Planning board meeting regarding Top golf, the planning board did a good job.

Township Attorney London explained because of the requirements and changes in the Municipal Land Use Law it is necessary for us to reflect the new provisions as in the statute.

Walt Stochel, 2118 Oak Tree Road, expressed he is in favor of the item “h” under law. He commended the Planning board they did an excellent with Top Golf. He suggested putting something in our code if the experts lie in their testimony, they cannot come before the board again.

Esther Nemitz, 162B Fay Street, asked for the status of two items from last year, O.1961-2017 Parking Garage Study, and Resolution R.043-012017 regarding the grant for Grandview Avenue paving. The recycling bins at Clara Barton Apartments are overflowing the men are not doing their jobs.

Maria Orchid, 83 Jefferson Avenue what a nice job at Flower Show. She asked about the light poles in Clara Barton.

Council Vice President Sendelsky, we need the pole number to send to Public Works Director so he can forward to P.S.E. & G.

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

5. REVEIW OF MINUTES

- a. accepted as submitted

6. REPORTS FROM ALL COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

02/26/2018

Councilmember Coyle, on behalf of the Environmental Commission & Mayors beautification program he thanked Councilmembers Diehl, Gomez and Patil along with every council person who got involved with the Flower Show this weekend. He also thanked Councilmember Sendelsky and the Edison Tower volunteers for their participation. We collected over 3,000 bulbs to be planted on Earth Day.

Councilmember Lombardi, on behalf of Public Safety Committee, last meeting we passed the Promotional Ordinance for Fire Department, we will be looking at the Police Hiring procedures again.

Council Vice President Sendelsky, we are working with Amazon on a solution to the resident concerns. We are awaiting the data on the sound hopefully we will have an update at next council meeting.

7. POINTS OF LIGHT

Council President Patil, we had the State of the Township and Flower Show this past week both were well attending. At the Council meeting on Wednesday, February 28, 2018 the Environmental Commission will be doing a presentation. Also reminder on March 22, 2018 the Community Center Forum Meeting from 7:00 until 9:00pm will be held here in Council Chambers. Our annual Electronic Recycling will be held on Saturday, April 7, 2018 and on May 5, 2018 Clara Barton Neighborhood Yard Sale.

Councilmember Coyle, on behalf of the Edison Chamber of Commerce he is pleased to say the State of the Township was a success. We continue to look forward to wonderful things happening.

Councilmember Joshi thanked the Clerk for the seminar he attended this past weekend.

8. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE:

- a. and b. No comments were made.
- c. This resolution is being revised the new total is \$12,152.66.
- d. No comment was made.

9. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW:

- a. through c. No comments were made.
- d. Councilmember Lombardi asked what currently is the criteria for a sidewalk waiver.

Mr. O'Brien explained on this site it is along Route 1 so we are recommending this waiver.
- e. This item is being Pulled off Agenda entirely.
- f. Councilmember Joshi, how many Shared Services do we receive.

Councilmember Lombardi, last year he believes we had approximately five.
- g. No comments were made.
- h. Councilmember Joshi, who put this forward.

Council President Patil replied he asked for this because of Social Media.
- i. No comments were made.

10. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ENGINEERING:

- a. No comment was made.

11. FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE:

- a. through c. No comments were made

Councilmember Joshi commented these grants are excellent hope they work out.

12. FROM THE COUNCIL MEMBER TO THE PLANNING BOARD:

Councilmember Coyle reported last Thursday, May 21st Top Golf went before the board for approvals on the wall for sound and monitors away from the residents. Their expert was not properly prepared. We were disappointed. They are not in compliance with the approval they received. It was disappointing that we didn't make any progress. The Markim Developers resolution was approved. Chintani Modi application was postponed until next meeting.

Council Vice President Sendelsky added the Planning Board did an excellent job for our residents, they know we have their interest at heart.

Council President Patil asked Councilmember Coyle to send a written report to the sub-committee regarding Top Golf.

13. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Council President Patil:

- a. Resolution of Recognition, he asked Councilmember Diehl to present on Wednesday.

Councilmember Coyle:

- a. Zero tolerance – resolution enforcement –for planning and zoning
- b. Thanked the administration for the many things that are getting done along Route One.
- c. Safety of public schools we need to take an aggressive approach even it means we need to cut programs to fund the safety for our students. He suggested we start with putting metal detectors in all our schools. We need to do everything we possibly can.

Councilmember Diehl, being a principle it is our daily work to keep our students safe. Middlesex County is on it. There have been several improvements being discussed and implemented.

Councilmember Joshi applauded the Chief of Police, Administration along with our School Board moving quickly on adding police presence to our schools.

Council Vice President Sendelsky, our Chief and Deputy are on top of the situation. We don't want retirees they aren't trained.

Councilmember Gomez, everyone's feeling are the same, we need to pursue all avenues they must be well thought out.

Councilmember Lombardi, his understanding the Board of Education is taking a vote tonight. They are taking some fast action.

Council President Patil, added the Board of Education will be discussing a plan tonight there are several factors.

Councilmember Diehl

- a. He gave Mr. O'Brien a punch list of items for the Administration since Ms. Ruane is not here.
- b. He agrees with Mr. Diamond and applauds the Planning Board for their questioning.

- c. Lighting on the cause way on Talmadge Road, there is still one light out.

Council Vice President Sendelsky added Mr. Russomanno is on top of this.

- d. He spoke to Mr. Russomanno regarding Kearny and Meadow Road the creek, looking for an update.
- e. He asked Mr. O'Brien for an update on the Normandy and Calvert water problem. He visits the sites every time it rains.

Mr. O'Brien, these projects are being tied to the Capital Bond Ordinance which we are looking at this summer .

- f. Gloria Ditman also called him regarding the sculpture garden.
- g. E cycling on April 7th Lake Pappanini from 8:00am – 2:00pm, bring anything with a cord.
- h. Oaktree and Grove intersection there is alot of ruts and pot holes.

Mr. O'Brien replied that's a county road, they will address this.

Councilmember Gomez:

- a. Any updates on Firehouse Station 3

Mr. O'Brien said it is in the hands of our attorneys.

Attorney Ms. London, we are in constant contact with the Surety Company.

Councilmember Joshi:

- a. He received an email about the corner of Park Avenue and Woodbrook, he passed along should have a response tomorrow .

Councilmember Lombardi, that intersection will be redone this year by the county.

Councilmember Lombardi:

- a. At the Mayors State of Township he said he is in favor of Sculpture Garden at Lake Pappanini by the Art Society. Gloria Ditman asked if anyone would like to make a donation to the Art Society to help fund the Sculpture Garden, your name would be on a post. She sent out a letter they need to raise approximately \$50,000. You can reach Gloria at 732-548-9134. They would like to unveil in June.

Councilmember Sendelsky:

- a. Oak Tree Road pot holes, the county did fill again.
- b. He already made a donation to Gloria for the Sculpture Garden.
- c. Universal Avenue Pole
- d. Sutton Lane, Amtrac is not done with their repairs.

On a motion made by Councilmember Diehl, seconded by Councilmember Sendelsky, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34pm.

Ajay Patil
Council President

Cheryl Russomanno, RMC
Municipal Clerk