

**MINUTES OF  
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL  
WORKSESSION MEETING  
April 23, 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 6:01 p.m. by Council President Patil, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Councilmember Diehl was absent.

Also present were Township Clerk Russomanno, Deputy Clerk McCray, Township Attorney Northgrave, Business Administrator Ruane, Public Works Director Russomanno, Health Director Elliott, Township Engineer O'Brien, Fire Chief Latham, Police Captain Askelson 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.

Fred Carpene, 33 Oak Grove Lane and Frank Abella, Jr. of 21 Oak Grove Lane are here to follow up on their letter of April 6, 2018 sent to Mayor Lankey regarding reconstruction of their roadway. They also concerns on the deer population.

Ms. Ruane explained she just received a copy of the letter from the Mayor sorry for misunderstanding however you are on the 2018 list for this year, we just finalized the list.

Mr. Carpene, we need to address the situation on the Deer Population it is a health concern for lime disease.

Council Vice President Sendelsky, this council is pro- active on the Deer Population we are in the process of what needs to be done and taking action. We also have to coordinate efforts in surround towns.

Mr. Elliot explained the program presentation we had at a previous meeting by an expert.

Councilmember Lombardi, it's not an easy fix. As the expert explained there are four options. We are reviewing them to which we should utilize. Regarding our paving and infrastructure this Council and Mayor Lankey have paved approximately 50-60 streets each year.

Councilmember Gomez, we get emails daily rest assure we deal with every issue and work as a team.

Don Olsen, 85 Harding Avenue, sent an email awaiting answers to this questions.

Mr. Northgrave addressed his questions and provided answers.

Maria Orchid, 83 Jefferson Avenue, thanked everyone who participated in Sunday Earth Day Celebration along with some announcements of Edison High School events. On May 5<sup>th</sup> Clara Barton is having their 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual yard sale. She noticed more clothing bins around town. What is the plan for ford assembly plant?

Councilmember Lombardi., last year there was a clothing bin ordinance, this is just some minor corrections as per Council Coyle recommendations.

Councilmember Coyle is still working with the attorney on the revisions.

Mr. Northgrave, the plan has been in place predates him he has been there five years. There has been one Amendment since then. This second amendment that is before council now is for the construction of an indoor recreation facility, just a minor revision.

Bruce Diamond, 74 Calvert Avenue, about two weeks ago he called 911 and the police responded in minutes wonderful job. Glad Pay to Play is not on Agenda. Engineer do we have design for the Abbott and Calvert drainage Plan. When someone builds on a County Road do they have to abide by our road opening permit? Regarding the Deer population we should be able to gather the data from the Police and hospitals. Have we looked into grants?

Mr. O'Brien we are working on finalizing plan and bidding looking at late summer construction.

Ms. Ruane, we are currently in the process of getting quotes on this. We have in the past looked into grants there wasn't any, she will have the grant writer look into it again.

Council President, we are in discussion on funding for deer populations.

Council Vice President Sendelsky said he has talked with the county engineer they do have a tough ordinance and specifications for the road.

Sunhag Islam, 707 Alexander Road, on behalf of the American Red Cross, we are organizing a non-profit event for the first time, this Saturday May 5<sup>th</sup> we will be installing free smoke alarms. He is here asking for everyone to come together to raise awareness of this event, looking for volunteers, time 11am – 3pm meet at Lincoln Elementary School. He will send the information to the clerk's office where you can pick up a form.

Councilmember Lombardi asked the administration to also put on our website.

Maryann Hennessey, 20 Carmelo Drive, regarding resolution on 720 Route One, she has some suggestions and asked is we are voting on this.

Council President Patil explained we will not voting on this tonight its' on for discussion item.

Mr. Northgrave explained it will be introduced on Wednesday, if passed Public Hearing would be in two weeks from now. Planning Board recommended this council support the plan.

Council Vice President Sendelsky explained this will go before the planning board where the public can make speak.

Esther Nemitz, 162B Fay Street, she announced a special hearing on this Thursday, is it postponed until May 14<sup>th</sup> . Dr. Ascello plan. It is an important hearing under the new Amboy Avenue Redevelopment plan.

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

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. and b. No comments were made

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

Councilmember Coyle, Environmental Commission had earth day we are also planning some summer cleanups, if you have an area to clean up please send an email.

Councilmember Gomez, Finance committee met last Tuesday, first he thanked the committee, Finance Department and Administration for coming out so late. It was a recap of 2017 finance performance. Our Revenues have increased consistently in 2016-2017 and projected growth for 2018. Our force is to stay discipline on spending. We need to continue to focus on economic Development.

Council Vice President Sendelsky announced this Thursday night there is a special planning board meeting for Amazon.

Council President Patil reported our Attorney is working on the last pieces for Top Golf.

**7. POINTS OF LIGHT:**

Council President Patil announced May 5<sup>th</sup> Clara Barton Yard Sale from 8:00am to 3:00pm.

Council Vice President Sendelsky thanked the Recreation Department and Public Works for great job on Earth Day. There was a great turn out for Earth Day. Edison Animal Shelter Re-Grand opening its clean and beautiful. Midtown Softball had their opening Day we wish them good luck. April 29<sup>th</sup> CARE walk at Edison High School.

Councilmember Lombardi added Earth Day was a success many thanks to all 150 volunteers. May 3<sup>rd</sup> will be the final Open Forum on the Recreation Center here at 7:00pm in Council Chambers.

Councilmember Joshi, it is National Park Week, April 21<sup>st</sup> thru 29<sup>th</sup> free admission for one day.

Councilmember Coyle, thank Edison Chamber of Commerce thanked Administration and Jay Elliot for Health and Wellness.

**8. FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:**

a. Council President Patil, asked Ms. Ruane for detail on the servers by email.

a. No comments were made.

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

a. through c. No comments were made.

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

a. Council President asked about our sewer rate compared to other towns.

Ms. Ruane, we are about 50% less.

b. No comments were made.

c. Councilmember Joshi, it a very good proposal 720 Route 1 is next store to Wendy's the vacant restaurant worse area to look at happy this is moving forward.

Council Vice President Sendelsky, discussed with Mr. Northgrave an amendment to the Ordinance prior to introduction.

Mr. Northgrave explained the change regarding the amendment before the introduction of this ordinance will be changing to up to 10 ft. candles level of lamination.

Council President Patil, added he doesn't want the same problem to arise as Amazon and Top Golf.

Mr. Northgrave explained the power reside in the planning board where the parts on the site.

Councilmember Coyle asked if he can vote on this. Heyer & Gruel had an expert on sound and announcements.

Mr. Northgrave will take a look at but dosen't think it a problem.

d. and e. No comments were made.

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

a. and b. No comments were made.

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

a. and b. No comments were made.

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

a. No comments were made.

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

a. No comments were made.

**15. FROM THE TOWNSHIP CLERK:**

a. and b. No comments were made.

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

Councilmember Coyle reported Top Golf they came in with their expert reduction in lighting and the sound wall. Voted to approve, community was very pleased. There was a proposal for a 124,000 sq. ft. ware house on Whitman Avenue, held over to next meeting. The study approved for Ford Plant for the recreation facility.

**17. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

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

O.2004-2018 No Comments were made.

**18. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Council President Patil:**

- a. Commented on the bin ordinance.
- b. Resolution of Recognition for Joseph Guchek, Vietnam Veteran

**Councilmember Coyle:**

- a. He expressed concerns on 3175 Woodbridge Avenue having banners up to long.

**Councilmember Diehl**

- a. Absent

**Councilmember Gomez:**

- a. Update on firehouse 3

Mr. Russomanno reported items were ordered today hoping to complete in about five weeks.

**Councilmember Joshi:**

- a. He asked about Talmadge and Plainfield lights to be redone.
- b. Suggested signs for Road Work being done ahead.

**Councilmember Lombardi:**

- a. He received an email from a resident in the Durham Woods areas regarding a buffer between the Durham Woods apartments.

Mr. Elliot reported Durham Woods is doing a cleanup our department is there on a weekly basis.

**Councilmember Sendelsky:**

- a. On Wednesday he will be recognizing the Drama Club.
- b. He thanked Mr. Russomanno, Public Works department for their good work on the storm drains on Stephenville Parkway.

On a motion made by Councilmember Sendelsky, seconded by Councilmember Lombardi, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58pm.

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Ajay Patil  
Council President

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Cheryl Russomanno, RMC  
Municipal Clerk