

**MINUTES OF
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
WORKSESSION MEETING
May 23, 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 6:04 p.m. by Council President Lombardi , followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Councilmember Karabinchak was absent.

Also present were Township Clerk Russomanno, Clerk McCray, Township Attorney Nee, Business Administrator Ruane, Recreation Director Halliwell, Health Director Elliott, Public Works Director Haines, Township Engineer Kataryniak, Fire Chief Latham, Police Captain Kelly 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.

Esther Nemitz,162B Fay Street, she thanked Lois Wolke for bringing to her attention the article in the paper regarding NJ Affordable Housing Laws. Since the change in judges for the hearing on COAH were changed to June 9th before Judge Natalie, could the attorney explain what Jack Morris really wants Mr. Northgrave was suppose to send information, but she hasn't received it.

Council President Lombardi told her Mr. Northgrave will be here at Wednesday Night meeting.

Attorney Nee explained, the article in paper regarding NJ affordable housing laws are only proposed.

Ms. Nemitz asked for the minutes of the Clara Barton Meeting on the Rehabilitation Plan.

Council President Lombardi said there are no minutes taken it was not a public meeting.

Ms. Nemitz said the woman form Heyer & Gruel were taking notes.

Ms. Ruane will check with Heyer & Gruel to see if any minutes were taken.

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. through e. Accepted as submitted.

6. REPORTS FROM ALL COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Council Vice President Gomez reported the Public Safety Committee has had conversation with the police and administration regarding the Body Cams.

Ms. Ruane reported we should have the bid and award for July Meeting. She received an extension on the Grant.

7. POINTS OF LIGHT:

Council President Lombardi announced the change for the June 8th Meeting it will be combined and start at 6:00pm. He also congratulated Councilmember Karabinchak was elected to take the place of Senator Diegnan as Assemblyman of the 18th Legislative District.

Councilmember Shah congratulated Dennis Aldea for receiving the 2016 Presidential Scholar Award. It shows what a great education system in Edison.

Councilmember Sendelsky said he attended BAPS Green Walk this weekend at Thomas Edison Park for the conservations of trees and tree planting.

8. FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:

a. No comments were made.

9. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE:

a. and b. No comments were made.

c. Councilmember Sendelsky asked for an explanation on the overpayment.

Ms. Ruane said she received a letter from FEMA and will get him a copy.

d. through f. No comments were made.

10. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW:

a. and b. No comments were made.

11. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ENGINEERING:

a. No comments were made.

12. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

a. and b. No comments were made.

13. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION:

Council President Lombardi added on item to agenda, Resolution reimbursement to Various Basketball teams in good standing.

14. FROM THE CHIEF OF FIRE:

a. No comments were made.

15. FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE:

a. through d. No comments were made.

16. FROM THE TOWNSHIP CLERK:

Council President Lombardi added an item to agenda, Resolution granting a fee Waiver to the Edison Elks .

17. FROM THE COUNCIL MEMBER TO THE PLANNING BOARD:
Councilmember Sendelsky

Minutes of Regular Planning Board Meeting of Monday May 16, 2016

Two Cases , one final approval and one Capitol Project Review were on the agenda for the meeting. The first case the Board reviewed was the Architectural elevations of PF Chang Architect for final approval. The Architectural Elevations were acceptable to the Board and the vote was 6-0 with Sam Khan's abstention.

The second case was a Section 31 Capital Project Review for Roosevelt Hospital Block 690 Lots 1 & 2B. The Attorney for Middlesex County gave an overview of the project and said that it would be broken into three phases. The First Phase would be the renovation and exterior restoration of historic Roosevelt Hospital. The end product will have 85 units dedicated to Senior Residents of Middlesex County. The Unit breakout will be 74 one bedroom units averaging 625 square feet, and 11 two bedroom units averaging 950 square feet, five units will be dedicated to people with physical disabilities, 5 for homeless and 22 for veterans. The second phase will be a medical office building consisting of 22,000 square feet and the third phase will be another residential building consisting of forty five units. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss phase one of the project. Kevin Kammerer from T & M Engineering discussed the site work and drainage for phase one and Wallace Roberts and Todd Architects discussed the bedroom make up, new lobby and exterior renovation of this historic structure. The attorney for the county said that the pilot program for phase 1 should generate \$55,000 in tax revenue for Edison Township and ramp up to & \$101,000 in year 28. Since this was only a presentation, no public comments were taken and the board voted unanimously 7-0 to accept the county's proposal.

The second item on the Agenda was case P 5169 Fox and Foxx Development LLC Park Avenue Block 1000 Lots 5 & 31. The builder proposed to demolish a house on lot 5 and build a new dwelling on it. In addition he proposed a new dwelling unit for lot# 31 also. The second lot does not front on the main road and no permit will be issued for the erection of a structure unless it abuts an approved street. The applicant was seeking relief to build a private road to provide access to Lot #31. The applicant's engineer Bill Lund provided testimony. The applicant agreed to conditions set forth in the reports of our Planner (Bignell) and engineer (Carley). Both the fire marshal and traffic officer had reports saying that emergency vehicles will be able to access the rear lot now that the road was widened to a minimum of 15 feet or greater. The following conditions were added to the preliminary approval: drywells will be installed if there is acceptable perk in the soil, the house adjacent to Park Avenue will have a "front elevation" facing the main road, the roadway will be installed with 2 inches of fabc and 4 inches of 3/4 inch clean stone, and the easement will provide that lot 31 shall maintain the driveway. There were two neighbors who objected to the project. Both lots were conforming and required no variances except for relief from Township ordinance 39-12.16 & NJSA 40:55D-35 & 36. The board felt that the applicant met the burden of proof and voted 7-0 for preliminary approval pending elevation drawings for both houses to make sure that the front elevation faced Park Avenue and that the elevations were of different looks.

The last item on the agenda was Edison Land Use Investment LLC /Edison Town Square (Former Ford plant site) for preliminary and final approvals for a 2,006 square foot Starbucks restaurant with a drive through and a 4,700 square foot Zinburger restaurant and a preliminary approval for a proposed 7,500 square foot restaurant whose occupant is to be determined. The engineer for the applicant explained that all the site improvements have been previously installed (sewer, water, storm drainage) and the three pad sites will be connecting to the existing lines in the street. The applicant's attorney explained that they had a 17,600 square foot credit with the DOT before they had to install an additional access point and light on Route 1. He also explained that the original project was to have 1.2 million square feet of retail and mixed use but now would only have 750,000 square feet of retail and mixed use due to the lack of access to the site from north bound Route 1. Representatives of Zinburger and Starbucks gave testimony as to the nature of their operations. The board voted 6-0 (with Mr. Danielle recusing himself) to approve the Zinburger and

Starbucks for preliminary and final and preliminary only for the 7,500 square foot restaurant whose occupant is to be determined.

Respectfully Submitted - Councilman Len Sendelsky

**16. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
ORDINANCES FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION, PUBLIC HEARING, AND FINAL ADOPTION:**

O.1928-2016 No comments were made.

O.1929-2016 No comments were made.

18. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Council President Lombardi:

- a. He asked if Notices to Residents can we do something through Nixel.
- b. He asked for an update on Oaktree & Woodland Light.

Mr. Kataryniak said he is still waiting for South Plainfield, they are not ready to bid yet.

Councilmember Diehl

- a. He asked Mr. Elliot about the E- recycling program.

Mr. Elliot said there is nothing in place at this time. Resident should not be putting electronic at the curb.

- b. He said this is the 2nd time residents didn't get any notice regarding work being done on their street. Our residents need to know it's important they know when traffic is being diverted. He suggested we notify resident by putting Door Knockers.
- c. He said Mr. Diamond has had several cars on his lawn over the years. Can we paint yellow on that curb or a reflective paint.

Mr. Kataryniak said he will look into road paint for that area.

Councilmember Gomez:

- a. He said the Police promotions are a fair process. The written test counts as 85% of total score. He knows a lot of female police officers that do an outstanding job. Through this process there is no political influence.

Councilmember Karabinchak:

Absent

Councilmember Patil:

None

Councilmember Sendelsky:

- a. He explained the Resolutions of Recognition project he will be presenting on Wednesday.

- b. He thanked the Administration for the Body Cam presentation.

Councilmember Shah:

- a. She asked about her Resolution of Campaign Reform, why isn't it on the agenda.

Council President Lombardi said he had sent to all council members for their review and feedback. He also said he would like the attorney to review this resolution.

She said anyone can call her directly.

- b. She asked if there is an update on the Air B & B Ordinance.

Ms. Ruane said they should have a draft form to the council in July.

- c. She asked for an update on the Employee Handbook.

Ms. Ruane said the Mayor is reviewing some changes and hopefully we should have something to the council at the June 8th meeting.

- d. She asked for an update on here Quality of Life Ordinance which she had worked on for 9 months and still doesn't have an answer.

- e. She congratulated all the Police on their promotions, but why aren't any female officers getting promoted.

Police Captain Kelly said we cannot pick and choose there are testing procedures in place. The written exam counts as 85%.

- f. She asked what are the back ground issues on Body Cams .

Ms. Ruane explained we need authorizing from the state. We will be starting the bidding process it should be completed by the July 25th meeting

On a motion made by Councilmember Diehl, seconded by Councilmember Sendelsky, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 6:49pm.

Michael R. Lombardi
Council President

Cheryl Russomanno, RMC
Municipal Clerk