

**MINUTES OF  
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL  
WORKSESSION MEETING  
June 12, 2017**

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 6:00 p.m. by Council President Lombardi , followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Councilmember Gomez entered at 6:12 pm.

Also present were Township Clerk Russomanno, Clerk McCray, Township Attorney Northgrave, Business Administrator Ruane, Health Director Elliott, Township Engineer O'Brien, 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 30, 2016 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.

Council President Lombardi asked for a Moment of Silence for our Police Officer Wiskowski that passed away.

Robert Mezy, 434 Alpine Street, complained about Harold's Deli issue he had.

Mr. Northgrave, this is a government meeting not political, if you have an issue for the Governing body. Please put political sign down.

Ray Kopperwhats, spoke on Lake Papapainni Park, he gave hand outs on what the park looks like. He also was explaining the flooding of the homes behind the park and the path of the lake. Conrail and Edison worked very hard to fix this problem.

Council President Lombardi, was advised by Mr. Russomanno about the conditional of the property. DPW will be cutting grass down to access road and planting trees in phases. He also introduced everyone to new engineer Carl O'Brien.

Maria Orchid, 83 Jefferson Avenue, regarding Ordinance on exceeding the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limit, please keep in mind the tax payer. She asked for explanation on Resolution authorizing Professional Services Contract under the business administrator.

Council President Lombardi, stated this is for Mr. DeRoberts, his firm is our CFO.

Council President Lombardi added the cap bank is something we do every year just for precaution.

Bruce Diamond, 74 Calvert Avenue, regarding the Temporary Storage Containers curious what kind of reaction we received from the letters sent out .

Mr. Northgrave don't know that we got a reaction, believed there were summons issued.

Mr. Diamond asked for an update on the flooding problem on Calvert.

Mr. O'Brien regarding storage containers notices of violations went out. They have seven days to respond. As to the drainage he did speak to Mr. Diamond, last week explaining the Engineering department is putting together a list of 10 – 15 locations for drainage improvements to survey. The work is in progress and yes it's on our radar. We should have something very shorting regarding the survey and then we will take it from there.

Esther Nemitz, 162B Fay Street, items under law, C, D, and F.

Mr. Northgrave, item C utility companies leaving poles tied together. We recommend to the administration to add to a new section to the code. D was a case in court, F. This is an industrial plant not a gas station.

Ms. Nemitz, on Sunday, the Farmers Market will open.

Mr. Elliot explained we have a web page on the Farmer Market every Sunday, until the Sunday that precedes Thanksgiving.

Fred Wolke, 10 Peake Road, thanked the Township and all organization who participated in the Memorial Day parade. He also thanked the Department of Public Works they did a fantastic job cleaning up. He asked if we are still looking for a CFO.

Ms. Ruane, answered we are very happy with the services Government Statigies it is working out very well.

Mr. Wolke, asked if we are looking for a Public Works Director.

Ms. Ruane replied not at this time.

Council President stated we have an Acting Director, and when the Mayor is ready to appoint or look for one you will be the first to know.

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

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

a. Accepted as submitted

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

Councilmember Coyle reported on the Environmental Commission they had their election and they picked their Vice Chairman Chris Triano, Treasurer Charles Blackman, John Poyner Secretary. They participated in family day and have scheduled clean ups. Thank them for their act participation. We have several beauification projects moving forward.

Council Vice President Gomez, the council members of the Finance Committee received their copies of the budget which will be introduced this week. The Finance Committee will start meeting with the directors.

**7. POINTS OF LIGHT:** Introduction of Budgets this week and Public Hearing on the Budget is scheduled for July 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm the Mayor will be here to present. Officer Wiskowski has been with Edison Police for only two years, his wife is due to have twin in July he will never meet our thoughts and prayers go out to the family. This is the first time Edison Fire Department and Mayor named an Honorary Fire Fighter, Theodore Devel he was 12 years old he had a disease that his organs were of a 75 year old, always had a

06/12/2017

dream to be a firefighter. The family was given a flag, shirt and a patch. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Devel family. Yesterday was Family Day pretty well attended a good event. He thanked the Department of Health and Recreations for making it possible.

Councilmember Diehl, he also attended Family Day, impressed him 27 yrs. for the event longevity there was so much offered , food, rides, entertainment. He thanked the Municipal Alliance. He also walked in the Memorial Day Parade it's a very nice tribute to our service men.

Council Vice President Gomez, he attended the closing ceremony of the Post #385, reiterate to our troops the gratitude we express for the commitment to protect our country it was an honor to be part of the ceremony.

Councilmember Sendelsky, echoed what Councilmember Gomez said it was an honor to be part of the casing of the colors. Nice to talk to the Solders that work so hard overseas, truly honored. The Memorial day Parade was well attended, its great to see people are out there showing appreciation to our services men and woman. Yesterday there was a BAPS Walk Athon for a great cause tress and global resources.

Councilmember Coyle, he thanked Dana Ligato and the Administration for their hard work and always improving our Memorial Day Parade. The Chief and officers that came out for the funerals of Officer Wiskowski and Mr. Devel amazing how we come together as bothers.

Council Vice President Gomez also added, funeral services that our public safety department have attended, thank the department again, it's really the involvement with our community. That child had a memory to his last day, tip our hat off to our Public Safety involved in our community.

**8. FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:**

a. through f. No comments were made

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

a. through e No comments were made

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

a. through g. No comments were made.

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

a. through e No comment were made.

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

a. through e. No comments were made.

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

a. No comment was made.

**14. FROM THE TOWNSHIP CLERK:**

a. No comment was made.

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

Councilmember Sendelsky next meeting is Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup>

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

O.1976-2017                      No comment was made.

O.1977-2017                      No comment was made.

**17. COMMUNICIATIONS:**

**18. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Council President Lombardi:**

- a. Resolution of Recognition – Eagle Scout

**Councilmember Coyle:**

- a. He asked for explanation on the amendment on the property maintenance.
- b. 1370 Route One site is like a yard.

Mr. Northgrave this ordinance was indirect response to an issue raised by the superior court judge in New Brunswick. This has nothing to do with telephone poles.

Council President Lombardi said we recently in the past two years have passed some other property maintenance ordinances which allow us to go on the property after proper notice, repair and bill the owner.

Ms. Ruane said anything that can be deemed a public safety issue can be stopped immediately.

Council President Lombardi, asked Ms. Ruane to have the Code official visit this site.

Mr. Elliot explained this property is a zoning issue. Jim Ayotte has issued a Notice of Violation and it has 7 days left to his notice. Jim is on top of this issue.

**Councilmember Diehl**

- a. Resolution of Recognition – EHS Choir
- b. Concern on Mr. Diamond’s situation, asked to be in the lope with correspondence.
- c. He asked Mr. O’Brien what is the next step.

Mr. O’Brien said first step to survey, second easements to be acquired, third are there any environmental restrictions and what will be the design. There is a process in place I do not know what was done before.

- d. He asked for an update on Top Golf issue.

Mr. Northgrave, he made it clear to Top Golf last Tuesday the need to rectify this problem. They brought in there Vice President, Legal Council, and lighting expert. They talked about a structural wall, they need to do additional surveys. He also reached out to Hartz for their cooperation to rectify the problem.

He thanked Mr. Northgrave for the information, The residents put this in our hands to help. What is the next step.

Mr. Northgrave

**Councilmember Gomez:**

- a. None

**Councilmember Patil:**

- a. None

**Councilmember Sendelsky:**

- a. He asked for an update Broad Avenue and Meeker Drive, property maintenance issues.

Mr. Elliot explained on Broad Avenue, that property has gone into foreclosure. We have been maintaining for two years. We are in touch with the bank now. On Meeker Drive, we have verified the condition with the above ground pool, it has been removed. We will follow through to maintain the property.

**Councilmember Shah:**

- a. none

On a motion made by Councilmember Sendelsky, seconded by Councilmember Diehl, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:19pm

---

Michael R. Lombardi  
Council President

---

Cheryl Russomanno, RMC  
Municipal Clerk