

**MINUTES OF
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
WORKSESSION MEETING
August 20, 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 6:06 p.m. by Council President Patil, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Councilmember Gomez and Lombardi were absent.

Also present were Township Clerk Russomanno, Deputy Clerk McCray, Township Attorney London, Business Administrator Ruane, Public Works Director Russomanno, Health Inspector Spearnock, Township Engineer O'Brien, Fire Chief Latham, Police Chief Bryan and Cameraman Cologne.

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.

Maria Orchid, 83 Jefferson Avenue, is there an update on Duclos Lane addresses. We need vendors for Clara Barton Farmer's Market. Any update on the overcrowding situation in our schools.

Ms. Ruane, explained we legally have to wait until tax maps are redone.

Councilmember Diehl, there is an Education Committee meeting on September 22th we are on top of the overcrowding. It's the number one topic not an easy solution which requires continued research. .

Marilou Halvorsen, NJ Restaurant and Hospitality Association, she is here to talk on menu labeling. The ordinance as drafted is impossible to meet. She asked if we can hold off until we can meet with the Association so they may have the opportunity to work with us to be part of the solution.

Bruce Diamond, 74 Calvert Avenue, regarding Item "F" under law while watching the Planning Board last week, it will not reduce overcrowding of schools. His suggestion do something with small sub divisions and variances. He asked for explanation on item "D".

Council President Patil, we will be removing items "F", G" and "H" under law.

Council President Patil, explained why he is proposing item "d" under law. He asked about item 15. "a" why aren't we just doing signs.

Ms. Ruane, we are working on getting prices on the individual signs.

Esther Nemitz, 162B Fay Street, the bill board signs flashing are distracting. The one on Route one at the collision sign changes in seconds, need better control on signs.

Council President Patil asked Ms. Ruane to send zoning out in the morning.

Mr. Rath, 29 Jersey Avenue, Ordinance 2017-2018 what is the intent to pass when it doesn't have a provision to stop production of plastics. Is there a Business Administrator since the term expired in 2013? According to the law there is a residence required.

Attorney London, there has been no change in the Business Administrator, there was a waiver granted.

Fred Wolke, 10 Peake Road, in the Ordinance O.2017-2018 how do we enforce it, Councilmember Joshi will go over.

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. REVIEW OF MINUTES

a. through c. No comments were made.

6. REPORTS FROM ALL COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Councilmember Coyle, when is Stelton Community Center to be closed.

Ms. Ruane, later this year we are working now on moving the activities.

Councilmember Coyle, are we getting close to a new community center, do we have a rough idea?

Ms. Ruane, we don't have anything yet. Woodbridge is about 100,000 sq. ft .

Council Vice President Sendelsky, he explained how pilot programs work.

7. POINTS OF LIGHT:

Council President Patil, we had on August 12th the Indian Day Parade and on August 18th the Pakistan Parade. August 7th was National Night Out.

Council Vice President Sendelsky, the boy scouts are selling popcorn.

Councilmember Joshi, the Edison Youth Corp. the feedback on the program was excellent. It was an inspiration to those who participated and a complete success. He will look forward to expanding it next year.

Council President Patil, hope to add other schools to the program.

Council Vice President Sendelsky added the children did ask great questions.

Councilmember Coyle on behalf of the Edison Chamber of Commerce on the Food Festival, thanked the Administration, DPW, Health and Police Department for the cost saving they give to the Chamber.

8. FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:

a. Council President Patil asked for some details on computer supplies.

Ms. Ruane explained.

- b. Council President Patil, how does this GPS work.

Ms. Ruane, annual renewal and we are adding the Fire Department.

- c. Council President Patil, asked for explanation.

Police Captain Schreck explained.

9. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE:

- a. through e. No comments were made.

- f. Council President Patil, is this payroll and human resources.

Mr. De Roberts, we are moving to a paperless system. This is basic payroll we will be purchasing time clocks.

- g. No comments were made.

10. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW:

- a. through e. No comments were made.

- f. through h. Are being removed from agenda.

11. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ENGINEERING:

- a. through f. 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. through d. No comments were made.

14. FROM THE CHIEF OF FIRE:

- a. No comment was made

15. FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE:

- a. No comments were made.

- b. Council Vice President Sendelsky, are we retiring some vehicles.

Police Captain Schreck, some are retiring and some are being repurposing.

- c. Council President Patil, this management and invoicing vendor and township scheduling.

Police Captain Schreck a report on a regular basis.

16. FROM THE TOWNSHIP CLERK:

- a. through d. No comments were made.

17. FROM THE COUNCIL MEMBER TO THE PLANNING BOARD:

Councilmember Coyle reported the Open space and Recreation Plan Update was approved. A revision was approved on Car Max. Presentation of Exxon Mobil Redevelopment Plan was held over until September 5th.

**18. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
ORDINANCES FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION AND PUBLIC HEARING:**

O.2015-2018 Council President Patil concern on cross contamination. Restaurants can say may contain?

Councilmember Joshi, that's a valid concern. He has reached out to over 30 Restaurant Owners along with Vice President of Food Council today. He showed a drawing and how to implement it. Owners he spoke to are in support of this ordinance.

Council President Patil feels this will hurt the small business owners.

Councilmember Joshi noted this has been in European countries since 2014.

Council Vice President Sendelsky, Mr. Elliot said there is no problem on enforcement.

O.2016-2018 No comments were made.

O.2017-2018 Councilmember Joshi, this is pulled off agenda an error needs to be addressed.

O.2019-2018 No comments were made.

18. CONTRACT HEARING:

Longo Electrical Contractors.

Attorney Leslie London read all the counts, it is important to know there is a non- prosecution agreement, and this matters was pardoned by Governor Christie. She also explained Local Public Contract Law. The question was raised by the third lowest bidder on the Public Bid No. 18-06-11. She also quoted some case law.

Russell J. McEwan, ESQ attorney for Longo explained the prevailing wage matter along with case law. We presently have contracts with Longo Electric and don't have any problems. These charges were against him personally not the company.

Mr. Longo explained he did sign the wage reports. We have one individual doing several jobs and didn't have an accounting package to keep tract of our wages. What is Longo Electric about we are the 3rd generation in business, took over in 2005, raised five children, a graduate from Notre Dame and also served on various non- profit organizations. I am a good person that gives back to the community. This incident was before 2014 and I paid \$300,000 in fines, wage of about \$90,000. We now have a system that monitors and computers to do all the calculations so there is no room for human error.

Ms. London, we currently have two contracts with our township why didn't you reveal to the township.

Mr. Longo said he thought everyone would have read the newspapers. The system was put in place in 2014 and is monitored each month, prevailing wage reports then we compare payroll with report. We paid over \$650,000 worth of wages, didn't lay people off but the state doesn't see it that way.

19. COMMUNICATIONS:

- a. Letter received from Irene Wall regarding restricted parking signs.
- b. Added an email received today from The Glutamate Association concerning O.2015-2018.

20. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Council President Patil:

- a. He will be presenting a Resolution of Recognition to Mr. Enoch.
- b. Kearny Place update.

Mr. O'Brien, we are continuing to work with PSE & G to clean up their area that is in process

Mr. Russomanno in reference to Kearny Avenue flooding he provided the Council with the Flood Zone Map.

Councilmember Coyle:

- a. 103 Hickory, can Health department follow up chickens
- b. He continues to follow up on automatic enforcement on signage or overgrown or abandoned looking forward to seeing Route 1 completed.
- c. He asked if Director of DPW could meet on a regular basis before worksession meeting. He believes we don't have enough help in that department.

Ms. Ruane, there are 127 employees in DPW.

Councilmember Diehl

- a. Can someone follow up on overgrown vegetation behind the homes on South Heathcote .

Councilmember Gomez:

- a. Absent

Councilmember Joshi:

- a. None

Councilmember Lombardi:

- a. Absent

Councilmember Sendelsky:

- a. He asked about the Road Paving.

Mr. O'Brien school areas to be completed, staying on schedule.

n a motion made by Councilmember Sendelsky, seconded by Councilmember Joshi, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 9:02pm

Ajay Patil
Council President

Cheryl Russomanno, RMC
Municipal Clerk