

**MINUTES OF
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
WORKSESSION MEETING
October 22, 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 6:05 p.m. by Council President Patil, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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 Shannon and Cameraman Colonna.

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.

Senate Maxwell, 38 Sine Road, is a First Time home buyer and just found out the property CCO was forged by the seller the property has fine in the amount of \$6,000.00 and she cannot move into it. She is homeless and needs some help to resolve these issues.

Mr. Northgrave explained he wasn't aware of the situation until today, so he will gather all the information then get back to her.

Councilmember Lombardi, added you should speak to your attorney reference to escrow and get a temporary CCO.

Mr. Northgrave put the fines last on your list, let's focus on getting you into your home.

Bruce Diamond, 74 Calvert Avenue, since last meeting we have worked Metuchen Fair, Trail of Horror and we received our signs to get the word out on the Open Space Question. If you want a sign email openspace@edisonnj.org.

Sue O'Neill, 135 Vineyard Road is on the Library Board of Trustees they extended the hours at Clara Barton which she found out on Tap into Edison, there was never a vote taken to increase. The legal bills are \$3,000.00 per month. Where is the discussion? As a trustee she takes her job very serious. The Edison residents deserve open transparency.

Lisa Krauze, 26 Sherwood Road, as a Library Trustee she has the employees best at heart.

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

5. REVIEW OF MINUTES

- a. No comments were made.
- b. Councilmember Lombard will abstain from voting on these minutes because he was absent.
- b. & c. Councilmember Gomez will be abstaining from voting on these minutes because he was absent.

d. through g. No comments were made.

6. REPORTS FROM ALL COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Councilmember Coyle asked Council President Patil permission to set up a meeting with Public Works Director Russomanno regarding the parks.

Council President Patil he will schedule a meeting.

Councilmember Diehl, October 18th the Education Committee met to discuss safety within the schools another meeting is scheduled for October 29th to follow up on specifics.

Councilmember Joshi, he loves the Library and would like to see them grow that's why he asked to be the Council Liason to that board. He has concerns regarding their finances. They have a 5.2 Million dollars budget and would like to know where the money is going. He feels until he can get the answers to his questions he would like the bills held from payment.

Councilmember Diehl, this situation seems surreal to hear the stories of what is happening with the library what going on and what can be done this is totally out of control. What practical steps can we take to get back to normal? He saw a news article that was embarrassing.

Mr. Northgrave, we can ask the Library to meet to address concern and provide answers to the Township would be the first step.

Councilmember Lombardi asked whether the library attorney falls under the Department of Law in the Township.

Mr. Northgrave no, he cannot overrule their attorney.

7. POINTS OF LIGHT

Council President Patil announced events on October 26, 2018, Halloween Dance for Individuals with Disabilities at the Edison Senior Center from 6:30 pm – 9:00pm, November 6, 2018 , General Election Day MUNICIPAL OFFICES ARE CLOSED, November 11, 2018, Sunday is Veterans Day, Monday, November 12th. Municipal Offices Will Be Closed For Veterans Day,December 16, 2018 – Wreaths Across America Ceremony – at St. James Church, 2136 Woodbridge Ave., Honoring all veterans of the US Wars, living and deceased at 12Noon. Important reminder the next Council Meeting is a Combined Meeting on Thursday, November 8, 2018.

Council Vice President Sendelsky, the Harvest Festival at the Edison Tower was successful, he thanked Department of Public Works, Auxiliary Police and Edison High School students for all their hard work in making another successful festival.

Councilmember Lombardi, on Saturday the New Jersey Task Force returned home. He would like to do a Resolution of Recognition for the forces.

Councilmember Coyle, at the Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner we had a student of the year Shannon Retkwa gave a great speech of acceptance of her award.

Council Vice President Sendelsky, Mat Fulham received a community service award he is Edison High School Football Coach and we will be doing a Resolution of Recognition.

8. FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:

- a. No Comment was made.
- b. Adding to Agenda Resolutions (2) for NJDOT Grant Applications.

Council Vice President Sendelsky, will this be in compliance.

Mr. O'Brien, yes.

9. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE:

- a. Councilmember Joshi asked to pull all bills from the Library with the except of Employee payroll and reimbursements.
- b. through e. No comments were made.

10. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH:

- a. No comments were made

11. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW:

- a & b. Councilmember Coyle asked where did these come from.

Mr. Northgrave, the request came from the property owner.

Council Vice President Sendelsky added it was discussed at the Redevelopment Committee Meeting.

- c. No Comments were made.
- d. Council Vice President Sendelsky, its wonderful where will we be storing these supplies.

Mr. Russomanno, at 745 New Durham Road we have plans to use at Lake Papianni park.

12. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ENGINEERING:

- a. through d. No comments were made.

13. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

- a. No comments was made

14. FROM THE RECREADTION DEPARTMENT:

- a. No comments were made.

15. FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE:

- a. and b. No comments were made
- c. Council Vice President Sendelsky, will this replace old equipment.

Capt. Shannon, yes the stuff we have is outdated. This is all state of the art for the team members to do their job be more efficiently and effectively.

16. FROM THE TOWNSHIP CLERK:

- a. No comment was made

17. FROM THE COUNCIL MEMBER TO THE PLANNING BOARD:

Councilmember Coyle reported, a two (2) lot subdivision at 43 Bernard was approved. The 250 Residential units on Truman we went over site. Approved as part of the settlement.

Mr. Northgrave explained this is Rivendale Heights part of the COAH the settlement this council approved 2 or 3 years ago it is a piece of that process.

18. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ORDINANCES FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION, PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL ADOPTION:

O.2027-2018 No comments were made.

O.2028-2018 No comments were made.

O.2029-2018 No comments were made.

O.2030-2018 No comments were made/.

O.2031-2018 Councilmember Coyle this is the telephone poles that were put up without permission.

19. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Council President Patil:

- a. Resolution of Recognition – World War I Remembrance

Councilmember Coyle:

- a. Discussion with his slide show presentation

Mr. Russomanno, they are completed

- b. Meadow Road flooding.

Mr. Russomanno reiterated it's not our property. We have asked PSE & G to channelize the ditch, with hope the water would move quicker. We keep our part clean, its visited several times.

- c. Clothing bin can we enforce that ordinance.

Mr. Elliot will address the complaint it falls under property maintenance.

- d. At 27 Cedar Road large construction site.

Mr. O'Brien will get the information to you on Wednesday.

- e. What is the status on the Community Center.

Ms. Ruane, we will have something probably by end of year.

- f. American Water withdrew their bid.

- g. Clara Barton all the garbage bins have been removed. Thank you for the mums.

Mr. Russomanno, we left about 13 bins we are repairing some .

- h. Boat Basin garbage.

Mr. Russomanno we are there every Monday.

- i. Balance on contracts.

Mr. Northgrave, we will need to increase his contract in near future.

Ms. Ruane added she keeps an eye on all Attorney fees.

Councilmember Diehl

- a. Calvert update

Mr. O'Brien, he is in contact with DEP we will need 2 or 3 permits from them. This is a priority capital improvement.

- b. Meadow Road, this is a year ago, these projects take too long.

Mr. Russomanno explained again its PSE & G .

- c. Top Golf update.

Mr. Northgrave there are two issues they asked for another adjournment and there is a problem with the fabrication, wall delayed.

Mr. Elliot we have been out Thursday, Friday and Saturday. They cannot run sound system after 10:00 pm. DEP writes the code.

- d. Update on the Attorney General Office regarding the racist flyer.

Mr. Northgrave, we sent the letter and resolution. He sent another letter asking for an update on the investigation.

Councilmember Diehl, let's move with our own investigation.

Councilmember Joshi, it's been a year we should do an investigation. There are certain things he knows everyone should be called out and expose who was behind it.

Councilmember Gomez:

- a. Top Golf, what does the cold do to the window for the ground.

Mr. O'Brien, we only can control time frames.

- b. PSE & G North corridor on Route 1 -

Mr. O'Brien, they are taking out older towers modernizing their equipment along that stretch.

Councilmember Joshi:

a. Library Director still hasn't responded.

b. Dominos - grant

Mr. Northgrave explained it would require a bid. They are looking for marketing we cannot do that under local public contract law.

c. Edison Youth Service Core, he would like this to have 10-20 students not just the summer. Other cities have a committee thru the council serve 6 months at a time.

d. Outdoor Art Museum a project around the green way. Backs of building not being maintained look forward to pursuing in the spring .

Councilmember Lombardi:

a. Deer, he received an email they get 270 deer per year to donate

Mr. Elliot, they harvest the deer process the meat for the homeless.

b. Rahway Road issues.

Mr. O'Brien, he received the plans last week.

Prior to repaving there was a left hand right hand lane.

Councilmember Sendelsky:

a. Deer, is it still scheduled for December 10th .

Mr. Elliot yes.

b. Woodland Avenue

Mr. O'Brien, Gas co will be paving

On a motion made by Councilmember Diehl, seconded by Councilmember Sendelsky , with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03pm.

Ajay Patil
Council President

Cheryl Russomanno, RMC
Municipal Clerk