

**MINUTES OF  
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL  
WORKSESSION MEETING  
September 23, 2013**

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 Diehl, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Councilmembers Diehl, Gomez, Karabinchak, Lankey, Lombardi, Mascola, and Prasad.

Also present were Acting Township Clerk Russomanno, Deputy Township Clerk Kenny, Township Attorney Kemm, Management Specialist Stephens, Finance Director Saponaro, Recreation Director Halliwell, Public Works Director Roderman, Health Director Elliot, Township Engineer Medina, Fire Chief Latham, Police Sergeant Cimmino 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 27, 2012, and posted in the Main Lobby of the Municipal Complex on the same date.

Council President Diehl opened the meeting for comments from the public.

Clark Elison, Loring Avenue, asked if the 25,000 lb truck parked on Loring Avenue was fined. He said he reported dates and times that the vehicle was parked idling and he wanted to know if a ticket was issued.

Sergeant Cimmino said a ticket was issued and the case is pending.

Mr. Kemm said according to the ordinance you can park a commercial vehicle in the driveway but you cannot legally drive the vehicle on the street.

Council President Diehl said he wants this matter taken care of.

Mr. Kemm said it is not the Zoning Officer's responsibility, it is the Police.

Councilmember Dr Prasad asked what the summons is for.

Dennis Arico, Loring Avenue, said he was told it is a Zoning issue, now he is being told it's a Police violation. He asked to be shown some respect and not be given the run around.

Bob Yackel, 25 Dellwood Road, asked why it is taking four months to get a ladder truck. He said there is no ladder in service. He asked why we must get back-up from Sayreville when Woodbridge is right next door and has eight ladder trucks.

Chief Latham said we went out for re-bid and they should all be in by next week.

Mr. Yackel said we need a mutual aid agreement with Woodbridge. He also stated that in order to receive medical rehab for the Firefighters, they must call the OEM coordinator who in turn calls Squad #2 to respond.

Councilmember Dr. Prasad asked the chief to explain this.

John Hibel, 114 Howard Avenue, said he would like the Clara Barton First Aid Squad trash cans returned. The cans were taken over one month ago and they need them back. He said the squad paid for those cans and if they have to pay for them again they will do so.

Mr. Roderman said if the cans were purchased they will be returned. He said if there is trash that needs to be picked up please call his office and he will have it done. He apologized for the delay in getting back the cans.

Council President Diehl asked Mr. Roderman to make sure the garbage is picked up tomorrow.

Esther Nemitz, 162B Fay Street, said October 5<sup>th</sup> will be the flower planting along Amboy Avenue.

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

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

a. and b. Accepted as submitted

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

Councilmember Dr. Prasad said there was a Health Advisory Committee meeting last week regarding Obama Care which goes into effect on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Councilmember Lankey said there will be a Finance Committee meeting within the next few weeks. He asked for a report on overtime by month for 2011, 2012 and 2013 to date.

Councilmember Gomez said he received the variance analysis report and it appears we are exceeding our budget.

Ms. Saponaro said some items need to be moved.

**7. POINTS OF LIGHT**

Councilmember Karabinchak said there is a Youth Art competition for the month of October. The winners will be drawn by the Board of Education and the Council will present a Resolution of Recognition at the November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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

a. through f. No comments were made.

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

a. and b. No comments were made.

**10. FROM DEPARTMENT OF LAW:**

a. Council President Diehl asked for an explanation.

Mr. Kemm explained that this is the proposed contractor's license ordinance.

Councilmember Karabinchak asked that this item be held as it needs further revisions.

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

a. through e. No comments were made.

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

a. No comment was made.

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

a. through c. No comments were made.

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

a. No comment was made.

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

a. and b. No comment was made.

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

Councilmember Lombardi reported that the meeting was held on September 19<sup>th</sup>. The only item was a correction to the Master Plan regarding the Kilmer re-zoning.

**17. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**ORDINANCES FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION AND PUBLIC HEARING:**

O.1839-2013 No comment was made.

O.1844-2013 No comment was made.

O.1845-2013 No comment was made.

**18. COMMUNICATIONS:**

a. and b. Accepted as submitted

**19. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Council President Diehl**

a. He said a Calvert West resident asked for some sort of traffic calming to reduce speeding on that street.

Mr. Roderman said they are looking at striping and signage.

b. He also asked about lighting on Southfield and Oliver as it is very dark in that area.

c. He said the Triple C Ranch will hold its Fall Festival on September 28<sup>th</sup> from 1-5 p.m. and he encouraged everyone to attend

**Councilmember Gomez:**

None

**Councilmember Karabinchak:**

a. He said that every year a ceremony is held at Lake Papaianni for Officer Frank Papaianni who was killed in the line of duty. He requested that an ordinance be done creating "Frank Papaianni Day" as he felt this should not be forgotten. He asked Mr. Kemm if this can be done.

Mr. Kemm said such an Ordinance would have no more lasting effect than a Resolution.

- b. He said he has questions regarding information he received from Ms. Ruane on tax appeals. He asked if it is correct that we settled \$8.9 million. He asked where this money came from and why we are not going to DCA. It is his understanding that we only have sixty days to pay out.

Mr. Kemm said he must speak with Ms. Ruane as he is not sure what report she gave him.

**Councilmember Lankey:**

- a. He asked where we are we in the bid process for the new liquor license and if there is anything the Council needs to do.

Mr. Kemm said he has coordinated with Ms. Russomanno, the bid packages are ready and the legal ad will be in this Saturday's Home News.

**Councilmember Lombardi:**

- a. No comment was made.

**Councilmember Mascola:**

None

**Councilmember Prasad:**

- a. He commented on the nice job done on the POW/MIA event that was held.

He said he had a good time at the Fall Family Spectacular and said the Dushara Festival will be held on September 28<sup>th</sup>.

- c. He said a hate crime was recently perpetrated on some campaign signs in the Township and he condemned this act.

**20. CLOSED SESSION:**

The Council retired to Closed Session at 7:02 p.m., on a motion made by Councilmember Mascola, seconded by Councilmember Karabinchak and duly carried. The Township Clerk read the following Resolution into the record:

**CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, Article VI of the Open Public Meetings Act provides that a public body may hold a closed session; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Council will during this meeting enter into discussion of the following matters:

- 1) Ordinance O.1840-2013 regarding Building Department fees

**WHEREAS**, the matters to be discussed in closed session are to remain in the strictest of confidence by all Council Members in furtherance of their fiduciary duties to the Township of Edison;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, matters discussed at this meeting will be released to the public when the reasons for discussing and acting upon them in closed session no longer exists.

The Council returned from Closed Session at 7:20 p.m., on a motion made by Councilmember Prasad, seconded by Councilmember Mascola and duly carried.

On a motion made by Councilmember Prasad, seconded by Councilmember Mascola, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

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Robert Diehl  
Council President

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Cheryl Russomanno  
Acting Municipal Clerk