

**MINUTES OF
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
WORKSESSION MEETING
January 6, 2014**

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 Karabinchak, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Councilmembers Diehl, Karabinchak, Lombardi, Mascola, Prasad and Shah.

Councilmember Gomez entered at 6:17 pm

Also present were Acting Township Clerk Russomanno, Deputy Township Clerk Kenny, Attorney Kevin McManimon, partner of McManimon, Scotland, and Bauman, Business Administrator Ruane, Finance Director Saponaro, Health Director Elliot, Township Engineer Medina, 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 14, 2013 and posted in the Main Lobby of the Municipal Complex on the same date.

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

Jane Tousman, 14 Butler Road, questioned the appointment of Melissa Perilstein at a salary of \$65,000. She asked for a job description and what she will be doing.

Council President Karabinchak outlined some of Ms. Perilstein's duties and responsibilities in correcting policies and straightening out those that are incorrect.

Ms. Tousman asked if she will have an office in Townhall.

Councilmember Diehl said he is very happy and supportive with Ms. Perilstein's appointment. He said he worked with her for years when she was on the Township Council and she has a wonderful reputation and history. He said the position will evolve.

Ms. Tousman felt the Council should have her job description before voting on the Resolution.

Councilmember Diehl said they will have a job description by Wednesday and she will have an office in Townhall.

Councilmember Dr. Prasad said he will be supporting this Resolution to hire Ms. Perilstein.

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

- 5. ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA:
FROM MAYOR THOMAS LANKEY**
 - a. This was commented on earlier in the meeting.

6. REPORTS FROM ALL COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Council President Karabinchak said he will be putting a Council committee list together for Wednesday.

7. POINTS OF LIGHT
None

8. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE:
a. through f. No comments were made.

9. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH:
a. No comment was made.

10. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ENGINEERING:
a. No comment was made.

b. Councilmember Lombardi asked if every application must go through review.

Mr. Medina said this is for large scale applications and the money comes out of escrow. The fees are two times the employee's hourly rate.

11. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:
a. No comment was made.

12. FROM THE CHIEF OF FIRE:
a. Council President Karabinchak said this is long overdue and he is glad it is happening.

13. FROM THE COUNCIL MEMBER TO THE PLANNING BOARD:
Council President Karabinchak said Councilmember Mascola will be the new Councilmember to the Planning Board and he will be appointed on Wednesday.

14. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Council President Karabinchak:

- a. He said the reappointments to the Planning Board will be John Soltesz, Sal Pizzi and William Araujo and they will be on the agenda on Wednesday.
- b. He asked the Township Attorney to look into the property acquisition for the traffic signal at Oak Tree Road and Woodland Avenue.

Councilmember Diehl:

- a. He welcomed Mayor Lankey to the chambers and said he looks forward to working together.

Councilmember Gomez

None

Councilmember Lombardi:

None

Councilmember Mascola:

None

Councilmember Prasad:

None

Councilmember Shah:

None

15. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Councilmember Diehl, seconded by Councilmember Mascola, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Robert Karabinchak
Council President

Cheryl Russomanno
Acting Municipal Clerk