

**MINUTES OF  
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL  
WORKSESSION MEETING  
February 9, 2015**

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 6:02 p.m. by Council President Diehl, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Also present were Acting Township Clerk Russomanno, Deputy Township Clerk Kenny, Township Attorney McManimon, Business Administrator Ruane, Recreation Director Halliwell, Public Works Director Roderman, Fire Chief Latham, Police Captain Merker 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 11, 2014 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.

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

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

a. through c. No comments were made.

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

No comments were made.

**7. POINTS OF LIGHT**

No comments were made.

**8. FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:**

a. through d. No comments were made.

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

a. and b. No comments were made.

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

a. and b. No comments were made.

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

a. and b. No comments were made.

c. This Ordinance was added at the meeting appropriating \$1,500,000 from insurance proceeds for the acquisition of vehicles and equipment for the Department of Public Works.

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

a. No comment was made.

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

a. through d. No comments were made.

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

a. No comment was made.

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

a. No comment was made.

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

a. Council President Diehl asked when we can expect delivery.

Ms. Ruane said she is not sure but she will find out.

17. **FROM THE TOWNSHIP CLERK:.**

a. through c. No comments were made.

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

Councilmember Shah reported that the next meeting will be held on February 28<sup>th</sup>.

19.. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Council President Diehl:**

a. He asked how we are handling snow clean up without the equipment that was lost in the fire. He said a storm is forecasted and he asked what we are doing and are we prepared.

Mr. Roderman explained how we are handling storms without the equipment that was lost in the fire. He said we are using private contractors and Woodbridge is also helping us out. We have also received support from Middlesex County. Due to a concerted effort we are very well prepared in a short period of time. We should have new vehicles by the end of next week.

Council President Diehl said so far he hasn't received any phone calls. He asked how we stand with our salt supply.

Mr. Roderman said we have sufficient inventory and we are getting a delivery tomorrow.

Council President Diehl asked how long salt is good for when it is placed on the roadway.

Mr. Roderman said it is good until it melts.

Council President Diehl commented that this is not the first fire at this site as there have been four fires in the last two years. He felt we have to look at how we are doing things so this does not happen again. He suggested maybe using cameras, a night watchman, smoke detectors, etc.

Mr. Roderman said he is open to anything that moves us forward. He explained that the other three fires were related to electrical shorts and spread very quickly.

Council President Diehl commented that he is not an electrician but when a vehicle is shut off the electricity should be off and the fires started hours later. He asked if the yard is checked at the end of the day.

Mr. Roderman said the last person out checks the yard.

Council President Diehl said he has received calls from several seniors regarding the new 95 gallon recycling containers. He said some seniors are complaining that they are too large and also what can be placed in them.

Mr. Roderman said it is single stream recycling so all recyclables can be placed together in the same can. Large cardboard can be placed alongside the can. He said there is a 65 gallon can that residents may request if they feel the 95 gallon is too large.

**Councilmember Gomez:**

None

**Councilmember Karabinchak:**

None

**Councilmember Lombardi:**

None

**Councilmember Mascola:**

- a. He asked when we will finish distributing the new recycling cans to the rest of the Township.

Mr. Roderman said there is still one section left and should be finished by next week. It was held up due to the weather.

**Councilmember Prasad**

- a. He announced that the deadline to pay property taxes is tomorrow, February 10<sup>th</sup>. He asked if we keep a list of residents that receive a property tax break such as veterans', seniors, etc. He also said he hopes that the Township let's eligible residents know that these programs are available.

Ms. Ruane said the Tax Assessor should have this information.

**Councilmember Shah:**

- a. She asked if the investigation of the DPW fire has been concluded.

Mr. Roderman said it is still ongoing but should be concluded by the end of the week.

Councilmember Shah asked if there are any plans to install cameras.

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Mr. Roderman said they are looking into it but it is still in the early stages.

Councilmember Shah inquired about the recent home invasions and if we have apprehended anyone.

Captain Merker said not as of yet.

Councilmember Shah asked where we stand with the Neighborhood Watch

Captain Merker said he is not sure as Sergeant Dudash heads up the Neighborhood Watch program. He felt residents are always active in the beginning but then interest tapers off.

On a motion made by Councilmember Mascola seconded by Councilmember Karabinchak, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

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Robert Diehl  
Council President

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Cheryl Russomanno  
Acting Municipal Clerk