

**MINUTES OF  
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL  
WORKSESSION MEETING  
Monday, June 24, 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 6:04 p.m. by Council President Diehl, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Councilmembers Diehl, Karabinchak, Lankey and Lombardi.  
Councilmember Prasad entered at 6:06 p.m.  
Councilmember Gomez entered at 6:10 p.m.  
Councilmember Mascola was absent.

Also present were Acting Township Clerk Russomanno, Deputy Township Clerk Kenny, Township Attorney Kemm, Business Administrator Ruane, Finance Director Saponaro, Health Director Elliot, Township Engineer Medina, Police Captain Kelly 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 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.

Satish, Deerwood Avenue, representing the IBA, said they submitted their parade application in August of 2012 for the August 2013 parade and they have not heard anything yet. He asked where we are in the process.

Mr. Kemm said it is being reviewed and a letter will be going out shortly.

Councilmember Dr. Prasad commented that the parade is August 11<sup>th</sup> and they submitted their application in August of 2012. He feels the Administration should have answers for the parties involved.

Mr. Kemm said this is a legal matter and he cannot discuss it in public.

Councilmember Dr. Prasad said the legal issues are for prior years and he is referring to the 2013 parade. He felt the parties involved deserve an answer sooner rather than later.

Jane Tousman, 14 Butler Road, said she has questions on the bonding Resolutions. She asked what the differences are.

Ms. Ruane explained that the larger one is for tax exempt bonds.

Ms. Tousman asked the percentage of interest.

Ms. Ruane said we won't know until we go out to bid in the beginning of August.

Ms. Tousman asked about the Liquor License for Raritan Hospitality.

Mr. Kemm explained this is a conflict license and we go through this procedure every year.

Ray Koperwhats, 12 Deerwood Avenue, said the Housing Authority is down two members and he asked the Council to please consider the three names submitted and make the appointments. He also said the flooding problem at Lake Papianni is being held up by Conrail and he asked if we can reach out to Conrail to get it done.

Janet Baio, on behalf of the Pines Manor, said she is present to ask the Council to consider opening up an exit in the rear parking lot of the Pines Manor. She said currently there is no exit there and when there are large conferences it is difficult to move the traffic out.

Council President Diehl asked Mr. Medina to investigate this matter.

Mr. Medina said the Police will need to investigate the flow of traffic.

Esther Nemitz, 162B Fay Street, said there is a fence knocked down at the CIC site that needs to be repaired. She also stated the Farmer's Market is now open and the Girl Scouts will be collecting used clothing on Sunday.

Fred Wolke, 10 Peake Road, asked if Edison Township bonds can be purchased by the public.

Mr. Kemm said "yes" through a broker.

Mr. Wolke asked the interest rate we will be paying.

Mr. Kemm said we will not have that information until we go to market.

Olga Sgambettera, 46 Annette Drive, asked if these are old issues and what they are for.

Ms. Ruane said they are mostly older issues. The newest issue is for \$4 million.

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. ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA:  
FROM MAYOR ANTONIA RICIGLIANO:**

a. through c. Councilmember Dr. Prasad said that these Resolutions were tabled twice before and he questioned why they are back on the agenda.

Mr. Kemm said the Mayor can ask to have them placed back on the agenda

Councilmember Gomez recommended that they be tabled again.

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

Councilmember Gomez asked for the variance analysis report.

Ms. Ruane said we are right on target with expenditures and salary and wage is on line and looks good.

Councilmember Lankey asked if there are any areas of concern.

Ms. Ruane said construction fees are down but she is not concerned. Fire overtime looks very good and Police overtime looks okay.

Councilmember Lankey said the Finance Committee will be meeting this evening after the worksession on the bond issues.

**8. POINTS OF LIGHT**

None

**9. FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:**

a. through c. No comments were made.

d. Councilmember Dr. Prasad said there is an ambulance for sale and he questioned the cost when it was purchased.

e. through g. These items were discussed previously.

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

a. through d. No comments were made.

e. Councilmember Dr. Prasad asked if there is any cost to the Township and also what is the cost to the consumer.

Ms. Saponaro said there is no cost to the Township and there is a convenience fee cost to the consumer of between one and two percent. She said currently we are charging the consumer five percent.

Councilmember Gomez asked if we are collecting the fee.

Ms. Saponaro said “no” the consumer pays the convenience fee.

**11. FROM THE LIBRARY:**

a. This item was pulled from the agenda.

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

a. through e. No comments were made.

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

a. through c. No comments were made.

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

a. and b. No comments were made.

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

a. and b. No comments were made.

**16. FROM THE TOWNSHIP CLERK:**

a. through d. No comments were made.

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

Councilmember Lombardi reported the meeting was held on June 17<sup>th</sup> and there were two applications. The first one for 1825 Woodbridge Avenue was approved. The second was for Edison Plaza for a bank. There were more details needed so this item was held.

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

O.1838-2013 No comments were made.

**19.. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Council President Diehl:**

- a. He said he was contacted by a resident regarding Hillwood Creek. He said due to all the rain, there is natural damming occurring which is causing water to run into backyards. He asked if this could be looked into.

Mr. Medina said he will work with DPW on this.

Council President Diehl asked for a time frame and to be kept updated.

**Councilmember Gomez:**

- a. None

**Councilmember Karabinchak:**

- a. through d. No comments were made.

- e. He said he is working on an ordinance regarding the construction code fees.

**Councilmember Lankey:**

None

**Councilmember Lombardi:**

None

**Councilmember Mascola:**

Absent

**Councilmember Prasad:**

- a. He said he saw the hiring announcement for Police Officers that says we are only accepting resumes from people that are certified. He felt we should also be accepting resumes from non-certified people and open this up to everyone. He also hopes that we are considering the special needs and diversity of the community.

**20. ADJOURNMENT:**

On a motion made by Councilmember Lombardi, seconded by Councilmember Karabinchak, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

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Robert Diehl  
Council President

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Cheryl Russomanno  
Acting Municipal Clerk