

**MINUTES OF
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
WORKSESSION MEETING
October 20, 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 6:02 p.m. by Council President Karabinchak, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Councilmembers Diehl, Gomez, Karabinchak, Mascola, and Shah.
Councilmember Lombardi was absent
Councilmember Prasad entered at 6:05 p.m.

Also present were Acting Township Clerk Russomanno, Deputy Township Clerk Kenny, Township Attorney McManimon, Public Works Director Roderman, Health Director Elliot, Township Engineer Medina, 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 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.

Carol Arnold, 16 Ferris Road, said she is present to discuss getting children to and from school safely. She brought this issue to the Board of Education and was told to bring this issue to the Police Department. She feels as if she is getting the run around. She said there is no crossing guard in front of Thomas Jefferson Middle School and her son was almost hit by a car there. She feels more crossing guards are needed. She said people are very careless when dropping off and picking up their children.

Council President Karabinchak thanked her for bringing this to our attention and said the Police officer will take her name and number.

Councilmember Diehl said traffic is a nightmare at every school and he understands her call for help and we must help.

Esther Nemitz, 162B Fay Street, said there will be a rally held in support of Open Space Question #2 on the November ballot on Sunday at noon at the Farmer' Market on Amboy Avenue. She felt this is a very important question and she urged residents to attend. She also asked what was changed in item #10c on the agenda.

Council President Karabinchak said the FAR percentage was left in the ordinance and needed to be taken out. That is the only change and it will be sent back to the Planning Board for review.

Ms. Nemitz asked if it rains on Wednesday, will the dedication ceremony for Jane Tousman be moved indoors.

Councilmember Diehl said the ceremony will be held outdoors. Jane was all about the outdoors and that is where it will be held. He also urged residents to come out to the rally on Sunday as it is a very important question.

Ms. Nemitz said she is very happy to see the Resolution for the future dedication of the Environmental Education Center as the Jane Tousman Environmental Education Center.

Lois Wolke, 10 Peake Road, asked for an explanation of items 10a. and 10b.

Mr. McManimon explained that these are existing utility poles that the company wishes to piggy back on. Municipal consent is required for the placement of these lines.

Ms. Wolke asked when we will receive the new recycling containers.

Mr. Roderman said delivery will be in about 90 days and they will cover the remaining sections of Town.

Fred Wolke, 10 Peake Road, asked why we are doing the Cablevision ordinance now. He asked if it is required by the State. He felt the cost of Cablevision is excessive and something needs to be done to bring these people in line. He said this is a monopoly that has done nothing for us and needs to be brought under control.

Council President Karabinchak said we haven't had an agreement in many years and have lost money. This is one step in getting back the money we need.

Mr. Wolke asked if the Township can deny them access.

Mr. McManimon said he is not sure if the Township has the right to deny consent. He said the rates are monitored by the BPU not the Township. If you deny them access and there is no other company, you are denying all residents cable television.

Mr. Wolke asked why Cablevision will not attend the public hearing on the ordinance.

Council President Karabinchak said he will ask the Administration.

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

5. REPORTS FROM ALL COUNCIL COMMITTEES:
None

6. POINTS OF LIGHT:
Council President Karabinchak announced the opening of the Snack Shack Café in the Municipal Building. The café will be run by people with disabilities and it will be life changing for them. He also heard on the radio that Edison is the 2nd best place to live in New Jersey due to our schools, our tax rate and our services.

7. FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:
a. Councilmember Mascola asked if these are updates or replacements.

Mr. McManimon said this is a blanket resolution to replace equipment throughout the building.

b. and c. No comments were made.

d. Mr. McManimon said this must be changed to an ordinance.

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 THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW:
a. through d. No comments were made.

11. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ENGINEERING:
a. through h. No comments were made.

12. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

a. through c. No comments were made.

13. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION:

a. and b. No comments were made.

14. FROM THE CHIEF OF FIRE:

a. through c. No comments were made.

15. FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE:

a. through c. 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 Mascola said the next meeting will be on Monday.

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

O.1883-2014 No comment was made.

19. COMMUNICATIONS:

a. Received as submitted.

20. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Council President Karabinchak:

a. He said he met with the Playhouse and should have an answer within the next two weeks.

b. through f. No comments were made.

Councilmember Diehl:

a. This was discussed earlier.

b. He again reminded everyone about the Rally on Sunday on Amboy Avenue in support of the Open Space question on the ballot.

Councilmember Gomez:

None

Councilmember Lombardi:

Absent

Councilmember Mascola:

None

Councilmember Prasad

a. He asked if there was an update on contract negotiations.

Council President Karabinchak said he will check with Administration.

Councilmember Shah:
None

21. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Councilmember Diehl, seconded by Councilmember Mascola, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Robert Karabinchak
Council President

Cheryl Russomanno
Acting Municipal Clerk