

**MINUTES OF  
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL  
WORKSESSION MEETING  
March 26, 2018**

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 6:03 p.m. by Council President Patil, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Councilmembers Coyle, Diehl, Joshi, Lombardi, Patil, and Sendelsky

Councilmember Gomez entered meeting at 6:04pm.

Also present were Township Clerk Russomanno, Deputy Clerk McCray, Township Attorney Northgrave, Business Administrator Ruane, Public Works Director Russomanno, Health Director Elliott, Township Engineer O'Brien, Fire Chief Latham, Police Captain Askelson 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 9, 2017 and posted in the Main Lobby of the Municipal Complex on the same date.

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

Howard – 71 Calvert Avenue West, thank you for all you do however, I feel bad to come to complain about the water problem my neighbors and I are left with from 69 Calvert.

Councilmember Diehl, this is a problem we are well aware of for the past year and a half and continues to get worse.

Mr. O'Brien we are working on design right now, I don't have specifications yet and need DEP regulations as approved.

Councilmember Diehl, how close are we to the solution.

Mr. O'Brien we are in design process not certain which properties. He is not aware of Mark's Plans.

Council President Patil, asked Mr. O'Brien to revisit the property.

Mr. O'Brien explained there are a number of items we need to do starting with pulling of the original plans to compare what was approved and constructed, why second a time line, third if can have DPW pump this or do we need special permission from other agencies.

Councilmember Diehl asked for Mr. O'Brien to keep him updated.

Councilmember Lombard asked if there are any escrow monies.

Mr. O'Brien, isn't sure that why he need to pull the original plan file.

Resident., 6 Fred Place, the roads in his neighborhood such as Susan, Reider all in District 73 haven't been paved in a long time. Some residents have been there for over 45 years and have no recollection. He was told they will be considered for next year plans.

Resident of Reider Road, is concerned about the traffic that cuts through their neighborhood and children safety by the bus stop and park.

Council President Patil, asked the process regarding the paving list.

Mr. O'Brien, explained they are in the process of finalizing the list he will check to see if these streets are on it.

Council President Patil, can we have some signs put up, School Bus Stop and Park.

Mr. Russomanno will check with the Traffic Division but perhaps you should talk to the Board of Education about that stop, it seems to be an inappropriate place.

Councilmember Joshi, on the Park who we have a program to spray mosquitos.

Mr. Elliot, the county surveys they have a mosquito commission.

Maria Orchid, 83 Jefferson Avenue, Edison High School is looking for vendors for their Craft Fair. She invited the Council to Easter services at the Egnite Church at 747 King Georges Road. There will be a town garage sale on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Since the storms are over now how do residents get rid of their tree limbs.

Mr. Russomanno, you can call our office at 732-248-7288 or send a Citizens Request to schedule pick up.

Ms. Orchid, any update on poles for Amboy Avenue. Glad to see the Resolution for the firefighters they work very hard. Is there an update on Firehouse #3.

Mr. Russomanno, will check with Debbie Donald she handles P.S. E & G.

Mr. O'Brien, we are in litigation with the contractor of the Firehouse.

Mr. Northgrave give us till next meeting we are reviewing and hope to get finished as quickly as possible.

Walt Stochel, 2118 Oak Tree Road, thanked the council for the re-appointments of the members to the Open Space Committee he will have a few more for next meeting. April 7<sup>th</sup> History Day will be at the North Edison Library from 10am to 3 pm. There is a resolution on for an area in need of Redevelopment, which is at the Oak Tree Bus Company. Could you explain the procedure, who recommends this is it the owner, town or future land owner.

Mr. Northgrave explained as a general matter it could to either way we can identify, however in this parcel there is a contract purchaser who wants to redevelop that corner. They would need a number of things to be done so they approached us if we would consider for an area in need of redevelopment.

Mr. Stochel does that circumvent the Zoning Board and use variance. In 2002/ 2003 there was a court decision that was thrown out to redevelopment that site.

Mr. Northgrave explained the process of an area in need of redevelopment plan. This is a non-condemnation, everything is being done with the owner.

Councilmember Joshi asked for explanation on the differences in the regular land use law and redevelopment.

Mr. Northgrave explained in depth the process, differences and why.

Mr. Stochel, there was a gas station at that site about over twenty years ago, that use it abandoned. Can the town look into the speed limit on Inman Avenue.

Esther Nemitz, 162B Fay Street, Channel 15 has been dark for three day now can we please consider getting new equipment.

Ms. Ruane explained they are doing an upgrade to the system.

Council President Patil asked Ms. Ruane if they could put a message on the website that it is down.

Councilmember Lombardi, is there away on the website to see the meeting.

Ms. Ruane, yes we already have that capability.

Lois Wolke, 10 Peake Road, item 11 “a” under law, Who will own that property? Does this count toward our COAH obligation? How is the \$100,000 dollar used?

Ms. Ruane, yes it is toward COAH. The money is through the CDBG program, \$25,000 per bedroom.

Ms. Wolke, item “d” under law, what kind of amendment is this.

Mr. Northgrave, its one amendment we are asking the Planning Board to review. He explained it’s a use amendment to clarify for an indoor recreation.

Ms. Wolke who is the developer on the Oak Tree Road site?

Mr. Northgrave is not at liberty to say. He will email his notes in regarding to her OPRA.

Councilmember Joshi would like to see walk ways to be put on the Hartz Mountain site.

Fred Wolke, 10 Peake Road, during Mayor Lankey’s first term he had asked for citizen participation for various committees. He put in an application for Historic Preservation and hasn’t heard is there any activity. Does this committee exist?

Council President Patil, please send it in again.

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

**5. REVIEW OF MINUTES**

a. No Comments were made.

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

Councilmember Coyle, on behalf of Beautification Committee is looking at a few new sites in the Bonhamtown section.

Councilmember Joshi, Library Meeting was canceled due to weather, its rescheduled for Wednesday, which I cannot attend.

Councilmember Gomez, will be scheduling a Finance Committee meeting soon.

Council Vice President Sendelsky attended a meeting on March 13, 2018 with Amazon. They want to be a good neighbor. They are in the design stage of the wall which is going to be twenty feet high. They discussed the details of the wall. They wanted to make sure all the residents supported the wall project before they move forward. The residents were all in support.

Mr. Northgrave stated for the record so there is no confusion or debate at my request all councilmember just listened there was no discussion to violate any OPMA.

**7. POINTS OF LIGHT**

Council President Patil, announced the following events. March 30, 2018 – Good Friday, Township Offices will be closed, April 7, 2018, Saturday, at Lake Papaianni from 8:00am – 2:00pm Electronics Recycling,

April 9, 2018 , Monday Worksession Council Meeting, Mr. DeNicola from White Buffalo will be doing a brief presentation on Deer Population , April 11, 2018, Wednesday, at the JCC on Oak Tree Road, Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony 7:30pm – 8:00pm, April 13, 2018, Friday, Edison Chamber of Commerce Health & Wellness expo at Pines Manor from 11am – 2:00pm, April 14, 2018-,Saturday, North Edison Baseball and Softball Opening Day Parade starts at 9:00am from John Adams Middles School to Baseball Complex, April 14, 2018, Saturday, Edison Boys Baseball Opening Day starts at 8:00am Central Avenue near the Jets Field, April 22, 2018 , Earth Day, 9:00 – 3:00 at Papaiani Park and also From 12:00 To 4:00pm Grand Re-Opening of our Animal Shelter and on April 22, 2018 - Sunday, Midtown Little League Opening Day at 12:00pm at their field on Glenville Road. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Clara Barton Neighborhood Yard Sale, on Saturday, May 5, 2018.

**8. FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:**

a. and b. No comments were made

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

a. through c. No comments were made

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

a. No comments were made

b. Councilmember Joshi, asked about the EMT and if Firefighters can have Eppy pens.

c. No comments were made

d. No comments were made

e. and f. Council President Patil pulled these items off Agenda due to not enough information.

Councilmember Gomez he takes issue we constantly are pulling off agenda, we are trying to move the town forward.

Mr. Northgrave explained this is not a plan it's just a referral to the planning board for them to conduct a study and come back to this council.

Council Vice President Sendelsky they did have a meeting tonight as Mr. Northgrave explained this is a referral to the Planning Board to conduct a study. This is not to add to Route 27 we hope to add an acceleration lane to alleviate traffic.

Councilmember Lombardi, when are the next planning board meeting.

Councilmember Coyle, April 16 and April 26<sup>th</sup> is a special meeting.

Mr. Northgrave explained how the notice process and timing in order to make the Planning Board meeting.

Council President Patil doesn't see the urgency it could wait another two weeks.

Councilmember Joshi asked if we are bound by anything.

Mr. Northgrave explained with redevelopment everything flows back to the council.

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

a. and b. No comments were made.

12. **FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:**  
a. and b. Council President Patil asked for clarification.

Ms. Ruane explained one resolution if for the Engineering Services and one is for the work.

13. **FROM THE CHIEF OF FIRE:**  
a. No comments were made.

14. **FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE:**  
a. through c. No comments were made

15. **FROM THE TOWNSHIP CLERK:**  
a. and b. No comments were made.

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

Councilmember Coyle reported James Street was approved medical office building and Dr. Acela program was postponed. Top Golf was moved to April 16<sup>th</sup>.

17. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:  
ORDINANCES FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION, PUBLIC HEARING, AND FINAL ADOPTION:**

O.2002-2018 No comments were made.

O.2003-2018 No comments were made.

18. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Council President Patil:**

- a. Resolution of Recognition  
b. There are several areas in need of redevelopment, Edison Train station, Wood Avenue can the chair of the Redevelopment committee set a meeting to discuss the sites.

Council Vice President Sendelsky will set up a meeting regarding all possible sites. Our goal is to keep the millenniums here.

- c. He asked Mr. Russomanno about the water stream on the property on Grove.

Mr. Russomanno explained he has to work with engineering and DEP.

- d. Great job on snow plowing.

**Councilmember Coyle:**

- a. He was at Woodrow Wilson Middle School the children are inspiring and energized.  
b. 16 Briar problem, pipe break

Mr. Russomanno explained the man whole cover was hit by a plow they have secured it until the new part comes in.

- c. Utica and Tuscan Resident, what is the next step to get these streets paved.

Ms. Ruane we decide what streets are going to be on the paving list.

**Councilmember Diehl**

- a. E – recycle is on April 7, 2018 at lake
- b. Light on Talmadge causeway are out.

Mr. Russomanno, notified PSE & G they probably didn't get to it yet due to the snow storm.

- c. He thanked Mr. Russomanno for the Maps, what is the next step for Kearny.

Mr. O'Brien is waiting for the plan

- d. Mr. Fix it.

Ms. Ruane, Budget process for CDBG.

**Councilmember Gomez:**

- a. Regarding station #3 the goal after the legal process is to get them back in as soon as possible.
- b. Thank our DPW department with the great job on snow removal.

**Councilmember Joshi:**

- a. He asked for Jay to looking into the Generic brand for the Epy Pen.
- b. Gun march on this past weekend he had many calls with middle and high school parents want to be more involved in policy.
- c. The millennium generation is the reality we have a full blow crisis in Edison. They are leaving New Jersey at a fast rate.
- d. Resolution of Recognition he will be presenting along with the teacher.

**Councilmember Lombardi:**

- a. \$100,000. For the affordable trust fund who is in charge of placing.
- b. Time line up date for Oak Tree and Woodland light.

Mr. O'Brien they are looking to have it constructed before school starts in September.

**Councilmember Sendelsky:**

- a. He thanked Mr. Russomanno for sending out the men to clean up at asphalt Hilltop.
- b. He also thanked him for the signs on Calvert and Stephenville.

On a motion made by Councilmember Sendelsky, seconded by Councilmember Gomez, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 pm.

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Ajay Patil  
Council President

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Cheryl Russomanno, RMC  
Municipal Clerk