

**MINUTES OF
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
WORKSESSION MEETING
April 8, 2019**

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 6:08 p.m. by Council President Gomez, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Also present were Township Clerk Russomanno, Deputy Clerk McCray, Township Attorney Northgrave, Business Administrator Ruane, Public Works Director Russomanno, Acting Recreation Director Fircha, Health Director Elliott, Township Engineer O’Krepky, Fire Chief Latham, Police Captain Shannon 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 1, 2018 and posted in the Main Lobby of the Municipal Complex on the same date.

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

Tony Eggert, 141 Pleasant Avenue, he asked if we still employ services of Jaffee Communications. He asked what are they doing to make us look good.

Mr. Northgrave, there is a contract with Jaffee Communications.

Councilmember Lombardi, added Jaffee did provide a report on articles.

Maria Orchid, 83 Jefferson Avenue, She thanked everyone who participated in the Clara Barton Springtime. She made announcements such as Edison High School on Saturday, April 13th is their Craft Fair, and on April 27th is the Clara Barton Yard Sale.

Sam Lamm, 20 Partch Place, regarding item 10 a.is there a formula for additional housing for the school system, what would calculation be.

Mr. Northgrave, Township adopted a Plan pursuant to court cases, taxes on value.

Richard Brescher, 868 Grove Avenue, there is an on line question, forum he asked the market evaluation , do we have any numbers if Edison Township wants to get out of the deal, if the Mayor or council decides what is the impact to residents.

Mr. Northgrave , his partner Joe Bauman will not be here tonight for the public hearing that questions will not be addressed tonight. Public Hearing will not be closed tonight.

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

**5. ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA:
FROM MAYOR THOMAS LANKEY:**

- a. No comments were made.

6. REPORTS FROM ALL COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Councilmember Coyle in lieu of public forum he will prefer to have his committee report at the next worksession.

Councilmember Diehl., Committee of the Whole, subcommittee met to discuss two dates we plan to start early May, we will get the dates to the public soon.

Councilmember Joshi, Library Board will meet tomorrow at 6:00pm in Council Chambers. The Book Mobile emails keep coming in, if any one has concerns on book mobile he strongly suggest you go to library board meeting.

Councilmember Lombardi, Land Fill Committee met we are moving to pursue a capping system to the landfill.

7. POINTS OF LIGHT

Council President Gomez, it was a great weekend we had opening of two baseball groups and on April 13 Edison Boys Baseball and the 4th Annual Clara Barton Yard Sale on May 4th. He Thanked the Department of Recreation for the Easter Event and for their continued commitment for allowing our kids to be involved.

Councilmember Joshi, he recognized Joseph Johnson, this past Saturday we had a wonderful event, he is the found of the Lena Harris Foundation.- 8 week program keep up the good work.

Council President Gomez and Councilmember Sendelsky also attended one of the sessions you did a fantastic job.

8. FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:

a. Councilmember Lombardi, he thinks it's important to recognize this team of thirteen individuals that are really used to educate and initiatives to support sustainable local government practices.

9. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE:

a. through e. No comments were made.

Council Vice President Patil, would like to add a Resolution on the agenda seeing 70-80 people here tonight on the Suez Public Hearing, to place this issue to the voters on November 5, 2019. He feels Edison Residents should decide their future.

Councilmember Coyle, if you are introducing a referendum he seconded. He has reviewed long and hard he feels it too long and tax heights. He supports putting Edison people to work.

Council Vice President has prepared a Resolution to add to the Agenda we have until Wednesday to review to ask to put in the hands of the residents.

Council President Gomez, thank you but this is last minute we have taken every opportunity to educate everyone. To take any action is premature and purpose of the continuation of meetings is to allow everyone opportunity to understand this.

Mr. Northgrave, explained a vote to add to agenda would be Wednesday night. Council President wants the ability for all councilmembers to see your purposed resolution. It is up to Council President.

Council Vice President Patil, we have added items to agenda at Worksession without a vote. When he as Council President last year we added resolutions on Monday Worksession without voting.

Council President Gomez, to be fair to everyone on this council they should review the resolution.

Councilmember Coyle, he's confused on what we need to talk about this council is educated on what a referendum is, to ask the residents if they want their water and sewer leased for forty years. We have a motion and seconded.

Council President Gomez, explained we will not be voting on this in fairness to this governing everyone needs to review the proposed resolution before Wednesday.

Councilmember Lombardi respectfully disagrees with Council Vice President, if something was to be added the clerk would send an email to all members or a copy would be provided to all member at the meeting. Since he hasn't seen this resolution he will not be voting to add.

Mr. Northgrave explained the procedure this Resolution will be subject to a vote to add and then subject to a vote on the Resolution on Wednesday. The motion and the second, what Council President is saying he is not asking for a vote this evening it will be considered on Wednesday after all council members have the opportunity to review.

10. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW:

a. and b. No comments were made.

c. Councilmember Lombardi, one exception in one of the blocks and lots did not meet requirements, what significates does it have.

Mr. Northgrave will review and report on Wednesday. It was being deleted because the Township records didn't match.

11. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ENGINEERING:

a. through d. No comments were made.

12. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

a. No comments were made.

13. FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE:

a. through d. No comments were made.

14. FROM THE COUNCIL MEMBER TO THE PLANNING BOARD:

Councilmember Sendelsky, I was just appointed at the last meeting, our next Planning Board meeting is May 15th.

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

O.2041-2019 No comments were made.

O.2042-2019 No comments were made.

16. COMMUNICATIONS:

a. Received via email from Ralph Bucci regarding Eight Hundred Fifty Million Dollar Agreement.

17. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Council President Gomez:

a. None

Councilmember Coyle:

a. He asked Councilmember Lombardi to please explain the capping on the Landfill.

Councilmember Lombardi, he explained the alternative capping system which would save money and use of land.

He asked if we wasted the money we spent hiring CME.

Councilmember Lombardi, they are working with CME. The alternative method would also have to be approved by the DEP.

b. He asked for an update on the Parks.

Mr. Russomanno, he will be happy to take a ride with you to go over the progress.

Councilmember Diehl

a. Deer update, he understands Mr. Elliot is out counting deer as we speak may have an update on Wednesday.

Councilmember Joshi:

a. None

Councilmember Lombardi:

a. He asked Ms. Ruane to read the letter she received from the Board of Education.

Ms. Ruane read the letter.

He asked Councilmember Diehl if they reached out to him on this matter.

Councilmember Diehl replied no.

He said when it comes to matters of Board of Education, they aren't so cooperative or considerate of the Township.

Councilmember Patil:

- a. Thank you for sending the letter on the recreation. Do you know where we stand?

Ms. Ruane, Mayor received a letter from the Board of Education.

Ms. Fircha was told by the BOE they will be assigning their fields they set up a cricket committee. She tried to reach Jerry Shi but hasn't heard back. They will be voiding all our permits.

Councilmember Sendelsky:

- a. He has received complaints regarding truck traffic from amazon. He asked Ms. Ruane to see if we can get signs put up.

Ms. Ruane will work with DPW.

- b. Wall at Top Golf.

Mr. Northgrave reported that wall was built as approved.

On a motion made by Councilmember Lombardi, seconded by Councilmember Sendelsky, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:03pm.

Alvaro Gomez
Council President

Cheryl Russomanno, RMC
Municipal Clerk