

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL - TOWNSHIP OF EDISON
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
May 14, 2019**

A Special Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Municipal Council was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Complex on Tuesday, May 14, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 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 Township Clerk McCray, Special Counsel Christopher Maikschnitt and Andrew Dressel partners of the Dressel Malikschnitt Law firm.

The Township Clerk advised that adequate Notice of this meeting as required by the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975, has been provided by a Special Notice published in The Home News Tribune and New India Times on April 25, 2019 and posted in the Main Lobby of the Municipal Complex on the same date.

Council President Gomez opening statement of this meeting, thank you all for coming out to Council Chambers for our first meeting of the Township's Council's Committee of the Whole. As many of you know, this is an investigatory meeting to investigate the racial flyer that was created and distributed during the 2017 Board of Education Election.

Our goal tonight is to gather more information that may ultimately lead us to those individuals who were reasonable for this terrible and unacceptable act. Our expectations are that tonight we begin the investigatory process and we intend to hold as many meeting as possible or as needed. With that said, we will be holding another meeting on Thursday, May 23rd here in Council Chambers at 7:00pm and another meeting is being planned for June. Moving forward, we stand united as a Council to send the message that anyone who engages in this form of racial bigotry will not be tolerated. We will not stand silent.

It is important that as we begin, we understand that these meetings will be conducted with the level of decorum that our residents and this council deserves. I ask that everyone to please put their cell phones on silent and respect the individuals who will be speaking tonight.

Councilmember Lombardi explained the procedure of questions and answering to all witness that will be testifying tonight.

We have a court stenographer who will be recording the minutes. When the transcripts are ready they will be available in the Clerk's office.

Having no further testimonies this evening, on a motion made by Councilmember Diehl seconded by Councilmember Patil this meeting will reconvene on May 23, 2019 at 7:00pm. This meeting adjourned at 10:06pm.

Alvaro Gomez
Council President

Cheryl Russomanno, RMC
Municipal Clerk