

**MINUTES OF
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
WORKSESSION MEETING
May 9, 2016**

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 6:13 p.m. by Council President Lombardi, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Councilmembers Gomez, Lombardi, Patil, and Sendelsky.

Councilmember Diehl entered meeting at 6:25pm

Councilmembers Karabinchak and Shah were absent.

Also present were Township Clerk Russomanno, Deputy Clerk McCray, Township Attorney Northgrave, Business Administrator Ruane, Public Works Director Haines, Recreation Director Halliwell, Health Director Elliot, Township Engineer Kataryniak, 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 12, 2015 and posted in the Main Lobby of the Municipal Complex on the same date.

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

Walt Stochel, 2118 Oak Tree Road, he explained the two letters from Open Space Committee. He thanked the Council for removing Mundy Avenue from the Ordinance.

Mr. Stochel asked for a status on Building 1072 in Camp Kilmer.

Council President Lombardi, Department of Public Works will be cleaning up and we are looking into grants.

Mr. Stochel asked if the Clayton block site is for Hartz Mountain.

Mr. Northgrave, no it is not.

Chris Trioano, 20 Hill Road, happy to see resolution on dog park rules. Regarding Uber tax, is there any updated information. He feels we shouldn't be adding any additional taxes.

Mr. Northgrave we cannot impose a tax however we are in the process of drafting an Ordinance regarding Uber Drivers.

Council President Lombardi, our Police Officers are doing a great job keeping Uber Drivers out of the line at the train station.

Councilmember Sendelsky, we don't know if the Uber drivers have proper insurance, and they are not paying fees like our Taxi companies. We need to level the playing field and follow the law.

Esther Nemitz, 162B Fay Street, is there an update on COAH.

Council President Lombardi, court is May 12th.

Fred Wolke, 10 Peake Road, on Item 8 e. is this the same as before.

Ms. Ruane, yes it is, the company will have a convenience fee.

Mr. Northgrave added the Tax Payer pays the convenience fee not the Township.

John Poyner ,40 Roosevelt Blvd., asked what is the process to fill a vacancy on the council.

Mr. Northgrave explained the Vacancy law.

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. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Accepted as submitted.

6. REPORTS FROM ALL COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

None

7. POINTS OF LIGHT

Council President Lombardi announced this Friday, at St. Helen's Church at 10:00am there will be a mass in honor of Frank Papappini and our Edison Police. On Sunday, May 15, 2016 the Mayor Bicycle Tour takes place, it starts at town hall.

Councilmember Sendelsky, this past weekend the On the Road to the White took place. He reported there were over a thousand shoes collected for the Animal Shelter.

8. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE:

a. through e. No comments were made

f. and g. Councilmember Patil asked if we are hiring two companies to work with IT.

Ms. Ruane it is Provident Bank's form of Resolution.

9. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH:

a. through c. No comments were made.

10. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW:

a. Council President Lombardi asked if we are going to have some at the park to supervise.

Mr. Northgrave said the idea is self policing.

Councilmember Sendelsky asked who will be maintaining the Park.

Ms. Ruane answered our Department of Public Works.

b. through d. No comments were made.

- e. Councilmember Patil asked if we have a project or plan for this site.

Mr. Northgrave explained the process in redevelopment and how it benefits the town. This is the first step to designating the area.

Councilmember Patil added he would like to see a plan for a community center.

Council President Lombardi said the Economic Development Committee is looking into 1072 Building.

11. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ENGINEERING:

- a. through c. No comments were made.

12. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

- a. No comments were made.
- b. and c. Council President Lombardi asked for a brief description.

Ms. Ruane, Stone, Pipe and for Ground Materials all if we need.

- e. No comments were made.

13. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION:

- a. and b. No comments were made

14. FROM THE CHIEF OF FIRE:

- a. No comments were made.

15. FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE:

- a. No comments were made.

16. FROM THE TOWNSHIP CLERK:

- a. Council President Lombardi, we are adding a Resolution to Waive Permit fees for Ozanam Shelter heat and air conditioning.

17. FROM THE COUNCIL MEMBER TO THE PLANNING BOARD:

Minutes of Special Planning Board Meeting Thursday May 5th, 2016

The Planning Board met to discuss the Re-Development Study for 1015 Route 1 Block 198.L Lot 39 (AKA Clayton Block). A brief Public Presentation was made before the board by Township Planning Consultants Hyer and Gruel. The planning board was given a written re-development study prior to the meeting consisting of 24 pages plus the Appendix. Aerial maps and historical studies of the property were researched and documented in the report. The property is 19.4 acres in size. The property has existed in the same current configuration since 1954. One-third of the site is dedicated to concrete recycling and concrete block manufacturing and approximately two-thirds of the site is used for storage, warehousing and display of finished concrete block products. The remainder of the site provides support for the onsite operations and is an office building and sales space.

There are eight (8) criteria that were considered in evaluating the area to determine if it is an area in need of re-development. The "D" criteria denotes "Areas with buildings or improvements which by reason of dilapidation, obsolescence, overcrowding, faulty arrangement or design, lack of ventilation, light and sanitary facilities, excessive land coverage, deleterious land use, or obsolete layout, or any combination of these or other factors are detrimental to the safety, health, morals, or welfare of the community." Hyer and Gruel feels that this site fits the criteria. The site lacks storm water management and retention because it was developed prior to the environmental and storm water management regulations. The site lacks many modern site plan design and planning principles. Circulation isles are not delineated and there are no emergency fire lanes and except for the office area there are no parking areas delineated or striped. The site is also not landscaped in accordance with the Township's ordinance and site-planning principles.

The Edison Township Master Plan recommends a future planned mixed-use development for this site. The property adjacent to this site is the former Ford Plant which is being developed commercially by Hartz Mountain. The character of the area has changed and it is one of the last industrial properties remaining on the Route 1 corridor in our town. For all of the above reasons and supporting data the site is incompatible with the uses of the surrounding properties and has been recommended by our planner Hyer and Gruel to be Designated as an area in need of Re-Development.

The Planning Board passed a resolution (7 yes and my abstention) to recommend that the Hyer and Gruel Re-development study be sent back to the Council for their consideration in Designating 1015 Route 1 Block 198.L Lot 39 as an area in need of Re-Development.

Respectfully Submitted- Councilman Len Sendelsky

18. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Council President Lombardi:

- a. Intersection of Inman/Wood Avenue can we look into plans.

Mr. Kataryniak, there are no formal plans.

- b. He asked Mr. Elliot for a report on the property at the intersection of Clive and Mason.

Mr. Elliot explained this area for several years has been monitored and maintained by the Mosquito Commission, it is a wet lands area that cannot be disturbed. They inspect and treat on a regular basis.

Councilmember Diehl

- a. He asked for an update on Oak Tree Road Light.

Mr. Kataryniak is hoping to have some information on Wednesday.

- b. Where are we with Electronic recycling?

Mr. Elliot replied he is working with the County on this program.

Councilmember Gomez:

- a. None

Councilmember Karabinchak:

- a. Absent

Councilmember Patil:

- a. None

Councilmember Sendelsky:

- a. None

Councilmember Shah:

- a. absent

On a motion made by Councilmember Diehl, seconded by Councilmember Sendelsky, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm.

Michael R. Lombardi
Council President

Cheryl Russomanno, RMC
Municipal Clerk