

**MINUTES OF
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
WORKSESSION MEETING
June 11, 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 6:02 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 6:18pm.

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 Chief Bryan 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.

Fred Carpane, 33 Oak Grove Lane, we residents of Oak Grove thank the Council, Mayor and Engineer for the action that was taken to our problem. Thanks to all for working hard.

Frank Abella, 21 Oak Grove Lane, he is here to discuss deer and tick problem. The number of lime disease was 321 in 2017. What is the best course of action, Ticks are living longer. This council should take a pro-active stance – It's a NJ problem lime disease.

Mr. Elliot, he is working on a second quote.

Frank Greco, 12 Maida Road, he is here to speak on police department. It's a shame I don't know the answer but let's not label all police officers.

Bruce Diamond, 74 Calvert Avenue, explain Item 11B. Heyer & Gruel were not prepared for planning board meeting. He agreed with Mr. Greco on the Police Department, he's tired for reading us in the news. He asked how many officers overall are suspended. He is concerned on the cost of overtime to the tax payers.

Chief Bryan, there are five (5) officers suspended without pay. We had identified the problem and reported it to the prosecutor's office. It's an ongoing investigation, we cannot discuss. Our overtime projections are right on target.

Mr. Northgrave explained item 11B, this will allow us to spend the money.

Mr. Diamond, how do we decide?

Ms. Ruane replied it has to be on sidewalks.

Lisa Bukachevsky, 11 Outcalt Road, the amazon warehouse noise is a lot louder. She asked if they can bypass and start building the wall.

Mr. Northgrave, they have ordered as quickly as they can, it has to be fabricated.

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Walter Stochel, 2118 Oak Tree Road, again I am disappointed in the newspaper about the police department. How long has existing situation been in operation? Is the township going to perform an audit? He asked if the town is liable for no show jobs. Do any other departments do work safety because every few years there is a scandal on police, when is it going to stop.

Scott Zederbaum, 7 Oliver Avenue, Police Department we are sick and tired of hearing about our police department. We need to do something. Chief Bryan has done a great job but the cancer is still there. I Challenge you all to make tough decisions. Mayor needs to make changes. This is really concerning.

Mr. Northgrave, the money that was charged doesn't come out of tax payer money.

Mr. Diamond, it really doesn't matter where the money came from it represents dishonesty. Do a better job to get rid of bad people.

Rick Carroll, 85 King Street, complaining about Care One Nursing Home, trees are not planted, abandoned ambulance, and trucks at 4:30am running. They are going before the board to expand the building they need to be good neighbors.

Ms. Ruane, she will get someone to go out there tomorrow.

Mr. O'Brien will take a look at their original approval and the application.

Councilmember Lombardi, stated this Thursday they will be before the zoning board.

Trish Carroll, 85 King Street, expressed her concerns of the loss of value to their homes in the area of Care One. It's a residential zone, three stories is too high of a building.

Lois Wolke, 10 Peak Road, she sympathizes with police officers that are over shadowed. Residents have to be embarrassed again. It's hard to understand this situation since 2016, no one new about this.

Mr. Abella, he heard the state is working on the property tax to increase deduction to 15,000.00.

Mr. Northgrave said he spoke to the Director of Government Services they are preparing the bill.

Esther Nemitz, 162B Fay Street, at the special meeting of the Planning Board there were two items on the agenda. She feels Heyer & Gruel didn't talk to anyone and they made mistakes in their report. She feels we need to do a better job in the way redevelopment is handled.

Ronald Britt, 89 King Street, to express his concerns on the Care One facility expansion. They are a terrible neighbor, noise, trash, dead trees. They turn a deaf ear to the neighbor's complaints.

Fred Wolke, 10 Peake Road, Roosevelt Terrace Park not maintained very well he saw a few residents doing it to keep up Clara Barton neighborhood nice, thank you. We should do better training and supervision of officer on the road. He asked who pays for the gasoline and the cars for off duty work.

Chief Bryan, we do random drug testing as well as a lot of oversight, however details we cannot share. The township gets fee from the vendor.

Parth Shah, 74 King Street he moved here at seven years old and now raising his family here. The traffic on Inman Avenue is tremendous. When it rains where is the water going to go with the expanded parking lot of Care One. Please decline this expansion.

John Balley, 70 King Street his here to voice his opinion of the Care One expansion. Why build in a residential area its 90,000 sq. ft.

Councilmember Gomez, we don't have control over the board. The concerns regarding health that is within the Administration and Health Department. He asked Mr. Elliot to visit the facility. The outside conditions we can address immediately.

Council Vice President Sendelsky, asked the Engineer to look into the past approvals.

Mr. Northgrave explained the Redevelopment Law. He also explained we cannot direct the Zoning Board.

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

- 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
a. No comments were made.

- 6. ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA;**
a. through d. No comments were made.

7. REPORTS FROM ALL COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Councilmember Joshi reported the Library Board appointed a new director.

Councilmember Coyle reported on a few clean ups. He also is extremely pleased how our zoning department is taking care of issues throughout the township.

8. POINTS OF LIGHT

Council President Patil, on June 14th Flag Day Ceremony will be at Edison Elks Lodge on Old post Road at 7:00 pm. On June 27th the unveiling of the Sculpture, Edison Art Society at Lake Papaiani at 6:00pm. On July 14th Edison Municipal parking lot the residential paper shred program from 9:00am to 12:00 noon. Mayor Lankey will be presenting the 2018 Municipal Budget, public hearing at 6:00pm on July 18th in Council Chambers.

Councilmember Joshi, on June 21st at the Environmental Commission meeting he will be discussing plastic bags and straws.

- 9. FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:**
a. through g. No comments were made.

- 10. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE:**
a. through f. No comments were made.

- 11. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW:**
a. through f. No comments were made.

- 12. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ENGINEERING:**
a. through g. No comments were made.

h. Council President Patil is concerned with the side of this site, he asked Engineer to look into.

13. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

a. through c. No comments were made.

14. FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION:

a. and b. No comments were made.

15. FROM THE CHIEF OF FIRE:

a. No comment was made.

16. FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE:

a. through d. No comments were made.

17. FROM THE TOWNSHIP CLERK:

a. and b. No comments were made.

18. FROM THE COUNCIL MEMBER TO THE PLANNING BOARD:

Councilmember Coyle reported there was a recommendation for redevelopment study for 2195 Lincoln Highway was approved. Recommendations on the Redevelopment Study for Oak Tree Road and Plainfield Road, was not approved.

19. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Council President Patil:

- a. Resolution of Recognition for Michael Meehan
- b. 2195 Rt. 27 Is there a pilot possibility?

Mr. Northgrave explained the tax exemption law

- c. Liddle Avenue, thanks for map it appears to be four owners. Is the town looking to buy?

Mr. Northgrave is waiting to hear on the corner redevelopment.

- d. Hillside pool property

Mr. O'Brien has an inspector go out there today.

- e. Inman Avenue Care One there is a broken pole.

Councilmember Coyle:

- a. He asked how to stream line application process for such as pool, fence, etc.

Mr. O'Brien, sooner you get in engineering office can process.

- b. He is proud of our Police Department we have made some great steps. He thanked the administration for the new policy and feels we should request a quarterly report so we don't run into this problem again.

Councilmember Diehl

- a. Nice to see residents out on important issues. We are all concerned on Police.
- b. Deer, he is looking forward to report about the Ticks, there is a new Tick found in live stock.
- c. He attended the BOE meeting on overcrowding it is important to keep the value of our town

Councilmember Gomez

- a. Update on Firehouse 3.

Mr. Russomanno it's just about done.

Councilmember Joshi:

- a. Debra Drive, there street was missed for spring clean up
- b. He received a complaint on Manor Blvd. the street is one of the worst, can we add to list.

Councilmember Lombardi:

- a. County status as oak tree and woodland

Mr. O'Brien, has a meeting on Wednesday with the County

- b. Gloria Ditman needs engineering to meet with the artist.

Mr. Russomanno spoke to her regarding height of sculpture.

- c. Durham Woods buffer

Mr. Elliot is working with them on cleaning up.

Councilmember Sendelsky:

- a. Resolution of Recognition Eagle Scout Shankar Saikia, built a Keas at the tower

On a motion made by Councilmember Gomez , seconded by Councilmember Sendelsky, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm.

Ajay Patil
Council President

Cheryl Russomanno, RMC
Municipal Clerk