

**MINUTES OF  
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL  
WORKSESSION MEETING  
May 12, 2014**

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 6:14 p.m. by Council President Karabinchak, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Councilmembers Diehl, Karabinchak, Lombardi, Mascola, Prasad and Shah  
Councilmember Gomez entered at 6:32 p.m.

Also present were Deputy Township Clerk Kenny, Township Attorney Northgrave, Business Administrator Ruane, Recreation Director Halliwell, Health Director Elliot, Township Engineer Medina, Police Captain Merker 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 14, 2013 and posted in the Main Lobby of the Municipal Complex on the same date.

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

Walter Stochel, 2118 Oak Tree Road, said he sent a request to the State of New Jersey to do a search regarding setting the speed limit on Oak Tree Road. The search turned up no records of approval for a Resolution that was passed by the Freeholders so therefore it is set by Statute which is 25 MPH in school zones and residential, 35 MPH in suburban business areas, and 50 MPH in all other areas. He said there are only three existing speed limit signs which are probably not legal and there has been no change since 1991. He felt the County should be asked if they ever set the speed limit. He also commented on tractor-trailers using Stephenville Parkway as a cut through which is not allowed. He also said there was an accident on Calvert and Grove Avenues in which a car went through a house and there was nothing in the newspapers. He asked if anyone had any information on this.

Ms. Ruane said she will find out.

Mr. Stochel asked in light of the recent accident in New Brunswick involving the Fire Director and pedestrians, do we have an ordinance in place that takes away an employee's right to use a Township vehicle if they have a certain amount of violations.

Ms. Ruane said we do not.

Councilmember Diehl thanked Mr. Stochel for all the excellent information. He felt the speed limit on Oak Tree Road should only be what is set by State Statute which is 35 MPH.

Mr. Stochel said Oak Tree Road was widened in 1991 and in 2007 and no speed limit signs were added at either time.

Councilmember Diehl said it would be helpful to the Police Department to know what the speed limit is. He also said there should not be truck traffic on Stephenville Parkway as the road needs major repairs and this will only make it worse.

Esther Nemitz, 162B Fay Street, said the bridge on Park Avenue is being repaired which may help to alleviate the truck traffic on Stephenville Parkway.

Mr. Medina said this project is on the County project list and he will find out the timetable.

Ms. Nemitz asked about the contract on the agenda for the purchase of cold patch. She asked if there was a problem with the supplier as we are not making progress in filling in the potholes.

Ms. Ruane said she will find out.

Ms. Nemitz said she is very pleased with the two appointments to the Library Board that are on the agenda.

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

**CLOSED SESSION:**

The Council retired to Closed Session at 6:33 p.m., on a motion made by Councilmember Diehl, seconded by Councilmember Prasad and duly carried. The Township Clerk read the following Resolution into the record:

**CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, Article VI of the Open Public Meetings Act provides that a public body may hold a closed session; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Council will during this meeting enter into discussion of the following matters:

- 1) Litigation – Indian Business Association
- 2) Personnel

**WHEREAS**, the matters to be discussed in closed session are to remain in the strictest of confidence by all Council Members in furtherance of their fiduciary duties to the Township of Edison;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, matters discussed at this meeting will be released to the public when the reasons for discussing and acting upon them in closed session no longer exists.

The Council returned from Closed Session at 7:42 p.m., on a motion made by Councilmember Lombardi, seconded by Councilmember Shah and duly carried.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. through d. Received as submitted.

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

- a. through c. Councilmember Diehl said that these are three excellent and very experienced appointees.

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

None

**8. POINTS OF LIGHT**

Councilmember Mascola said that the Knights of Columbus annual “tootsie roll” drive was successful and the annual awards dinner for the Edison Sheltered Workshop was held and it was a fun event.

**9. FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:**

- a. Councilmember Mascola asked if this is the end of these bills.

Ms. Ruane said “yes” this is it.

10. **FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE:**
  - a. through d. No comments were made.
11. **FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ENGINEERING:**
  - a. and b. No comments were made.
12. **FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW:**
  - a. through c. No comments were made.
  - d. This Ordinance was added at the meeting regarding CCO's.
13. **FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ENGINEERING:**
  - a. through d. No comments were made.
  - e. This Resolution was added at the meeting regarding emergency repairs at Frost Avenue.
14. **FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:**
  - a. and b. No comments were made.
  - c. Council President Karabinchak asked what this Resolution is correcting.  
Ms. Ruane said she will find out.
15. **FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION:**
  - a. and b. No comments were made.
16. **FROM THE TOWNSHIP CLERK:**
  - a. Council President Karabinchak asked why this Resolution is being rescinded.  
  
Ms. Kenny said it was brought to our attention by the State ABC that this Resolution was adopted twice and they asked that we rescind one of them.
17. **FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE:**
  - a. No comment was made.
18. **FROM THE COUNCIL MEMBER OF THE PLANNING BOARD:**

Councilmember Mascola had nothing to report.
19. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:  
ORDINANCES FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION AND PUBLIC HEARING,  
AND FINAL ADOPTION:**
  - O.1865-2014 Council President Karabinchak said there will be one major change to the Ordinance. The rule of five will be changed to the rule of three.
20. **COMMUNICATIONS:**
  - a. Received as submitted
  - b. This item was added by Councilmember Diehl;  
  
Letter from Walter Stochel- regarding the re-naming of the Talmadge Road Bridge to the Jane Tousman Causeway.
21. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Council President Karabinchak:**

- a. through e. No comments were made.
  
- f. He said he received several phone calls regarding an old dump site at Annette Drive and Butler Road. He said they have removed the surface dirt exposing a lot of trash beneath the surface. He asked Mr. Medina to please look into this and find out what is going on.

**Councilmember Diehl:**

None

**Councilmember Gomez**

None

**Councilmember Lombardi:**

None

**Councilmember Mascola:**

- a. He asked if there are any meetings coming up regarding the Edison Landfill.

Mr. Northgrave said there are two up-coming meetings on May 14<sup>th</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Councilmember Prasad:**

- a. He asked that everyone wish John Spies from the Department of Recreation a speedy recovery.
  
- b. He said the newspaper published a list of municipalities that received discretionary aid from the State and Edison was not mentioned at all. He asked if the Administration had any further information on this.

Ms. Ruane said she did not but felt it was not a good sign that Edison was not mentioned in the newspaper.

Council President Karabinchak felt it unfair that neighboring municipalities received funds and Edison received nothing.

Councilmember Dr. Prasad said if this is true, it is a disgrace and should be called discriminatory aid.

**Councilmember Shah:**

None

**22. CLOSED SESSION:**

This was held earlier in the meeting.

On a motion made by Councilmember Diehl, seconded by Councilmember Prasad, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

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Robert Karabinchak  
Council President

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Robin Kenny  
Deputy Municipal Clerk