

MINUTES
WORKSHOP MEETING
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL – BOROUGH OF RED BANK
FEBRUARY 5, 2020
6:30 P.M.

SUNSHINE STATEMENT

Mayor Menna requested the minutes reflect that, in compliance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231 (Open Public Meetings Act), notice of this meeting has been provided by notifying the Asbury Park Press, the Two River Times and the Star Ledger and by placing a notice on the bulletin board and filing same with the Borough Clerk on December 11, 2019.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Menna and Council Members Yassin, Triggiano, Ballard, and Yngstrom.

ABSENT: Councilman Zipprich (arrived 5:35) and Councilwoman Horgan

ALSO PRESENT: Administrator Shehady, Borough Clerk Borghi, Attorney Cannon, Engineer Neumann and Department Heads.

ENGINEERING

Engineer Neumann reviewed her report and offered a status update on several projects.

- East Bergen Improvements – she said she had been communicating between the contractor and JCP&L to ensure work was done so contract can mobilize in late March/early April.
- White Street Improvements – she reported that the Borough had submitted to NJEIT for funding and there would be a resolution on the next agenda to request an extension for the project from the DOT. She said the extension was not needed due to any negligence from the Borough but because the NJEIT process had taken over a year. She said she hoped the project would be advertised and awarded in March. She said there would be a public input meeting next week.

Councilman Zipprich asked if she had coordinated the work with RiverCenter and their Engineer.

Ms. Neumann said there had been coordination where the one project had ended and the new one was beginning.

- Shrewsbury Avenue Streetscape project – she reviewed the Shrewsbury Avenue streetscape project.

Councilman Ballard asked about coordination with the County.

Ms. Neumann said the design would be approved by the County but added that, since the County only maintained the area between the curb lines, she did not anticipate any objection. She said the project had already been in the works when the Borough had received the funding.

- Eastside Park/Mohawk Pond project – she said the building would be delivered Monday with assembly slated for Tuesday.

Administrator Shehady reviewed the resolution for contract award authorizations. He said he had distributed his recommendations. He also noted that a change order for the Bellhaven project would also be on the next agenda to address an underground tank.

OEM/FIRE MARSHAL/CODE ENFORCEMENT

Fire Marshal Welsh reviewed his report and Department activities. He said they had received their tablets and were using GovPilot. He reviewed inspection procedures and said the vacant property spreadsheet had been recently updated. He stressed the need for vacant commercial properties to obtain Fire Prevention permits and explained the reasoning.

PUBLIC UTILITIES

DPW Director Keen said the Department had completed brush and leaf pick up and reported on the activity of the street sweeper. He said the sweeper had been able to get out more due to the mild weather.

Councilman Ballard asked about the Animal Control report. Director Keen reviewed the details that went into the report. Councilman Ballard asked that the disposition of the calls be included.

Director Keen reviewed the resolutions that were slated for the upcoming agenda.

FINANCE

CFO O'Reilly reported that there would be a resolution on the next agenda to amend the temporary budget. He said first quarter tax collection was underway and that the billing had included a correction for a billing error for the third quarter of last year. He said so far that had not been a lot of feedback on the billing correction.

Mayor Menna noted that the Tax Assessor's report was listed under Finance and said he wanted to point out that only 42 appeals had been filed with no commercial appeals. He said that was a nominal amount and credited the Monmouth County PILOT program. He said he seemed to be working.

LAND USE

Director Carter reviewed his report. The Council had no questions. Mr. Carter said there were no large applications at this time.

Mayor Menna said they did not need to appeal to the Board as often and praised Mr. Carter's efforts.

RECREATION

Director Hoffmann said they were once again hiring one of the Summer Camp Staff members to oversee the Spring Break Camp. He reviewed grants the Department had recently received and how they would be used. He said an upcoming ski trip may have to be delayed or cancelled.

Councilman Ballard questioned the cost.

Mr. Hoffmann said they actually made a small profit.

Councilman Yngstrom asked about the Couch to 5K.

Mr. Hoffmann said they were just starting to promote it and had already had inquiries.

BUILDING

Construction Official Corcione reviewed his report.

Administrator Shehady said the office was still short staff and they had been trying to hire additional inspectors.

POLICE

Chief McConnell said January had been quiet. He said they were in the process of hiring a Records Clerk. He said they were also interviewing for a Patrol position. He reported that the Department was working with Hazlet Hope, an opioid recovery group, which would assist in getting people into rehab facilities.

Councilman Ballard asked if people would still be arrested.

Chief McConnell said they would but, if they agreed to enter a facility and completed the program, they would be given charge consideration. He said it would have to be a non-violent crime. A discussion followed on funding for the non-profit.

SENIOR CENTER

Administrator Shehady noted that Director Reynold had not been feeling well so was unable to attend. He asked if there were any questions regarding her report. The Council had no questions.

CLERK

Clerk Borghi said the proclamation for Black History Month would be on the next agenda. She asked if there were any questions on her report and said she had no additional items.

The Council had no questions.

ADMINISTRATION

Administrator Shehady reviewed the resolutions listed for inclusion on the agenda on the upcoming Regular Meeting.

He said there was an additional ordinance under Land Use that had been on the original Workshop agenda that was distributed which was regarding balloon releases. He said a draft had been distributed to the Council and asked if there were any questions. He said it would be on the upcoming agenda for introduction. He also reviewed the Grant Report and said the Borough had received approximately \$2 million in grants.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Menna asked if there were any comments from the public.

Cindy Burnham – 71 Wallace Street – asked if there would be a report on the status of the senior center.

Mayor Menna said one could be provided at the next meeting.

No one else appearing, Councilman Yngstrom made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilman Zipprich.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom and Zipprich.

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

20-50 Mayor Menna read a resolution to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss Contract Negotiations (Endeavour Provisions & Health/VNA), Personnel – Land Use and Property Acquisition – Redevelopment Agency.

Councilman Yassin offered a motion to adjourn to Executive Session, seconded by Councilman Zipprich.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom and Zipprich.

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Zipprich offered a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Yngstrom.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Yassin, Triggiano, Ballard, Yngstrom and Zipprich.

NAYS: None

There being five ayes and no nays, the motion was declared approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Borghi