

**BOROUGH OF DUMONT
BERGEN COUNTY, N.J.
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
SENIOR CENTER
MAY 15, 2018
6:30 PM**

Flag Salute, Moment of Silence

Sunshine Law: The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey have been satisfied by the inclusion of the date, time and place of this public meeting. Notice was sent to *The Record* and *The Ridgewood News*, filed with the Borough of Dumont, and posted on the Borough website and the official bulletin board.

Roll Call:

Council members Di Paolo, LaBruno, Manna, Riquelme, Rossillo, Stewart-present
Mayor James J. Kelly-present

Also present: Borough Attorney Bailey, Borough Auditor Vinci and CFO Rutch.

Motion to accept agenda as presented: Councilman LaBruno

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

Public Hearing on the 2018 Municipal Budget Introduced April 4, 2018

Councilman Manna gave a brief overview of the process, which has been worked on since the latter part of last year.

Mr. Richards gave a power point presentation explaining the different components of the budget. The increase for municipal operations is \$97.00 and for the library is \$3.00.

Motion to open to the public for comments on the budget: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

1. deLyon, 67 Beacon Street, thanked Mr. Richards for a solid presentation. He had several questions on the budget. There was discussion about the decreases in various revenue categories, planned capital projects and the 3% increase in municipal taxes. The \$200,000 increase in the budget is for police promotions.

2. Lili Binney, 32 Roxbury, asked what makes up miscellaneous revenues and anticipated surplus. Mr. Rutch explained that miscellaneous could be Municipal Court funds, TV franchise fees, etc. There was discussion regarding the Best Practices questionnaire. Ms. Binney asked Mr. Vinci if Dumont is running smoothly what would the annual fee for an auditing firm be. Mr. Vinci explained that each year stands on its own. Last year there were extenuating circumstances in the Borough. If the Borough is running smoothly, the fees could range from \$50,000-\$75,000.

Motion to close to the public on the Budget: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman LaBruno

All in favor.

#18-131 Budget Amendment: Motion to adopt: Councilman LaBruno

Second: Councilman Manna

Roll call vote: Council members Di Paolo, LaBruno, Manna, Riquelme, Rossillo, Stewart-yes

#18-132 Budget Adoption: Motion to adopt: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman LaBruno

Roll call vote: Council members Di Paolo, LaBruno, Manna, Riquelme, Rossillo, Stewart-yes

Councilman Manna thanked Council members Riquelme and Stewart, Ms. Connelly, Mr. Richards, Mr. Vinci, Mr. Rutch and his group and the department heads for working on the budget, which is a long process. After that, we look at the six-year capital plan and the five-year financial outlook. There were items they didn't realize were needed until the department heads brought it to their attention such as emergency services special needs-those that should be put on a schedule for replacement.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the April 17, 2018 Public Meeting and Closed Session minutes:

Councilman Riquelme

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

Roll call vote: Council members Di Paolo, Manna, Riquelme, Rossillo, Stewart-yes

Councilman LaBruno-abstain

Motion to approve the May 1, 2018 Executive Meeting and Closed Session minutes:

Roll call vote: Council members Di Paolo, LaBruno, Manna, Riquelme, Rossillo,

Stewart-yes

Mayor's Report

Mayor Kelly thanked the DPW for going out constantly to fill potholes. Also, the June Mayor & Council meetings will be June 12th and June 19th due to the Primary Election being held the first Tuesday of June.

The Memorial Day Parade, run by our Recreation Commission, will be held May 28th.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Richards reported that there was a leak under the Madison Avenue tracks. Suez is trying to determine where the leak is, it will be corrected. The Department of Transportation will be redoing the Columbia and New Milford Avenues crossings. They are going to see if they can find the funding to correct the issues at the Madison Avenue tracks, also.

There is a special benefits program we are working on which would fund air conditioning in the library and other areas

Council Committee Reports

- Councilman Di Paolo

The Councilman has been looking into live streaming the Council meetings. It would cost approximately \$1,000. He will be speaking with someone about televising the meetings.

- Councilman LaBruno

Building

Garden Homes removed two tanks from the small property on Washington Avenue. Soil samples were taken; if necessary the site will be remediated. They applied for construction permits for building A and the clubhouse, which have to be approved by the town engineer prior to them beginning. The Councilman will be contacting Garden Homes regarding demolition of 50 Washington Avenue.

Councilman LaBruno asked Councilman Manna to report on a meeting pertaining to 50 Washington Avenue, which took place yesterday since he had to work. Councilman Manna reported that they met with the architects, engineers and construction management firm yesterday. There will be a presentation of the concept at the next meeting. There was also discussion about property acquisitions needed to affect the complex. We are working with the Department of Corrections, Department of Justice and the JJC to make sure the police facility and the Court is in compliance.

DPW

There were 30 sewer jobs in May. The sewer jet is sent out on a daily basis to check sewers in order to hopefully prevent sewer backups. In April 419 miles of roads were swept. Councilman LaBruno thanked Chief Conner and DPW Superintendent Schiraldi for taking care of an issue with a catch basin on Davies Avenue. Grass pickup began the first week of April. Lawn debris and grass must be in 32-gallon garbage cans or brown recycling bags and put out on the scheduled day for pickup. Branch pickup is the same day as grass pickup. They should be tied and bundled and no longer than 4 feet in length.

- Councilman Manna

We will be interviewing for a new CFO and a replacement for Bill Bowen.

- Councilman Riquelme

Fire Department

In April there were 9 activated alarms, 2 electrical fires, 1 gas leak. There were 25 alarms and 755 manhours.

Police Department

In April there were 2,495 telephone calls for service, 94 telephone calls for medical reasons, 9 telephone calls for fires. 492 traffic summonses were issued, 19 motor vehicle crashes were investigated and 30 burglar alarms were responded to. Patrol traveled 10, 318 miles.

- Councilwoman Rossillo

No report

- Councilwoman Stewart

Shade Tree Commission

Arbor Day was a huge success. There were proclamations from the Mayor and the County.

The Councilwoman volunteered to be the Council Liaison to the Stigma Free Committee. There was no objection. Mayor Kelly said that an Ambassador is needed. The Councilwoman said she knows of several people who would like to fill that position.

Attorney's Report

No report

Review of Consent Agenda Items: All items with an asterisk are considered to be non-controversial by the Council and will be approved by one motion. There may be further discussion prior to the vote upon request of a member of the public or a Council member. Also, any item may be removed for further discussion or for roll call vote in which case the item will be removed and considered in its normal sequence as part of the general order of business.

RESOLUTIONS

#18-133 Bills List *

#18-134 Authorization of Disposal of 1993 GMC Truck *

#18-135 Jose Berdecia Rivera-Approval as Probationary Firefighter *

#18-136 Collin Deliberero-Approval as Fire Auxiliary Member *

#18-137 Bryan Charles Levitzki-Approval as Fire Auxiliary Member *

#18-138 Rebecca Vazquez-Acting Technical Assistant-\$40,000 annually *

#18-139 Michael Sheridan-Hire as DPW Seasonal Employee-\$10.00 per hour*

#18-140 Approval of Town-wide Garage Sale Sponsored by the Dumont Community Group *

#18-141 James Ward-Hire as DPW Seasonal Employee-\$10.00 per hour *

Motion to open to the public: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

1. Lili Binney, 32 Roxbury Road, requested confirmation that Ms. Vasquez is the secretary for the Joint Land Use Board. She also works in the Building Department. Ms. Binney pointed out that there is a bill on the bills list for Benjamin Brothers. Mr. Richards replied that he questioned it and the reason the DPW goes there is because they can't get some of the items needed at the hardware store in town.

2. Maryann Russini, 141 Roosevelt, asked if it is possible for the Building Department to mention the town-wide garage sale to residents coming in for a garage sale. We should use Dumont Hardware, rather than other towns.

3. Bruce deLyon, 67 Beacon Street, stated that the town is paying \$11,185 per month. He questioned Bond Ordinance #1481 changing over to #1519. He said that the lagging of the project is costing a lot of money. He asked about electrical service. It was explained that it's the power needed to bring the police department evidence, etc. from the old building to a smaller, close facility. He asked about a purchase order for Verizon. Mr. Richards replied that it is the control box in the old building. We might not have to use all that money. Sometimes there's an open purchase order because with certain companies like Verizon, some of the money has to be paid in advance.

Motion to close to the public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

All in favor.

Motion to adopt the Consent Agenda: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

Roll call vote: Council members Di Paolo, LaBruno, Manna, Riquelme, Rossillo, Stewart-yes

ORDINANCES

First Reading

#1545 An Ordinance amending Borough Code Provisions setting forth the Criteria for Police Promotions

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman LaBruno

All in favor.

Councilman LaBruno explained that the change involves adding a testing component for promotions to Chapter 75.

Motion to pass on first reading: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman LaBruno

Roll call vote: Council members Di Paolo, LaBruno, Manna, Riquelme, Rossillo, Stewart-yes

#1546 An Ordinance Amending Borough Code Provisions setting forth the Manner in which Employees Accrue Annual Vacation Allotment

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

All in favor.

Councilwoman Stewart explained that this change makes it more consistent on how days are accrued.

Motion to pass on first reading: Councilman LaBruno

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

Roll call vote: Council members Di Paolo, LaBruno, Manna, Riquelme, Rossillo, Stewart-yes

#1547 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 69-49 of the Borough Code-Provisions setting forth the Criteria Employee Tuition Reimbursement

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman LaBruno

All in favor.

Councilwoman Stewart explained that they like to see personnel improve and get certifications but we would also like to benefit from the time we paid for them to get educated. They are required to work a certain amount of time for the Borough following certification.

Motion to pass on the first reading: Councilman LaBruno

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

Roll call vote: Council members Di Paolo, LaBruno, Manna, Riquelme, Rossillo, Stewart-yes

Motion to open to the public for general comments: Councilman LaBruno

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

All in favor.

1. Lili Binney, 32 Roxbury, asked the benefit of having testing for police

promotions. Councilman LaBruno explained that it tests for all information that a supervisor should have. Ms. Binney feels that all of these ordinances help insulate the borough from lawsuits. She thanked Councilman Di Paolo for checking into the live streaming. She asked about the Open Space grant. Ms. Binney asked the status of the building department lawsuit. Councilman Manna replied that the defendants' attorney just asked for a two-week extension on submitting briefs. Ms. Binney asked when the building will be demolished and what type of sally port will there be? The response was that the demolition date is approximately July 1st and it will be a secure sally port. Ms. Binney asked about the three properties to be acquired. Councilman LaBruno explained that we need the three properties for security.

2. Bruce deLyon, 67 Beacon Street, questioned why "tactics and techniques utilized for protection and safety of the public" is on closed session. Mr. Bailey explained that this was discussed the last meeting-in closed session you can discuss this as to not disclose the techniques to someone who might want to do harm.

3. Mary Gilmour, 26 Fleetwood, commented that Bergenfield is renovating its Borough Hall. She said that railroad tracks in other towns are much smoother. She asked who decides what roads get paved. Mayor Kelly explained that the DPW has a list of the worst roads and when money is available, those roads are taken care of first.

4. Karen Valido, 24 Overlook Drive, asked questions for a resident who couldn't come: how many prisoners per year and cost and the possibility of shared service. Chief Conner explained he didn't have the information with him. Once you build a new building, you must have a sally port.

5. Gerry Aponte, 88 Hickory Street, asked whether park security could be provided for the parks. There are air conditioning units in the old borough hall, which he asked if they could be removed for other borough buildings. The Mayor said he would discuss it with the Administrator. Mr. Aponte spoke of clearing the air with respect to Little League. Little League had lost their non-profit status. Recreation has been trying to rectify this issue. Bank statements and checks were not submitted as requested. Mayor Kelly replied that the Council received financials, which are currently being reviewed.

Motion to close to the public: Councilwoman Stewart
Second: Councilman LaBruno
All in favor.

The Municipal Clerk read the resolution to enter closed session to discuss:
Purchase, Acquisition or Lease of Real Property with Public Funds
Potential Litigation-Solicitors' Ordinance
Personnel-Building Department
Contract Negotiations in which the public body may become a party-Recreation
Potential Litigation-Asplint property

Motion: Councilman LaBruno
Second: Councilman Manna
Roll call vote: Council members Di Paolo, LaBruno, Manna, Riquelme, Rossillo,
Stewart-yes

Following closed session, motion to go back into public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Rossillo

All in favor.

Motion to adjourn: Councilman LaBruno

Second: Councilman Riquelme

All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Susan Connelly, RMC

Municipal Clerk