

**BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
MONDAY, JULY 6, 2015**

PRESENT:

Mayor	Sandy Moscaritolo
Councilwoman	Kathleen Murphy
Councilwoman	Ellen Busted
Councilman	Edward Mignone
Councilman	Vito Acquafredda

ALSO PRESENT:

Borough Attorney	Thomas Sarlo
Borough Administrator	Alan Negreann
Borough Clerk	Stephanie Evans

ABSENT:

Councilman	Anthony Coppola
Councilman	Thomas Papaleo

Mayor Moscaritolo called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM by reading the Open Public Meetings Act.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR'S TOPICS -

1. Block 214, Lot 1 Relining Project PSE&G – Rosalie Serapiglia and Anthony DAngelo were present to explain the work they needed to do near the DPW. Mr. Dangelo stated that the project V2222 circuit goes from New Milford to Hillsdale. There are several manholes along the route and most of the work does take place at a manhole, two of which are in River Edge. The circuit is a little over 40 years old and identified by the Asset Management Group, the older circuits don't have as many splices and movement could cause failure of the circuit. This is a proactive step to reconductor them to make sure there are no failures. The most important thing about this project is you will not have any interruption in service. We propose to start the work in late August going through December 31, dictated by regional operator. He stated that manhole #2a is the one they need access to, near the railroad tracks, which creates several problems getting to the manholes, which is why they need to enter through the recycling center. Most of the work takes place at the manholes, cutting the splices out, draining the fluid, remove the old cable, clean old pipe, inspect the line internally for issues, he didn't think there would be any major corrosion. New cable is installed performing a new splice which is a long procedure, which once started cannot be stopped, this will be a 24 hour 7 day a week operation, moisture is very important to keep out while working. We park a truck over the manhole during work. We fill the circuit back up, pressurize it, and energize it. We have done several of these procedures, and get them done during the time frame, we haven't had an issue with that. Mr. Dangelo preceded with his presentation. Mr. Negreann asked about noise, frequency and how loud. Mr. DAngelo mentioned that the apartment buildings near the site will see and hear the work, which would be engine sounds pulling on the cables could be three days, the worst sound would be, if used, a loader which is the same equipment at the mulching site. Ms. Serapiglia mentioned that the work would be for several days at one time, it wouldn't be a five days a week

construction. Mr. DAngelo stated that the work will be done regardless of the weather, and there will be no traffic issues. Residents in the affected area will be notified by the outreach team. Councilwoman Murphy asked if this work would help avoid power outages. Mr. DAngelo stated that this particular job won't stop an outage because this circuit is on a different network, but it will make sure the station has constant power. Councilman Mignone asked if the starting point was in New Milford and if the work has started yet, Mr. DAngelo answered not yet. Councilman Mignone just wanted to clarify that the work will start at one manhole and move upstream, splice and pull up...Mr. DAngelo stated all of the cable is removed first by going from manhole to manhole, keeping the operation moving, following right behind that is the swabbing operation cleaning the inside of the pipe and inspecting it. Councilman Mignone asked that they don't get to a point where you are past us and don't need to come back. Mr. DAngelo said that during the whole time we will still be coming because we have after we clean the line to install the cable, then we come back to fill and pressurize. Councilman Mignone asked in the time from August to December when do you expect to be the most active. Mr. DAngelo said the most active in River Edge would be in the front end in September with a steady pace. Councilman Mignone was concerned with this impacting the leaf collection time. Also the noise would be mechanical and car sounds, back-up beepers and similar noises. Mr. DAngelo stated that the back-up alarms are very infrequent, once the vehicles are there they are there. Councilman Mignone asked what kind of oil, material is used. Mr. DAngelo said it is similar to a type of mineral oil, there is no toxicity to worry about. Mr. Negreann asked if John Lynch had questions regarding the foliage, the gate, and dumping. Mr. Lynch stated his first concern was how it was going to effect the compost site, the operation, and the residents. For 25 years we have putting the vegetation there, to keep the noise, the site, and smell away from the residents. He was concerned about the entry site, but PSE&G said they would place an officer there. Also there was a discussion about potentially putting in a new road from the compost site gate to the access point. Councilwoman Murphy asked where the road might be, Mr. Lynch said originally by Transit right along the tracks, would need the 23 page permit to be submitted, so the subject has been readdressed. Mr. Negreann wanted Council to know that residents within 200 feet of the project area have been notified by mail about the presentation at tonight's meeting. Also the information has been posted to our website for residents to click on and who to contact if they need any further information.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

Motion by Councilman Mignone, second by Councilwoman Murphy to open.

All in favor 4-0

Lorraine (inaudible) asking about the 24 hour/7 days a week, what hours will you be working. Mr. DAngelo stated they usually start at 7am and depending on the operation it can go 14-16 hours, we don't work through the night. She asked what the contingency plan was if there is a storm. Mr. DAngelo stated we prepare the area for the weather. Mr. Lynch stated that the area has survived three hurricanes with no flooding.

Mike Cray, 879 Park Ave. – Asked about pumping out, if it was the same unit (inaudible), Mr. DAngelo said yes, but won't be doing that at everyone manhole. Most of the time we drain from the station to the circuit which is the bulk of the draining operation. Mr. Cray asked about if the clay is found to have a problem, does it become an excavation project, Mr. DAngelo said yes it does depending on the severity of the situation. Mr. Cray asked how large a section would be, Mr. DAngelo said it's usually a five foot section.

CLOSE OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

Motion by Councilwoman Murphy, second by Councilman Mignone.

All in favor 4-0

Councilwoman Murphy asked about the 6 miles between New Milford and Hillsdale, once this work is done on these two manholes, is River Edge done. Mr. D'Angelo stated that once the work is done and the cables are installed back through there we would return once or twice to remove the air from the pipe, splice, and tape the pipe, the work is completed. Councilwoman Murphy asked that since the work is being done by the river is there any extra precautions you need to take. Mr. D'Angelo said there were no extra precautions, because all the precautions are done prior and monitored through the work with inspections by various groups. Mayor Moscaritolo asked how many customers this circuit served, Mr. D'Angelo said tens of thousands. Councilman Mignone asked how their schedule coincides with Energy Strong project. Ms. Serapiglia said they would like to start that project in the next week and a half, and couldn't provide any information regarding footage or hours involved with the project. A list of streets has already been provided to the town engineer. The purpose of this project is for residents that want to use a generator. Mr. Lynch still had concerns regarding the 2014 agreement for Gates Ave., Mr. Negreann felt that we could hold PSE&G to their verbal assurances. Mayor Moscaritolo stated there was a new agreement that was signed on April 7th, 2015, for this project area.

2. Community Development Block Grant – Application for Rutgers Place and Oxford Terrace – Mr. Negreann explained that recently he had a meeting with John Lynch and Rob Costa to discuss the grant award coming to the town for the work in the low-moderate income area, Oxford Place and Rutgers Terrace, and the recommendation is that with this grant we do curb work only. With that said, as the Council is aware we have three applications we are permitted to submit to Community Development Block Grant, two of which are on for the meeting tonight for the bus driver/dispatcher, and as well for senior activities, we would recommend this third application be a follow-up to phase 1 of the curb work in this area and we either address additional curb work or start sidewalks improvements with a second phase of this grant. Eventually once we complete curbs and sidewalks we would see if we could do a street resurfacing for these area also. That is the recommendation for Phase 1, 2, and 3 or as far as the money will get us this type of work. A motion was made that the third application being submitted to Community Development Block Grant will be for Rutgers Terrance and Oxford Place curb work.

Motion by Councilman Mignone, second by Councilwoman Murphy to approve.

All in favor 4-0

DISCUSSION ITEMS –

1. Cherry Blossom Park Improvements – Authorization to Bid – Bobbi Conway, Recreation Director and Tom Miller, Engineer appeared before the Mayor and Council. Mr. Miller stated that in June the project was publically bid, receiving only one bid in the amount of \$122,250.00 for the base bid and with alternates just over \$200,000. There were five contractors that took out packages, but only one bid. He did state that this was a challenging time to bid in the middle of construction season. The choices are to re-bid changing a few of the items, and if it comes in again high try to negotiate with the contractor, or re-bind in a more timely manner probably at the end of the year, or beginning of next year. Something would have to change either the budget or the scope of work. Councilman Acquafredda asked if we re-bid now when would the work start.

Mr. Miller said you have a couple of weeks to get the bid package together, a couple of weeks to bid, that's a month. A month to award, that two months out, 60 days for construction for the main items, you could start this year with you got a good number. Councilman Acquafredda asked what exposure we had, just getting one bidder again, that being the worst case scenario. You mentioned negotiating with a bidder this time. Mr. Miller said that if bids come in and are high again, you can reject them which is the legal end, but from what he understands you can negotiate the bid. Councilman Acquafredda asked what was added by waiting six months before going out to bid again. Mr. Miller felt there would be more bidders, prices could go up or down. Councilwoman Murphy questioned putting a bid packet together taking a month or two. Mr. Miller said no it would only take a couple of weeks...Councilwoman Murphy stated if we are only altering a few things, Mr. Miller stated it all depended on what you wanted to do, it will take at least two weeks to bid it, and probably take about a couple of weeks to put it on the agenda to award. Mayor Moscaritolo agreed with this statement since we only have one meeting a month over the summer, so it would be better to get the process moving now and go out to re-bid and maybe if we get more than one bidder and some decent prices we can start this project in the fall. Councilman Mignone stated he still had a couple concerns about the bid. The first two items you keep calling alternates are actually more probably needed and if you have to add that extra DGA and extra sand for the filter it's not alternate, you either need it or you don't, so to bid it that way is going to be a problem because it's going to be over what our budget estimate is anyway. There are also other items that are alternates which are required one being the installation of the Green Acres sign, we just spent money to put a new fancy sign, but the required Green Acres sign hasn't been installed yet and you have that as an alternate that is a condition of the grant approval. This should be in the base bid, not an alternate. He didn't know if somethings should be in the base bid, or if somethings in the base bid should be alternates. The last question is we never received a cost estimate as to what the alternates were going to be, I asked for that in June and we were never presented with that. The original scope was \$110,000.00 which was the budget number we were working with and the base came within 20%, but if you start adding some of these maybe not real alternates we are going to be out of the budget realm. Mr. Miller answered by saying it wasn't know what items will be needed or not, as you said before should they be part of the base bid cause they are something we would definitely do, no not necessarily, that is why we chose to do as an alternate. Councilman Mignone said that we would have to award it as part of the bid because we can't come back and do change orders, the whole project cost isn't what we allocated we can't add more money to it. If the base bid came in at \$110,000.00 or whatever our budget is, and that's another \$20,000.00 for those two items, and you decide you need them, we can't do it. Mr. Miller stated is wasn't another \$20,000.00, Councilman Mignone said one was \$9,000.00 and the other was \$8,000.00. Mr. Miller said there were contingencies, Councilman Mignone stated we are still constrained by the amount of money we allocated. Mr. Miller said that Councilman Mignone was correct about the Green Acres sign. A motion was made to go out to re-bid the Cherry Blossom Park, Phase I Project, simplifying the bid specification to meet the allocated budget amount. (Proposed resolution #15-282 on Regular Meeting Agenda)

Motion by Councilwoman Murphy, second by Councilwoman Busted to approve.

All in Favor 3-0

Nay: Mignone

3. Sidewalk Sale Ordinance – Mayor Moscaritolo stated there was a proposed resolution prepared by Mr. Sarlo as well as a proposed sidewalk sale ordinance. Councilwoman

Murphy stated she didn't have time to review the information and would like more time. She didn't know if it should be very Saturday. Councilwoman Busteed said she made the suggestion to Mr. Sarlo last week to include Fridays and Saturdays, traditionally sidewalk sales are multiple days giving people the opportunity to promote their business, she didn't feel we would see an abuse of this of this opportunity. Work with the local businesses for next to come up with set weeks, or set days, we also have an outside dining ordinance that permits retail operations to use their space, and adding Fridays isn't out of the realm. Councilman Mignone said he concurred with that and he didn't see a problem doing the resolution to carry through the summer, why lose prime time to build businesses and not discourage new businesses. It will also be an indicator if there are issues that we can address and tweet the ordinance down the line. He did a question about how it was going to work in the ordinance designating permitted sale days and how we would approach that. Mr. Sarlo said usually by resolution with dates. Councilman Mignone asked if a group of businesses wanted to take 2 or 3 store fronts and done one at different times, would we be able to entertain something like that. Mr. Sarlo said it would be done by resolution, if you put it in the ordinance, you would have to in turn change the ordinance year to year, you may want to tweet it using different months, giving you some flexibility, but January during your reorganization meeting or March to decide when you are going to set the schedule, the ordinance will lock you in and it is harder to amend an ordinance. Councilwoman Murphy had a question as to the appearance of the town if you had every store on every Friday and Saturday on Kinderkamack Road, would the appearance look like a bazaar, will it be twice a month. Councilman Acquafredda said it's also a factor of how much sidewalk is available, we don't have 15ft wide sidewalks or even 8ft wide. If you start putting things on hangers out on Kinderkamack Road you are going to take the use of the sidewalk away from the public, becoming a safety issue. Councilman Mignone stated that the ordinance states it can't be done unless they can provide 3ft of clearance. Mayor Moscaritolo said he had a question about the 3ft clearance, if we have an 8ft sidewalk, the normal slab being 4ft x 5ft with racks of clothing on one slab and then you were standing in the 3ft clearance area going through the items there would be no other way for any pedestrians to pass, he felt the clearance should be maybe 5ft. Councilman Mignone said that isn't what the dining ordinance requires. Councilman Acquafredda commented that a lot of the businesses don't have wide sidewalks. Simultaneous talking, sidewalk clearance should be 4ft, and it was agreed to make this consistent with the dining ordinance. Mr. Sarlo stated that the resolution doesn't obviously have, the proposed ordinance has a permitting process, and he couldn't put it in the resolution by the time you create a process the summer would be over. He didn't see a problem if the Council wanted to adopt the resolution tonight even with minor changes instead of waiting another month. We have plenty of time for the ordinance. Councilwoman Busteed motioned to amend resolution 15-265 to allow for Friday and Saturday sidewalk sales, 4ft of clearance, as the dining ordinance.

Motion by Councilwoman Busteed, second by Councilman Mignone to approve.

All in favor 4-0

4. LESO Program – Mayor Moscaritolo informed the Council that Chief Cariddi is currently putting the final touches on it. Mr. Sarlo explained that part of the LESO Program is that there needs to be some type of oversight by the Mayor and Council. The Chief asked him to prepare a resolution which he did and is listed tonight. He explained that the Senate issued a directive that there has to be some type of policy or oversight, which the resolution covers, you are giving the police department the ability to obtain pretty much any goods or equipment that they need, but you are excluding guns, bullets, mine resistant vehicles,

any type of paramilitary equipment, which they would have to come in front of you. If the Chief wanted a vehicle for water rescues, a boat, a trailer, office equipment those things get listed and you would have to put in for it and you have to get it real quick, if he needed approval from the Mayor and Council for every purchase he probably wouldn't get anything because it comes up and you need to get it. He would need special approval for any paramilitary equipment, for just everyday use of equipment he can go ahead with a purchase. Mr. Sarlo mentioned that the Mayor and Council can go ahead and change the resolution if they wanted, but this was how his town did it.

5. Recreation Commission's Policy Regarding Children with Disabilities Participating in Recreation Activities – Mr. Negreann stated he believed a questions arose regarding these incidences, we initial a dialog and then we make a reasonable accommodations so these children can participate in our camp activities. Councilwoman Murphy said she was contacted by parent of a disabled child, and that is why she asked for it to be listed. It seems like this is the first time a child in a wheelchair has participated in the camp. Mr. Negreann apologized for the interruption, but he wanted to ask the Mr. Sarlo if we are going to go ahead with any identification of a specific situation, names or even eluding to what the disabilities are he didn't know if that should be in closed session as opposed to open session. Mr. Sarlo advised to keep it vague and broad. Councilwoman Murphy wanted to know what our policy was with regards to disabilities. Mayor Moscaritolo said that Mr. Negreann stated what the policy was, and suggested Mr. Negreann write a memo to Bobbi Conway, the Rec. Director, and the Commission asking for the policy.

WORK SESSION CONSENT AGENDA –

1. Approve the hire of Robert McNerney, McNerney & Associates to prepare a Tax Appeal Appraisal Report for the tax appeal Tower Management vs. River Edge, Block 616, Lot 20, 680 Kinderkamack Road, in the amount not to exceed \$11,800.00.
2. Increase and Changes in Coverages for Flood Insurance.
3. Authorize Application for Grant from the Division of Parks and Forestry for the Community Forestry Management Plan.
4. Approve banner request at River Edge Road/Kinderkamack Road for the Farmer's Market from July 6 to October 1.
5. Approval of Clean Communities Grant proposed budget not to exceed \$20,893.30
6. Authorize Clerk to Go Out to Bid for the River Dell Middle School Safety Improvements Project.
7. Award Contract to Reggio Construction for the 2015 Community Development Block Grant ADA Curb Ramp Construction Project in the amount not to exceed \$110,530.00.

Motion by Councilwoman Murphy, second by Councilwoman Busted to Approve.
All in favor 4-0

**EXIT WORK SESSION TO ENTER INTO THE PUBLIC MEETING AT 8:05PM.
ADJOURN PUBLIC MEETING ENTER BACK INTO THE WORK SESSION AT 10:31PM.**

A MOTION WAS MADE TO CONINTUE WITH THE WORK SESSION

Motion by Councilman Mignone, second by Councilwoman Busted.
All in favor 4-0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Review of Historic Element in the Master Plan
2. Capital List – See Report
3. Grove Street –
4. Library Roof and HVAC
5. Complete Streets
6. Borough of River Edge Senior/Community Center
7. Townwide Communications/Notifications
8. Generator – Fire Company #
9. Shade Tree Commission
10. Social Media Policy

Councilman Mignone reminded Mr. Sarlo about a draft regarding parking on the grass, Mr. Sarlo said he would have it by the end of week, and to list it for the August meeting.

Councilwoman Murphy asked Mr. Lynch about the garbage, when picking up the regular garbage we are being charged a tipping for that truck load, is there a different charge when vegetation is pick-up? Mr. Lynch stated these are two different sites. Councilwoman Murphy stated that they contractor is throwing vegetation in with the garbage. Mr. Negreann said that tomorrow Mr. Lynch would send an email regarding this issue to the contractor.

NEW BUSINESS –

No new business.

OPEN CLOSED SESSION –

By: _____ 2nd.

RC:

ROLL CALL –

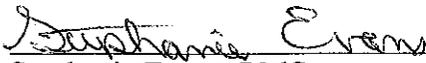
CLOSED SESSION TOPICS –

Closed Session		Statutory
Docket#	Item Title or Description	Reference
15-7/7-1	COAH Litigation	N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (7)

MOTION TO ADJOURN WORK SESSION AND ENTER CLOSED SESSION AT 10:35 PM

Motion by Councilwoman Murphy, second by Councilman Mignone.

All in favor 4-0.



 Stephanie Evans, RMC
 Municipal Clerk