

**BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2016**

PRESENT:

Mayor	Edward J. Mignone
Councilman	Vito Acquafredda
Councilman	Alphonse Bartelloni (Arrived at 8:00 PM)
Councilwoman	Ellen Busteed
Councilwoman	Mary Davis
Councilwoman	Kathleen Murphy
Councilman	Thomas Papaleo

ALSO PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

None

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

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR'S TOPICS

1. Fee Ordinance – Mr. Negreann reminded the Mayor and Council that the first several pages of the amended ordinance are the Code Enforcement Official's recommendations, the amendments in Sub-section DD are the ones we previously discussed, the Commuter Parking Fees for River Edge Residents for 2016, 2017, and 2018, and Miscellaneous Fees such as the Banner Fee, Solicitors Permit, and Farmer's Market Weekly Vendor Fee. A motion was made to move this amended ordinance to next regular meeting for introduction.

Motion by Councilwoman Murphy, second by Councilman Papaleo to approve.
All in favor 5-0

2. Safe Streets Design Administration Program – Mr. Negreann stated that Mr. Costa could be retained for the designed portion of the program and the estimate could be \$30,000, but he couldn't be hired for the inspection portion. If we didn't use this project and its funding, and were totally responsible for it, we could hire Mr. Costa for entire project. If we are to participate in this program, we lay out no money but must select one of the four engineering firms the DOT has provided. We can meet with them, but we cannot ask them any questions regarding any cost this program. No decision was made.
3. Park & Entrance Signs – Mr. Negreann informed the Mayor and Council that there was funding available for these signs. A meeting will be scheduled John Lynch and the Beautification Committee to placement and landscaping. Also Mayor Mignone will be asked to send a letter to his contact at the DOT asking for the jurisdiction and determinations of this property and what their set-backs are.

FOR DISCUSSION

1. River Edge American Legion Post #226 – Cornerstone Request – Mr. Negreann explained that a letter was received from Mr. Karch regarding the artifacts in the

cornerstone on the American Legion Post #226 property located at 215 Continental Avenue., if they could be extracted by the Legion for presentation to and preservation by the Bergen County Historical Society. Mr. Negreann explained that at the present time the building is secured, and no one would be able to gain any access. Mr. Sarlo advised if Mr. Karch would like to found out about obtaining a contractor to possibly opening up the cornerstone from the outside without damaging it or the contents he could follow up at our next meeting.

2. Social Media Policy – Mr. Sarlo said this confirms with JIF’s policy, but it is less restrictive. It is up to the Mayor and Council to adopt, but otherwise it is ready. Councilwoman Murphy asked who the authorized personnel would be to have Facebook pages, Mayor Mignone replied whoever asked for pages. A motion was made to Establishing a Social Media Policy resolution at the next regular meeting.

Motion by Councilwoman Busted, second by Councilwoman Murphy to approve.
All in favor 5-0

3. Community Development Block Grant Applications – Mr. Negreann stated there are two applications, one for Senior Actives, and the other is for the Senior Bus Driver. We need to start discussing and working on the third application. Mayor Mignone suggested use the third application – Oxford-Rutgers, Phase III, with curb work. A motion was made to submit the 3rd CDBG Application for Oxford-Rutgers.

Motion by Councilwoman Murphy, second by Councilman Papaleo to approve.
All in favor 5-0

4. Appointment of Representatives to the Community Development Regional Committee - A discussion was held to appoint two representatives, reappointment of James Arakelian and Mayor Edward Mignone as Alternate #2. A motion was made.

Motion by Councilman Acquafredda, second by Councilwoman Davis to approve.
All in favor 5-0

5. Appointment Representative to the Community Development Regional Committee - A discussion was held to appoint two representatives, appointment of Mayor Edward Mignone, and Councilwoman Busted as Alternate #1. A motion was made.

Motion by Councilman Papaleo, second by Councilwoman Murphy to approve.
All in favor 5-0

6. Mosquito Borne Illness – Councilwoman Busted had been in contact with Bergen County regarding their program and what information they had for the public, such as door hangers, for the Library, our website. Also it was recommended that Mr. Lynch contact the County asking how they selected these area, what their protocol and process was for spraying various areas.

WORK SESSION CONSENT AGENDA

1. Award Contract to S. Rotondi & Sons, Inc. for Vegetation Disposal with a Tipping Rate of \$15.00 per yard.
2. Approval of 2016 Clean Communities Grant Proposed Budget for \$23, 967.64.
3. Authorize Alan Spiniello to Enter into A Stipulation of Settlement with Allen & Benkel, 80 Grand Avenue for a potential refund of \$2,636.64 for 2014, \$2,638.57 for 2015 and \$2,638.57 for 2016.
4. Approve Farmer’s Market Committee Request to Place Banners at 140 Kinderkamack

- Road and a Double Sided Sign in Front of the American Legion Building.
5. Authorize Mayor to Sign Municipal Snow Plowing Agreement with Bergen County for 2016-2018.
 6. Authorize Petty Cash Reimbursement for the Recreation Camp Program -\$50.00 per single draw.

FOR YOU INFORMATION

1. Library Roof – Barrel Vault – Mr. Negreann stated that the contractor was looking for approval to finish the installation. Mayor and Council all agreed that the sample installation looked good and was a big improvement. A motion was made to have to contractor move forward with to complete the installation of the Barrel Vault Roof.

Motion by Councilman Papaleo, second by Councilwoman Murphy to approve.
All in favor 5-0

2. Resolution Supporting A536/S2107 to Clarify Volunteer Position Do not Impact Retirement Benefits for Public Employees – Mayor Mignone explained why he was looking for support of A536/S2107 to Clarify Volunteer Position Do Not Impact Retirement Benefits for Public Employees. Volunteers can't be part of any service such as a fire fighter or first aid responder. They would have to completely terminate their employment for a period of at 180 days to satisfy the requirements of a bona fide severance or be required to repay all retirement benefits received from date of retirement and have to re-enroll in the same or different retirement system, or possibly risk losing their pension. Volunteer firefighters and first aid responders would have to reapply to the organizations as new members, and as a new member they would be required to take all necessary tests and training including physicals and agility tests. Mr. Sarlo stated that his town is now going through this. If they resign in six months they lose pension, if they immediately return but serve with the fire department they won't lose any benefits under PFRS. A motion was made to support these bills by resolution on the next regular meeting's agenda.

Motion by Councilman Papaleo, second by Councilwoman Murphy to approve.
All in favor 5-0

3. Resolution Supporting S2254/A3821 Affirm the Legislative Intent of the Fair Housing Act – Mayor Mignone explained that this bill was discussed at the Mayor's Conference regarding the COAH, "a GAP issue arises out of COAH's inability to promulgate third round regulations from 1999 to present or make any final determination as to state and regional housing need, as well as constant litigation by certain groups". The support of this bill re-affirms the legislative's intent of the Fair Housing Act so as to preclude significant, unfair impacts and instead progress towards more rational statewide housing policy, including reasonable and achievable obligations for municipalities, facilitate municipal compliance and the provision of affordable housing. This would allow River Edge 100 of units, not the 1,000 of housing units we couldn't absorb. The number of units should be what the Legislators regulate, not a number designated by the Court. A motion was made to support these bills by resolution on the next regular meeting's agenda.

Motion was by Councilman Papaleo, second by Councilwoman Murphy to approve.
All in favor 5-0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Grove Street –

Library Roof and HVAC – Finish Barrel Vault (Sample Installed) –
A motion was made to remove this from the list.

Motion by Councilman Papaleo, second by Councilwoman Murphy to approve.
All in favor 5-0

Borough of River Edge Senior/Community Center – Councilman Acquafredda stated that what was present from the architect still didn't make sense as far as the estimate went. The Committee wasn't going to present a plan until to the Mayor and Council and the public until it did make sense. We don't want to build just to build, we want something that will be right for River Edge.

Generator – Fire Company #2- Construction Started
Shade Tree Commission
Social Media Policy
Sidewalk and Curb Responsibility

Councilwoman Busted brought up the "Prescription Drop Box" saying the Police Department just received approval today, the box will be placed in there and available to the public 24/7. The delivery date is unknown, but the box is on its way.

NEW BUSINESSES

Councilman Papaleo wanted to discuss something from a Personnel Sub-Committee previously held tonight. It was decided that Christopher Tabor would be hired for DPW, Labor Step 1 salary of \$29,737 effective July 5, 2016. This is a replacement for a retiree. John Francin hired for the Police Department as a part-time dispatcher, starting date to be determined. He is looking for a motion to place this on the regular meeting agenda since there was no time to list it prior. A motion was made to list it at the regular meeting.

Motion by Councilwoman Davis, second by Councilwoman Murphy to approve.
All in favor 6-0

Councilman Bartelloni wanted to discuss the conditions of Roosevelt field that REGAL has to play on, they are terrible, the girls need to know where the dot on the fence is because the bases are not permanently not mounted, no scoreboard, and surface was dry as a bone. We are told only one person has a key to water and it isn't a coach. If it does rain, the ground become sloshy. The girls are just not getting equal treatment when it comes to the fields. Mayor Mignone asked what the school's responsibilities to their fields are. Possibly their Open Space money should go for upgrading fields, they should identify projects and allocate funds. Councilman Bartelloni felt that it would be to sit down with the Board of Education now before the next budget. Mayor Mignone asked Mr. Negreann and Mr. Sarlo to review Mr. Bill Lindsley's legal opinion regarding Open Space. It was agreed that there were different avenues to explore regarding better field conditions for REGAL.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

MOTION TO OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Motion by Councilman Papaleo, second by Councilwoman Murphy to open.
All in favor 6-0

Sanaa Mosa, 155 Bogert Road – She appeared before Mayor and Council to stated that for several years people have parked in front of her house and blocked her driveway

creating a problem. Every morning a special program van comes to pick up her two children, because the van isn't allowed access to the curb often the van will leave without my children. Once the issue was clarified by council a motion was made to place signs at the curb line, "No Parking Between Signs", and to paint the area between the signs yellow.

Motion by Councilman Papaleo, second by Councilwoman Davis to approve.
All in favor 6-0

MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING

Motion by Councilman Papaleo, second by Councilwoman to close.
All in favor 6-0

MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 8:20 PM

Motion by Councilman Papaleo, second by Councilwoman.
All in favor 6-0

Stephanie Evans, RMC
Borough Clerk