

**BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2018**

PRESENT:

Mayor	Edward J. Mignone
Councilman	Alphonse Bartelloni
Councilwoman	Ellen Busteed
Councilman	Dario Chinigo
Councilwoman	Mary Davis
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 at 6:30 PM by reading the Open Public Meetings Act and call for a roll call.

**Motion to Suspend Work Session and Enter Into Closed Session
Resolution #18-103**

**Motion by Councilman Chinigo, second by Councilman Bartelloni
All in favor 5-0**

Closed Session Docket#	Item Title or Description	Statutory Reference
18-3/12-1	Personnel – Lieutenant Interview Craig Casey	N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(8)
18-3/12-2	Personnel – Lieutenant Interview Marc Abate	N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (8)
18-3/12-3	Potential Litigation-N.J. Transit	N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(7)

**Adjourn Closed Session and Resume Work Session @9 9:00 PM
Motion by
All in favor 5-0**

Borough Administrator's Topics

1. **Tax Bill Stuffer** – Mr. Negreann just wanted to bring to the attention of the Mayor and Council that last year as it have been our past practice we had a tax bill stuffer. He will assume that the Finance Chair will take another look at it and he will provide some of the data for it. It will be brought back when there is another version of it. Councilman Bartelloni stated that once he received the data he will draft it.
2. **Report on Elected Officials JIF Training** – Mr. Negreann just wanted to

remind everyone that we are trying to accomplish the training so the Mayor and Council can receive a discount of the \$250.00 per each elected official who does the training. He knows that the Mayor along with himself took the training here in River Edge and he has received several certificate since then. It is just a reminder at this point to please try and get that online training done. We sent out the online instructions recently but will have it done again to keep it in front you so you can get your certificates to make sure we get the discount. Councilman Chinigo asked if Mr. Negreann had received his since took the training in Atlantic City. Mr. Negreann will contact JIF to make sure he is on the list.

WORK SESSION CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Approve Stipulation of Settlement for Hanna Realty LLC v. Borough of River Edge, 606 Kinderkamack Rd, Block 617, Lot 14, for Tax Appeals for the Calendar Years 2014-2017.**
- 2. Authorize DMR Architects to Proceed with Task II of their Proposal Dated March 20, 2017 in the amount not to exceed \$70,500.00.**
- 3. Enter into an Agreement with Costa Engineering for Professional Services Related to the Borough Hall Sanitary Line Investigation & Monitor of TV in the amount not to exceed \$3,000.00**

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

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Mignone had no report for this meeting.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

- 1. Robert Costa, Borough Engineer – 2017 Community Development Block Grant, Construction of Street, Curb, Sidewalk Improvements, Phase 3 Oxford Terrace/Rutgers Place**
Mr. Costa will appear before Mayor and Council at another meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Borough of River Edge Senior/Community Center – Mayor stated that there wasn't any update on the Community Center at this point but should have something for the next meeting.

Councilwoman Busted asked the Mayor if he was going to appoint the Chairs. Mayor Mignone stated that he really doesn't think that needs to because it's at the discretion of the group. It doesn't say we have to approve the Chairperson for the Municipal Alliance Against Substance Abuse. Councilwoman Busted explained that during their first meeting three people self-identified themselves and asked to share the Chairmanship. Mayor Mignone said that the Mayor and Council are thankful that three people stepped up because trying to get one person to is not easy and he thinks that three people will be very good. Councilwoman Busted said it was Elizabeth Oudens, George Siderias from the diner, and Beth Chinigo. They also thanked Marie Papaleo for all her work for the past 6 years.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES -1ST READING

**Ordinance #18-07 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION
N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53**

The Borough Clerk read the ordinance out loud for the record. A motion to adopt on first reading was made.

**Motion by Councilman Chinigo, second by Councilman Bartelloni to approve.
All in favor 5-0**

RESOLUTIONS – BY CONSENT

- #18-104 Authorize Alan P. Spiniello, Esq. to Enter Into a Stipulation of Settlement with Hanna Realty LLC for the Premises located at 606 Kinderkamack, Block 617, Lot 14.**
- #18-105 Authorize Refund of Construction Permit**
- #18-106 Authorize Clerk to Go Out to Bid for the Undertaking of Storm and Sanitary Sewer Replacement on Kinderkamack Road (from Webb Ave. to River Edge Rd.).**
- #18-107 Governing Body Certification of Compliance with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission’s “Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964”.**
- #18-108 Authorize Clerk to Go Out for Bid for the 2011 Community Development Block Grant, Construction of Street, Curb and Sidewalk Improvements, Phase 3-Oxford Terrace and Rutgers Place.**
- #18-109 Amend Agreement with DMR Architects, 777 Terrace Avenue, Hasbrouck Height, New Jersey 07604 for Architectural and Engineering Services for the River Edge Community Center.**
- #18-110 Enter into Agreement with Robert Costa, Borough Engineer, for Professional Services Related to the Borough Hall Sanitary Line Investigation and Monitor of TV.**
- #18-111 Transfer of Funds in the Budget Appropriation Reserve.**
- #18-112 Authorize Tax Collector to Refund a 2018 1st Quarter Tax Overpayment.**
- #18-113 Authorize Tax Collector to Cancel 2017 Tax Balances Under \$10.00.**
- #18-114 Approval of the Governing Body to Authorize the Borough Administrator/Chief Financial Officer to Submit a Revised Attachment I to the New Jersey Department of Transportation Relative to Federally Funded Grants.**

**Motion by Councilman Papaleo, second by Councilman Bartelloni to approve.
All in favor 5-0**

#18-115 Payment of Bills

Additional voucher for Social Security Medicare in the amount of \$12,779.78

**Motion by Councilman Bartelloni, second by Councilman Chinigo
All in favor 5-0**

OPEN FOR PUBLIC HEARING

**Motion by Councilman Chinigo, second by Councilwoman Busted
All in favor 5-0**

No public comments

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

Motion by Councilwoman Busted, second by Councilman Bartelloni

All in favor 5-0

Mayor Mignone stated that there are no council comments during a work session but if any of the council wishes to say anything feel free to do so.

Councilwoman Davis just wanted to mention that the Fire Dept. during the snow storm, which she was on a boat but did check in them on Sunday. They had 16 calls on the snow day. They were on stand-by when it was raining out than all of a sudden they got slammed. They also aided Oradell, and brought a generator to Duncan McCray's house on Fifth Ave. to provide him with oxygen. While they were there a tree fell on his house. They had a busy day but all went well.

Councilman Papaleo wanted to report that the DPW did another phenomenal job. John brought the DPW in at 4PM because of what the weather report said but the snow didn't really start until around 1PM. DPW did its regular work and continued to function and then plowed the roads and began shoveling. It was a phenomenally difficult job for them, they worked through the night. Some of them were on duty for 24 hours without complaining and they didn't stop. They responded to all the needs, all the power outages and everything else. John was a little bit frustrated with PSE&G because he couldn't clear the roads completely because of the downed lines and how far behind they were with responding with the overwhelming experience. Just another sign of the professionalism of DPW. They plowed up until the point of the police line and then plowed back. So when the road finally would open they wouldn't be plowing the whole road, they would just be plowing the part that was cordoned off. Phenomenal job under very difficult circumstances and very proud of them.

Councilman Papaleo stated that he was sure Mayor Mignone was going to speak about Councilman Vito Acquafredda and he would leave that to him.

Councilman Bartelloni didn't have anything for this meeting.

Councilwoman Busted just wanted to remind everyone that the Stigma Free group was having a program on childhood anxiety on March 28th at 7PM at the Library. She also knew that the Mayor was going to speak about Councilman Acquafredda but she just wanted to thank the Mayor, the Borough employees and volunteers who really showed such respect to Vito and his family this weekend and say thank you.

Councilman Bartelloni did want to thank the Police Honor Guard and the Fire Dept. The Honor Guard was there at his wake for 6 hours taking turns and that was quite an endeavor to try and stand completely still for any given period of time and they did a fantastic job. He just wanted thank them. Councilwoman Davis mentioned that they also went to the cemetery also which was in Fort Lee.

Mayor Mignone stated that the response to the snow storm was fantastic. He also stopped down at the fire house and spent some time at Fire House #1. He also spent some time with Mr. Negreann who was characteristically working. DPW did curb-to-curb, and pavement to pavement, no ice the next morning and no other town can say that. They did a phenomenal job and John always keeps you

informed, and giving status updates. Mayor Mignone also had to give credit to the OEM Coordinator, Ron Starace, and Stu Henzinder, who are on top of all the behind the scenes coordination with PSE&G and letting him know and everyone else know where there are outages are and making sure that if there is anything else coming up they have it covered. They are the ones who will send out the Nixles when we have them and he wanted to give them a special thanks. They do a really great job behind the scenes and no body see them but their efforts are important and very much appreciated.

Mayor Mignone wasn't sure he wanted to speak about Vito this evening as he was getting emotional. He did state that he told Francesca that we will have them here eventually. He will let his words from Saturday speak for themselves. The council all stated that the Mayor did a phenomenal and wonderful job. Mayor Mignone asked for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE WORK SESSION AT 9:15 PM

Motion by Councilwoman Busted, seconded by Councilman Busted to Adjourn.

All in Favor 3-0

Stephanie Evans. RMC
Borough Clerk