

**BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
SPECIAL WORK SESSION MINUTES  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2017**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor	Edward J. Mignone	
Councilman	Vito Acquafredda	
Councilman	Alphonse Bartelloni	
Councilwoman	Ellen Busteed	(arrived @ 6:09 pm)
Councilman	Dario Chinigo	
Councilwoman	Mary Davis	
Councilman	Thomas Papaleo	

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Borough Attorney	Thomas Sarlo	
Borough Administrator	Alan Negreann	(arrived for Closed Session)
Borough Clerk	Stephanie Evans	

**ABSENT:**

None

Mayor Mignone called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm by reading the Open Public Meetings Act and asking for roll call.

**WORK SESSION CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1. Amend Contract with Costa Engineering for the County Sanitary and Storm Sewer Improvement Project on River Edge Road in the amount of \$30,000.00 and add Design and Inspection to the Scope of Services.**

Mayor Mignone stated that this is the project Mr. Negreann explained last time where we have to fix one of our pipes but the county pipe is in the way so the county is going to expensively fix everything. The county is going to redesign it and reimburse us 100%.

- 2. Amend Matthew Giacobbe's Contract in the amount not to exceed \$4,000.00.**

Mayor Mignone explained this was the Labor Attorney.

A motion was to approve these resolutions and move them to the regular agenda.

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

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- Borough of River Edge Senior/Community Center** – Councilman Bartelloni said that he has met with the Shade Tree Commission several times, and one of those times was with the Mayor and Councilman Acquafredda regarding the community center and the placement of trees. They gave us an overlay of the plan with trees that would be effected and we are looking into that and will reach out to the architect to see how we can best minimize the impact to the arboretum and still accomplish the goals of having adequate parking in the area. He also met with the Recreation Commission to go over the plans of the center as well and as of right now he has met with all of the constituent groups except he hasn't heard from the Cultural Center people yet. In terms of all the town

organizations those have been completed. To sum it up basically people wanted to make sure there was enough parking that was a concern from the Library and SCORE. SCORE's other concern was making sure there was a working stove of some kind and Shade Tree trying to minimize the impact to arboretum. For the most part he thinks the meetings were generally positive and we are going to sit down with the architect and incorporate the feedback that we go and move forward. Mayor Mignone thanked Councilman Bartelloni for starting the meetings and taking the lead on them and it was appreciated and we will try and we will try and get all those comments addressed to the best we can.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Councilman Bartelloni started off by saying obviously with the election results and its been in the news quite a bit and whether or not the legislature takes this up and what they do with it obviously we'll see but there was a lot of talk in the last election regarding the marijuana legalization and his concern is does our zoning ordinance allow that, are we going to see dispensaries and the alike on Kinderkamack. That is something hopefully he personally doesn't want to see and he thinks this is something maybe we need to look at our zoning ordinance to see if that would allow that type of establishment to come into town. Mayor Mignone replied that's prudent because that come up several times at the League last week and the recommendation was to talk with your planners and then your attorneys to see that the best way is to handle it. He doesn't know if anyone recalls that we have what is called a permissive zoning ordinance, it lists specific things you can do and he thinks this could probably be interrupted to one of those things if someone takes a wide interpretation and he thinks it prudent to do it. There are other items like that that come up, digital billboards come up a lot, Air BNB. That is another big one, some towns have a lot of problems with that. There is a whole host of these new emerging uses that you were saying that towns aren't really ready to address so yes we will bring that up to Mr. Burgis and get some recommendations.

Mayor Mignone wanted to mention appointments for next year. According to the information the Clerk supplied we have ten people on Beautification, five on the Green Team, one on the Board of Health, one on the Environmental Protection, three on Historic, one on Library, three on Planning plus the Class II member, and one on Shade Tree. Some of those will be reappointments, but if you are a liaison to any of those groups you may want to talk to the Chair and see who is interested in continuing and who isn't and then we will go forward from there. There is just a reminder to do that because reorg will be here before we know it.

The second thing the Mayor wanted to mention was next year's meeting schedule. The way he had hoped it was going to play out this year didn't work. We really didn't have extended work sessions that was the point and the reasons we went to one public meeting and work session. It turned out we probably needed more public sessions over time than some work sessions. His recommendation is to go back to two public meetings and one will have a work session before it. Looking at the calendar, if we went back to our regular schedule of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays we hit New Year's day, Martin Luther King Day, Presidents Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, night before the election, if we can go to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays we hit Memorial Day and no other conflicts. If everyone is amiable to that he recommends we do that. There will be no changes, asking the Clerk if that would be preferable with Mondays and Tuesdays and to just verify it. The council liked the recommendation, it addressed all their needs. It can always be changed again, but at least the schedule can be published. A motion was made for the 2018 Mayor and Council meeting schedule to hold regular meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays, and the

work sessions will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays. Regular meetings starting at 7:30 and Work Session starting at 6:30.

**Motion by Councilman Papaleo, second by Councilman Bartelloni**  
**All in favor 6-0**

Councilman Papaleo wanted mention that he received an email regarding the Tree Lighting on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. He won't be able to attend but wanted to make sure council was aware of it. Councilwoman Busted added that it was at 4:00, she had reported that at a recent Recreation report.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**Motion by Councilman Acquafredda, second by Councilman Chinigo to open.**  
**All in favor 6-0**

Neile Weissman, 309 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan, NY – He was asking for a letter of support for Complete George. He provided a handout for the council. (Please refer to the video for details)

**CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING**

**ADJOURN WORK SESSION**

**ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION @ 6:17 PM**

**Motion by Councilman Acquafredda, second by Councilman Chinigo**  
**All in favor 6-0**

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Stephanie Evans, RMC, CMR  
Borough Clerk