

**BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2016**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor	Edward J. Mignone
Councilman	Vito Acquafredda
Councilman	Alphonse Bartelloni
Councilwoman	Ellen Busteed
Councilwoman	Mary Davis
Councilman	Thomas Papaleo

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Borough Attorney	Joseph Monaghan
Borough Administrator	Alan Negreann
Borough Clerk	Stephanie Evans

**ABSENT:**

Councilwoman	Kathleen Murphy
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Mayor Mignone called the meeting to order 7:00 PM by reading the Open Public Meetings Act.

**BOROUGH ADMINISTRATION'S TOPICS**

1. Stormwater Training Allocation – Mr. Negreann reminded everyone to take the required training and remain on the agenda until everyone completes it.

**FOR DISCUSSION**

1. Municipal Open Space Allocation – Mr. Negreann stated there would be no change to any of the Open Space Allocations. The amounts that were submitted would remain the same.
2. Transfer of the Open Space 2015 Award for Cherry Blossom Community Park, Phase II Project to 2014 Kenneth Be. George Park Field Lighting Replacement Project – Mr. Negreann explained that the grant that was received, Open Space 2015 Award for Cherry Blossom Community Park, Phase II, a matching grant of \$37,542.00 would be applied to the 2014 Kenneth B. George Park Field Lighting Replacement project. There is a resolution on tonight's agenda for this transfer.
3. Social Media Policy – Councilman Bartelloni stated that he revised another draft of the policy and had Mr. Sarlo review it. He stated it was as strict as the Wyckoff policy for their police and OEM departments. Mr. Negreann mentioned that this subject could also be found in the current personnel policy under the communication policy, which is also the JIF's policy. A motion was made to have the Sub-Personnel Committee to review the current draft.

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

All in favor 5-0

**WORK SESSION CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Authorize Mayor and Clerk to execute agreement for solid waste service with BCUA
2. Approval to add the 2016 Road Resurfacing List to Prior Year Road Resurfacing and Improvement Programs
3. Approve Release of Performance Surety Bond for Marini Brothers for the Project known

- as 2015 Drainage Improvements at Various Locations
4. Approve the Certification List of Volunteer Members of the River Edge Volunteer Fire Department Qualifying for Credit Under the Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP) for 2015
  5. Approve the Certification List of Volunteer Members of the River Edge Volunteer Ambulance Service Qualifying for Credit Under the Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP) for 2015.
  6. Award Contract to Robert McNerney, McNerney & Associates in the amount not to exceed \$2,500.00 for Expert Tax Appraisal Services Related to River Edge vs. Allen & Benkel Realty, LLC
  7. Amend Agreement with Alan Spiniello, Esq. Tax Appeal Attorney in the amount not to exceed \$10,000.00
  8. Authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute agreement with the County of Bergen for Short Term Emergency Sharing of Fire Apparatus Between the County of Bergen and the Borough of River Edge

A motion was made to have these resolutions go up for adoption at the Regular Meeting.

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

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Items are under unfinished business

## **FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

1. Technology Committee Report – Overview – Cablevision's Optimum Services for River Edge – Councilman Busted informed the rest of council about a meeting she attended with Councilman Bartelloni and Mayor Mignone with Cablevision. Cablevision is eager to work with borough to have more access with hot spots, and that we were also owed a public access station. Cablevision suggested we come up with a wish list for them to review and comment on, once the list is done it should be forwarded out to them.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- Grove Street
- Library Roof and HVAC-Finish Barrel Vault
- Borough of River Edge Senior/Community Center -  
Mayor Mignone began the Senior/Community Center stating that the committee has been in contact with Mr. Canzani and that once a finalized floor plan has been done it will come before the Council to review. Councilman Papaleo ask if it could have a wraparound porch for the summer camp to use on a rainy day instead of cancelling. Mayor Mignone stated it comes down to money. Which everyone agreed.
- Generator-Fire Company #2-Preconstruction Meeting
- Shade Tree Policy -  
\* Mayor Mignone's next subject was the Shade Tree Commission and the current ordinance that is not only unclear for a resident to remove or replant a tree but it isn't resident friendly. The Shade Tree Commission needs to work needs to work on these rules regarding renovation, or modifying a property regarding a construction project. There needs to be timelines, a resident submitted a request to have a borough tree removed, the Shade Tree Commission didn't inform them there wasn't enough information submitted. There was no further contact between the Shade Tree Commission and the resident, so this matter wasn't discussed at the December or the January meeting. Finally in February this matter was discussed. Mayor Mignone felt that when an application is submitted to Shade Tree one

should also be submitted to the Zoning Board, applications would go to all the boards at the same time. The last time this ordinance was modified was in 2012. Also bonds are requested by Shade Tree when there is construction work, which should be put up by the contractor not the homeowner. These bonds stay in place for three years, how do you prove that a contractor damages a tree three years later. We need to minimize the impact, there should be timely inspections, and a reduction of the bond possibly on a yearly basis. This ordinance needs to be worked on. Councilman Bartelloni stated that the bond should be collected through the Building Dept. A motion was made to refer this issue to the Borough Attorney.

- Sidewalk and Curb Responsibility
- LESO Program

Councilwoman Busted asked to bring up the Farmers Market and the Board of Health charging a potential fee. Mayor Mignone said that framework would need to be provided to Mr. Sarlo on the market and its operations. The borough entity shouldn't be considered as a 3<sup>rd</sup> party, as far as the monies that were collected if it's not deemed a borough event, the money would then be donations. If it is now a borough entity we are not authorized to collect money. We have unanswered questions on last year's operation of the market. The best mechanism would be to meet with the Board of Health and reach out to all the vendors, interview them regarding the running of last year's operation. If we don't want a repeat of last year we need to draft a new ordinance which makes this a borough entity and assumes ownership. The Green Team has advised me that they don't want to be a part of the market. The new ordinance would now need to be created, the original resolution was under the Mayor's Wellness Campaign. A motion was made for Mr. Sarlo to draft an ordinance on the Framers Market.

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

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Mignone spoke about Hackensack's DPW yard and Teaneck's interest in it. He wanted to reach out to Councilman Schwartz to see what their interest was, and that possible River Edge would also invest in the site, getting out of the flood zone. This didn't mean any type of shared service, it would just be sharing the site. We could also include the pistol range at this site. It would open up our current DPW yard and make more room for other public uses.

Mayor Mignone stated that he and the council received a letter asking for a congratulatory message for Kyra Maskesy, who was receiving her Girl Scout Gold Award. He had sent her a letter congratulating her on this achievement. He thought it would be nice if the council received an invitation for these ceremonies so a proclamation could be presented then, as they do for the Boy Scout's Eagle Ceremony. He asked that a proclamation be prepared for the first meeting in April so Kyra Maskesy could be present to receive it.

Mayor Mignone also gave the results of the Boy Scout's Klondike Derby. River Edge's Boy Scout Troop 229 placed 2<sup>nd</sup>, Troop 95 placed 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Troop 95 also took 1<sup>st</sup> place in the sled race, Maywood took 1<sup>st</sup> place. Both towns had the same trainer, who shows a tremendous dedication over the past several years to the scouts. A motion was made to prepare proclamations for the Boy Scouts and one for Kyra Maskesy.

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

### **OPEN PUBLIC HEARING**

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

No public comment

**CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING**

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

**MOTION TO ADJOURN THE WORK SESSION AT 8:05 PM**

Motion by Councilman Bartelloni, second by Councilman Acquafredda to Adjourn.  
All in Favor 5-0

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Stephanie Evans. RMC  
Borough Clerk