

**MINUTES OF A WORK SESSION OF THE EDGEWATER MAYOR AND COUNCIL HELD IN THE NANCY MERSE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LOCATED AT 55 RIVER ROAD, EDGEWATER, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY ON MARCH 3, 2014**

**PRESIDING:** Mayor James F. Delaney

**PRESENT ON ROLL CALL:** Councilman Henwood, Councilman Doran, Councilman Monte, Councilman Vidal and Councilman Bartolomeo

**ALSO PRESENT:** Administrator Gregory S. Franz, and Attorney William Betsch

**ABSENT:** Councilman Jordan, Borough Attorney Philip Boggia and Borough Clerk Barbara Rae

Mayor Delaney read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement into the Record.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Councilman Vidal led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CONFERENCE:**

**1. Dave Vozza, Risk Management Consultant**

Administrator Franz spoke about the possibility of going into Closed Session.

Mr. Vozza spoke about the Community Rating System available thru FEMA. This would allow residents to purchase flood insurance at a discounted rate. Explained the process and thought that, especially because of the increase in rates, the Borough would be interested. Administrator Franz asked about the Borough's flood policies. Discussion ensued. Borough to proceed. With possibility of qualifying.

Mr. Vozza then spoke about the Medicare Advantage programs for retirees. Reviewed programs, cost and savings. Reviewed same for active employees. Spoke about the State Health Benefit Plan. Said that the Borough Attorney has reviewed Borough Contracts and believes that the Borough can change the health plan for current retirees. Referenced spreadsheet. Spoke about additional savings and the differences in savings. Discussion about dissemination of information to employees.

Further discussion about Medicare Advantage program. Noted that it must be a group enrollment. Believes most retirees would be happy with the program. Question is what the Borough decides which way it wants to go. Noted that zero co-pay would be same or better than what they have. Compared plans and savings. Administrator to ask Borough Attorney to review. Discussion about outreach. Councilman Henwood spoke about the Police and DPW. Mayor Delaney commented. Councilman Henwood asked about the number of retirees.

**2. Michael Messeri, Shadyside Parking.**

Administrator Franz referenced hand written survey included in packet. Referenced discussion at past meetings regarding making changes in parking/ordinance in Shadyside. Mr. Messeri is a party to the agreement that created the parking lot in Shadyside. Noted that the Agreement was signed in 1995. Believes that Borough Attorney Boggia is very familiar with the Agreement. Referenced survey and his interviews with business owners. Spoke with all business owners except Rebecca's. Reviewed business owners' needs for parking spaces for employees. Noted that he excluded two properties that have onsite parking. One is 276-272 where Manga is, they have 8 on site in back and 256-250 they have 12 on site. Did not include non-resident property owners which are about 5 or 6. Believes the demand for people who live and work there is about 110 cars. Referred to Google Image of 3 or 4 years ago.

Spoke about changes made because of the Hudson Park Complex. Said business owners complain about Hudson Park and commuter parking. Believes meters are the answer and that employees should be made to park in the North Parking Lot. Enforcement is the key. Spoke about complaint from the owner of a Townhouse. She is unable to rent the townhouse because of the parking problem.

Recommended a special parking permit for just Shadyside and that they keep the south parking lot for residents, customers and parents who drop off children. Once again noted that enforcement is paramount. Discussion.

Reviewed why the snow is now being placed in the lot. Councilman Henwood asked about using the back parking lot of the multiplex. Administrator to look into.

Administrator Franz spoke about a petition the Borough received today. Petition is asking for continued removal of the snow. Mr. Messeri spoke about the original agreement, DPW actions prior to the storm and the negative effects on the lot. Noted that according to the Agreement the Borough has certain responsibilities including maintenance. Noted he is willing to change the Settlement Agreement to accommodate snow.

Administrator Franz noted that the Borough received approval to dump snow in the River.

Council members thanked Mr. Messeri for all his hard work.

## **OPEN MEETING TO PUBLIC**

Mayor Delaney opened the meeting to the public and the following were heard:

Mary Hogan, 606 Undercliff Avenue:

- Referenced meeting about the reexamination of the Master Plan.
- Barry Arnst noted that the COAH building is charging people to park. Explained why she believes it's wrong and asked that the Borough investigate.
- Spoke about complexes charging for a second parking spot.
- Old Kenny house will further reduce parking. Council discussion.
- Spoke against specified parking permits.
- Discussion about striping parking spaces.
- Questioned why two Borough attorneys are attending Master Plan Meetings. Believes it is a waste of tax payer money. Was told iPark is paying for the attorneys and questioned why a developer would be paying.
- Asked about State Health Plan. Believes the Borough's Plan is better. Discussion.
- Discussion about bus rates and parking in Shadyside.
- . Discussion with Mr. Messeri.
- Informed the Council of 2 large holes on Undercliff going up the hill.

No one else wished to be heard therefore the Mayor closed the meeting to the public.

## **CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

Administrator Franz said that two bargaining unit agreements, PBA and DPW, were distributed to the Council for review and can be discussed at a later date. Both contracts expire June 30<sup>th</sup>. Have been put on notice by the PBA that they wish to begin the process. It was noted that there is a need to concentrate on insurance and overtime issues. Committees to be formed.

## **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT REGULAR SESSION (03-18-2014)**

## MINUTES

1. January 27, 2014 Regular Session

No comments or questions.

## ORDINANCES:

**Introduction: None**

**Adoption: Ord. 1504-2014** An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 282, "Parking Lots," and Chapter 293, "Parks and Recreation Areas," to Update Parking Restrictions for Municipal Recreation Areas and Historic Borough Hall

No comments or questions.

## RESOLUTIONS:

1. **2014-065** Tax Certification – Recycling
2. **2014-066** Increase in Reserve for Uncollected Taxes Percentage
3. **2014-067** Boat Slip Electric Rates
4. **2014-068** Principal Public Works Manager
5. **2014-069** Authorize submission of Recycling Tonnage Grant Application NJDEP
6. **2014-070** Marina Staff – Temp./Seasonal, full time 12.48 per hr.

No questions or comments.

## Mayor:

- Will be reappointing three (3) members to the Shade Tree Board.
- Will be issuing a Proclamation for Arbor Day – April 25, 2014

Received letter from Patti Dalton, Borough Nurse, 12 Week Wellness Program – begins March 24<sup>th</sup> to June 8<sup>th</sup>.

Referenced letter from Chief Skidmore about the handicapped parking incident at the Commons. Gentlemen who had the issue and attended Council meetings, is not present tonight but the Chief explains that the women was not a wife of an Edgewater Policeman and that this is not an issue for the Borough.

## Borough Administrator:

-Edgewater Colony-preapplication almost complete. Metes and bounds survey of 2 municipal lots that will be incorporation within the conservation easement area. Neglia will meet with County in regard to potential road work.

-V.F.A.S. – Historic Borough Hall –Approved cost estimate for First Aid Squad Floor Plan from 3 or 4 years ago included in packet. Engineer's estimate is \$1,058,000. Need to review with Architect, because some of the items might have already been completed. Regarding the Budget, Governing Body needs to decide. Discussion. Volunteers and First Aid Squad will have to share.

-Veterans Field

Wants to clarify based on the Finance's Committee's request to investigate on optional of initiating this work and in consideration of negotiating with the bonding company. Reference Resolution that stated that Waterside was in breach of the agreement. Noted that there are some legalities as to why the resolution was written in that manner. Discussed the possibility of hiring special counsel to work with the bonding company to get this job back on track.

Special Counsel would work for this particular project along with the bonding company as far as Veterans Field and Waterside Construction Co. Have discussed possibility of doing an RFQ as compared to other processes. Need direction from Governing Body. It was the Consensus to seek special counsel for Veterans Field special counsel proposals. It was noted that the Borough Attorney is in support. It was the consensus of the Governing Body present to seek proposals to obtain Special Counsel for Veterans Field.

**Removal of Binghamton Boat.**

Contract purchaser of the location has reached out to Borough. –It is looking favorable. They are asking Mayor & Council for a support letter to be written to the DEP for the removal of the existing boat. Believes it is a formality because of the needed permits. Will be drafting a letter for Mayor’s signature.

**Borough Clerk:**

**-On line meeting management**

Clerk met with vendor. Public will have access to agendas, minutes, resolutions and back-up material. All Boards can be included for the same price.

**MOTION**

March 3, 2014

**Introduced:** Councilman Henwood

**Second:** Councilman Vidal

Motion to adjourn.

On roll call the vote was as follows:

Councilman Henwood	Yes
Councilman Doran	Yes
Councilman Monte	Yes
Councilman Vidal	Yes
Councilman Jordan	Absent
Councilman Bartolomeo	Yes

Gregory S. Franz for  
Barbara Rae, RMC, CMC

**APPROVED:** March 18, 2014

