

**BOROUGH OF DUMONT
BERGEN COUNTY, N.J.
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
SENIOR CENTER
APRIL 16, 2019
6:30 PM**

Mayor Kelly called the meeting to order.

Flag Salute, Moment of Silence

Sunshine Law: The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey have been satisfied by the inclusion of the date, time and place of this regular meeting in the annual schedule and notice of regular meetings of this Governing Body. Such annual schedule and notice of regular meetings are posted at Borough Hall, was sent to *The Record* and the *Ridgewood News*, posted on the Borough website and filed with the Borough of Dumont.

Roll Call:

Council members Chae (arrived at 7:10pm), Englese, LaBruno, Manna, Rossillo, Stewart-present
Mayor James J. Kelly-present

A Power Point presentation was given by Stephen Walter-Project Manager, Jeff Schlecht-Architect and Michael Gebhardt-Engineer to answer questions previously submitted by residents pertaining to the Municipal Complex.

2019 Open Space Grant Hearing-Presentation on Gina's Field project by Don Norbut-Remington Vernick.

Mr. Norbut explained that the Council is considering submitting an application through Bergen County Open Space for improvements to Gina's Field. An application has been submitted to DEP Green Acres for part of the same project. It takes the existing infield located in the southeast corner and moves it to the southwest corner as well as improving drainage. There would be new backstops, dugouts, bleachers, ADA walkways, bullpen and a batting cage. There is a subcommittee to fine-tune the improvements. The cost is approximately \$600,000. There is no lighting planned in the project.

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Englese

All in favor.

1. Tom Kelly, 70 Beacon Street, asked the difference between the Green Acres application and the Open Space application. Mr. Norbut explained that the Open Space project does not include the playground improvements, removal of trees, ADA access to the playground area.

2. Dan Monte, Second Street, suggested leaving the diamond where it is and regrading, which wouldn't require extra fill. Mr. Norbut said they would look at the drainage issue and light shining into batter's eyes. A committee will be addressing any issues that have been raised. Mr. Monte said that Toms River had just redone eight fields for \$25,000. He spoke about drainage.

3. Joanne Boswell, 59 Spring, is concerned about vehicle and EMS access to their

homes in an emergency. Mayor Kelly said this will be discussed with the Police.

4. John Sansone, Beacon Street, asked if the plan could change if necessary and if less money was spent would the town match the amount spent? Mr. Norbut answered yes. Mr. Sansone said the field needs an upgrade but the costs should be kept to a minimum.

5. Bill Wicker said the field has to be redone but is against moving the diamond; two parking areas are gone and the buffer zone removed. He, himself went and spent \$600 on trees. He heard the lightning detector is going to be relocated.

6. Michael Sullivan, 125 Andover is concerned about the safety of the children. The cost is absurd.

7. Maryann Russini, 141 Roosevelt, said the girls' softball field needs improvement. She asked for the breakdown of the cost of items. Can we reuse some of the fencing, etc. or will everything be thrown away? Mr. Norbut replied that it is a complete renovation. Councilman LaBruno clarified that this is a presentation for a grant application to Bergen County. The committee discussing this is the Recreation Committee comprised of himself, Councilwoman Stewart and Councilman Englese. Councilwoman Stewart said that this is just for Gina's Field. Ms. Russini asked if it costs money every time there is a presentation to which Councilman LaBruno responded that in order to apply for the grant, there has to be a hearing. Ms. Russini suggested looking at other fields and how many games were cancelled in 2018.

8. Mike Boyce, 64 Fleetwood, is president of girls' softball and asked if the committee will speak to people from softball. Our facilities are terrible. The girls are using the DPW bathroom.

9. Brendan Keating, Wilkens Drive, commented that the fields have been permitted to deteriorate. Hopefully, even though there are other issues in town, this issue should not be ignored.

10. Linda Lee, 1 Tobin Ct., asked if we don't get the grant, will the project go through? The Mayor said that it will be considered by Recreation.

11. Gerry Aponte, Hickory Street, said they are trying to get fill to reduce the cost. Cost is an issue. He said they are trying to fix other fields, as well.

Motion to close: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

MAYOR'S REPORT

No report

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT-absent

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Councilman Chae

No report

- Councilman Englese

Board of Health

Meeting was cancelled due to no quorum for the second time

- Councilman LaBruno

The Borough Hall presentation covered the items in his report

- Councilman Manna

Police Department

There were 1,722 calls for service; 84 for medical reasons, 11 calls for fires and 9 for commitments. Patrol issued 169 traffic summonses-8 parking, 83 moving and 78 all night parking. There was one DWI arrest, 26 motor vehicle crashes investigated, 22 burglar alarms responded to and 9,555 miles traveled in patrol activities. The Detective Bureau conducted 7 firearms investigations, handled 19 criminal cases and investigated 3 domestic violence incidents with 0 arrests. Five officers received mandated CPR and Narcan training; 6 dispatchers received mandated active shooter counterterrorism training; 1 officer received mandated firearms applications training; 7 officers received discretionary monthly tactical response team training.

Beautification Committee

The committee met and they are working on their first project on the corner of the West Shore and Madison. They have also been working with the 125th Anniversary Committee. Together, they are purchasing American flag banners and anniversary banners to be hung throughout town.

This past Saturday, Councilman Manna attended a Mayor's roundtable presentation on cannabis and COAH. Cost upgrades translate into bond and taxes to the residents. The issue of affordable housing seems to have been more about the cost of living in New Jersey and hourly wages as opposed to the Mt. Laurel mandate.

- Councilwoman Rossillo

Board of Education

The Councilwoman attended the last meeting. They will be advertising bids for replacing the roofs at Lincoln and Grant schools. They will also be renovating the track at the high school. The Little Mermaid performance at the high school was excellent. The teachers and students deserve recognition.

- Councilwoman Stewart

Shade Tree Commission

The Commission is celebrating ten years as a Tree City. Arbor Day will be celebrated April 27th at the arboretum from 1-3PM.

Stigma-free Committee

Hopefully, the ordinance will be adopted tonight.

Recreation

It was covered during the Gina's Field presentation.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

No report

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the March 19, 2019 Public Meeting and Closed Session minutes:

Councilman Englese

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

Roll call vote: Council members Chae, Englese, LaBruno, Rossillo, Stewart-yes

Councilman Manna-abstained

Motion to approve the April 2, 2019 Public Meeting minutes: Councilman Englese

Second: Councilman Manna

Roll call vote: Council members Chae, Englese, Manna, Stewart-yes
Council members LaBruno and Rossillo-abstained

Review of Consent Agenda Items: All items with an asterisk are considered to be non-controversial by the Council and will be approved by one motion. There may be further discussion prior to the vote upon request of a member of the public or a Council member. Also, any item may be removed for further discussion or for roll call vote in which case the item will be removed and considered in its normal sequence as part of the general order of business.

RESOLUTIONS

#19-118 Bills List *

#19-119 Approval of St. Mary's Games Raffle to be held June 5th through June 8th, 2019; ID# 1091-471; RL#534 *

#19-120 Approval of St. Mary's On-premise Cash Raffle to be held June 5th through June 8th, 2019; ID# 1091-471; RL#535 *

#19-121 Approval of St. Mary's Off-premise Cash Raffle to be held June 5th through June 8th, 2019; ID# 1091-471; RL#536 *

#19-122 Approval of St. Mary's Calendar Raffle to be held September 25, 2019 through December 18, 2019; ID# 1091-471; RL#537 *

#19-123 Approval of Block Party on Seneca Avenue to be held June 15, 2019 *

#19-124 Stephen Clark-Hire as DPW Part-time Seasonal Employee-\$12.00 per hour *

#19-125 Authorization of the Submission of a 2019 Bergen County Open Space, Municipal Park Improvement Grant *

#19-126 Resolution Opposing the Vegetative Management Response Act *

#19-127 Warren Dolan-Accept as Member of the Dumont Fire Department *

#19-130 R.L. Roem Jr. & Sons, LLC-Award of Lawn Maintenance Quote for Abandoned and Bank-owned Properties-\$90.00 per hour *

#19-131 Approval of Revision to the 2019 Salary Resolution *

#19-132 Approval of Revision of the 2018 LOSAP Contribution *

Councilwoman Stewart requested that Resolutions #128 and #129 be moved to Non-consent

Open to the public on Consent Agenda items: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

1. Lynne Vietri, Wilkens Drive-questioned items on the bills list and the line items they were charged to.

2. Bruce deLyon, Beacon Street, questioned items on the bills list and some bond ordinances not listed. He would like the employees' salaries on the website. How are stipends determined? Mayor Kelly explained that it is a responsibility outside the employee's job. We will not be using the same travel agent.

3. Alex, W. Quackenbush Avenue, asked about Resolution #130. Mayor Kelly explained it is paid for by the bank that has a lien on the house.

4. Maryann Russini, Roosevelt Avenue, asked who checks the bills list-some are mislabeled and might not be taken out of the right account. Where is the list of what is charged to petty cash?

5. Tom Kelly, Beacon Street, questioned the increased amount for Cumming. The

Mayor will find out what the check was for.

Motion to close: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

Motion to adopt the consent agenda: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilwoman Rossillo

Roll call vote: Council members Chae, Englese, LaBruno, Manna, Rossillo, Stewart-yes

Non-consent Agenda

#19-111 Award of Bid to Bennett Company, Inc for the Municipal Complex Project.-
\$14,960,000 (previously tabled)

Motion to open to the public: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

1. John Sansone, Beacon Street, asked if Bennett was vetted. He asked the timeline for demolition. Councilman LaBruno said he had checked with Ms. DiGiacomo of Cumming and they have completed multiple municipal projects in North Jersey and they are the lowest bid. They are also 98% union contracted. The demolition site should be cleared by the 22nd. The committee has a meeting scheduled with the contractor April 23rd and they should know more after that.

2. Alexis Tandrak, W. Quackenbush Avenue, said the engineer is not accurate and the building is overdesigned, in his opinion. He feels this building should cost \$13,000,000. Councilman LaBruno said they are going over everything with a fine-tooth comb. The Mayor said he would set up a meeting with the engineer, Administrator and him. Councilman Manna pointed out that Mr. Tandrak was told to submit his questions through the Administrator to the professionals. The presentation tonight was to address his and other residents' questions.

3. Bruce deLyon, Beacon Street, wanted clarification of items not included in the bid.

4. Lynne Vietri, Wilkens Drive, asked about the home which is still inhabited.

5. Maryann Russini, Roosevelt Avenue, confirmed that the W. Quackenbush properties are included in the bid. She was concerned about the bid if 23 W. Quackenbush is not vacated.

6. Tom Kelly, Beacon Street, asked the results of the investigation of the W. Quackenbush properties. He asked if the bid included remediation. Councilman Manna stated that the issue is asbestos shakes under the siding. It is his understanding that this was put in the bid specs. The only oil tank identified was at 50 Washington Avenue. Councilman LaBruno received confirmation from Cumming that any remediation on the W. Quackenbush sites is covered in the bid package.

Councilwoman Stewart has to abstain from #128 and #129. There were no questions on these.

Motion to close to the public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

Motion to approve Resolution #111: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

Roll call vote: Council members Chae, Englese, LaBruno, Manna, Rossillo, Stewart-yes
#19-128 Approval of DHS Music Boosters On-premise Merchandise Raffle to be held
May 17, 2019; ID#109-5-36714; RL#538 *

Motion to adopt: Councilman Chae

Second: Councilman Englese

Roll call vote: Council members Chae, Englese, LaBruno, Manna, Rossillo-yes

Councilwoman Stewart-abstained

#19-129 Approval of DHS Music Boosters On-premise Cash Raffle to be held May 17,
2019; ID#109-5-36714; RL#539 *

Motion to adopt: Councilman Chae

Second: Councilman Englese

Roll call vote: Council members Chae, Englese, LaBruno, Manna, Rossillo-yes

Councilwoman Stewart-abstained

ORDINANCES

Second Reading

#1562 Ordinance to Establish a Stigma-free Committee

Motion to waive the formal reading: Councilman Englese

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

Councilman LaBruno thanked Councilwoman Stewart for establishing the committee and the residents who will be participating on the committee.

Motion to open to the public: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

1. Carmine DeMarco, 163 New York Avenue, spoke of his son who had severe depression and suicidal thoughts. He received treatment and his family's eyes were opened to a world of mental health issues. His son had never spoken of his sadness and suffered in silence. There are a lot of kids who suffer in silence and not getting the help they need. The stigma-free initiative in New Jersey raises public awareness and using education and the dissemination of information to remove the stigma attached to mental illness so that those suffering will seek the help they need. The stigma of mental illness is the primary reason people do not find mental help. The governing body had adopted a resolution establishing Dumont as a stigma-free zone but something more was needed. Councilwoman Stewart has put forth an ordinance establishing an official Stigma-free committee. He commended the Council for adopting the ordinance, which will save lives.

Motion to close to the public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

Motion to adopt on second reading: Councilman LaBruno

Second: Councilman Chae

Roll call vote: Council members Chae, Englese, LaBruno, Manna, Rossillo, Stewart-yes

#1563 Amendment of Ordinance #1555, Section 2-Establishment of the Economic Development Committee

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

All in favor.

Councilman LaBruno explained that there were so many interested, qualified individuals that we increased the committee by two.

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Stewart

All in favor.

Motion to close to the public: Councilman LaBruno

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

Motion adopt on second reading: Councilman LaBruno

Second: Councilman Manna

Roll call vote: Council members Chae, Englese, LaBruno, Manna, Rossillo, Stewart-yes

First Reading

#1564 Ordinance Amending Chapter 306, Sections 18 and 20 Property Maintenance of the Dumont Borough Code

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

Motion to pass on first reading: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman LaBruno

Roll call vote: Council members Chae, Englese, LaBruno, Manna, Rossillo, Stewart-yes

Councilman LaBruno stated that he learned that the clay on the little league fields are purchased by them, not the town.

General Comments

1. Michael Sullivan, Andover Avenue, asked about pothole fillers, which Mr. Richards had spoken about. Councilman LaBruno explained that we have to get the machine from the County and also set up an agreement. Mr. Sullivan asked about the railroad crossings improvements. He was told it is handled by the DOT. Mr. Sullivan would like the absence of elevators in the affordable housing revisited.

2. deLyon, Beacon Street, referred to Bond Ordinances 1519, 1556 and 1558, which amount to \$19,836,500. If the money runs out, what would the Council do? He spoke of the capital improvement items and said that these items don't have to be purchased and would save the taxpayers money.

3. John Sansone, Beacon Street, commented that the municipal complex presentation was good but residents should have been able to ask them questions. He commended the finance committee for giving the Beautification Committee \$5,000 to start. May 4th the first project at Madison and W. Shore will start. Volunteers are welcome.

4. Mary Normoyle, Randolph Avenue, remarked that the Mayor had said there

would be a policy in the future specific to petty cash. The Mayor said there would be a policy addressing petty cash spent when people from the jail come to work on projects in town. There was discussion about starting Council meetings later.

5. Lynne Vietri, Wilkens Dr., asked when the PILOT will kick in. The Mayor said as each building receives their C.O. Ms. Vietri asked if the girls can play on the boys' field. The BOE is redoing the field, not the track. She commented that the BOE was asked to pay for 20% of the repair bills for the pumps at the DPW.

6. Maryann Russini, Roosevelt Avenue, suggested that correspondence with answers to residents' questions should be read out loud at the meetings. Are the residents of 23 W. Quackenbush paying rent? Mr. Leibman replied that they are not, as part of the agreement. The town owns the property so the residents are not paying the taxes.

7. Dan Monte, Second Street, has a deep pothole by his house. Referring to landscaping at the park, there are a number of zoning violations. He feels that there is not always a free flow of information and public notification.

8. Tom Kelly, Beacon Street, asked when bids went out. He commented that some people come home from work and give kids dinner and help with homework and would come if the meetings were later. He feels that more transparency would translate into shorter meetings. A lot of people are concerned about their taxes.

9. Daniel Rowell, Randolph Avenue, asked if positions are posted on the website. Garbage trucks are backing up 20-25 miles an hour without beepers.

Motion to close: Councilwoman Stewart

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

The Municipal Clerk read the Closed Session resolution to discuss:

Potential Litigation-Green Acres

Personnel-Police

Personnel-DPW

Motion to enter closed session: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Chae

Roll call vote: Council members Chae, Englese, LaBruno, Manna, Rossillo, Stewart-yes

Following closed session, motion to go back into public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

Motion to adjourn: Councilman LaBruno

Second: Councilman Chae

All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Susan Connelly, RMC

Municipal Clerk

