

BOROUGH OF PROSPECT PARK
MAYOR & COUNCIL
MINUTES OF WORK SESSION
MARCH 11, 2013

Present:

Mayor	Mohamed T. Khairullah
Council President	Robert Artis
Councilman	Richard Esquiche
Councilman	Samir Hayek
Councilwoman	Felicia Ortiz
Councilwoman	Cristina Perez

Absent:

None

Also Present:

Municipal Attorney	Denis Morph
Municipal Clerk	Stephanie Evans

Mayor Mohamed T. Khairullah called the meeting to order at 7:13 pm.

The meeting was opened with the Flag Salute led by Council President Artis, and followed by a Prayer led by Councilman Hayek.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT

Ready by Municipal Clerk, Stephanie Evans

The Mayor and Council of the Borough of Prospect Park conducted their Work Session on March 11, 2013 in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building located at 106 Brown Avenue, Prospect Park, New Jersey at 6:30PM as noticed in the Annual Schedule of Meetings approved at the Re-Organization Meeting of the Mayor and Council on January 5, 2013.

This meeting was called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. Notice of this meeting was included in a notice sent to The Hawthorne Press, Herald News, and The Record on January 7, 2013, posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and has remained continuously posted as the required notices under the Statute. Copies of the above mentioned notice is available to the public and on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

Proper notice having been given, the Municipal Clerk is directed to include this statement in the minutes of this meeting.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

ENGINEER REPORT – Met with quarry owners, P-Park, who gave a tour. They explained the redevelopment plan. We have a better understanding of the plan now. We will meet with them for the oversight shortly and will be submitting their formal application in April. Brown Avenue will be submitted for review. Also spoke with contractor regarding the Spray Park, testing in June, Grand Opening will be in May before Memorial Day, needs to be sooner.

Mayor Khairullah wanted the record to show that he had a conversation with the Engineer regarding the ball fields where we awarded a contract, and I believe that we should not start working on the fields due to the close proximity of practice at this point I would like to give it enough time for the ground to settle, the seeds to grow, and have strong grass before we play on it. I recommend is to not start the work until fall, even though we awarded it. This way the fields are completely ready for next year. If they were to start next week, it will be past the middle of March, it will be a waste of money. Same field as last year, with normal maintenance not a complete overhaul. Will check to see what maintenance is needed to get through the season.

POLICE REPORT – Would like to recommend hiring Feliciano Bernardo as a full time-part time crossing guard. He will be replacing someone who recently resigned. It will be for ten hours a week. I would like to swear him in at the next meeting. Additionally I would like to recommend removal of three (3) handicapped spaces: 381 North 11th Street, 380 North 8th Street, and 369 North 9th Street. Residents have moved, and no longer need signs. Also I am making recommendations for five (5) handicapped spaces: 400 North 9th Street, 53 Hopper Street, 140 North 15th Street, 14 Brown Avenue, and 11 Fairview Ave. Finally would like to recommend the proposal of E-Ticketing to move forward.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT – No report at present time

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Was handed out. Topics of report are BRC Construction quote to repair both bathrooms and rear hall on first floor.

Quote Price \$1,874.14. Reiner Group Service Agreement April 1, 2013 –April 1, 2014 \$1,043.50. Purchase 2013 Ford F350 Pickup with snow plow package and liftgate, and all accessories in quote, total amount \$37,219.00.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT – No report at present time.

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT – No report at present time.

CONSTRUCTION/HOUSING DEPARTMENT REPORT – No report at present time.

RECREATION REPORT – Baseball registration has started and is extended to March 25. Easter egg hunt Is on March 23 at Hofstra Park or school depending on weather. Reviewed ordinance for Spray Park. Would also like to start a program called “Adopt-A-Park”. Handout shows main goals. Council to review Spray Park Ordinance and get back to Damian. Need a salary ordinance to hire additional people for ten dollars an hour (\$10.00).

TREASURER REPORT – One budget reserve for \$5,000.00 and DPW truck resolutions.

PURCHASE REQUESTS DISCUSSION

MUNICIPAL CLERK’S AGENDA

Proclamations - Month of April as “Autism Awareness Month”

Appointments - Appointment of Stephanie Evans as Municipal Registrar

Communications and Correspondence - None

Unfinished Business - None

New Business - None

Resolutions:

1. Resolution Authorizing 2013 Budget Appropriation Reserve Transfer.
2. Resolution Authorizing Designation of Candidates Submitting The Most Advantageous Qualifications In Response To Request For Qualifications For Professional Services.
3. Resolution Appointing Stephanie Evans As Municipal Registrar Of The Borough of Prospect Park.
4. Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Purchase Of One 2013 Ford F350 Pickup Truck With Snowplow Package And Power Thieman Liftgate.

General Discussion

Councilman Esquiche asked if there was any type of waiver in place at the Spray Park regarding an injury or theft.

Damian Serafin replied by stating that there was no waiver in place regarding theft. Injury was covered in the original waiver, but can put another in place.

Councilman Esquiche asked about posting a sign.

Damian replied that can be done.

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

LEGAL UPDATE – DENIS MURPHY, MUNICIPAL ATTORNEY – Nothing at present.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ARTIS – Nothing at present time.

COUNCILMAN ESQUICHE – Report at next meeting.

COUNCILMAN HAYEK – Purpose to add rules and regulations to run day care center, unless they are run by the State. Spray Park ordinance will review rules that are submitted to us and get back to you at next meeting. Regarding communication, Angel from RDE is working with Andres to provide information on the website.

COUNCILWOMAN ORTIZ – Current month's finances were given in detail.

COUNCILWOMAN PERALTA – The recreation report was basically handled by Damian, but would like to emphasize the Easter Egg Hunt will start at 1PM. Flyers will be sent to the school, volunteers are needed, along with Easter baskets.

COUNCILMAN ZAKARIA – Construction job of the two first floor bathrooms and rear hallway is quoted at \$1,874.14, it would take about 2-3 days to complete.

MAYOR MOHAMED T. KHAIRULLAH – Will present report at next meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING

(Privilege of the floor)

Motion to Open the Public Hearing

Motion by Councilwoman Ortiz, seconded by Councilman Esquiche to Approve.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Artis, Esquiche, Hayek, Ortiz, Peralta, Zakaria

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Betty Van Eeuwen, 336 North 7th Street – Would like a condition put into the next solid waste and recycling contract that the workers put the cans back on the curb, not left in the street. Parking is a problem in Prospect Park, without the cans in the road. Haledon has the cans placed back on the curb. Also the sidewalks by the Borough Hall are horrible. I was shocked to see blacktop on the sidewalk, when I was a council member it was forbidden. Please check the code book. Finally on the Spray Park, I don't know what is in there, but you don't want any dirty diapers, or Sippy cups, for younger kids not teenagers.

Councilwoman Ortiz responded by saying that is why we are hiring people and putting up the regulations.

Councilman Zakaria also stated that he thanked Ms. Van Eeuwen for her concerns and that next Saturday he will try and talk to the drivers about returning the cans curbside.

Mayor Khairullah agreed with Ms. Van Eeuwen about the horrible job the last time they were here. Regarding the blacktop on the sidewalk, I will Stephanie check the code book, but just like we give residents an extension sometimes, we promise we will correct the situation when we do Brown Ave., so it's going to happen soon, but regarding blacktop we will check the code book. Regarding the Spray Park that is why we have rules and regulations that have to be followed, and adopted, along with a matter of enforcement. This will be our first experiment with the Spray Park. I encourage you to go and look at it, it's beautiful.

Mr. Al Demarest, 368 North 9th Street – He also mentioned that the recycling crew left cans in the street, but the garbage crew is excellent. If you read the Herald Press lately, you will see that our police department does one-hell of a job. The amount of pot that was recovered last week was unbelievable. Our police department should be recognized at the next meeting. Imagine what could be done if two more officers were hired.

Mayor Khairullah asked if there were any further public comments, seeing none the Mayor asked to close the public hearing.

Motion to Close the Public Hearing

Motion by Councilwoman Ortiz, seconded by Councilman Esquiche to Approve.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Artis, Esquiche, Hayek, Ortiz, Peralta, Zakaria

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion to Adjourn Meeting at 7:37 PM

Motion by Councilman Esquiche, seconded by Councilman Zakaria to Adjourn.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Artis, Esquiche, Hayek, Ortiz, Peralta, Zakaria

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Mohamed T. Khairullah
Mayor

Stephanie Evans, RMC
Municipal Clerk