

BOROUGH OF ROOSEVELT
33 N. Rochdale Ave, Roosevelt Borough, NJ 08555

Mayor and Council
Regular Meeting Minutes of February 5, 2024

Mayor Malkin opened the meeting at 7:08pm and read the Open Public Meeting Act statement which stated, Adequate notice of this meeting, as required by Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, has been provided by a public notice on January 3, 2024 which was posted on the Bulletin Board Roosevelt Post Office and in the Borough Hall. The notice was transmitted to The Times and Asbury Park Press.

ROLL CALL

	PRESENT	ABSENT	LATE ARRIVAL
<i>Councilmember Lou Esakoff</i>	✓		
<i>Councilmember Michael Hamilton</i>	✓		
<i>Councilmember Constance Herrstrom</i>	✓		
<i>Councilmember Steven Macher</i>	✓		
<i>Councilmember Joe Trammell</i>	✓		
<i>Mayor Peggy Malkin</i>	✓		

Also in attendance: Greg Cannon, Esq., Kathleen Hart, Borough Clerk

MAYOR’S REPORT: M/Malkin discusses memo of February 5, 2024 with Democratic Committee Members and presents the three names: Kristina Kaufman, Katerina Paleckova, Ralph Warnick.

Attorney Greg Cannon explains the procedure in order to appoint the new member, which will take place at the next meeting, February 20, 2024.

PRESENTATION: Tree Studies Video – Ellen Silverman, Environmental Commission Chairperson, 10 N. Valley Road: Ben Johnson and Eric Vuolle along with Ellen Silverman put together the video which details the Forestry Inventory Assessment and the Street Tree Inventory of 2023. Mayor Malkin states she is concerned with the tree ordinance we have is not strong enough, people take down trees then get a permit and maybe pay a small fine, we do not have an arborist and residents are not deterred about taking down trees, should Roosevelt hire as needed basis? Ellen Silverman states the Environmental Commission and Council can work closely on tree issues. C/Hamilton states that a large tree absorbs a lot of water and once removed it can cause flooding. M/Malkin asks Ellen Silverman about the trees that are dangerous, Ellen Silverman suggests that the DPW and the Green Team review the trees. C/Hamilton states he received a call from someone at Solar Village this week about a tree that is leaning towards their house. Ellen Silverman states that there were trees in Solar Village that were on the hazardous list. Michael Tickin states if you are going to look at the tree ordinance maybe address Bamboo, enforce by putting a barrier down to help prevent spreading.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda items only)

M/Malkin opened the meeting to Public Comment for agenda items only at 7:58p.m.

1. Nona Sherak, 4 Maple Court:
 1. The World War II Memorial should be placed near the amphitheater.
 2. Wants to know where the plans for the amphitheater are, they need to be available to the residents? If they are the plans I’ve seen, the handicap accessibility is poor, it should be flat. Why was this architect picked? It is explained that it went out to bid and only 2 architects responded. His use of materials is terrible as per Nona Sherak.
 3. The trees at the triangle (Pine and Tamara) there are some dead branches that need to be removed. M/Malkin asks Nona Sherak to send Ana an email about the dead trees.

2. Mary Tulloss, 21 Lake Drive: Asks about the repaving of Lake Drive and Spruce Drive as it's in excellent condition and doesn't understand why it's being repaved. Spruce Lane does not need curbs. The curbs channel all the brine, the oil, the dirt and goes right to the storm drains. Best practice is not to put in curbs; let the grass be filters. M/Malkin states that this will not occur until 2027 as other streets are ahead of it. We need to start the process now. The Council discusses and will continue to discuss possible options.
3. Ellen Silverman, 10 N. Valley Road: States curbs that allow the water to drain are better for Stormwater.

M/Malkin closed the Public Comment for agenda items at 8:16p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Letter received from Roberts Engineering Group LLC regarding Improvements to Lake Drive and Spruce Lane, dated January 18, 2024.
2. Letter and report received from Roberts Engineering Group, LLC regarding the Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation (PASI) for the Amphitheater Rehabilitation.
3. Letter received from Gerben Zylstra, 32 Lake Drive regarding paving of Lake Drive, suggestion regarding his driveway.

MINUTES:

1. Regular Meeting Minutes – December 18, 2023

On a motion by C/Hamilton to accept the minutes, with a second offered by C/Trammell, the minutes were approved by the following roll call vote:

Roll Call:

AYES: C/Esakoff, C/Hamilton, C/Herrstrom, C/Macher, C/Trammell

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None

ORDINANCES:

SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

2024-01 AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE SALARY RANGE AND COMPENSATION OF CERTAIN OFFICIALS, POSITIONS AND EMPLOYEES IN THE BOROUGH OF ROOSEVELT, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

M/Malkin opens the public comment at 8:20pm.

No Public Comment.

M/Malkin closes the public comment at 8:20pm.

C/Esakoff made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-01 on second reading, with a second offered by C/Herrstrom.

Roll Call:

AYES: C/Esakoff, C/Hamilton, C/Herrstrom, C/Macher, C/Trammell

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None

FIRST READING

2024-02 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF ROOSEVELT AMENDING CHAPTER 15: "WATER AND SEWER" OF THE BOROUGH CODE TO CLARIFY THAT PROPERTY OWNERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL COSTS OF REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF SERVICE APPLIANCES

C/Trammell made a motion to adopt on first reading Ordinance 2024-02, with a second offered by

C/Esakoff. C/Trammell states that this came about because someone wanted their water shut off and John Holden was not in town at the time and if he has to come in then that bill should go to the resident. Mr. Holden does not charge if he is in town.

Roll Call:

AYES: C/Esakoff, C/Hamilton, C/Herrstrom, C/Macher, C/Trammell
NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None

Second reading and public hearing scheduled for February 20, 2024 at Borough Hall, 33 North Rochdale Avenue, Roosevelt, NJ.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

- Resolution 24-35 Resolution Authorizing Roberts Engineering Group, LLC to Survey, Design, Permit, Prepare Bid Documents and Loan Documents to Replace the Trickling Filters at the Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Resolution 24-36 Resolution Appointing Coordinator of the Roosevelt Borough Office of Emergency Management

C/Hamilton asks for Resolution 24-34 be pulled and voted on separately, with a second from C/Trammell.

Roll Call:

AYES: C/Esakoff, C/Hamilton, C/Herrstrom, C/Macher, C/Trammell
NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None

C/Esakoff made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda Resolutions 24-35 through 24-36, with a second offered by C/Trammell.

Roll Call:

AYES: C/Esakoff, C/Hamilton, C/Herrstrom, C/Macher, C/Trammell
NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None

Resolution 24-34 Payment of Bills for February 5, 2024

C/Hamilton questions Roberts Engineering invoices; Evan Meyers bill for removing 2 fallen trees. Asked if he has insurance. C/Hamilton would like clarification regarding Michele Donato, Esq. bill that shows a phone call for three hours to the Mayor. C/Hamilton wanted to bring this to the attention of the Council. Council discussed and concerns were noted.

C/Esakoff made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda Resolution 24-34, with a second offered by C/Herrstrom.

Roll Call:

AYES: C/Esakoff, C/Hamilton, C/Herrstrom, C/Macher, C/Trammell
NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Environmental, Health & Safety: No Report.

Administration: No Report.

Finance: C/Hamilton reports on interest on borough accounts are now earning 4.125 % interest. Need to reach out to CFO, George Lang to get 2022 audit. C/Esakoff states that the S&P does not influence over bond rating and you will not get a better CFO.

Community Dev/Code: C/Herrstrom states that the Amphitheater project PASI has been completed, the grant agreement will be revised, need Board of Education approval on lease agreement. Michael Tickin states that the Board of Education President cannot sign until the Commissioner of State

Department of Education approves. Michael Ticktin has asked that a resolution be placed on the Board of Education next agenda to approve the lease agreement at their next meeting., which is the 4th Thursday of the month. C/Herrstrom also reports that Ellen Silverman organized a group to clean around the amphitheater, there was a large Ash tree that was on the hazardous list that had fallen down during a recent storm which was removed. A discussion takes place regarding insurance for volunteers. Also discussion takes place on removal of hazardous trees.

Public Works: No report.

Utilities: C/Trammell reports everything looks good, the generator had a bad radiator at the sewer plant. Discussion takes place on either to repair or replace.

REPORTS OF BOROUGH OFFICIALS:

Ellen Silverman, 10 N. Valley Road – Environmental Commission Chairperson: We have been working on the trail. There has been a lot of rain and storm activity. The trail was walked and an assessment plan will need to be done. Flooding is occurring between the Water Treatment Plant and Tamara Drive, which will need to be redone. A portion is in the Assunpink so we need a special use permit, we need to submit an actual action plan. Discussion takes place regarding making a plan that would be needed to be submitted to the DEP and the Stormwater map is needed. Ellen Silverman also reports that the shed has been cleaned out. Last week we heard that the shed was hit by something. M/Malkin states that some residents are using the Borough Hall for parking, and should signs stating no parking be installed. A lengthy discussion takes place regarding signs. Everyone is in agreement to order a sign for Borough Business Parking only.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Improvements to Lake Drive and Spruce Lane – carried to next agenda.

NEW BUSINESS: None

GOOD AND WELFARE:

C/Hamilton states the this is in the Borough Code and the last time it was on an agenda was 2006. It's a good place to thank people for things that are going on. C/Hamilton thanks everyone who was associated with the video presentation. Ellen Silverman is a great leader on the Environmental Commission. Thank you volunteers who helped with removing the trees at the amphitheater. We have a lot of volunteers and am thankful for all their participation. Thank you to the Democratic Committee, it is not an easy job. Petitions for the June Primary are due March 25, 2024 by 4:00pm at the Clerk's office in Borough Hall.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Any item)

M/Malkin opens the public comment at 9:26pm

No Public Comment.

M/Malkin closes the public comment at 9:26pm

C/Esakoff made a motion, with a second offered by C/Trammell, to adjourn meeting with an All in Favor.

Time Out: 9:27pm

The audio tape is available in the Clerk's Office at Borough Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Hart, Borough Clerk

Adopted Date: March 18, 2024