

**Meeting Minutes
Roosevelt Borough Council
Special Meeting
October 26, 2016**

Adequate notice of this meeting, as required by Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, has been provided by a public notice on October 25, 2016 which was posted on the Bulletin Board at the Roosevelt Post Office and in the Borough Hall. The notice was published in The Times and Asbury Park Press.

Roll Call.

	PRESENT	ABSENT
<i>Councilmember Bonna</i>		✓
<i>Councilmember Impellizzeri</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Lipoti</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Malkin</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Ticktin</i>	✓	
<i>Vacancy</i>		
<i>Mayor Ellentuck</i>	✓	

Also in attendance: Debra Sopronyi, Borough Clerk; and Richard Shaklee, Borough Attorney.

Councilmember Impellizzeri requested that the five minute rule be followed for public comment.

Mayor Ellentuck explained that the purpose of this meeting is for Council to discuss the Planning Board discussion at last night's meeting regarding the Planning Board report for municipal property and the required criteria to meet an area in need of redevelopment designation. He then reviewed the Planning Board discussion and noted that they rejected the request regarding designating the Borough Hall property as an area in need of redevelopment; and that they tabled the request to consider municipal uses on the gas station property; the Planning Board would like further information on the 33 N. Rochdale property so it can be properly discussed. The Council must now discuss how they would like to proceed.

Mayor Ellentuck opened the public comment period and the following individuals spoke:

Jeb Shahn – inquired as to what Council is going to do. Mayor Ellentuck advised that discussion must take place for Council to decide.

Maureen Parrott – noted that the five minute rule was not adopted this year.

There was discussion amongst Council and it was decided that the public comment period will be moved to take place following Council's discussion.

Councilmember Impellizzeri moved to limit public comment to a period of five minutes per resident, Councilmember Lipoti seconded.

Council members, Impellizzeri and Lipoti voted yes; Councilmembers Malkin, and Ticktin voted no. Mayor Ellentuck broke the tie with a yes vote.

Motion approved 3-2.

Council Discussion

Mayor Ellentuck reviewed the options available to the Borough regarding the Fire and First Aid, noting that this is an important issue that will have impact on the town. He advised Council that the matter should be discussed this evening, and then they can again review the materials previously dispersed. At that point Council will also have the elections results that will show what the voters want to do and Council should be prepared to discuss the matter at the November 14th meeting.

Councilmember Malkin commented that over ruling the Planning Board is not a good idea; they are our professionals in this matter. There is no case law regarding using the Land Use Law to circumvent a voter challenge to the bond ordinance.

Mayor Ellentuck noted that this has gone on for over a year, and a resolution must be found.

Councilmember Lipoti reviewed the four conditions that make the Borough Hall property meet the criteria of being designated an area in need of redevelopment, and noted that it must meet only one of the criteria. She inquired as to what the Planning Board needs to make a determination.

Councilmember Malkin stated that the Planning Board needs expert testimony before it rules.

Councilmember Lipoti noted that we are still waiting for the PEOSHA health report, which may have an impact on this decision.

Councilmember Malkin noted that the Planning Board has concerns with the redevelopment zone, the Borough should just repair the current facilities.

Mayor Ellentuck noted that pursuant to Ms. Donato, Planning Board Attorney, the motives, purpose, and plans for the property are irrelevant.

There was discussion regarding the additional information and inspections that the Planning Board is looking for. The Borough Attorney noted that the statute does not require professional testimony.

Mayor Ellentuck reviewed the inspections that have taken place, noting that the next step is to wait for the election outcome. He noted that the First Aid will still need to be addressed.

Councilmember Malkin suggested paying the First Aid and repairing the building.

There was discussion regarding the number of members on the First Aid and Fire Departments; the possibility of soft and hard billing for First Aid services.

Mayor Ellentuck opened the public comment period and the following individuals spoke:

Mark Connors – commented that he has 40 years' experience in First Aid and he has seen the membership numbers go up and down because residents are not volunteering; and it is typical in every volunteer organization that some members are more active than others. He is scheduled to pick up the new radios from the County, but if there is not going to be a First Aid, he will not get them. He noted that they will also be receiving a laptop which will provide a billing option. The First Aid attempts to get whatever they can for free through the County, but it is a slow process. He noted that the First Aid is doing a good job and provide mutual aid.

Councilmember Malkin noted that the Council has no desire to disband the First Aid.

Mayor Ellentuck noted that the Borough provides a fixed budget and capital funds for the First Aid, and that their requests have never been denied. He then thanked Mr. Connors for his work on the First Aid.

Councilmember Malkin commented that the Borough contributes \$17,000 to the First Aid and inquired as to whether they still want the siren. Mr. Connors responded that they do want the siren, and that the new radios should fix the communication issue that now exists with call-outs.

Jeff Klein – noted that volunteers are disappearing in general and paid staff is the way to go; a five year plan should be developed.

Councilmember Bonna arrived at this time and was now present.

Assenka Oksiloff – commented regarding her sons' Civics class; she sees verbal and political gymnastics taking place which are not based on the trust of the voter; Council should work for the residents; everything comes through the Mayor and the Borough is paying the Attorney; Council should represent the people, not the Mayor, and they could save attorney fees.

Maureen Parrott – commented that she agrees with Ms. Oksiloff; suggested Council have an agenda session and a business session each month; inquired as to how Council can consider going against the Planning Board when there was no expert testimony at the hearing last night; there must be evidence for the property to meet the criteria of an area in need of development, and a report is not evidence; she is spending her time to research what the Attorney is paid to do.

Mayor Ellentuck noted that this is basically an agenda meeting, as no action will be taken and it is for discussion to prepare for the next meeting.

Jeb Shahn – noted that this appears to be an agenda meeting; the entire process to solve the EMS issues was poorly planned; the two questions on the ballot are non-binding and the negotiations with Millstone were poorly handled.

Mayor Ellentuck commented that it is being assumed that a pay per run or annual fee was not discussed; Millstone was present at the Town Hall meetings so the public could ask them themselves. The fee was established based on what Millstone residents are paying, they are not going to provide the service to Roosevelt for less than their residents pay.

Jeb Shahn – commented that the results are unacceptable; new negotiations with new people should take place.

Eitan Grunwald – thanked Council for doing this thankless job.

There was discussion regarding who participated in the negotiations with Millstone; the Mayor's influence on the negotiations; the Mayor's right to put political signs on his lawn; the figures negotiated with Millstone; First Aid billing and facilities; and the present situation with Hope Fire in Upper Freehold and Allentown.

Jeff Klein – commented that the First Aid can serve under the Fire Department, and does in several places; if you are building a new facility you can do a five year plan with other municipalities to rent to other companies.

Mark Connors – noted that people join the First Aid, get their training and then leave.

Councilmember Bonna noted that if she found out that the Borough was selling water to others at a cost less than what she was paying, she would be very upset.

Councilmember Ticktin – Roosevelt will be included in the Millstone service area and charged the same rate as Millstone residents.

Councilmember Ticktin moved to adjourn at 9:35pm, Councilmember Impellizzeri seconded. All ayes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra L. Sopronyi, RMC
Borough Clerk