



**BOROUGH OF WOODCLIFF LAKE
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MINUTES
WORK SESSION
February 6, 2017
6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

Notice of this meeting, in accordance with the "Open Public Meetings Law, 1975, C. "231", has been posted at the Borough Hall and two newspapers, The Record and The Ridgewood News, have been notified.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Carlos Rendo asked for a roll call. Council members Belgiovine, Gadaleta, Hayes, Herrington, Panso and Piantino were present. Borough Attorney Ron Dario was present, as well as Borough Administrator Tomas Padilla and Borough Clerk Debbie Dakin.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

NEW BUSINESS

- Discussion of Projects, led by Mayor Carlos Rendo

Mayor Rendo stated that he wanted to take the opportunity of this meeting to discuss some projects. He showed an article that had come out in March of 2014 – Woodcliff Lake hopes to take on reservoir beautification project. In that article it states that we brought this idea before the Council and at the time the representative for Suez Water and Mr. Goldsmith were appreciative of it and sit down and speak about that. Mayor Rendo stated that the reason he speaks about this is because he had this idea when he was elected in November 2013. Mayor Rendo read a portion of an e-mail from a resident that said go big or go home. Let's think boldly and broadly of what could be rather than what is. Create a vision that we will be the envy of other New Jersey communities. We should challenge ourselves to move forward and be proactive and not reactive in terms of ideas or projects.

Mayor Rendo stated that he wants to throw some projects around and see who would like to volunteer to take on these ideas.

Council to the Community - Mayor Rendo asked Council President Panso to start organizing Council to the Community starting in March. We could use the Kettler Room and have one or two council persons present.

Causeway Beautification – Mayor Rendo stated that he believes we need to beautify the causeway. Last year we received an e-mail from a resident who was pretty upset about the way the causeway looked. The plaque from the trees were falling apart. Maybe we could work on the fencing and the plaques. Councilwoman Gadaleta asked if the DPW should handle this. Mayor Rendo stated that we should definitely look into this. He would like to light the trees during the holidays. This could become a tradition and maybe we could get a sponsor for this. Administrator Padilla stated that we looked at this briefly last year and the problem was with the electric run. Dave Antoine looked at the plaques last year but there is no master list anywhere. Administrator Padilla stated that this would be a great Eagle Scout project.

Councilwoman Herrington stated that she had a resident approach her regarding a community garden. A couple of different residents brought up this idea of the community garden and recently a young lady in town put together a full proposal and sent it over to Councilwoman Herrington on how she would like to create it. The possible location is the tree farm area because there is a water source already there. So if you wanted to get involved in the community garden, we potentially could rent a family a box and they could plant their organic garden and it would be protected by a fence. They are exploring this idea. Councilwoman Herrington stated that she would like to explore this project and Mayor Rendo stated that she is on the Committee.

Park and Recreation Master Plan – an entire plan from Galaxy Gardens all the way south for parks and recreation. Mayor Rendo stated that he spoke with residents who would be impacted by this project and he placed them on this Committee. He has three families that are highly interested in this and cleaning it up. Councilwoman Herrington and Councilman Belgiovine are going to tackle this project. Councilwoman Herrington asked if there is money budget for this. Mayor Rendo stated that we could use Open Space funding for this. Mayor Rendo stated that he spoke with Mr. Reiner and he is ready to go.

Mayor Rendo stated that he believes this will be three phases. Phase 1 will be the Old Mill where Lydecker is all the way down to Fern. Phase 2 will be from Fern to Hathaway. Phase 3 will be from Hathaway to the end (Suez property).

Councilwoman Hayes stated that on the west side of the tree farm the water level is too high for any plantings. Councilwoman Hayes met with Clay Bosch to possibly move the fence slightly east to get away from the high table area. Why don't we shift it all and then the community garden could be within the fence.

Litigation – Mayor Rendo stated that when he was Council President he was keeping an eye on litigation on what was coming in and how much we were spending. Mayor Rendo would like to see if Councilman Piantino would like to track that. Looking at the hourly rates, what is being expended, and reviewing the bills. Councilman Piantino accepted the task.

Transit – Mayor Rendo stated that we received a letter from Mr. Bressler regarding weekend stops of NJ Transit in Woodcliff Lake which we do not have. Residents would also like another stop in between the early morning stop and the last stop. Mayor Rendo stated that he would like someone to take this on and reach out to NJ Transit and sit down with them and see what we could do. Administrator Padilla stated that he has reached out to NJ Transit and they are supposed to get back to us. A lot of it is based on the studies that they do on ridership. Administrator Padilla stated that we should get our Assembly people involved and NJ Transit. We need to show that there is a demand. Councilwoman Herrington asked if it would make sense to have a petition for this. Administrator Padilla replied that it could not hurt and is probably a good idea. Councilman Piantino stated that he was not aware it was not on the weekends anymore and also stated that there are few during the week. Mayor Rendo asked Mr. Piantino if he would like to take this on. Councilman Piantino agreed. Councilwoman Gadaleta asked to be put on this Committee as well. Councilman Piantino asked Mr. Padilla to please forward NJ Transit's contact information to him.

Marketing Woodcliff Lake to the Community and to Corporate – Mayor Rendo stated that he has an Economic Development and Corporate Partnership Committee. Mayor Rendo stated that the purpose of this Committee is to reach out to corporations to see if they are interested in Woodcliff Lake. Mayor Rendo would also like to have an active aggressive marketing campaign for Woodcliff Lake to bring in people to help the Hilton out and our other businesses. Hopefully, this Committee could work on this. Councilman Piantino will be working on this.

Corporate Round Table – Mayor Rendo stated that he would like to sit down with all the CEOs of the corporations in Woodcliff Lake and bring them into the loop. We don't have a structure where we could approach our businesses and say let's work together and be part of our community. We need to make our corporate residents and our residential residents happy. Council President Panso stated that this falls under Chamber of Commerce. Councilman Belgiovine stated that it would be nice to have a list of all of the corporations in Woodcliff Lake.

Green Team – Mayor Rendo stated that he has been speak with Elizabeth Calderone about the cleaning of the reservoir and we need to really have a Green Team who will be involved. Councilwoman Herrington will be on the Green Team.

PUBLIC COMMENT

MOTION to open to the public was made by Council President Panso, seconded by Councilman Belgiovine and unanimously approved.

No comments.

MOTION to close to the public was made by Councilman Belgiovine, seconded by Council President Panso and unanimously approved.

RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Rendo asked if anyone had any questions on the resolutions. Mayor Rendo asked if we received the Agreement back signed by everybody for the walkway. Councilwoman Herrington replied yes and that Suez Water has that agreement. We are waiting for a date with the Water Shed Approval Board to have their next meeting. Our thought process was to get the bid packet ready to go. Mayor Rendo asked her to send a copy to Borough Clerk Dakin for her files.

Councilwoman Gadaleta stated that she loves the idea regarding shared services. Councilwoman Gadaleta asked if there was any word on an Open House for the golf club. Ms. Gadaleta also asked about fees for the golf course.

Administrator Padilla replied that Old Tappan has to go through 2 processes. Their Mayor and Council and they have a Commission that oversees the golf course. They have been very positive about it and it is in the works. Mr. Padilla stated that the fees have not been finalized yet. We have not set any fees besides camp because we maybe will offer something to Montvale regarding our pool membership.

Councilwoman Herrington asked about solicit licensing and how it works. Clerk Dakin explained the process and stated that the Borough has "Do Not Knock Stickers" available if anyone would like them.

Councilwoman Herrington asked if Mr. Porro was going to come in and give the Council an update on the tax appraisals. Administrator Padilla stated that he will get an update from Mr. Porro.

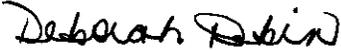
Councilwoman Herrington asked about the change on the layout for resolutions. Mr. Padilla responded that it is to make the clerk's job a little easier and more efficient.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn was made by Councilman Belgiovine, seconded by Councilwoman Gadaleta and unanimously approved by voice call vote.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Deborah Dakin, RMC, CMR
Borough Clerk