

**Garfield Redevelopment Agency
111 Outwater Lane
Garfield, NJ 07026**

**Minutes of Meeting held on
April 6, 2015**

Due to the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, Executive Director Duch polled the Commissioners to determine who would Chair the meeting. The Commissioners present unanimously agreed that Commissioner Ernest Rosolen would serve as Acting Chairman.

The Meeting was called to order by Acting Chairman Rosolen at 7:00 p.m.

The Acting Chairman announced compliance with the Sunshine Law.

The salute to the flag of the United States of America was conducted.

Acting Chairman Rosolen called upon Secretary Thomas J. Duch to call the roll.

The following commissioners were present:

Commissioner Ernest Rosolen
Commissioner Joseph Iapichella
Commissioner Raymond Simione
Commissioner Joseph Delaney
Commissioner Peter Amadio

Commissioners Absent: Vice Chairman Arthur Andreano
Chairman Roger Hetel

Others Present: Thomas J. Duch, Executive Director / Secretary
Frank Regan, Esq., GRA Attorney
Bernard Mirandi, P.E., Boswell Engineering
Beth Calderone, Stenographer
Patricia Esposito, Asst. Secretary
Roy Riggitano, Finance Officer

Secretary Thomas J. Duch presented the minutes from the March 2, 2015 meeting. A motion to adopt the minutes was made by Commissioner Iapichella and seconded by Commissioner Simione and was passed on a roll call vote. Commissioner Amadio abstained, due to his absence at the March meeting.

VOUCHERS

A motion to approve payment of vouchers presented by Finance Officer Roy Riggitano was made by Commissioner Amadio, seconded by Commissioner Iapichella and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Executive Director Duch spoke about the grand opening of Investors Bank. It was a wonderful celebration. The Chief Operating Officer and Chief Executive Officer of Investors Bank were present and spoke about their interest in working with the City. They believe they have a great location for their bank. They spoke about their foundation for supporting charities and civic causes in municipalities where Investor Banks are located.

Executive Director Duch also advised that Wawa's grand opening is scheduled for April 17, 2015. Everyone is invited to attend.

Bernard Mirandi, P.E., Boswell Engineering, provided an updated status of the Coremark Group LLC. Project:

1. At the Planning Board meeting of March 26, 2015 Coremark presented an application to the agency for increases in the size and height of the signage at the site.
2. Mr. Mirandi recommended that the monument sign at the Outwater Lane entrance be moved back into the site. He also noted that the residents from Jewell Street spoke at the Planning Board meeting and requested more one-way signs.
3. At the YMCA exit driveway onto Jewell Street, signage is needed so that patrons exiting the site only make a right turn on to Jewell Street.
4. Coremark is looking for a temporary Certificate of Occupancy. Mr. Mirandi will assist in reaching out to the Building Department.

Commissioner Delaney commented on the lights working around the whole Coremark block. The light powering was an issue. The lights look good. Executive Director Duch explained that there was a delay in electrifying the lights due to a misunderstanding between the contractor and PSE&G.

Executive Director Duch advises that the agency should be aware of other work going on in the community. He noted that PSE&G would be redoing the transformer station located at the intersection of River Drive and Lizette Street. This facility is known as the Botany Street Station. He advised the board that he had met with PSE&G to beautify their original plan for this site. They will put in the black decorative security type fence that is in place at the Elmwood Park Waterworks along with 45 arborvitae plants. They will also be extending the decorative fencing across the front of the property to improve its appearance.

He further noted that 22 streets in the City will have work done over the next six months by PSE&G.

Executive Director Duch also informed the board that he has met with Edward Hynes of Greater Bergen Community Action. They are scheduling a meeting with County Administrator Dominick Novelli. They are working on trying to relocate the Veterans Home on Somerset Street (immediately adjacent to the railroad tracks) to a more residential type area. This relocation is needed to allow proper redevelopment in the Passaic Street Rehabilitation Zone. He noted that he has met with New Jersey Transit and that they are looking for increased ridership in order to support improvements at the Passaic Street (Garfield) Station.

Executive Director Duch reported that he has recommended the establishment of additional commuter parking at the former Amvets site at the intersection of Outwater Lane and Walnut Street. He proposed paving, pole lighting, and a parking kiosk for this site. The Mayor and Council have it under consideration.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:20 PM was made by Commissioner Iapichella, seconded by Commissioner Simione and approved on voice vote.