

A Work Session of the City Council was held Tuesday, July 21, 2009 at 6:10 PM in the Conference Room in City Hall, 111 Outwater Lane, Garfield, NJ 07026.

Mayor Frank J. Calandriello presided. City Clerk Andrew J. Pavlica announced that the meeting was being held in accordance with provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act and that adequate notice was provided by mail and fax to the official City newspapers and to other interested parties and by posting the meeting notice on the bulletin board in City Hall.

Councilmembers Present: Louis G. Aloia, Stanley J. Moskal and Frank J. Calandriello
Councilmembers Absent: Tana M. Raymond and Joseph Delaney
Also Present: City Manager Thomas J. Duch, City Clerk Andrew J. Pavlica, City Attorney Joseph J. Rotolo, Labor Counsel Joseph Randazzo, City Engineer Kevin J. Boswell, Superintendent of Public Works Sam Garofalo, Water Consultant Willard Bierwas, Police Chief Kevin Amos, Interim Chief Financial Officer Roy Rigitano and Police Chief Kevin Amos

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB GOLF OUTING

The City Council and Cabinet met with John Reilly of the Boys and Girls Club of Garfield concerning support for their Golf Outing fundraiser to be held September 14, 2009 at the Valley Brook Golf Course in Rivervale, New Jersey.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

City Manager Thomas J. Duch reported on the following:

1. He will attend an energy efficiency seminar entitled "Sustainable New Jersey" concerning a greenhouse gas grant program at the New Jersey DEP Headquarters in Trenton on Thursday, July 23, 2009.
2. The proposed resolution concerning the Palisade Avenue Section V Improvement.
3. The Hydrant Flushing Program.
4. Recycling Stickers will be made available for free to Garfield residents to affix to containers so as to be designated as a "Recycling Pickup Barrel".
5. The Suburban Essex JIF has proposed that the Garfield Police Department secure National Recognition from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) and Accreditation from the New Jersey Association of Chiefs of Police which could reduce the City Liability Premium by 10% or more. He is seeking a quote, to assist the City in this endeavor, from the Rodgers Group, LLC of Island Heights, New Jersey.
6. The meeting to be held tomorrow, July 22, 2009, at 11:00 AM in City Hall with representatives of New Jersey Transit Railroad concerning artwork for the proposed train station between Midland Avenue and Outwater Lane.
7. The schedule for representatives of Colonial Life to audit City employees of their dependents as well as other insurance pre-tax incentives for the employees without any cost to the City.
8. The decision by the Department of Community Affairs to discontinue providing advice and guidance on matters relating to the Local Public Contracts Law to public entities, including municipalities, authorities and counties, now that Joseph Valenti has retired from the State.

Interim Chief Financial Officer Roy Riggitano reported on the following.

1. The 2009 Municipal Budget and anticipation of State Aid.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

City Manager Thomas J. Duch reported on the following:

9. A review of the written 2009 Village of Ridgewood Water Quality Report and comparison to the City of Garfield.
10. The proposed placing of public recycling bins throughout the City of Garfield, just as is done in the City of Hackensack.
11. The letter dated July 13, 2009 from Palisades Park Emergency Services Administrator Matthew Finck to Garfield Police Chief Kevin Amos proposing to install a receiver on the City Water Tank on Belmont Hill for the Palisades Park Police radio channel, which would also help the City of Garfield because when an ambulance transports to Hackensack University, coverage would be good into the repeater. The Borough of Palisades Park would be responsible for maintaining and financing this improvement.
12. The press release dated July 17, 2009 advising that Assemblyman Gary Schaer and Fred Scalera voted for Bills to Preserve Open Space which would include \$1,000,000.00 to benefit the City of Garfield for the park along the Passaic River from the Dundee Dam to the Outwater Lane Bridge.
13. His meeting with Dr. Ronald Milan, the Director of Bergen Community College at the Meadowlands, whose enrollment is expected to grow to approximately 7,000 students in the next five years. He was accompanied by Jackie Lue Raia who is Project Director of the "Employment Pathway Initiative" which allows unemployed people the opportunity to seek training at little or no cost at the Meadowlands Campus with the added benefit of a placement service which has been very successful in obtaining jobs for students who have successfully completed course work. He has contacted Superintendent of Schools Nicholas Perrapato about conducting the program to benefit the unemployed in the City to be called "Bringing the Stimulus to the Community".

ARRIVAL OF COUNCILMEMBERS DELANEY AND RAYMOND

At 6:50 PM, Councilmembers Joseph Delaney and Tana M. Raymond joined the Work Session and it was duly noted for the record.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

14. The public information forum held Wednesday, July 15, 2009 by the Garfield Little League to explain the State Little League Tournament scheduled to be held Friday, July 31, 2009 to Tuesday, August 4, 2009.
15. Proposed improvements to the Council Chamber and the proposed solicitation of donations from the public to renovate the pews.
16. The showing of the movie, "Mall Cop" as part of "Movies under the Stars" sponsored by Spencer Savings Bank and the Garfield YMCA scheduled to be held in Belmont Oval on Friday, July 17, 2009, with a rain date of Saturday, July 18, 2009.
17. The proposal in a July 6th e-mail from Ciro DiSclafani of CLD Enterprises that the City provide free Jitneys to run in strategic loops connecting shopping, recreation, and entertainment areas of Garfield and the surrounding area to help revitalize retail businesses in Garfield.
18. The proposed installation of knotted netting to help prevent foul balls from the Babe Ruth baseball field in Columbus Park from traveling into the new adjacent parking lot and driveway constructed on the easement for the office building at 535 Midland Avenue.
19. Ex-Fire Chief Robert Svrcek is cleaning out his house on Chestnut Street and is turning over anything of historical significance to Fire Company No. 2.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

20. The Bergen County Senior Picnic to be held in Van Saun Park in Paramus, New Jersey.
21. He sent a thank you letter, dated July 13, 2009, to Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission Executive Director Bryan J. Christiansen, for sending a crew to assist with the removal of a tree on Spring Street.
22. Garfield YMCA Executive Director Patricia Gallagher will appear at the City Redevelopment Agency Meeting on Monday August 3, 2009 at 8:00 PM to express interest for the YMCA to participate in any redevelopment that will allow the YMCA to relocate and construct a new building.
23. The Second Annual Polish Trade Show/Expo which will take place on September 16 and 17, 2009 at the Royal Manor located at 454 Midland Avenue.
24. The 2009 Joe Graziano Little League State Tournament Banquet to be held Thursday, July 30, 2009 at 7:00 PM at the Royal Manor.
25. The meeting that was held on July 8, 2009 at City Hall with City and School Officials concerning the opening of School No. 9/10 on Alpine Street, and the need to address parking and traffic concerns with a traffic control ordinance.
26. The proposed acquisition by the City, of the State-owned property, Block 110.01, Lot 70, also known as 657 River Drive.
27. The application for State Aid to Municipalities for the City of Garfield to support the 2009 Municipal Budget.
28. The application with the New Jersey Sustainable Energy Joint Meeting, which was authorized by Resolution No. 09-187, and the Joint Contract Joinder Agreement.
29. The retirement of Clerk Typist Ann Gasko from the Resident Parking Sticker Office, the retirement from the City of Fire Prevention Inspector Yuri Metelow, and the retirement of Police Detective Kenneth Adamo.
30. The official appointment of Frederick J. Krowl as City Zoning Officer, on obtaining his State Certification.
31. Stormwater Flood Management in the area of the high school ball fields property on Semel Avenue near the City-owned "Railroad Property", and in the area of 223 Lanza Avenue.

WATER SYSTEM STATUS REPORT

The City Council and Cabinet discussed various reviews of the operations of the City Water System.

CLOSED SESSION

Resolution No. 09-243

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a public body to exclude the public from a meeting in certain circumstances, and

WHEREAS, the City Council is of the opinion that such circumstances now exist,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Garfield, Bergen County, New Jersey, that a "Closed Session" is hereby called at 7:40 PM on Tuesday, July 21, 2009, to discuss the following as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

CLOSED SESSION

- * Collective bargaining agreements including the negotiation of the terms and thereof with employees or representatives of employees of the public body; (White Collar collective bargaining negotiations; Blue Collar arbitration).
- * Matters involving the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of banking rates or investment of public funds; (proposed transfer and closing for riverfront property from Passaic River Coalition to the City of Garfield).
- * Pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiations or matters falling within attorney-client privilege; (proposed contract with Police Chief Kevin Amos; appeal of retirement of liquor license formerly owned by the late Mary Godina).
- * Matters involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance of, promotion or disciplinary action of personnel unless the individual in the right request a public meeting in writing; (proposed retirement of Water Superintendent Michael Sferruzzo; proposed contract with Police Chief Kevin Amos, proposed position in the Finance Office; Marriggi Lopez appeal of her dismissal as a Police Officer hearing scheduled for September 22, 2009; proposed appointment of successor to Ann Gasko in the Resident Parking Sticker Office; performance of employees in the Building Department).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the matters so discussed will be disclosed to the public as soon as and to the extent that such disclosure can be made without adversely affecting the public interest or without violation of the confidentiality of personnel.

On call or roll, Ayes 5

(Sgd) Stanley J. Moskal
Louis G. Aloia

ADJOURNMENT

After the City Council come out of Closed Session at 8:55 PM, there being no further business, Councilmember Moskal moved to adjourn the Work Session. Councilmember Aloia duly seconded the motion.

On call of roll, Ayes 5

Andrew J. Pavlica, CITY CLERK