

A Work Session of the City Council was held on Tuesday, November 24, 2015 at 6:35 PM in the Conference Room in City Hall, 111 Outwater Lane, Garfield, NJ 07026.

Mayor Tana M. Raymond presided. City Clerk Andrew J. Pavlica announced that the Work Session was being held in accordance with provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act and that adequate notice was provided by mail, fax and email to the official City newspapers and to other interested parties and by posting the meeting notice on the bulletin boards in City Hall.

Councilmembers Present: Louis G. Aloia, Glenn A. Mati and Tana M. Raymond
Councilmembers Absent: Frank J. Calandriello and Joseph Delaney
Also Present: City Manager Thomas J. Duch, City Clerk Andrew J. Pavlica, City Attorney Representative Robert Ferraro of the Law Firm of Bruno and Ferraro (for City Attorney John Bruno), Labor Counsel John Lavin, City Engineer Kevin J. Boswell and Interim Chief Financial Officer Roy Riggitano

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

City Manager Thomas J. Duch reported on the following:

1. He met with Pastor Arthur Bryant and Judy Frasier, members of the Citizens Liaison Advisory Committee, regarding a gathering to establish a Gang Task Force scheduled to be held on Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at 7:00 PM at City Hall.
2. The "Avenue of Heroes" signs to hang on City Traffic Lights on Midland Avenue. A dedication ceremony will be set up when the signs are installed.
3. The appraisal of the property of the former Getty Gas Station at Palisade Avenue and Monroe Street.
4. He received a letter from Elizabeth Gray who is resigning as City Historian after 26 years of service. She will be succeeded by Christopher Shupenko.
5. White Collar Collective Bargaining Negotiations.
6. The Garfield Police Officer/Detective assigned to the Federal Task Force is a cost effective arrangement and the City receives seized property as compensation as part of the City's participation.
7. The Boys and Girls Club Gala to be held at The Venetian, 546 River Drive on Wednesday, December 16, 2015 at 6:00 PM.
8. The Garfield YMCA "Prize for a Purpose" raffle.
9. The Architectural services for the temporary Police Station of about 8,000 square feet to be rented at 59 Outwater Lane next to the Price Rite Supermarket until the new Police Station is finished being constructed at or near 411 Midland Avenue.
10. The meeting that he had with the incoming Fire Chief James Kovacs regarding the Firematic Installation Meeting scheduled to be held on Thursday, January 7, 2016 at 7:00 PM. Also discussed was the Firefighter Training Seminar scheduled to be held Saturday, January 30, 2016 at 8:30 AM at the Garfield High School Auditorium. Also discussed was the need to appoint Glenn A. Mati as Council Liaison to the Fire Department.
11. The renovation of the Recreation Department steps at 466 Midland Avenue.
12. The Boys and Girls Club Gym is being redone and they are asking City permission to use the Recreation Center on January 9, 16 and 23, 2016 for their Bingo.
13. City Insurance Risk Manager Frank Covelli will conduct an Elected Officials Training Seminar before a Work Session in February.
14. The proposed resolution to pay Arthur R. Thibault Jr. for services he rendered for the City of Garfield.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

15. The very extensive meeting he held today at City Hall on the Transit Village Status for the Passaic Street area in the First Ward. He will assemble a comprehensive, concise presentation to apply for Transit Village Designation before the State.
16. The Garfield Babe Ruth League has a large balance due to PSE&G. The Babe Ruth League and PSE&G will be brought in next Thursday, December 3, 2015 at 2:00 PM to discuss the matter.
17. An email he received this morning from Councilmember Delaney's Daughter Erin regarding a proposed resolution for Stigma Free Zones.

Councilmember Louis G. Aloia reported on the following:

1. The Jewell Street situation in regard to the fire and the possibility of establishing a municipal parking lot in the area.

Mayor Tana M. Raymond reported on the following:

1. Possible plans for the City owned Amvets property located at 326 Outwater Lane.
2. The proposed daily street sweeping at 3:30 PM at Christopher Columbus School No. 8.

City Engineer Kevin J. Boswell reported on the following:

1. Proposed engineering resolutions for consideration at the Regular Meeting to be held later this evening.
2. Redevelopment Agency money from Developers to help fund the construction of a new Police Station.

CLOSED SESSION

Resolution No. 15-451

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 7:30 P.M. on Tuesday, November 24, 2015 to discuss the following as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

- * 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).
- * Matters involving the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of banking rates or investment of public funds; (the Developers Agreement with James Demetrakis of HP Garfield at 950 River Drive to partially fund the construction of a new Police Station; proposed extension of Walnut Street in connection with the Meredia Crossing Redevelopment Agreement).
- * Tactics or techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public or any investigation of violations or possible violations of the law; (issues raised by Police Chief Kevin Amos concerning Police Department manpower and proposed Police promotions; Fire Department disciplinary review board rulings involving Victoria Kovacs and James Kovacs).

CLOSED SESSION

- * Pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiations or matters falling within attorney-client privilege; (proposed sale of Ever-Wide Liquor License from 237 Palisade Avenue to Bistro 399 at 399 Midland Avenue; payment for services rendered by Arthur Thibault; proposed retirement agreement of Police Chief Kevin Amos; Mariggi Lopez vs the City; George Masiuk vs the City; settlement of Kipp Avenue lawsuit; Frederick Krowl vs the City settlement).

- * 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: (use of vacation time by White Collar employees; proposed retirement agreement of Police Chief Kevin Amos; proposed creation of a Police Director Position).

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 of roll, Ayes 3, Absent 2 -
Councilmembers Calandriello and Delaney

(Sgd) Glenn A. Mati
Louis G. Aloia

ARRIVAL OF COUNCILMEMBER DELANEY

At 7:55 PM, Councilmember Delaney joined the Work Session during Closed Session and it was duly noted for the record.

ADJOURNMENT

After the City Council came out of Closed Session at 8:25 PM, there being no further business, Councilmember Aloia moved to adjourn the Work Session, Councilmember Delaney duly seconded the motion.

On call of roll, Ayes 4,
Absent 1 – Councilmember Calandriello

Andrew J. Pavlica, CITY CLERK