

A Work Session of the City Council was held on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 at 6:45 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: Frank J. Calandriello, Louis G. Aloia, Glenn A. Mati and Tana M. Raymond  
Councilmembers Absent: 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) and City Engineer Kevin J. Boswell

#### ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

The City Council and Cabinet discussed the Person to Person Transfer Application of Plenary Retail Consumption License No. 0221-33-059-007, from Craft Beer, LLC t/a Three Wise Monks (Brian Iarossi, 76 Caruth Avenue, Elmwood Park, New Jersey 07407 – who owns 100% of the shares of the corporation), to Outwater Lane Holdings, LLC (Christopher M. Coleman, 946 Passaic Avenue, Kearney, New Jersey 07032 who will own 50% of the shares of the corporation and Richard J. Coleman, 177 Wessington Avenue, Garfield, New Jersey 07026 who will own 50% of the shares of the corporation).

Attorney Gary Bennett, was present for the applicant, as was one of the Applicants, Chris Coleman.

#### PROPOSED RESTAURANT ROW ON MIDLAND AVENUE

The City Council and Cabinet discussed a proposed “Restaurant Row” Ordinance for Midland Avenue.

#### ARRIVAL OF COUNCILMEMBER DELANEY

At 7:05 PM, Councilmember Joseph Delaney joined the Work Session and it was duly noted for the record.

#### 2016 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

The City Council and Cabinet discussed the 2016 Municipal Budget.

#### REPORTS OF OFFICERS

City Manager Thomas J. Duch reported on the following:

1. A proposed press release concerning Property Maintenance.
2. The Garfield YMCA sponsors “Movies Under the Stars” to be held on June 17, 2016, at Belmont Oval located off Spring Street. The City is willing to co-sponsor the event with face painting and inflatables for a fee not to exceed \$1,500.00.
3. The “Access to Community Forum.”
4. The proposed Pilot Recycling Program to be tried-out during the months of June and July.
5. The \$20,000.00 tree-planting grant that the City received last year.
6. The revenue report from the Garfield Municipal Court.
7. The \$1,500.00 Safety Award which was presented to the City by the Suburban Essex Joint Insurance Fund.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

8. The Garfield High School Academic Award Ceremony.
9. The gentleman with which he met to raise funds for Ecuador Earthquake Relief.
10. The proposed Shared Services Agreement for acquisition of gasoline and diesel fuel with the School System.
11. The recent Municipal Stormwater System Upgrade seminar that was attended by Superintendent of Public Works Sam Garofalo.

City Engineer Kevin J. Boswell reported on the following:

1. The Written Report of City Engineer dated April 26, 2016.

ARRIVAL OF CITY AUDITOR LERCH

At 7:25 PM, City Auditor Dieter Lerch joined the Work Session and it was duly noted for the record.

2016 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

The City Council and Cabinet discussed the 2016 Municipal Budget.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Councilmember Mati read the following statement:

“Four years ago I made a decision to run for a seat on the city council. I made that decision upon retiring from the Garfield Police Department after 34 year of service. Although I still remained an active member of the Garfield Fire Department, with at that time 38 years of service, I had a tremendous desire to continue to serve the city I have resided in all of my life. I have always loved Garfield and believed I had a lot to offer the city, especially with my background in Public Safety and emergency services.

I ran for office on my own, working alongside Tana Raymond and Joseph Delaney. Both of them were longtime friends of both myself and my family. They guided me on how to run a campaign. We still remain very close friends until today. We have worked very well together.

When I was seeking election, the first thing I told my running mates was that although we were working together, I would always remain independent in my decision-making and in the way I would vote. They agreed with my decision and supported my way of thinking. The second thing I told them was that I would never take part in any negative campaigning or literature. I have always believed that the way to get yourself elected was to highlight your knowledge and accomplishments, not by disparaging another candidate personally. I held true to both of those beliefs.

One of my goals was to prove to council members Louis Aloia and Frank Calandriello that I was truly independent in my voting and thinking. That I would vote and support any idea that would benefit the city no matter who initiated the idea. How would I be able to prove this to them? I proved it by my actions. They quickly learned that I meant what I said and so began a great working relationship.

Working together we have accomplished many great things. Prior to being elected, the city had faced many financial hardships, including the pending layoff of Police Officers and city employees. I can proudly say that because of our hard work, we not only have a large surplus but we were able to finalize our budget with a “0” percent tax increase. We accomplished this with fiscal responsibility.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

We have done many great things together. The city's entire infrastructure has been worked on. We signed on with Public Service's "Energy Strong" program to replace many of our gas lines throughout the city. A new power line was installed across the city underground, which will help in restoring power sooner in the event of another major weather event. We have also been replacing many lead water lines to ensure the health of our residents. We also replaced many sidewalks and curbs and installed handicap ramps for the disabled. Many of our roads are being paved upon the completion of this work.

The council has worked hard through our participation on the Planning Board and Redevelopment Board to encourage new businesses. This helps develop abandoned and polluted properties and at the same time beautifies our city. It also helps to offset taxes, lifting the burden from the residents.

Several examples are the new Wawa complex and the continuous development of the Walmart complex. A new Dunkin Donuts is set to open shortly. The council has entered into an agreement where we will receive \$2.8 million dollars from a developer towards the new Police station.

Another major issue the city faced was the underground contamination in the southern end of the city caused by a plating company many years ago. The council was able to raze the factory and install new treatment wells on the property. We are continuing our efforts to obtain federal money to complete this clean up. We continue to press our state and federal representatives to obtain this money. This problem has been very personal to me as the contamination ran under my home growing up. I walked through this water in the basement of my home whenever the water table rose. Members of my family suffered cancer issues, including myself. I have often wondered if this was a possible cause.

Recently the council obtained grants to redo 20<sup>th</sup> Century Field. A new synthetic turf field is currently being installed and the other fields were updated to ensure our children have a safe and enjoyable place to play. A new fire engine is being ordered and a second large pickup truck is also on order. We have one of the finest Fire Departments in the state. The council has fully supported them by purchasing all new breathing apparatus's, which contain a GPS-locating device to help locate firefighters inside buildings. We received a federal grant to obtain new bailout devices, which were issued to each firefighter to wear. These devices are made to act as a repelling device to assist firefighter to escape fires in case of an emergency. The grant also included training in the use of these devices. These are just some of the examples of what we have accomplished.

With all this being said, I believe the council has proven their dedication to the betterment of our city through its actions and not words. It's easy to say all the things that you would do if you were elected, its another to get them done.

Therefore I am making this proposal to all of my fellow council members. I believe we are an excellent team together. Each of us brings something special to the table. And so I am inviting all of you to join me in running as a team, a United Council in the upcoming November election. I am asking you to consider this so that we can continue to accomplish the great things we have done and can do in the future. I would like each of you by my side as we campaign throughout the city.

Although I want each of you on my team, I understand some of you may wish to pursue your re-election on your own. I will be disappointed but I promise to continue to support your re-election. Thank you and I hope to hear something positive from you soon."

CLOSED SESSION

Resolution No. 16-166

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,

CLOSED SESSION

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 7:35 P.M. on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 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 and Blue Collar collective bargaining negotiations and the filing by both units for mediation).
- \* 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 extension of the probationary period of Finance Office Clerk-Typist Lori Colon for an additional 90 days and the refusal by Interim Chief Financial Officer Roy Riggitano to accept the proposed transfer of Clerk-Typist Laura Sowinski into the Finance Office).

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 5

(Sgd) Frank J. Calandriello  
Louis G. Aloia

ADJOURNMENT

After the City Council came out of Closed Session at 8:00 PM, there being no further business, Councilmember Mati moved to adjourn the Work Session. Councilmember Calandriello duly seconded the motion.

On call of roll, Ayes 5

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Andrew J. Pavlica, CITY CLERK