

WORK SESSION OF JUNE 14, 2016

Mayor Cosgrove called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Cosgrove, Deputy Mayor Lefkowitz and Councilmember Swain.

ALSO PRESENT: Manager Van Kruijning, Municipal Clerk/Deputy Manager Kwasniewski and Attorney Mondello.

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Dunay and Councilmember Peluso.

Mayor Cosgrove asked for a moment of silence for the victims of the Orlando shooting and their families.

RRIC STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE:

Manager Van Kruijning reported that RRIC asked to postpone this item.

VARIOUS TRAFFIC ISSUES:

Chief Cauwels and Traffic Safety Officer Check were present.

Manager Van Kruijning referenced the memo from Traffic Safety Officer Check dated June 8, 2016 requesting parking restrictions in two areas.

Kenneth Avenue from Broadway to St. Anne Street currently has a two hour parking restriction. Traffic Safety Officer Check is recommending that parking be restricted from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on one side of the street, due to multiple complaints that it is difficult for vehicles to travel in this section when cars are parked on both sides of the street. He would also like to add "no stopping or standing" on Howard Avenue at Radburn School near the head on parking spaces. This would aid crossing guards with enforcement.

Mayor Cosgrove asked Traffic Safety Officer Check if he spoke to the residents on Kenneth Avenue. Traffic Safety Officer Check stated he did not. He has spoken to other Traffic Safety Officers who informed him they do not do request petitions from residents. Mayor Cosgrove felt Traffic Safety Officer Check should notify the affected residents first and then discuss this again at an upcoming Work Session.

Manager Van Kruijning asked if the parking restriction would alternate or remain on one side. Traffic Safety Officer Check stated that the restriction would be on the west side of the street. Mayor Cosgrove asked how many homes were impacted. Traffic Safety Officer Check stated ten to fourteen

would be affected. Mayor Cosgrove reiterated that he would like the residents to be aware that the Council will be discussing this at the next Work Session in case there are concerns. If no one complains they know there are no objections. Municipal Clerk/Deputy Manager Kwasniewski stated that they will need to discuss this matter in July so an Ordinance for both parking restrictions can be introduced in August and adopted in September in time for the start of school. She will also need the dimensions.

Councilmember Swain asked what the plan was for Radburn regarding education and enforcement. Traffic Safety Officer Check stated that this restriction will help with enforcement because currently there are no signs. Parents are using the parking stalls to drop off children and then backing out. It will be safer if there is no stopping or standing.

Chief Cauwels stated he would like to issue warnings for the first month while parents get used to the change. He suggested doing a 90 day resolution first instead of an ordinance to see if any other issues occur. Manager Van Kruijning suggested adopting a resolution in August to take effect September through November. Traffic Safety Officer Check can report back to the Council in December. Traffic Safety Officer stated that they will be looking at the front of the school next, as there are some issues, and then move on to the next school.

There was consensus to approve a resolution instituting a "no stopping or standing" zone for 90 days near the head on parking spaces at Radburn School.

ORDINANCE CREATING SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

Chief Cauwels and Auxiliary Police Chief Magarelli were present.

Manager Van Kruijning reviewed his email dated June 8, 2016 that discussed the recent Police Accreditation Review and re-certification of the Police Department. Chief Cauwels and Auxiliary Police Chief Magarelli are recommending the elimination of the Auxiliary Police and creating non-compensated Special Law Enforcement Officers, with basically the same duties and responsibilities, who would work under the auspices of the Police Department, but which is required for accreditation purposes.

Auxiliary Police Chief Magarelli explained that the current directives for the Auxiliary Police were written in the 1950's under the State Police Office of Emergency Management. Auxiliary Police are only empowered during a State of Emergency or during authorized training under the Police Department. Past practice has been that the Tour Commander would oversee the Auxiliary officers rather than working directly with a Police officer. With Accreditation procedures calling for stricter adherence to the directives, Auxiliary Police could

only be used during a State of Emergency or working directly with a Police officer. He did not feel that was beneficial to the town. The simplest solution is to disband the Auxiliary Police and bring them back as Special Police Officers so they can continue doing what they are doing without any issues.

Chief Cauwels stated the Auxiliary Police will go through the same training programs as Police officers and do everything that the Police do but will not carry firearms.

Mayor Cosgrove congratulated Chief Cauwels and Lt. La Rosa as the Department was re-accredited, something that is achieved by only one third of the Police Departments in New Jersey. Their consultant explained the advantages of switching the Auxiliary Police to Special Police Officers. It is a good thing. Councilmember Swain felt it will also improve safety.

There was consensus to disband the Auxiliary Police and create Special Law Enforcement Officers.

REVIEW OF TENTATIVE AGENDA:

Municipal Clerk/Deputy Manager Kwasniewski stated that currently Councilmember Swain is the CBDG representative and Mayor Cosgrove is the alternate. She needs to do a resolution appointing them for next year. Councilmember Swain stated she would be willing to continue. Mayor Cosgrove agreed.

Councilmember Swain questioned the resolution referring the amended Redevelopment Plan for the Kem site. Municipal Clerk / Deputy Manager Kwasniewski stated this will go to the Planning Board. The Planning Board had already reviewed it however the Planner of Record, Matrix New World Engineering, had to amend the plan because funding could not be obtained. Mayor Cosgrove stated they had to increase the units to 80 in order to get the funding. Attorney Mondello advised that the Mayor and Council had agreed to increase the amount of units. Municipal Clerk / Deputy Manager Kwasniewski stated that once they receive the amended plan ordinances will have to be done. Mayor Cosgrove stated that first the funding went towards Superstorm Sandy and now will be directed to Atlantic City. Attorney Mondello advised that the Mayor and Council should be patient because if they do not get the funding there will be plenty of developers that will be willing to put this affordable housing component together.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS:

Councilmember Swain stated the ADA Committee has two new members, Adele from the Chamber of Commerce and Diane from the Opportunity Center. They held a Prom Dance which was successful. The Saddle Brook Women's Club donated sandwiches and cookies. Jeff Klein and the Class of 1988 donated a photo booth. That night they gave an award to Dara Mullins and the Volunteer Ambulance Corps. to show their appreciation for attending every dance to make sure everyone was safe. Due to donations from Sunrise Rotary, Steve Weinstein and the Salerno's they were able to give out five scholarships. The next dance will be held on July 13th and the theme will be Summer Beach dance.

The Green Team gave out their awards from the Green Fair. They are starting to move towards silver certification.

Councilmember Swain asked that someone look at the hanging art display since it really did not work. The next project will be Puppet Making. Workshops will be held in August at the Library and Community Center. The tentative date for a puppet show was in September.

Councilmember Swain attended the Stigma Free meeting. They are trying to change the schedule so more people can attend. There is help online for people who need help in trying to tell their children what happened in Orland with the massacre. She felt it would be good idea to post the link on Fair Lawn's website.

Sunday was the street fair. It was a beautiful day but very windy. River Road is having Family Fun Day this coming Saturday. It is an opportunity for the family to come out and enjoy the event.

Councilmember Swain attended the Torch Run wanting to run but they were an hour and a half late. She and the Mayor went to the Vision Plan at the Community Center which is something they should all get behind and support.

Deputy Mayor Lefkowitz heard that a lot of people were excited about the Vision Plan for Radburn. She attended the Knights of Pythias Circus on that very rainy Sunday.

Deputy Mayor Lefkowitz spoke about her daughter's singing group that is run by a Fair Lawn resident called Singer's Company. On June 6th there was a performance at a church in Paterson where people were asked to make food donations. There were 131 donations that will go to the Fair Lawn Food Pantry.

Mayor Cosgrove attended the New Jersey Brownfield's Interagency Working Group along with the County Executive. Garfield did a presentation in the morning and in the afternoon Fair Lawn did a presentation. He spoke about the Clariant property. There were about twenty-five different agencies varying from the DEP to FEMA. They discussed grants and different topics. Mayor Cosgrove said he spoke on behalf of Fair Lawn and gave the history of the Borough and the Clariant property. Clariant had their environmental specialist speak and one of their representatives also spoke. The representative, Mike Teague, sent out an RFQ to people who would remediate the property and do something with it. Everything depends on what remediation has to be done on the property.

He also spoke about the Topps site as a Brownfield. The Radburn Vision Plan calls for a park with a gazebo. Archery Plaza will be part of the Landmark development and this proposed park would be part of that. Grant information will be emailed to him that he will forward to the Manager. The State is pushing this through the Brownfield Interagency part of the business action group.

Mayor Cosgrove attended Board of Ed Superintendent Bruce Watson's retirement party. He expressed the Council's appreciation for the working relationship they have had with him.

People were impressed with the Vision Study for the Radburn district. He invited Mr. Inglema for a pre-meeting to discuss what will happen to the Deals property.

The Fire Department had the murder/suicide on 4th Street. The Fire Department and the Police Department did a great job. The day after the fire the Phoenix Team was called in for the trauma they experienced. Anyone who has been involved with something like that knows how stressful it is and how it stays with them for a while.

Mayor Cosgrove spoke about losing Jay Bender who served as Volunteer in the Fire Department for 45 years. He was the Fire Marshal since 1994. There is an article in the local section of The Record. He had the honor to speak at his funeral. He was a good guy and very dedicated to the Fire Department.

Shade Tree is reevaluating putting a water line underneath Fair Lawn Avenue after discovering there is 18 inches of concrete. There is a possibility of going from in back of the fire house on Radburn Road over to the Arboretum.

Mayor Cosgrove received an e-mail from Jane Spindel about signs that were donated so the committee voted to buy a new one for the Arboretum.

He thanked Bergen Regional for the bookmarks that were printed. Manager Van Kruiningen asked to have some for the Library.

NO KNOCK LIST ORDINANCE:

Mayor Cosgrove stated he has been approached by several people who live in the area from Morlot Avenue Bridge to River Road about solicitors who come late at night banging on their doors. He would like the Manager to look into this. There are towns that have made it possible for people to opt out on being solicited

Councilmember Swain thought that the Ordinance from Montvale seems to include everyone and wondered if the intention was for just professionals or for everyone. Mayor Cosgrove thought it would be for people who are trying to sell merchandise. Attorney Mondello advised that there would be some restrictions such as someone running for council who has a right to knock on the doors. He was sure that he and Manager Van Kruijning could come up with something.

There was a unanimous consensus to have Manager Van Kruijning explore this idea.

ALUMNI OF FAIR LAWN HIGH SCHOOL POOL MEMBERSHIP:

Mayor Cosgrove commented that he had several people approach him about the Borough allows other towns to use their pool noting there are people that are alumni of Fair Lawn High School who would like to buy a membership to the pool. Mayor Cosgrove would like Manager Van Kruijning to meet with the Recreation Superintendent and see if it is feasible.

Manager Van Kruijning stated they have a very successful sponsorship program in place already that allows any person who is a resident of Fair Lawn that purchases a pass at Memorial Pool to sponsor anyone.

Deputy Mayor Lefkowitz stated she wanted people to use the pool but there is a fine line. She felt that possibly people can pay for the membership and sponsor whoever they want. Manager Van Kruijning stated he would look into for the 2017 pool season.

AMENDMENTS TO ORDINANCES RELATING TO:

LOSAP - OEM Coordinator Wendy Alvarez was present. Manager Van Kruijning stated he wanted to define eligibility for LOSAP better.

They have volunteers that are members of multiple emergency service organizations that are giving back a lot. In some cases they cannot get the 100 points to get their credit for the calendar year, but they have 75 points in one and 50 points in another. They would like to amend the ordinance to say that if

they are a member of two volunteer organizations they have to have 75 points in one and a minimum of 25 points in another to be eligible for their LOSAP. There are individuals who are in three emergency service organizations so they would have to have 60 points in one and 20 in the other organizations.

Mayor Cosgrove stated that obtaining the credits for LOSAP is not easy. OEM Coordinator Alvarez said that about one third achieve the credit.

Manager Van Kruijning said this amendment would define LOSAP better and give the volunteers who are in multiple organizations an opportunity to get the credits for giving back to the community.

There was a unanimous consensus to proceed with the amendments to LOSAP.

The Department of Emergency Services: Manager Van Kruijning stated that he and OEM Coordinator Alvarez reviewed the Emergency Services ordinance that was done many years ago and would like to update it. They would like to change the name back to the Office of Emergency Management and define some other things throughout the ordinance. Most importantly they will eliminate the Auxiliary Police because now they will be under the Police Department. For hazardous spills the Borough is allowed to charge the responsible parties and these charges are set forth by the Council resolution but they have always charged the FEMA rate. The Radio Club and the CERT Team were never a part of this particular ordinance. They will also be mirroring what the Fire Department does for Rescue members who have twenty-five years of service.

There was a consensus to move forward with the changes to the Department of Emergency Services ordinance.

BOROUGH CODE – MEETING DATES AND AGENDA:

Municipal Clerk/Deputy Manager stated that Manager Van Kruijning had asked her to explore if it was mandatory to have the Manager's Report on the Agenda. After checking she discovered it is listed in the Borough Code but also discovered that they were not doing some of the things in the code. They have changed the meetings and the ordinance stated that they will meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays. The Work Session is listed as being on the Tuesday preceding each Regular Meeting. The business order is a little different than what they were doing. She felt that those sections of the Code should be amended to reflect what the Council is currently doing.

There was a unanimous consensus to have the Manager and Municipal Clerk work on revising the Borough Code.

SPECIAL MEETING:

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Lefkowitz and a second by Councilmember Swain, the Work Session was recessed to Special Meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Mayor Cosgrove reconvened the Work Session at 8:25 p.m.

MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Adeena Ramos, 3-02 Morlot Avenue, stated she has been living in Fair Lawn for ten years. She lives near Memorial Park and noticed people walking their dogs there despite the sign she saw that no dogs were allowed in the park. She has been walking her dogs in the park for over ten years without any complaints until recently. There is one particular person who calls the cops if they see her with her dog. They heard that in Radburn Park they have poop bags. She noted that Pompton Lakes had just updated their ordinance to allow dogs in the park. She was not asking for a dog park. She just wants to go to the park with her dogs. For the last ten years no one has enforced this ordinance because there have been no issues. Now there is a major issue going on and a lot of people are being affected.

Attorney Mondello stated that Chief of Staff Magarelli reached out to Tyco Animal Control, the Animal Control Officer who raised a few points against dogs being in parks.

Joseph Gindoff, 10-07 Bush Place, stated his wife called the Police twice because they were concerned about their son playing in the playground near two large dogs. She was concerned because she was bitten in the face by a large dog as a child. However; they are not against dogs in the park. Their concern is about dogs at the playground. Mr. Gindoff said he owns a dog and would like to take it to the park as well. He stressed that he and his wife do not want to see dogs in the playground. He would also like to see the ban on dogs in the park lifted.

Darlene Kravitz, 24 Townley Road, commented that dogs have now become intimate parts of people's lives in terms of making a difference in people's mental health and in upbringing of children. She felt that dogs have a different role today compared to years ago. She thought the majority of people are responsible people.

Jeffrey Haroldson, 15 Beekman Place, stated he lives in Radburn where they have a very successful co-mingling of people and dogs in the park. He has houses in other places and the single most important element of having parks is that they are dog friendly and have a leash law and poop bags available.

Mayor Cosgrove felt that the Manager should look in to this for when the entire Council was present.

Councilmember Swain stated she was mostly in favor of changing the ordinance to allow dogs in the park area and not in the playground area. She commented that the people present all seem like responsible dog owners but it is the ones that are not that concern her. She had an incident this morning in the County Park with a group of people that come with their dogs who are not were not on leashes. The reason she brought it up was if they change the ordinance they need to have stricter enforcement.

Mayor Cosgrove stated that the Manager and Council will look into this.

Councilmember Swain told Mr. Gindoff she was happy that he came to the meeting and expressed his concerns. She felt the problem was that many children are afraid of dogs. She appreciated him coming and expressing his concerns.

Ms. Ramos added that she too has a three year old son who is not afraid of dogs. She agreed that only people who are responsible and have responsible dogs should be allowed in the park.

Deputy Mayor Lefkowitz commented that it was very nice to see people come out representing the people of Fair Lawn so that they can explore everything.

CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION:

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Lefkowitz and a second by Councilmember Swain, the following closed session resolution was unanimously adopted at 8:45 p.m.

WHEREAS; the Open Public Meeting act of the State of New Jersey permits the public to be excluded from certain matters to be discussed by the Governing Body; and

WHEREAS; the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fair Lawn desire to discuss Personnel – Open Space Committee and Memorial Pool staff; and

WHEREAS; these matters are ones which permit the exclusion of the public from such discussions; and

WHEREAS; minutes will be taken during this closed session and once the need for confidentiality no longer exists the minutes will be available to the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fair Lawn that the public be excluded since these matters as set forth above are ones which permit the exclusion of the public from such discussions.

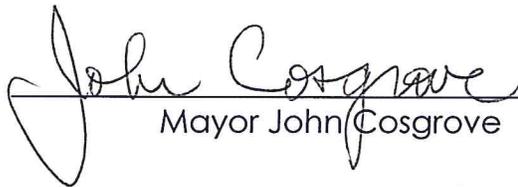
ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Lefkowitz and a second by Councilmember Swain, the Work Session was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Joanne M. Kwasniewski, RMC/MMC
Municipal Clerk/Deputy Manager

The undersigned have read and approve the foregoing minutes.


Mayor John Cosgrove

Absent
Deputy Mayor Daniel Dunay


Deputy Mayor Andy E. Lefkowitz

Absent
Councilmember Kurt Peluso


Councilmember Lisa Swain