

Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council December 21, 2006

PRESENT: Mayor DeIorio; Councilmembers Badillo, Harms, Matarante, Rubilla and Dinardo; Borough Attorney Bill Lane

ABSENT: Councilman Zeglarski

Mayor DeIorio called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and said it is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and adequate notice of this meeting has been provided as required by law.

All contracts awarded by Mayor and Council must comply with the affirmative action requirements of P.L. 1975, C172. (NJAC 17:27).

As required by the Fire Prevention Code, he indicated the fire exits and procedure to be followed in case of fire.

Borough Clerk Doreen Cali read a short prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor DeIorio asked for a moment of silence for former Police Sgt. Raymond Parenteau.

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF MAYOR

- Thanked the Governing Body and those individuals who helped with the holiday lighting process. He said the tree was decorated in red, white and blue in recognition of the men and women serving in the armed forces.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND OTHER MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Councilman Matarante:

- Said Louis Delarosa recommended a website called goodsearch.com which is a Google type search and allows you to designate a school or charity. He said every time you do a search on that website they will donate a penny. Mr. Delarosa has already logged in Sherman School and in two days between the two of them have already made a dollar.
- Received an e-mail regarding insurance and wanted residents to know that as of 1/1/07 the Borough will be switching disability plans to Zurich Insurance. He said they hoped to see about \$6,000.00 in savings just by changing carriers.
- Reported that at the Joint Sewer Meeting they had their annual assessments for next year and overall the budget will go up 1.76 percent. He said the good news was that Roselle Park's portion is going down 5.2% and the bill will be \$23,456.00 less than last year.

Councilman Rubilla:

- Wished everyone a Happy and Safe Holiday Season.

- Spoke with a representative from New Jersey Transit regarding the rehabilitation of the bridges. He said they will inform him sometime next week when and who is going to paint them.
- He said he attended a seminar given by Mr. Lane on ethics review and pay to play. He said they reviewed everything regarding the ethical standards a person should follow and thanked him for giving the seminar.
- He said that Sgt. Parenteau was his uncle and the family has asked him to publicly thank the many people involved in the funeral procession and escort. He said the family is very grateful to the Roselle Park Police Department for which his uncle was a member of for over 30 years. He thanked members of the Union County Police Department, Cranford Police Department, Roselle Police Department, the motorcycle unit and police cars supplied by the Elizabeth Police Department, Kenilworth Police Department and members of the United States Navy and Department of Navy. He thanked the NJ State Police and members of the Clark and Rahway Police for the funeral escort. He said their was a tremendous outpouring of love and concern from all of the folks in Roselle Park in particular the Fire Department to which Ray Parenteau, Jr. is a Deputy Chief.

Councilman Badillo:

- Wished everyone a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Councilman Dinardo:

- Wished everyone a Happy Holiday Season and said the town looked beautiful. He thanked the residents for the wonderful job they did decorating their homes.

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS

Councilman Harms moved to accept the following department reports; seconded by Councilman Rubilla, all members present voting Aye, said motion was adopted.

- Municipal Court for November, 2006
- DPW for November, 2006
- Police Department for November, 2006
- Administrative Assistant for November, 2006
- Construction Department for November, 2006

MINUTES TO BE APPROVED, PENDING ANY CORRECTIONS

Councilman Rubilla moved to approve the following minutes; seconded by Councilman Badillo, all members present voting Aye, said motion was adopted.

- Regular Meeting: December 7, 2006
- Special Meeting: December 14, 2006

PAYMENT OF BILLS

The following routine bills listed on a consent agenda were offered by Councilman Rubilla and seconded by Councilman Badillo, all members present voting Aye, said motion was adopted.

Current Fund	\$2,244,389.82
Federal State and Grants	13,204.94
General Capital	180,119.77
Sewer Utility Operating	13,221.06
Recreation Trust	1,628.75
Other Trust	2,241.51
HUD Trust Account	875.36
Public Assistance II Fund	3,100.00
C.A.A.S.A. Trust Account	75.00
Tax Collector's Premium Account	<u>18,000.00</u>
Total Bill List:	\$2,476,856.21

RESOLUTIONS

The following routine resolutions, listed on a consent agenda, were offered by Councilman Rubilla and seconded by Councilman Badillo, all members present voting Aye, said resolutions were adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 186-06

WHEREAS, the Borough of Roselle Park is desirous of a reduction in work in the contract with Jenicar Builders Contractors for the reconstruction of Markthaler Place from Galloping Hill Road to Charlotte Terrace and the resurfacing of Hemlock Street from Lincoln Avenue to Colfax Avenue; and

WHEREAS, said change order has been approved by the Borough Engineer; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 111-05 authorized \$252,902.82 and the Finance Officer certified fund available for the reconstruction of Markthaler Place are available in Ordinance Number 2121 (04-2150-55-07230-832) in the amount of \$149,287.27 and Ordinance Number 2122 (04-2150-55-07240-318) in the amount of \$12,775.00 for a total of \$162,062.27, and for the resurfacing of Hemlock Street, which are available in Ordinance Number 2157 (04-2150-55-07270-832) in the amount of \$37,645.00 and Ordinance Numbers 1999/2017/2130 (04-2150-55-07050-824) in the amount of \$53,195.55 for a total of \$90,840.55, and for a grand total of \$252,902.82; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Roselle Park that a Final Change Order in the amount of minus \$19,055.57, resulting in a total contract amount of \$233,847.25, is hereby approved and the Mayor and Clerk are authorized to enter into a formal Change Order with Jenicar Builders Contractors on behalf of the Borough.

RESOLUTION NO. 187-06

WHEREAS, the Borough of Roselle Park is desirous of an increase in work in the contract with Jenicar Builders Contractors for the resurfacing of Walnut Street from Grant Avenue to Colfax Avenue; and

WHEREAS, said change order has been approved by the Borough Engineer; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 35-06 authorized \$218,985.26 and the Finance Officer certified fund available in Ordinance Number 2157 (04-2150-55-07270-800) in the amount of \$218,985.26; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Roselle Park that a Final Change Order in the amount of \$21,422.93, resulting in a total contract amount of \$240,408.19, is hereby approved and the Mayor and Clerk are authorized to enter into a formal Change Order with Jenicar Builders Contractors on behalf of the Borough.

RESOLUTION NO. 189-06

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council in the Borough of Roselle Park, in the County of Union that the request of Karen Intile for permission to carryover five (5) vacation days from 2006 into 2007 be and is hereby granted. All carryover vacation time must be used the first thirty (30) days of the year.

RESOLUTION NO. 191-06

WHEREAS, it shall become necessary to expend for some of the purposes specified in the Budget an excess of the respective sums appropriated, and

WHEREAS, there is an excess in one or more appropriation over and above the amount deemed necessary to fulfill the purposes of such appropriations, and

WHEREAS, the transfers about to be authorized do not affect any appropriation to which or from which transfers are prohibited under the statutes, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the following transfers attached between appropriations be authorized pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:4-58:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be filed forthwith with the Borough Chief Financial Officer.

CURRENT FUND
TRANSFERS TO:

<u>ACCOUNT #</u>	<u>ACCOUNT NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
01-0240-00-01152-210	PROSECUTOR OE-MISCELLANEOUS BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS OE - PROFESSIONAL FEES & OUTSIDE SERVICES	\$ 1,400.00 \$ 16,000.00
01-0240-00-01192-205	BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT OE – ADVERTISING	\$ 200.00
01-0240-00-01232-202	FIRE PROTECTION OE – DUES	\$ 500.00
01-0240-00-01352-386	POLICE OE - MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT	\$ 4,000.00
01-0240-00-01372-204	POLICE OE - OTHER MATERIALS & SUPPLIES	\$ 500.00

01-0240-00-01412-204	AID TO VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE COMPANY OE - MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT	\$ 1,300.00
01-0240-00-01412-243	AID TO VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE COMPANY OE - PURCHASE BEDDING & UNIFORMS	\$ 1,200.00
01-0240-00-01432-215	OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OE - PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT	\$ 1,500.00
01-0240-00-01442-370	MAINTENANCE OF VEHICLES OE – FIRE STREETS & ROAD MAINTENANCE OE - OTHER MATERIALS	\$ 2,000.00
01-0240-00-01452-214	AND SUPPLIES	\$ 1,000.00
01-0240-00-01452-264	STREETS & ROAD MAINTENANCE OE - CINDERS & SALT	\$ 1,500.00
01-0240-00-01482-210	SOLID WASTE COLLECTION COST OE - MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 21,000.00
01-0240-00-01592-309	RECREATION SERVICES OE - BASKETBALL UNIFORMS	\$ 2,500.00
01-0240-00-01612-210	CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC EVENTS OE - MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 1,200.00
01-0240-00-01642-210	HISTORICAL SITES OFFICE OE - MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 200.00
01-0240-00-01672-214	CODE ENFORCEMENT OE - OTHER MATERIALS	\$ 1,000.00
TOTAL		<u>\$ 57,000.00</u>

CURRENT FUND
TRANSFERS
FROM:

<u>ACCOUNT #</u>	<u>ACCOUNT NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
01-0240-00-01011-103	MUNICIPAL CLERK S&W - PART-TIME	\$ 2,500.00
01-0240-00-01232-210	BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT OE - MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 500.00
01-0240-00-01332-230	FIRE OE - FIRE ALARM MAINTENANCE	\$ 500.00
01-0240-00-01372-237	POLICE OE - M.A.P.S.	\$ 2,500.00
01-0240-00-01412-210	AID TO VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE COMPANY OE – MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 500.00
01-0240-00-01412-215	AID TO VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE COMPANY OE - PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT	\$ 500.00
01-0240-00-01432-210	OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OE – MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 500.00
01-0240-00-01452-204	STREETS & ROAD MAINTENANCE OE - MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT	\$ 1,000.00
01-0240-00-01472-210	SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL COST OE - MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 35,700.00
01-0240-00-01642-214	HISTORICAL SITES OFFICE OE - OTHER MATERIALS & SUPPLIES	\$ 200.00
01-0240-00-01672-209	CODE ENFORCEMENT OE – EDUCATION	\$ 1,000.00
01-0240-00-02012-210	SOCIAL SECURITY OE – MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 5,000.00
01-0240-00-03031-101	PUBLIC DEFENDER S&W – REGULAR	\$ 6,600.00
TOTAL		<u>\$ 57,000.00</u>

RESOLUTION NO. 192-06

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council in the Borough of Roselle Park, hereby confirms the Zoning Board's appointment of Kathy Vail, as the Zoning Board of Adjustment Clerk at the annual salary of \$2,008.76.

RESOLUTION NO. 193-06

WHEREAS, the disconnection of the sanitary sewer lateral to the main sanitary sewer caused the back up of the toilets and the necessity to turn of the water at the Youth Center owned by the Borough of Roselle Park; and

WHEREAS, the lack of water, backed up restrooms and inability to use the restroom facilities is a health hazard and could lead to damage to public property and caused the closure of the before and after care program for the children of Roselle Park; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Superintendent of Public works, is responsible for the maintenance of Borough buildings, has determined that an emergency affecting the public health, safety or welfare requiring the immediate delivery of goods and the performance of services in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6;and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent has notified the Chief Administrative Officer and the Chief Financial Officer of the need for the performance of a contract, the nature of the emergency, the time of its occurrence and the need for invoking the emergency contract law; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Administrative Officer and the Chief Financial Officer are satisfied that an emergency exists; and

WHEREAS, under the above circumstances, in accordance with N.J.S.A 40A:11-6 et seq., the Chief Administrative Officer shall be authorized to award a contract or contracts for such purposes as may be necessary to respond to the emergent needs; and

WHEREAS, any contract may be negotiated or awarded for a contracting unity without public advertising for bids and bidding therefore, notwithstanding that the contract price will exceed the bid threshold, when an emergency affecting the public health, safety or welfare requires the immediate delivery of goods or the performance of services.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Borough Council authorize the award of an emergency contract to repair the sanitary sewer lateral and reconnect to the main sanitary sewer to T. Grosso & Sons, P.O. Box 440, Roselle Park, NJ 07204 in the amount not to exceed \$16,438.00

RESOLUTION NO. 194-06

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Roselle Park is concerned that the construction of the Lackawanna Cutoff Project will increase the potential for freight movements along a re-opened Rahway Valley Railway; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey Transit policy encourages rail freight along commuter rail lines, and the Lackawanna Coalition under Docket FD-33388-91 before the Federal Surface

Transportation Board has endorsed the resumption of freight service on a restored Lackawanna Cutoff; and

WHEREAS, rail freight movements along the Rahway Valley Railway and the Staten Island Railway within the Borough of Roselle Park and across the County of Union would create traffic delays, additional threats to human life and increases in noise and air pollution from the operation of diesel locomotives; and

WHEREAS, traffic delays and diversions along roadways crossed by the Rahway Valley Railway will worsen traffic conditions on other area roadways; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Roselle Park is concerned with the potential impact of increased commuter and freight rail traffic on New Jersey Transit commuter lines if the Lackawanna Cutoff Project is constructed; and

WHEREAS, the completion of the Lackawanna Cutoff would require the expenditure of approximately \$500 million in capital costs and \$21 million in annual operating costs from New Jersey's limited state and federal transportation funding; and

WHEREAS, the Lackawanna Cutoff Project would use New Jersey transit funds to subsidize Pennsylvania commuters and place Pennsylvania commuters in competition with New Jersey commuters for seating on New Jersey Transit trains; and

WHEREAS, the introduction or addition of freight traffic on the Staten Island Railway, Rahway Valley Railway, Morris & Essex Lines would create additional air pollution, asthma inducing fine particulates, noise and vibration from the operation of freight trains with diesel locomotives in close proximity to residences and hospital facilities; and

WHEREAS, northern New Jersey is facing a growth in port commerce similar to that being experienced by the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach in California; and

WHEREAS, the use of an archaic rail system in an attempt to accommodate port growth in southern Los Angeles resulted in traffic gridlock and an inordinate rise in air pollution; and

WHEREAS, the construction of a modern, high-speed rail corridor known as the Alameda Corridor was necessary to effectively move marine cargo through southern Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, the Alameda Corridor currently moves more than fifty trains containing more than 11,000 cargo containers out of the combined Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS, the Alameda Corridor currently transports more than half of the container cargo handled by the combined Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach; and

WHEREAS, the expenditure of funds for the Lackawanna Cutoff Project would be better spent on direct, high-speed rail freight access to the Port of New York and New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, direct, high-speed rail access to the Port of New York and New Jersey would provide the entire eastern half of North America with access to commodities and opportunities for economic growth; and

WHEREAS, the United States Army Corps of Engineers has historic expertise in the coordination of large-scale, interstate rail and transportation projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the Borough of Roselle Park hereby opposes the construction of the Lackawanna Cutoff Project and the reactivation of the Rahway Valley and Staten Island lines west of the New Jersey Turnpike and calls upon all state and federal officials to discontinue any further support or funding for these projects; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the Borough of Roselle Park calls upon all State and Federal Officials to seek the immediate assistance of the U.S.

Department of Transportation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to begin evaluation of the feasibility of establishing new, high-speed rail freight lines that would originate at the Port of New York and New Jersey and follow the U.S. Route 78 and U.S. Route 80 transportation corridors across the State of New Jersey; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Municipal Clerks of all communities traversed by the Staten Island Railway west of the New Jersey Turnpike, the Rahway Valley Railway, the Morris & Essex Lines, and the Lackawanna Cutoff; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the elected State and Federal Officials representing the municipalities thereby traversed, the New Jersey Department of Transportation, and the local regional offices of the U.S. Department of Transportation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Councilman Matarante moved the following resolution; seconded by Councilman Badillo.

RESOLUTION NO. 181-06

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:9-140.1 to -140.15, the Borough of Roselle Park is required to appoint a Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer; and

WHEREAS, Ken Blum is qualified by virtue of his education, knowledge and experience to serve in the capacity of Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer of the Borough of Roselle Park; and

WHEREAS, Ken Blum holds a Municipal Finance Officer certificate as required by N.J.S.A.40A:9-140.13.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Roselle Park, that:

1. The aforesaid recitals are incorporated herein as though fully set forth at length.
2. Ken Blum be and he is hereby appointed Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer effective January 1, 2007 for a four year term. The terms of said appointment shall be substantially consistent with the terms set forth in the attached agreement, which is incorporated herein by reference.
3. The Mayor and Borough Clerk be and they are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents and to take any and all actions necessary to complete and realize the intent and purpose of this Resolution.
4. This Resolution shall be effective immediately.

Councilman Matarante said he looked forward to having Ken as the full-time Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer. Mayor DeIorio said Ken has been in a temporary position for a year and Council has been very satisfied with his work. He said he had an extensive background with previous experience and was very happy to have him on board.

Roll called, all members present voting Aye, said resolution was adopted.

The Oath of Office was given to Ken Blum by Mayor DeIorio.

INTERRUPT THE REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

Councilman Rubilla moved to interrupt the regular order of business for a 5 minute recess; seconded by Councilman Badillo and adopted.

RESUME THE REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

Councilman Rubilla moved to interrupt the regular order of business to conduct a public hearing on Year XXXIII Community Development Funds for anyone wishing to speak; seconded by Councilman Matarante and adopted.

Mayor DeIorio said the public hearing is required to get input from residents as to what projects they might wish to have considered under this funding.

Public Facilities and Improvements:

- Westfield Avenue Pedestrian Safety and Streetscape Improvements
- Casano Senior Community Center Handicap Accessible Doors

Public Services:

- Senior Citizen Social Services
- Senior Citizen Handyman Program

Councilman Rubilla moved to open the public hearing on Year XXXIII Community Development Funds for anyone wishing to speak; seconded by Councilman Badillo and adopted.

Jacob Magiera, 612 Sheridan Avenue, addressed:

Asked what it was all about and if the Mayor wished to elaborate.

Councilman Rubilla moved to open the public hearing on Year XXXIII Community Development Funds; seconded by Councilman Badillo and adopted.

Mayor DeIorio said regarding the Westfield Avenue Pedestrian Safety and Streetscape Improvements the Borough is requesting a little over \$250,000.00 for improvements along Westfield Avenue and Chestnut Street as designated by the Federal Government. He said those are areas which the Federal Government has determined, based on census data, as low and moderate income areas. Mayor DeIorio said the Casano Center assessable handicap doors are automatic doors with square buttons that will automatically open. He said the Citizen Social Services Program allows the Borough to utilize bus services for seniors and the Handyman Program is a free service for senior citizens that need odd jobs done around their homes.

RESOLUTIONS – (Con't)

Councilman Rubilla moved the following resolution; seconded by Councilman Badillo.

RESOLUTION NO. 188-06

WHEREAS, the Borough of Roselle Park and the Communications Workers of America, AFL-CIO, hereinafter referred to as the “Union,” have been engaged in negotiations for the 2006-2007-2008 contract years; and

WHEREAS, the UNION represents the Dispatchers employed by the Borough of Roselle Park; and

WHEREAS, an Agreement was executed regarding wages, hours of work and other terms and conditions of employment; and

WHEREAS, said Agreement was ratified by the general membership of the Union.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Roselle Park in the County of Union and State of New Jersey, as follows;

1. The collective bargaining agreement between the Borough of Roselle Park and the Communications Workers of America, AFL-CIO is hereby extended for the period of 2006, to 2008 and all provisions therein are in the attached agreement.

Councilman Matarante asked if the resolution was for dispatchers and Mayor DeIorio said it was. Councilman Matarante said he did not want the public to be confused by the term Communications Workers. Mayor DeIorio said the wage increase is 3.5 for 2006, 2007 and 2008.

Roll called, all members present voting Aye, said resolution was adopted.

Councilman Rubilla moved the following resolution; seconded by Councilman Badillo.

RESOLUTION NO. 190-06

WHEREAS, the Borough of Roselle Park and the Department of Public Works, hereinafter referred to as the “Union,” have been engaged in negotiations for the 2006-2007-2008 contract years; and

WHEREAS, the UNION represents the Department of Public Works employees, employed by the Borough of Roselle Park; and

WHEREAS, an Agreement was executed regarding wages, hours of work and other terms and conditions of employment; and

WHEREAS, said Agreement was ratified by the general membership of the Union.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Roselle Park in the County of Union and State of New Jersey, as follows;

1. The collective bargaining agreement between the Borough of Roselle Park and the Department of Public Works is hereby extended for the period of 2006, to 2008 and all provisions therein are in the attached agreement.

Borough Clerk Doreen Cali said the Public Works Department wanted to review the retiree benefit because the Borough is changing from Horizon and offering a better plan of Proposed Horizon Direct Access. She said the Public Works Department has not confirmed because they do not totally understand all of the changes.

Councilman Rubilla moved to postpone Resolution #190-06; seconded by Councilman Badillo, all members present voting Aye, said resolution was adopted.

Councilman Badillo moved the following resolution; seconded by Councilman Rubilla.

RESOLUTION NO. 195-06

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Roselle Park, in the County of Union, hereby authorizes the payment of the New Jersey Economic Development Authority application review and processing fee in the amount of \$500.00 for the Youth Baseball Field Complex Project.

Councilman Badillo thanked everyone for their hard work especially the League President and Gary Bundy who has worked pro-bono on the legal issues.

Roll called, all members present voting Aye, said resolution was adopted.

Councilman Harms moved the following resolution; seconded by Councilman Badillo.

RESOLUTION NO. 196-06

WHEREAS, our military troops and civilian men and women serving our country have answered the call to protect American from harm and to preserve peace and democracy in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere around the world; and

WHEREAS, American troops and civilian men and women serving our country, both past and present, have served around the world, protecting the freedoms we often take for granted at home; and

WHEREAS, our military has always protected our nation and we have always honored our American troops and civilian men and women serving our country after they have returned home, letting them know that we support them during their time of active duty and appreciate what they have endured and sacrificed; and

WHEREAS, the yellow ribbon has come to be recognized as signifying honor, courage, and hope for military families and loved ones; and

WHEREAS, the yellow ribbon is a symbol associated with those waiting for the return of a loved one or of military troops who are temporarily unable to come home and includes the display of yellow ribbons on trees, houses and other buildings, on one's person, as well as a magnet version often displayed on vehicles; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the Borough of Roselle Park would like to extend a resounding thank you to all the service men, women and civilians, both past and present, around the world working and fighting to preserve peace and democracy, and calls upon

Borough residents to show their support by participating in “The Yellow Ribbon Campaign” by displaying yellow ribbons on their homes and businesses.

Councilman Matarante said he wanted this resolution pulled because he felt it should stand alone and be separated from the other resolutions. Mayor DeIorio thanked Jake Magiera and Mae Hokanson for their hard work. He stated that the Borough has received notification that a resolution has been introduced in the Assembly to make it Statewide.

Roll called, all members present voting Aye, said resolution was adopted.

Councilman Rubilla moved the following resolution; seconded by Councilman Badillo.

RESOLUTION NO. 197-06

WHEREAS, there was a determination made that municipal parking services offered by local and county government, as well as authorities and municipal swimming pools designed to provide summer opportunities for children and families should be subject to the Sales and Use Tax; and

WHEREAS, it is understood the State’s need for revenue, but not understood why one would have conflicting messages as part of their fiscal and tax policy; and

WHEREAS, local governments, counties and authorities have worked to take vehicles off the road and utilize commuter parking to consolidate parking facilities through municipal parking services, and these efforts have been made to minimize the cost of operation, while providing a valuable service. The imposition of the Sales and Use Tax will create significant administrative problems for local governments. The cost will be passed on to the end user, but the process of collection and reporting, particularly with odd numbers, pennies and inconvenience will be the responsibility of local government. The message that is being sent is counterproductive and flies in the face of good government; and

WHEREAS, a similar message could be said regarding pool memberships in municipal facilities. Often the only swimming facility available to the less fortunate and people of a community is a municipal swimming facility. to minimize costs and to guarantee a base revenue, local municipal memberships are sold. this is clearly a local government service, but your determination to make it subject to the sales and use tax again is a message that is counterproductive to the basic tenant of local government.; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the Borough of Roselle Park urge that the imposition of the tax on these traditional, local, government services which for years have been free of the imposition of the sales and use tax be reconsidered

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Corzine, President of the Senate Codey, Speaker of the Assembly Sires, Senator Thomas Kean, Assemblyman Jon Bramnick, Assemblyman Eric Munoz and the twenty-on (21) municipalities in Union County.

ADOPTED: December 21, 2006

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Council on December 21, 2006.

Mayor DeIorio said in the Senate and Assembly both these pieces in legislation have been approved and now the Senate and Assembly have to improve in total.

Roll called, all members present voting Aye, said resolution was adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Councilman Matarante moved at, 8:30 p.m., to open the public comment portion of the meeting; seconded by Councilman Harms and adopted.

Alex Balaban, 22-D Colfax Manor, addressed:

- Congratulated the victors of this November's election. He said the candidates have consistently demonstrated a transparency in governing in Roselle Park and a total commitment to excellence in public service. He wished happy holidays to everyone.

Jacob Magiera, 612 Sheridan Avenue, addressed:

- Wished all the residents a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays and hoped they would all find meaning in them. He wished them a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.
- He thanked Mayor and Council for Resolution #196-06. He also thanked the State Assembly, Senate and the Union County Freeholder Board for their support of the Yellow Ribbon Campaign in honor of the men and woman serving in the military.
- Said the downtown area was sparkling for the first time in years and he was in support of the Mayor's Sparkle Campaign.

Laura Hahn, 40 E. Sumner Avenue, addressed:

- Thanked Mayor DeIorio for coming to the high school to assist the Anti Tobacco Club on the day of the Great American Smoke Out and said it was a great success. She said 70 students and teachers pledged to be smoke free.
- She said the Tree Lighting and Holiday Parade were a lot of fun and she heard many positive comments about them.
- Said it was great that the Mayor is helping promote the High School Band and fundraisers for new uniforms. Her brother and many of her friends are in the band and assured him that they appreciate his help.
- She said she looked forward to a great and successful 2007. She wished everyone a Safe and Happy Holiday Season.

Ed Leonard, 504 Laurel Avenue, addressed:

- Spoke regarding the downtown lighting saying it looked as good this year as he has ever seen it and he's has been here for 35 years. He said he and his wife enjoyed driving through down and seeing how nicely everyone decorated. He said he is seeing a momentum starting to build and looked forward to the reorganization meeting. He congratulated Mayor and Council for the good job they are doing.

Mayor DeIorio thanked Costa's Restaurant for donating the Spruce Trees in the downtown area. Councilman Matarante and Councilman Harms wished everyone a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Councilman Matarante moved, at 8:35 p.m., to adjourn; seconded by Councilman Rubilla and adopted.

Attest:

Borough Clerk