

Borough of Roselle Park Meeting of April 3, 2014

Attendee Name	Organization	Title	Status	Arrived
Michael Yakubov	Borough of Roselle Park	Councilman	P	7:00 PM
Carl Hokanson	Borough of Roselle Park	Councilman	P	7:00 PM
Andrew Casais	Borough of Roselle Park	Councilman	P	7:00 PM
Charlene Storey	Borough of Roselle Park	Councilwoman	P	7:00 PM
Ryan Kelly	Borough of Roselle Park	Councilman	P	7:00 PM
Gino Elmarassy	Borough of Roselle Park	Councilman	P	7:00 PM
Joseph Accardi	Borough of Roselle Park	Mayor	P	7:00 PM

Mayor Accardi called the meeting to order at 7:07 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, C.172. (NJAC 17:27).

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

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The Council approved the following communications:

1. Request from the Indo American Seniors Association of Union County for transportation to their "Community Play" program on Saturday, April 12th at North Brunswick High School. Pick up would be for 6:00 p.m. at Jerome Street and return pick up at 10:00 p.m. at North Brunswick High School to return home.
2. Request from Bryan Peterson to hang St. Anthony Feast Banner on Chestnut Street from early May until 8th of June. (Conflict with Borough Wide Garage Sale Banner). Can relocate to Locust Street.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND OTHER MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Councilman Elmarassy

- Congratulated the wrestlers, coaches and staff.
- Wrapped up business at the Casano Center for the Memorial Day Celebration.
- First Aid Squad has purchased a new ambulance.

Councilman Yakubov

- Congratulated the wrestlers, staff and parents.
- Apologized for not attending the last meeting.
- Community Watch Meeting was held and the topic was about frauds and scams.
- Would like to schedule a meeting addressing that topic on May 7th.
- Spoke to Pepsi Company regarding recycling vending machines they are installing in buildings all around the country.
- The funds from the recycling would go towards Veterans with disabilities.
- Thanked the DPW for grinding the tree stumps and filling the potholes quickly.
- Thanked the High School for putting together the play and the Pasta Dinner.
- Spoke with the Code Enforcement Officer regarding formulating a letter addressing the Borough policy for maintaining abandoned properties.

Councilman Hokanson

- March 22nd attended the town's 113th Birthday Celebration at the Museum.
- March 22nd attend the Concerned Citizens Meeting.
- Would like to look back into opening Borough Hall to any Congressman or legislator.
- A representative from Congressman Payne's Office attended.
- Sits on the committee for small businesses.
- The cost for the upcoming election was discussed.
- It is not the responsibility of either party; the County would have to pick up the tab.
- Thanked all who attended his "Meet and Greet" on March 24th.
- Also thanked Councilwoman Storey and Councilman Casais for attending.
- March 25th attended a Budget Meeting.
- March 26th conducted a Workshop for the TNR Ordinance.
- Attended the High School play, which was fantastic.
- April 1st attended the Semper Fi Fundraiser at Climax Brewery.
- Saturday the Knights of Columbus will hold a Car Wash.
- Saturday the Recreation Department will sponsor an Easter Egg Hunt for the children.
- April 9th there will be another Budget Meeting.
- Friday, Saturday and Sunday the Dad's Club will hold a Basketball Tournament at the High School.
- Saturday, April 12th there will be another TNR Workshop for the Cat Ordinance.
- April 13th the Knights of Columbus will hold a Pancake Breakfast.

Councilman Casais

- There will be a meeting on April 9th at 6:30 p.m. to finalize the current fund budget.
- Spoke about the revaluation issue; the objective is positive.
- Reminded residents that if it sounds outlandish, then it probably is.

Councilwoman Storey

- Congratulated the wrestlers on a job well done.
- The sound problem on TV34 has been uncovered and corrected; thanked Joe Hannay.
- Thanked Verizon for its service to the Borough.
- The problem on Clay Avenue will be addressed once the weather stabilizes.
- It is a large project and must go through the budget process.
- Attended the Semper Fi Fundraiser at Climax Brewery.
- The High School play was very good and an outstanding job was done by all.
- The TNR Workshop was very informative.
- Was not able to attend the Concerned Citizens Meeting, but supports anyone to be on the premises.
- Observed in Court today problems regarding abandoned homes in town.
- Gave Carl Pluchino kudos for his persistence.
- The Technical Committee had a productive meeting regarding the town website.
- April 6th Union County will have a Paper Shredding Event at the Union County Vo-Tech from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Attended the Friends of the Library Meeting on April 8th.
- Will hold a “Meet and Greet” at Costa’s on April 28th.
- Spoke about the revaluation issue; need to have a fair distribution of the tax base in Roselle Park.

CERTIFICATES/ PROCLAMATIONS

CERTIFICATES

- Roselle Park Varsity Wrestlers

Councilman Kelly

- Congratulated the wrestlers on their amazing accomplishment.
- Recreation Department will hold the Easter Candy Hunt at Acker Park.

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF MAYOR

- Announced he will not be running for Mayor again.
- Will continue to work for the town after his term is over.
- This was the best job he has ever had.
- Many factors were considered in his decision; his family, his work and his desire to travel.
- There are also political implications.
- Has tried never to be a burden on the taxpayers.
- Last election things got so out of control; people called complaining they were blocked from the polling places.
- The main person was Michael Yakubov.

- As a result of his actions, Roselle Park will incur a debt every time there is an election for security measures.
- Is disgusted by the fact that the last election incurred an additional cost to the taxpayers.
- Said there were no formal complaints filed and there were.
- That is not the way you are supposed to run an election.
- Roselle Park is a great community and many changes have taken place in the last year.
- Chestnut Street is starting to look like a downtown.
- The High School play was phenomenal.
- Efforts like that make the town a great place.
- Spoke about the redevelopment of Acker Park.
- Hopes to get Aldene Park back on track.
- Spoke about the Library and what a great gathering place it is.
- Hopes that when he leaves office, it is a better place.

Tom Solfaro – Borough Engineer

- East Grant Avenue work has been postponed until the warmer weather.
- Has had discussions with the DPW regarding the issue on Clay Avenue.
- Plans are progressing on the DPW building.
- Has not received any certification from the State on the tax maps.
- Spoke about grants that the Borough has applied for this year.

Ken Blum – Chief Financial Officer

- Next Budget Meeting will be on April 9th at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room.

Doreen Cali – Borough Clerk

- The Borough Wide Garage Sale will be on June 21st and the ad will be in the Local Source in the next two weeks.
- Deadline to apply is June 13th so that a list and map may be prepared.
- Bulk dates are June 26th on the East Side and June 27th on the West Side.
- Will be advertised on the Borough webpage and a mailer will be sent out.

Richard Huxford – Borough Attorney

- Has three items for Closed Session.

Councilman Yakubov asked if there has been any communication with the resident regarding the sale of property.

Mr. Huxford said a certified letter has been sent to them. He will give an update when he receives a response.

Paul Morrison – Police Chief

- The State has requested that in the month of April, all Police Departments in New Jersey step up the enforcement of hand held devices.
- They have complied and there are no grants this year.
- It is also being done nationwide for a two week period.
- Over the past two days, 23 summons have been issued for hand held devices in motor vehicles.
- Hoping to receive a grant next year, so they can have officers dedicated to that.
- The summons are \$130.
- Thanked the DPW for the phenomenal job they did this winter with the snow.
- It is a public safety issue and the Police Department is concerned with every inch of snow that falls.
- They addressed issues immediately to insure the safety of the public.

Councilman Yakubov asked if it is the State or Roselle Park that is placing the meters to monitor traffic on Westfield Avenue.

Chief Morrison said the County is helping us out collecting data on the volume of traffic in that area.

Councilman Elmarassy thanked Chief Morrison for addressing the speeding issue on Seaton Avenue.

Chief Morrison said the counter is not working right now, but should be available shortly. They will then do a traffic study there and collect data on the volume of traffic on that street, as well as the speed.

Councilman Hokanson said he has seen the radar traffic signs on Seaton Avenue.

Councilman Casais asked if there has been an update on the pilot program for the red light cameras.

Chief Morrison said they have not gotten any new information on it. He said it seems they are going to continue and that the Governor is 100% behind it. There are some legislators that are against it and are doing their best to abolish it. He said it is a public safety issue. He said from what he has heard, he believes they will continue it. He said they can pull any video in that area and they have a live feed in headquarters. He said they are studying Linden Road and Westfield Avenue to see if it would be appropriate.

Councilman Hokanson said they met about the snow ordinance.

Chief Morrison said he would like to add some things to the ordinance.

Councilman Hokanson thanked the Police for picking up the tab for the four Veterans at the Semper Fi Fundraiser.

Joseph Signorello – Fire Chief

- Reported on all the activities in the Fire Department.
- Fire calls have been pretty quiet in town.
- Reminded everyone if they see a street light out to get a pole number and call the Borough Clerk's Office to report it.
- Have also been responding to mutual aid in other towns.

Councilman Yakubov said there is a light on the corner of Roosevelt Street and West Webster where the cap fell off and it is very bright. He will get the pole number for him.

Richard Graves & Mark Pasquali – DPW

- Have been working on the PEOSHA inspection and in the month of March they are 90% abated.
- Will abate everything prior to the deadline and have requested an extension.
- In the month March, they have used 27,000 pounds of asphalt filling potholes.

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT

Councilman Yakubov moved to approve the following reports; seconded by Councilman Casais all members present voting Aye, said motion was adopted.

- DPW Report for March 2014
- Police Chief Report for March 2014
- Construction Code Enforcement Report for March 2014
- Engineer Report for March 2014

PUBLIC COMMENT

Councilman Yakubov moved to open the public comment portion of the meeting; seconded by Councilman Casais and adopted.

Jacob Magiera, 612 Sheridan Avenue

- Congratulated the wrestlers.
- Asked about the 27,000 pounds of asphalt that has been used and how many potholes were filled.
- Asked for an update on the cost and maintenance for TV34.
- How much has been spent for litigation fees for the year.
- Thanked the Roselle Park PBA for honoring past and present Veterans at the fundraiser on April 1 at Climax Brewery.
- Asked about the issue on East Clay and Sheridan Avenues.

Acting Mayor Hokanson responded as follow:

- East Clay and Sheridan Avenues, they will be temporarily stabilizing the area with backfill.
- Regarding litigation fees spent so far this year, the total is zero.
- It is part of the agreement that is submitted at the beginning of the year for services.
- Said our TV34 Technician is working with Verizon to fix the problem at no cost to the Borough and is working diligently and looking ahead regarding the replacement of antiquated equipment.

Saul Qersdyn, 150 Berwyn Street

- Regarding the TNR, there is a video on the Concerned Citizen site.
- Now that the election is not contested, will the budget be adjusted.
- Asked about security in the schools.

Mr. Blum said those numbers will be discussed at the Budget Meeting next week. Since the election has not been contested, then the number should be cut in half.

Ms. Cali said the school hires security to watch inside the schools, not for elections or violations in the election law. They will still need security in the polling places. She said that the Election Officers will not be from Roselle Park.

- Mr. Qersdyn spoke about political parties paying.
- Spoke about Congressman Payne paying to use the building.

Councilman Yakubov is open to using the building, but some kind of rent should be paid.

Councilman Hokanson said this should be discussed.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Councilman Casais moved to close the public portion; seconded by Councilman Yakubov and adopted.

MINUTES TO BE APPROVED PENDING ANY CORRECTIONS

Councilman Casais moved to approve the following minutes; seconded by Councilwoman Storey.

- Regular Meeting of March 20, 2014

<input type="checkbox"/> Vote Record – Minutes of March 20, 2014					
		Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Adopted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopted as Amended	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Defeated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tabled	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Yakubov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Hokanson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Casais	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Storey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Kelly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Elmarassy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Accardi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

MOTIONS BILLS AND PAYROLLS BE NOT READ
MOTION BILL AND PAYROLLS BE PASSED FOR PAYMENT

Councilman Yakubov moved that bills and payrolls be not read and passed for payment; seconded by Councilman Casais, all members present voting Aye, said motion was adopted.

RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions listed on Consent Agenda were offered by Councilman Yakubov; seconded by Councilman Casais.

RESOLUTION NO. 81-14

WHEREAS, the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act, P.L. 1987, c.102, has established a recycling fund from which tonnage grant may be made to municipalities in order to encourage local source separation and recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent and the spirit of the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act to use the tonnage grants to develop new municipal recycling programs and to continue and to expand existing programs; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has promulgated recycling regulations to implement the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act; and

WHEREAS, the recycling regulations impose on municipalities certain requirements as a condition for applying for tonnage grants, including but not limited to, making and keeping accurate, verifiable records of materials collected and claimed by the municipality; and

WHEREAS, a resolution authorizing this municipality to apply for the 2013 Recycling Tonnage Grant will memorialize the commitment of this municipality to recycling and to indicate the assent of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Roselle Park to the efforts undertaken by the municipality and the requirements contained in the Recycling Act and recycling regulations; and

WHEREAS, such a resolution should designate the individual authorized to ensure the application is properly completed and timely filed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Roselle Park that Roselle Park hereby endorses the submission of the Recycling Tonnage Grant application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and designates Donna L. Corrigan to ensure that the application is properly filed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the monies received from the Recycling Tonnage Grant be deposited in a dedicated Recycling Trust Fund to be used solely for the purpose of recycling.

RESOLUTION NO. 82-14

WHEREAS, the Borough of Roselle Park wishes to purchase gasoline from an authorized vendor under the Somerset County Cooperative Purchasing Program; and

WHEREAS, the purchase of goods and services by local contracting units is authorized by the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12; and

WHEREAS, National Fuel Oil, Inc., 175 Orange Street, Newark, New Jersey 07103 has been awarded Cooperative Pricing System Number CC-0045-12; and

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Agent recommends the utilization of this contract on the grounds that it represents the best price available (\$.0264 Mark-Up per Gallon); now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Roselle Park that National Fuel Oil, Inc. be awarded a contract for the purchase of gasoline.

RESOLUTION NO. 83-14

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Roselle Park that the Tax Collector hereby authorizes the Treasurer to issue a check in the amount of \$41,625.31 payable to US Bank/Cust for Phoenix Funding for redemption of Tax Sale Certificate #11-03 for the meeting of 4/3/14 (paperwork available in the Tax Office); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to issue a premium check from the Tax Collector's Premium Account in the amount of \$12,500.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 84-14

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Roselle Park hereby appoint the following individuals as Alternate School Crossing Guards, effective immediately, at the rate of \$62.14 per day:

Jean Coop, 1221 Magie Avenue, #6C, Union, New Jersey 07083

Judith Edwards, 427 Murray Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07202

Jaclyn Flatley, 211 East Clay Avenue, Roselle Park, New Jersey 07204

Nancy DePalma, 363 Maplewood Avenue, Kenilworth, New Jersey 07033

<input type="checkbox"/> Vote Record – Resolutions #81-14 to #84-14					
		Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Adopted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopted as Amended	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Defeated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tabled	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Yakubov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Hokanson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Casais	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Storey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Kelly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Elmarassy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Accardi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

MATTERS FOR REFERRAL TO COMMITTEE OR COUNCIL

Councilman Yakubov responded to the comments the Mayor made earlier as follows: I sat quietly, but just find it extremely disheartening that the Mayor is using this public venue through the business of the Borough to try to sully my reputation and to try to drag me through the mud because of a personal vendetta he has against me. In his efforts to say he would not be seeking re-election; that was his personal choice. I would ask him, why did he circulate a petition to run for Mayor? In his efforts to try to have a witch hunt against my name and say I interfered with voters to go vote at the polling places, my answer is I never did that; at least never, ever intended to do that. If that is the case, then I apologize. However, there were no reports filed to the Police and no reports filed to the County. If someone did call into the Clerk and make any kind of a statement that Councilman Yakubov in any way excluded anybody from going to vote. Again, there was a lot of people during Election Day, a lot of people were

standing around. I was the one person potentially there that had some main validity or recognition at the time being a Councilperson, so it was very easy to make a call and make a statement. Again, if in any way I unintentionally prohibited or inhibited anybody to get to the polling area, I truly apologize, I don't believe I did. I was very cautious and careful to always obey the rules in all the election times that I had went through. Councilman Kelly was there and I believe that he would back me up on that. Twenty two years ago my parents, my grandparents came to this country with me and I was seven years old and left an oppressed government where voting was restricted and was manipulated. They came here to give me the liberty to be able to live the American dream like many people are. It would be completely, completely the opposite of my views and my visions not to allow people to have free speech and freedom to vote. I am a product of the American dream. I am very thankful for that and every day, I try to live it to the best of my ability. So just to say that Mayor Accardi is using this venue to try to get a personal vendetta against my reputation, I'll apologize on his behalf to the taxpayers and residents of Roselle Park, but I am very, very thankful for the opportunity to have been nominated to run for Mayor and I think that's where his motivation is coming. I am sure there will be other times, and other meetings that he is going to try to bring up things to try and put me in a bad light. I am sorry that is the way he wishes to govern the last year of his term. So with that, I thank everybody for their time; and again, I think politics are politics and it shouldn't be here. I thank you for giving me the time.

Councilman Hokanson said he would like to make one little correction. There were two reports filed at the Police Department and he has copies, if he would like to see them.

Councilman Yakubov said he would like to see them.

Ms. Cali said one was from her.

Councilman Casais said in addition to Closed Session, he would like to bring up the lease of Borough property for negotiations.

Councilman Hokanson said he is working with Mr. Pluchino and the Engineer regarding an ordinance for generators.

INTERRUPT THE REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

Councilman Yakubov moved to interrupt the regular order of business for a Closed Session Meeting; seconded by Councilman Casais and adopted.

Acting Mayor Hokanson read the Closed Session resolution and said Council would be discussing the following matters:

- Litigation – Concerned Citizens vs. Roselle Park
- Litigation – D'Agostino vs. Roselle Park
- Negotiations – Sale of Borough Property on Laurel Avenue
- Negotiations – Lease of Borough Hall

RESUME REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

Councilwoman Storey moved to resume the regular order of business; seconded by Councilman Yakubov and adopted.

Acting Mayor Hokanson said that during Closed Session, Council discussed the following matters:

- Litigation – Concerned Citizens vs. Roselle Park
- Litigation – D’Agostino vs. Roselle Park
- Negotiations – Sale of Borough Property on Laurel Avenue
- Negotiations – Lease of Borough Hall

Acting Mayor Hokanson said the matter of the Concerned Citizens vs. Roselle Park has been resolved.

Councilman Casais moved that Borough Council offer to any elected official that is representing Roselle Park, at any level of government, County, State or Federal, a zero dollar lease to be renewed annually, with the terms and conditions with regard to days and locations in Borough Hall to be set in that annual lease subject to approval of the Congressional or local Budget Office; seconded by Councilwoman Storey, all members present voting Aye, said motion was adopted.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Councilman Yakubov moved to adjourn; seconded by Councilwoman Storey and adopted.

Attest:

Borough Clerk