

Borough of Roselle Park Budget Meeting of April 26, 2017

Attendee Name	Organization	Title	Status	Arrived
Charlene Storey	Borough of Roselle Park	Councilwoman	P	6:30 PM
Eugene Meola	Borough of Roselle Park	Councilman	P	6:30 PM
Joseph Petrosky	Borough of Roselle Park	Councilman	P	6:30 PM
Thos Shipley	Borough of Roselle Park	Councilman	P	6:30 PM
William Fahoury	Borough of Roselle Park	Councilman	P	6:30 PM
Michael Connelly	Borough of Roselle Park	Councilman	P	6:30 PM
Carl Hokanson	Borough of Roselle Park	Mayor	P	6:30 PM

Councilman Shipley called the meeting to order at 6:30 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 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 exists and the procedure to be followed in case of fire.

Notice to members of the governing body and Borough Staff: Any use of electronic devices during this meeting shall be used solely for the purposes of Borough business and any communications are subject to the Open Public Records Act.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Councilman Connelly moved at 6:33 p.m. to open the public comment portion of the meeting for agenda items only; seconded by Councilman Fahoury and adopted.

Jacob Magiera, 612 Sheridan Avenue

- Asked if the Fire Department could skip purchase of the shed for pickup/plow and purchase the washing machine instead
 - Fire Chief Signorello stated that the shed would be removed from the list anyway because it would be constructed in-house

Saul Qersdyn, 150 Berwyn Street

- Asked if the items requested by the Fire Department were the same that were requested last year as part of the five-year plan
 - Chief Financial Officer Blum stated that the majority of the items existed in previous year's requests. The last two items, miscellaneous webbing, ropes, and pulleys, and a rescue saw and forced entry hooks, were added this year.
- Asked if the items requested by the First Aid Squad were the same that were requested last year as part of the five-year plan
 - Mr. Blum stated that there were some adjustments from last year. Some revisions were provided as recent as the night of this meeting.

- Asked if the items requested for Buildings and Grounds were the same that were requested last year as part of the five-year plan.
 - Mr. Blum stated that some issues arose over the past year that have been added. Grant funds associated with some of the items will adjust the final cost to the Borough.
- Asked about the priority list for roadway improvements
 - Mr. Blum stated that the first three roads listed have outstanding grant applications. These roads are the immediate priority because of determined need, and because the potential award of grant funds would lessen the financial burden on the Borough.

The roads with outstanding grant applications included: East Colfax Avenue from Chestnut Street to Walnut Street; Butler Avenue from Meadow Street to Locust Street; and, Spruce Street from East Clay Avenue to East Lincoln Avenue.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Councilman Connelly moved at 6:40 p.m. to close the public comment portion of the meeting; seconded by Councilman Fahoury and adopted.

FIRE DEPARTMENT CAPITAL

Councilman Shipley turned the meeting over to Mr. Blum who stated that they would be hearing from the Fire Department and First Aid Squad about their Capital requests. Mr. Blum indicated that the Fire Department would be presenting first.

Mr. Blum briefly reviewed the Fire Department's top five requests for 2017, which remain static from year to year, as well as the cumulative requests for an addition to Station 3 and a replacement for Engine 3. Mr. Blum then turned the meeting over to Fire Chief Joe Signorello and Deputy Fire Chief Ray Parenteau.

Deputy Chief Parenteau stated that the Department had one additional request of a drone for use during active fire and training situations. He stated that the Police Department has one and uses it with much success. He estimated the cost of the type of drone they are looking for at \$6,000.00.

Chief Signorello stated that the shed for the pickup truck and plow was no longer needed as part of the Department's 2017 requests and therefore \$8,500.00 could be deducted from the final costs. He stated that the K-12 saws are also not needed at this time which eliminated an additional \$4,400.00 cost. He also noted that the \$70,000.00 cost for radio system upgrades could be eliminated from the Fire Department's requests as long as the Police Department's radio request is approved by the governing body. The \$70,000.00 cost is part of the overall cost to the Borough which was incorporated in the Police's request for \$700,000.00 in system upgrades.

Chief Signorello stated that the governing body should seriously consider putting money aside each year for the replacement of Engine 3; a 1997 model pumper truck. Upon future purchase of a new truck, the Department would like to keep this truck in reserve.

Councilman Shipley asked if one of the existing reserve trucks could be sold so as to off-set costs and space in the firehouse.

Chief Signorello stated that the Department could sell a reserve truck, but the new truck will still not fit, which is why an additional to Station 3 is being sought over the course of the five-year plan. He also noted that the new truck would also not fit in either of the other two firehouses.

Chief Signorello noted that it is important to begin putting money aside for new apparatus now because costs generally go up between 8% and 10% a year. He also stated that ISO would be coming in soon to do their assessment for fire insurance. He noted that at that time the Borough held the best rating possible for a volunteer department.

Mayor Hokanson asked about the Department's request for new defibrillator units; asking specifically where they would be going.

Chief Signorello stated that he would like to have a unit in each of the Chief's vehicles.

Mayor Hokanson inquired about how the natural gas monitoring wands that the Fire Department has compares to the gas company.

Chief Signorello stated that the gas company has equipment that is much more expensive than the Fire Department and it is generally more than what is needed for most calls. He stated that the equipment on State contract is sufficient for the Department's needs. The current request is for two (2) additional units.

Councilman Shipley inquired about the request for a thermal imaging camera, asking if the Department had any at the time.

Chief Signorello stated that they did have cameras, but that he would like to have an additional one to be placed on the Rescue Truck. He stated that he would do an internal needs assessment for this kind of equipment and get back to the governing body.

Councilman Meola asked what the Fire Department currently did with equipment that needed washed and dried.

Deputy Chief Parenteau stated that they have been bringing their equipment to Kenilworth. He stated that Kenilworth has been gracious enough to offer their facilities for use. However, he further stated that the use of Kenilworth's facilities is on their terms, which is understood, but it is not convenient. The use of such machinery is necessary for any Department due to the possibility of toxins encountered during a fire.

Councilman Meola asked if the Borough could sell the Department's oldest fire truck to offset the costs of their requests.

Deputy Chief Partenteau stated that they could, but that their oldest truck is a 1973 model and is only worth approximately \$2,500.00.

This concluded the Fire Department's section of the meeting. Representatives of the Fire Department left the meeting and Mr. Blum prompted the beginning of the presentation and discussion surrounding the requests submitted by the First Aid Squad.

FIRST AID SQUAD CAPITAL

Mr. Blum outlined the requests of the First Aid Squad as well as some changes received the night of the meeting. Squad Captain Glen Costello outlined the Department's 2017 requests as well of the proposed five-year plan.

Captain Costello stated that the item added that evening was a request for \$1,300.00 for the upgrade to LED lights in the ambulance bays.

Mr. Blum asked how the upgrade kit for the stretcher would be used.

Captain Costello stated that it would be installed in connection with the newer ambulance slated to be delivered by August. It would be a direct upgrade that would incorporate data from the CAD system. He stated that it would eliminate the need for an overuse of radio communications during information processing. The manufacturer of the ambulance would do the installation of the kit.

Captain Costello stated that the power step requested for the new ambulance would be a very helpful addition for the use of both EMTs and public end-users. It would make it easier to get on and off the ambulance as they are now being made much higher off the ground than in previous years.

Mr. Blum stated that upon assessing the requests there are existing monies that could cover the costs of all First Aid Squad requests for 2017. He stated that he would not recommend the approval of allocating additional monies over and above what already exists and can be used.

Captain Costello stated that was good news. He further stated that just like the Fire Department apparatus the ambulances were aging. He stated that the Squad works with manufacturers to ensure that any products purchased have a long useful life and are reliable.

This concluded the First Aid Squad's section of the meeting. Captain Costello left the meeting.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Mr. Blum reviewed each item of the priority list for buildings and grounds.

Mr. Blum stated that a new item for consideration in 2017 was the Police Department's internal bathroom. He stated that the Borough engineer has reviewed it and that because it was an internal and not publically accessible restroom it did not have to meet ADA standards.

Mr. Blum stated that the \$50,000.00 for sidewalks would be new money to replenish allocations for sidewalks. He stated that any monies that remained set aside for sidewalks are scheduled to be utilized at the Gazebo Park project.

Mr. Blum suggested that monies set aside for the relocation of the Fire Department siren be repurposed if it was the opinion of the governing body to not move the siren at this time.

The consensus of the governing body was that they would not be relocating the siren and therefore the money could be repurposed.

Councilwoman Storey noted that the Library has experienced several small issues outside of the building and security cameras would be of assistance when trying to determine exactly what occurred. Pricing was being sought.

ENGINEERING

Mr. Blum reviewed each item of the priority list for engineering.

Mayor Hokanson asked why the lists showed that paving would change directions on Colfax Avenue to reflect the East side instead of continuing on the West side. Mr. Blum stated that he would inquire with the Borough engineer.

PUBLIC COMMENT

With no further discussion of Departmental requests Councilman Connelly made a motion to open the second public portion at 7:59 p.m.; seconded by Councilman Fahoury and adopted.

Jacob Mageria, 612 Sheridan Avenue

- Asked if the water way referenced in connection with the open channel improvements between East Lincoln Avenue and East Webster Avenue was a part of Morses Creek
 - Mayor Hokanson stated that it might be, but that he will check.
- Stated that Roselle had finished its portion of improvements to Morses Creek
- Asked if the Borough could put aside \$100,000 to \$200,000 per year for fire engines
 - Mr. Blum stated that the governing body has stated they would like to but that in recent years there have been other more emergent needs that needed priority funding
- Stated that hydrants keep fire insurance costs down
- Asked about the proposed improvements to the sewer system listed under Engineering
 - Mr. Blum stated that this money will be used to address breaks and other issues that arise in the Borough throughout the year
- Stated that PSE&G took down the tree in front of his house years ago. It was replaced by DPW but then that tree died. Stated that he was hoping he could get another since the Borough will be buying more trees.

Saul Qersdyn, 150 Berwyn Street

- Asked if there could be an audit done for Fire Department Equipment. Stated that one was done for the Police Department a few years ago and that it could be helpful when determining need for certain items.
- Stated that professional drones usually cost between \$5,000.00 and \$15,000.00. He further stated that these could be outfitted with thermal imaging technology in lieu of buying a separate unit.
- Inquired about the anonymous donation of security cameras to the Casano Center accepted by the governing body
 - Mr. Blum stated that it was a monetary donation that would go toward the acquisition of security cameras. The amount was \$500.00.

With no one else wishing to speak Councilman Connelly made a motion to close the second public portion at 7:57 p.m.; seconded by Councilman Fahoury and adopted.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Councilman Connelly moved at 8:11 p.m. to close the public comment portion of the meeting; seconded by Councilman Fahoury and adopted.

CLOSED SESSION

Councilman Shipley moved at 8:12 p.m. to go into a Closed Session Meeting; seconded by Councilman Meola, and adopted.

Councilman Shipley read the Closed Session resolution and said Council would be discussing the following matter:

- Contract Negotiations – Meridia on Westfield Urban Renewal, LLC (PILOT)

Councilman Meola moved at 8:23 p.m. to return to open session; seconded by Councilman Connelly, and adopted.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Councilman Connelly moved at 8:28 p.m. to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Councilman Fahoury and adopted.

Attest:

Andrew Casais, RMC
Borough Clerk