



**TOWNSHIP OF ROCHELLE PARK  
151 WEST PASSAIC STREET  
ROCHELLE PARK, NEW JERSEY 07662**

**MINUTES – PUBLIC MEETING – January 16, 2008**

Call to Order 8:00 PM

According to the Open Public Meetings Act, this meeting of January 16, 2008 was advertised in the notice sent to the “Our Town” and “The Record” and posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on January 7, 2008 and has remained continuously posted as the required notice under the Statute and is being taped. In addition, a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

Roll Call

Comm. K. J. Kovalcik  
Comm. W. Lotz  
Comm. P. Strohmeyer  
Comm. F. Valenzuela  
Mayor J. Scarpa

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Cronin

Mayor Scarpa asked that everyone remain standing for a moment of silence remembering those in the military stationed overseas.

A motion was offered by Comm. Lotz and seconded by Comm. Kovalcik to approve the agenda. Motion carried on a voice vote – all voting “Aye”.

A motion was offered by Comm. Lotz and seconded by Comm. Strohmeyer to Approve the Minutes of the Sine Die Meeting and 2008 Reorganization Meeting of January 6, 2008. Motion carried on a voice vote – all voting “Aye”.

Reports:

Building Department - December 2007  
Health Department - December 2007  
Municipal Court - December 2007  
Attendance Report - December 2007

Resolutions:

The Consent Agenda was offered by Comm. Valenzuela seconded by Comm. Kovalcik and reads:

Resolution #2008 – 33

A Resolution – Payment of Bills – January 2008

Be it resolved, by the Township Committee of the Township of Rochelle Park, Bergen County, that the following bills be turned over to the Treasurer, and if found to be correct, be paid provided there is sufficient funds in the various accounts. (See Attached)

Attest: Virginia De Maria

Resolution #2008 – 34

A Resolution authorizing a Contract w/County of Bergen Re: Blood Borne Pathogens Compliance Program – 2008

Whereas, there exists a need for the Township of Rochelle Park Health Department to provide state mandated health services of a technical and professional nature for the Blood Borne Pathogens Compliance Program; and

Whereas, the Bergen County Department of Health Services can assure compliance in accordance with P.E.O.S.H.A. as follows: Exposure Control Plan Development; Policies and Procedures; and Record/Report Generation and Retention and billing support documentation; and

Whereas, the Bergen County Department of Health Services has agreed to provide public health services through a contract for the calendar year 2008 and

Minutes of Public Meeting held January 16, 2008 cont.

Whereas, the fee is to be an amount not to exceed **\$2,358.00** for training and purchase of the vaccine under State Contract based on **\$45.00** per vaccination and funds will be available for this purpose; and

Whereas, it has been certified that this meets the statues and regulations concerning the award of said contract:

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Township Committee of the Township of Rochelle Park as follows:

1. That Phyllis Strohmeier, Mayor is hereby authorized to execute an agreement with the Bergen County Department of Health Services to perform public health services of a professional nature for the Blood Borne Pathogens Program for the period January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008 at a cost not to exceed **\$2,358.00** for training and purchase **\$45.00** per vaccination; and
2. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(2)L and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Financial Office has certified, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 5:30 14.5 that sufficient legally appropriated funds will be available for this purpose subject to appropriation of fund in the 2008 temporary and/or adopted budget.

Attest: Virginia De Maria

Resolution #2008 – 35

A Resolution – Authorizing Settlement of Real Property Tax Appeal – 5 W.

Passaic Street

Address: 5 West Passaic Street, Rochelle Park, New Jersey 07662  
 Taxpayer: Margarita C. Pinto  
 Tax Block: 86  
 Tax Lot: 2.02

Whereas, Margarita C. Pinto is the owner of the property described above; and

Whereas, that property was assessed for the tax year 2006, as follows:

Land:	\$375,000.00
Improvements:	<u>475,000.00</u>
Total:	\$850,000.00

Whereas, that property was assessed for the tax year 2007, as follows:

Land:	\$375,000.00
Improvements:	<u>475,000.00</u>
Total:	\$850,000.00

Whereas, the Real Property Tax Appeals were filed in connection with this property for the years 2006 and 2007; and

Resolution #2008 – 35 (cont.)

Whereas, as a result of the foregoing, and based upon the recommendation of this Tax Assessor and Township Attorney, the Real Property Tax Appeal filed in connection with this matter shall be settled for a total assessment of \$800,000.00 for 2006 and \$700,000.00 for 2007; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved, by the Township Committee of the Township of Rochelle Park, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey as follows:

Resolution #2008 -

1. The Real Property Tax Assessment for the property described above is amended for the 2006 tax year as follows:

Land:	\$375,000.00
Improvements:	<u>425,000.00</u>
Total:	\$800,000.00

The Real Property Tax Assessment for the property described above is amended for the 2007 tax year as follows:

Land:	\$375,000.00
Improvements:	<u>325,000.00</u>
Total:	\$700,000.00

2. Prejudgment interest on any refund is waived provided that refund is paid within sixty days of entry of judgment.
3. Any tax refunds shall be made payable to Zipp & Tannenbaum, LLC as attorney for Margarita C. Pinto and forwarded to counsel for the taxpayer, Zipp & Tannenbaum, LLC at the following address:  
 Zipp & Tannenbaum, LLC

166 Gatzmer Avenue  
Jamesburg, New Jersey 08831

Now, therefore, be it further resolved, that the Township Clerk be and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward certified copies of the within Resolution to the Tax Assessor for the Township of Rochelle Park, the Tax Collector, the Township Attorney and Zipp & Tannenbaum, LLC.

Attest: Virginia De Maria

Resolution #2008 – 36

A Resolution – Authorizing Updating/Revising of Tax Maps

Whereas, the Township of Rochelle Park must undertake a Revaluation of the municipality and;

Whereas, under current State of New Jersey Statutes, prior to proceeding with said Revaluation, the Township of Rochelle Park Tax Maps must be approved by the State Division of Taxation, and;

Whereas, prior to submittal to the Division of Taxation, the Tax Maps must be revised and updated to reflect “current” conditions in the Township and comply with the applicable provisions of the State’s “Tax Map Regulations and Standards;”

Now, therefore, be it resolved, by the Township Committee of the Township of Rochelle Park that the Township Engineer be and is authorized to proceed with the updating/revising of the Township’s Tax Maps in accordance with their proposal dated January 3, 2008 for a cost not to exceed \$12,000.00 with all work to be invoiced by voucher at their current contract hourly rates with the municipality.

Attest: Virginia De Maria

Resolution #2008 – 37

A Resolution – Authorizing Transfers within the 2007 Budget Appropriations

Whereas, there are certain appropriations which unexpended balances and certain accounts on which commitments to be entered into which possibly exceed the amount of the original 2007 appropriations; and

whereas, under Title 40A:4-58 Revised Statutes of New Jersey permission is given to transfer from one budget account into another during the last two months of the fiscal year.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Finance Officer, Michael Mariniello of the Township of Rochelle Park be and is hereby authorized and directed to transfer as follows:

<u>Inside CAP</u>			
20-1352	TO:	Audit Services O/E	\$2,100.00
20-1551	TO:	Legal Services S/W	1,500.00
20-1652	TO:	Engineering Services O/E	400.00
26-2902	TO:	Streets & Roads O/E	1,000.00
26-3152	TO:	Vehicle Maintenance O/E	1,000.00
31-4602	TO:	Utilities/Gasoline O/E	<u>5,000.00</u>
Total			\$11,000.00

<u>Inside CAP</u>			
23-2202	FROM:	Health Insurance O/E	<u>\$11,000.00</u>
Total			\$11,000.00

Attest: Virginia De Maria

Resolution #2008 - 38

A Resolution – Emergency to Temporary Budget Resolution #1 of 2008

Whereas an emergency condition has arisen with respect to **VARIOUS LINE ITEMS** (see attached) and no adequate provisions have been make in the 2007 temporary budget for the purpose above mentioned, and

Whereas, the total emergency temporary resolution adopted in the year 2007 pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 (Chapter 96, O.L. 1951 as amended) including this resolution total **\$2,674,688.86**.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, by the Township Committee of the Township of Rochelle Park (not less than two thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-20,

Minutes of Public Meeting held January 16, 2008 cont.

1. An emergency temporary appropriations be and the same is hereby made for **the account** listed in the amount of **\$223,100.80**.

**Inside CAP**

23-2102	General Insurance O/E	100,000.00
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**Outside CAP**

45-9302	Interest on Bonds	<u>123,100.80</u>
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	Total	\$223,100.80
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Resolution #2008 – 38 (cont.)

2. That said emergency temporary appropriations will be provided for in the 2008 budget under the title of: 2008 Municipal Budget

I, Virginia De Maria, Municipal Clerk of the township of Rochelle Park, New Jersey, County of Bergen do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee at a meeting of said Township Committee held on February 28, 2007 and said resolution was adopted by not less than two-thirds vote of the members of the Township Committee.

Attest: Virginia De Maria

Resolution #2008 - 39

A Resolution – Authorizing Settlement of Litigation – 241 Passaic Associates LLC

Whereas, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40:66-1.3, et seq, which was adopted in 2001, all municipalities in the State of New Jersey became obligated to either provide solid waste collection and disposal services for rental apartments or reimburse those properties for all or a portion of the costs associated with private services; and

Whereas, 241 Passaic Street Associates, LLC is the owner of property located at 241 Passaic Street in the Township of Rochelle Park; and

Whereas, the property located at 241 Passaic Street, Rochelle Park consists of a 40 unit rental apartment building; and

Whereas, a request was made by the owners of this apartment complex for these services or reimbursement for same, however, no reimbursement agreement, in accordance with the aforementioned statute, was ever entered into between the municipality and this property owner; and

Whereas, as a result of the various disputes which existed between the municipality and property owner over the matter in which such an agreement would be adopted or the amount of payment for same, an action was commenced in the Superior Court of New Jersey entitled “241 Passaic Street Associates LLC vs. Township of Rochelle Park”, Docket No. BER-L-1042-07; and

Whereas, extensive discovery was conducted, depositions were held and the Township Attorney conducted extensive legal research regarding the facts, circumstances and legal issues presented in this litigation; and

Whereas, during the course of the litigation, negotiations were conducted between the Township Administrator, Township Attorney and the property owner in order to attempt to resolve the issues presented in this case; and

Whereas, just prior to the scheduled trial date of January 14, 2008 a Settlement Agreement was reached; and

Whereas, the Township Committee has reviewed the proposed Settlement Agreement and believes that it is in the best interests of the township and in accordance with the requirements of law and, therefore, wishes to approve that Settlement Agreement by Resolution.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, by the Township Committee of the Township of Rochelle Park, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. A Settlement Agreement of the litigation described in this Resolution is hereby approved.
2. The Township Attorney is directed to prepare a Reimbursement Agreement and Stipulation of Settlement in connection with this matter and the Township Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to

Resolution #2008 – 39 (cont.)

execute said Reimbursement Agreement and Stipulation of Settlement on

- behalf of the Township of Rochelle Park.
3. All payments made hereunder are subject to certification, by the Chief Financial Officer, that sufficient funds exist for this purpose.
  4. Commencing on March 1, 2008, the property owner described in this Resolution shall commence private solid waste collection and disposal services for the subject property and, as of February 29, 2008, the Township of Rochelle Park, shall terminate any further solid waste collection and disposal services at this property.
  5. The Township of Rochelle Park and the property owner shall enter into a Reimbursement Agreement pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40:66-1.3 which shall provide for the reimbursement, on an annual basis, to the property owner for solid waste disposal costs calculated at the rate incurred by the municipality. The method of calculation will be based upon the municipalities total annual dumping fees divided by the number of residential properties within the municipality (currently 1,802) times the number of units at this property (40). The Reimbursement Agreement shall not provide for any reimbursement of the dumping fee portion of the municipalities cost.
  6. The amount of the reimbursement shall be calculated during the first quarter of each year commencing in 2009 for the preceding year and payment shall be made to 241 Passaic Street Associates, LLC no later than March 1, of each year. The payments due no later than March 1, 2009 shall be based upon ten months of 2008 since private collection will start on March 1, 2008.
  7. The property owner and its residents and tenants shall be required to comply with all recycling requirements of the municipality and the municipality shall continue to provide recyclables collection services pursuant to Local Ordinance and State Law.
  8. The Township of Rochelle Park shall reimburse this property owner pursuant to the statute in the amount of \$16,548.00 for the years 2002 through 2006 and an additional payment of approximately \$2,000.00 will be due for the first five months of 2007 in an amount to be calculated by the Township Administrator and Township Attorney. The payments provided for in this paragraph shall be made no later than March 1, 2008.

Now, therefore be it further resolved, that the Township Clerk be and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward certified copies of the within Resolution to the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works, the Township Administrator, the Township Attorney and the law offices of Arons and Gonzales, 16 South Orange Avenue, Suite 100, South Orange, New Jersey 07079.

Attest: Virginia De Maria

Resolution #2008 – 40

A Resolution – Introduction Ordinance #978 – 08 – Allowing Non-Profit Organizations to be Exempt from Bingo and Raffle Fee Charges

Be it resolved, by the Township Committee of the Township of Rochelle Park, Bergen County, New Jersey, that an ordinance entitled “**AN ORDINANCE ALLOWING NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS TO BE EXEMPT FROM BINGO AND RAFFLE FEE CHARGES**” be and it is hereby introduced and passed on January 16, 2008 first reading and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on February 20, 2008 at 8:00 PM or as soon thereafter as the matter Resolution #2008 – 40 (cont.)

can be reached at the Municipal Complex, 151 West Passaic Street, Rochelle Park, NJ 07662 and that at or such time and place all persons interested be given an opportunity to be heard concerning same and that the Township Clerk be and she is hereby authorized and directed to publish and post said ordinance, together with a notice of the introduction thereof and the time and place when and where such ordinance will be considered for final passage.

Attest: Virginia De Maria

A motion was offered by Comm. Valenzuela and seconded by Comm. Kovalcik to adopt the Consent Agenda. Motion carried on a voice call vote – all voting “Aye”.

This resolution was offered by Comm. Valenzuela and seconded by Comm. Lotz and reads:

Resolution #2008 – 41

A Resolution – Authorizing Assignment as “Lead Laborer” within the Department of Public Works

Whereas, the Township Administrator has recommended the assignment of certain duties and responsibilities to an employee of the Department of Public Works which would result in that employee acting in a position of “Lead Laborer”; and

Whereas, the Township Administrator, in consultation with the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works has developed a criteria for the selection of the individual to hold these additional responsibilities; and

Whereas, the need exists for the assignment of these additional responsibilities to an employee within that department and, in order to determine the individual to whom the assignment should be made, the Township Administrator and the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works reviewed the existing employees within the department and made recommendations to the Township Committee; and

Whereas, at the January 9, 2008 meeting of the Township Committee, various candidates for this position were interviewed by the Township Committee; and

Whereas, as a result of those interviews, the Township Committee has determined that James Schmunk is the most qualified person for these additional duties; and

Whereas, the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works has recommended the assignment of these duties to James Schmunk.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, by the Township Committee of the township of Rochelle Park, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. James Schmunk of Rochelle Park, New Jersey be and is hereby assigned the additional duties and responsibilities for the position of “Lead Man” within the Department of Public Works.
2. This assignment shall take place immediately upon the adoption of this Resolution and shall extend until the end of the current calendar year, December 31, 2008.
3. Commencing on or about January 1, 2009, these duties shall be assigned on an annual basis by the Township Committee after consultation with the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works and the Township Administrator.
4. These shall be a \$3,000.00 stipend paid per year for these additional duties which, for 2008, shall commence as of the date of assignment and which shall be apportioned accordingly.

Now, therefore, be it further resolved that the Township Clerk be and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward certified copies of the within Resolution to the Resolution #2008 – 41 (cont.)

Superintendent of the Department of Public Works, the Personnel Department, Chief Financial Officer for the Township of Rochelle Park, and James Schmunk.

Attest: Virginia De Maria

A motion was offered by Comm. Valenzuela and seconded by Comm. Lotz to adopt the above resolution. Motion carried on a roll call vote – all present voting “Aye”.

Resolution #2008—42

A Resolution – Authorizing Hiring of Personnel – DPW – Robert C. Passarella

~~Whereas, the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works has recommended the hiring of two additional employees within that department on a full time basis; and~~

~~Whereas, the Township Committee has reviewed the needs of that department and has confirmed that additional personnel is required; and~~

~~Whereas, various resumes were received and reviewed by the Township Administrator and interviews of three candidates for these positions were conducted at the meeting of the Township Committee which took place on January 9, 2008; and~~

~~Whereas, subsequent to the interviews the Township Committee discussed the candidates and has determined that the following candidates are most qualified for this position:~~

~~Robert C. Passarella~~

~~191 Wilson Street~~

~~Saddle Brook, New Jersey 07663~~

~~Whereas, the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works has also recommended that above mentioned individuals for these positions.~~

~~Now, therefore, be it resolved, by the Township Committee of the Township of Rochelle Park, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey as follows:~~

Minutes of Public Meeting held January 16, 2008 cont.

1. ~~Robert c. Passarella of 191 Wilson Street, Saddle Brook, New Jersey be and is hereby hired to work in the Department of Public Works under the direct supervision of the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works.  
Starting Salary: \$38,166.00  
Starting Date: January 22, 2008~~

2. ~~The above referenced individuals shall serve a period of probation in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement for a period of ninety (90) days from date of hiring.~~

3. ~~This Resolution is contingent upon certification by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township of Rochelle Park that sufficient funds exist for this purpose.~~

~~Now, therefore, be it further resolved, that the Township Clerk be and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward certified copies of the within Resolution to the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works, the Chief Financial Officer for the Township of Rochelle Park, Robert C. Passarella.~~

Attest: ~~Virginia De Maria~~

Resolution #2008—43

~~A Resolution Authorizing Hiring of Personnel DPW Brian J. Koenig, Jr.  
Whereas, the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works has recommended the hiring of two additional employees within that department on a full time basis; and~~

~~Whereas, the Township Committee has reviewed the needs of that department and has confirmed that additional personnel is required; and~~

~~Whereas, various resumes were received and reviewed by the Township Administrator and interviews of three candidates for these positions were conducted at the meeting of the Township Committee which took place on January 9, 2008; and~~

~~Whereas, subsequent to the interviews the Township Committee discussed the candidates and has determined that the following candidates are most qualified for this position:~~

~~Brian J. Koenig, Jr.~~

~~14 Capital Drive~~

~~Washingtonville, New York 10992~~

~~Whereas, the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works has also recommended that above mentioned individuals for these positions.~~

~~Now, therefore, be it resolved, by the Township Committee of the Township of Rochelle Park, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey as follows:~~

1. ~~Brian J. Koenig, Jr., of 14 Capital Drive, Washingtonville, New York be and is hereby hired to work in the Department of Public Works under the direct supervision of the Superintendent of Department of Public Works.  
Starting Salary: \$26,521.00  
Starting Date: January 22, 2008; and~~

2. ~~The above referenced individuals shall serve a period of probation in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement for a period of ninety (90) days from date of hiring.~~

3. ~~This Resolution is contingent upon certification by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township of Rochelle Park that sufficient funds exist for this purpose.~~

~~Now, therefore, be it further resolved, that the Township Clerk be and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward certified copies of the within Resolution to the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works, the Chief Financial Officer for the Township of Rochelle Park, Brian J. Koenig, Jr.~~

Attest: ~~Virginia De Maria~~

Comm. Valenzuela questioned Resolutions #2008-42 and #2008-43 regarding the procedures followed for the hiring of these two DPW workers. Administrator Mariniello explained any decisions made were at the direction of the Township Committee. Municipal Attorney Rotolo was asked for his opinion regarding the legal ramifications of not following the Township's personnel policy. Rotolo advised that possibly by delaying voting on these two resolutions, certain omissions could be corrected. Comm. Strohmeyer advised that her vote will remain the same regardless. Comm. Lotz expressed the same sentiments as Comm. Strohmeyer. Comm. Kovalcik advised that the Township Committee move forward or stop the process and re-evaluate the procedures followed. After a heated and lengthy discussion, the two resolution were tabled and a special meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, January 23, 2008.

Minutes of Public Meeting held January 16, 2008 cont.

A motion was offered Comm. Valenzuela and seconded by Mayor Scarpa to table Resolutions #2008-42 and #2008-43. Motion carried on a roll call vote "Ayes" - Kovalcik, Strohmeier, Valenzuela, Scarpa, "Nays" - Lotz

This resolution was offered by Comm. Kovalcik and seconded by Mayor Scarpa and reads:

Resolution #2008 – 44

A Resolution – Authorizing Release of Closed Session Minutes of January 9, 2008

Whereas, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-1 et. seq.) certain issues may be discussed by the Township Committee in a session which excludes the public; and

Whereas, the aforementioned law requires that the minutes of said closed sessions be released as soon as practicable after the meeting and so long as the release of the minutes will not be adverse to the interests of the public and/or the Township; and

Whereas, pursuant to statute, the purpose of this Resolution is to disclose the information which was discussed in closed session on January 9, 2008 to the extent that said information can be disclosed without adversely affecting the Township of the public interest.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, by the Township Committee of the Township of Rochelle Park, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey that the attached closed session minutes may be released to the public in accordance with the requirements of New Jersey State Law; and

Be it further resolved, that any minutes which have not been released pursuant to this Resolution shall be reviewed periodically by the Township Attorney and further recommendation shall be made for the release of additional minutes as the release of same is deemed to be proper.

Attest: Virginia De Maria

**CLOSED SESSION MINUTES – January 9, 2008**

A motion was made for the Township Committee to go into closed or executive session to discuss matters of personnel, litigation and negotiations. The following represents the minutes of that closed session to the extent that those minutes may be released at this time.

1. DPW Contract

The Township Administrator provided the Township Committee with a report concerning the status of negotiations with the Department of Public Works employees.

Resolution #2008 – 44 (cont.)

2. 241 Passaic Street Associates LLC

The Township Attorney provided the Township Committee with a status report as to this litigation which involves an action to compel the Township to provide solid waste collection services for this apartment complex. Options for the Resolution of this litigation were also discussed as were preparations for trial since the matter was scheduled for trial shortly after this meeting.

3. Personnel

The Township Committee conducted interviews for two open positions within the Department of Public Works (labor positions) as well as for the position of "Lead Man" within the Department of Public Works.

At the conclusion of the interviews, a discussion was held and decisions were made regarding the aforementioned positions.

Attest: Virginia De Maria

A motion was offered by Comm. Kovalcik and seconded by Mayor Scarpa to adopt the above resolution. Motion carried on a roll call vote – "Ayes" - Kovalcik, Lotz, Strohmeier, Scarpa, "Nays" – None, "Abstain"- Valenzuela

Committee's/Administrator's/Attorney's Reports

Comm. Kovalcik – Had no report.

Comm. Valenzuela – reported that Construction Code Official Rich Bolan delivered the final mitigations applications to the OEM in Trenton on Friday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Bolan

Minutes of Public Meeting held January 16, 2008 cont.

is continuing to push for funding of this project. The construction has begun at 96 Parkway, adding many needed parking spaces, hopefully alleviating parking problems on Parkway, Grove Avenue and Becker Avenue. Valenzuela advised, regarding the two DPW positions, he feels the applicants had the correct qualification, however he wanted to make sure that the policy procedures were adhered to.

Comm. Lotz – regarding the hiring procedures, he felt that Administrator Mariniello following instructions as directed by the Township Committee. He read a Certificate of Accreditation for James Schmunk – DPW, and one issued to Steve Surety for Criminal Street Gang Awareness and Recognition Training.

Comm. Strohmeier – Library December Report – Circulated 1049 items, Loaned 365, Borrowed 947, New Cards Issued 10

Mayor Scarpa – Advised that he had attended a meeting with the Governor held in Bergen County. The Governor plans to increase tolls creating revenue for the state. He also advised of a plan to widen Route 17 from Paramus to Hasbrouck Heights. This would negatively impact Rochelle Park by losing millions of dollars in ratables. He advised that the state should attempt to control their own spending, before negatively impacting the municipalities.

Administrator Mariniello apologized to Rob Passarella for the previous discussion held regarding his hiring.

A motion was offered by Comm. Valenzuela and seconded by Comm. Strohmeier. to open the meeting to the public. Motion carried on a voice vote – all voting “Aye”.

Jerry Cronin - 175 Rochelle Avenue – Windsor Court – Spoke representing the Homeowners Association. He advised that these homeowners contribute approximately \$500,000 in tax revenue, and are not utilizing garbage removal through the Township. Attorney Rotolo advised that he was in receipt of paperwork regarding a reimbursement to the Association for these fees. A possible time frame would be 30 days from completion of all paperwork. Mr. Cronin advised of problems with fire safety issues and lack of parking. He was advised that Darryl DeMott, Fire Inspector, and Rich Bolan, Construction Code Official would be advised for their assistance.

A motion was offered by Comm. Lotz and seconded by Comm. Strohmeier to close the meeting to the public. Motion carried on a voice vote – all voting “Aye”.

A motion was offered by Comm. Lotz and seconded by Comm. Kovalcik to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried on a voice vote – all voting “Aye”.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia De Maria  
Municipal Clerk