

A Special Meeting of the City Council was held Tuesday, May 7, 2019 at 7:10 PM in the Conference Room in City Hall, 111 Outwater Lane, Garfield, NJ 07026.

Mayor Richard Rigoglioso presided. City Clerk Andrew J. Pavlica announced that the meeting was being held in accordance with provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act and that adequate notice was provided by mail, fax and email to the official City newspapers and to other interested parties and by posting the meeting notice on the bulletin boards in City Hall.

Councilmembers Present: Louis G. Aloia, Frank J. Calandriello, Joseph Delaney and Richard Rigoglioso

Councilmembers Absent: Erin N. Delaney

Also Present: City Manager Thomas J. Duch, City Clerk Andrew J. Pavlica, City Attorney Robert Ferraro and Interim Chief Financial Officer Roy Riggitano

RECUSAL OF MAYOR RIGOGLIOSO

At 7:11 PM, Mayor Richard Rigoglioso recused himself from the Special Meeting and Deputy Mayor Joseph Delaney chaired the meeting from this point forward. It was duly noted for the record.

ARRIVAL OF COUNCILMEMBER ERIN DELANEY

At 7:15 PM, Councilmember Erin N. Dleaney joined the Special Meeting and it was duly noted for the record.

PROPOSED CUTS IN THE DEFEATED 2019-2020 SCHOOL BOARD BUDGET

The City Council and Cabinet discussed proposed cuts in the 2019-2020 School Board Budget defeated at the polls on April 16, 2019, with 294 Yes votes and 585 No votes.

CLOSED SESSION

Resolution No. 19-128

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a public body to exclude the public from a meeting in certain circumstances, and

WHEREAS, THE City Council is of the opinion that such circumstances now exist,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Garfield, Bergen County, New Jersey that a "Closed Session" is hereby called at 7:15 PM on Tuesday, May 7, 2019, to discuss the following as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

- * Pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiations or matters falling within attorney-client privilege: (proposed cuts in the 2019-2020 School Board Budget defeated at the polls on April 16, 2019).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the matters so discussed will be disclosed to the public as soon as and to the extent that such disclosure can be made without adversely affecting the public interest or without violation of the confidentiality of personnel.

On call of roll, Ayes 4,
Recused 1 – Mayor Rigoglioso

(Sgd) Louis G. Aloia
Joseph Delaney

PROPOSED CUTS IN THE DEFEATED 2019-2020 SCHOOL BOARD BUDGET

After the City Council came out of Closed Session at 7:45 PM, the City Council and Cabinet discussed proposed cuts in the 2019-2020 School Board Budget defeated at the polls on April 16, 2019, with the following School Officials: Superintendent of Schools Anna Sciacca, School Business Administrator Dr. Giovanni Cusmano, School Board Attorney Kurt Geisler, Curriculum

Special Meeting May 7, 2019, Continued

PROPOSED CUTS IN THE DEFEATED 2019-2020 SCHOOL BOARD BUDGET

Supervisor Alexandra Bollinger, and the following members of the Board of Education: President Everett Garnto, Vice-President Charles Nucifora, Anthony Barckett, Richard Derrig, Allan Focarino and Julio Quiles.

CLOSED SESSION

Resolution No. 19-129

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a public body to exclude the public from a meeting in certain circumstances, and

WHEREAS, THE City Council is of the opinion that such circumstances now exist,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Garfield, Bergen County, New Jersey that a "Closed Session" is hereby called at 8:55 PM on Tuesday, May 7, 2019, to discuss the following as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

- * Pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiations or matters falling within attorney-client privilege: (proposed cuts in the 2019-2020 School Board Budget defeated at the polls on April 16, 2019).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the matters so discussed will be disclosed to the public as soon as and to the extent that such disclosure can be made without adversely affecting the public interest or without violation of the confidentiality of personnel.

On call of roll, Ayes 4,
Recused 1 – Mayor Rigoglioso

(Sgd) Frank J. Calandriello
Louis G. Aloia

RESOLUTIONS

After the City Council came out of Closed Session at 9:00 PM, they acted on the following Resolution:

Resolution No. 19-130

WHEREAS, the City Council has reviewed the school budget defeated on April 16, 2019, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Garfield council authorized the Chief Financial Officer to analyze and recommend to the council further reductions in the 2019-2020 school budget;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Garfield, Bergen County, New Jersey:

1. The original tax levy on the ballot for the current expense portion of the Board of Education budget was \$29,841,540;
2. The amount of reductions to the current expense portion of the tax levy shall be \$65,000;
3. The amount of tax levy being certified by the City Council for the base, current expense budget shall, therefore be \$29,776,540.
4. Debt service in the amount requested is also approved by the governing body;
5. The specific line item reductions which are recommended by the City Council are as follows:

Lease Purchase	\$65,000.00
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the school budget, as reviewed and revised, presents sufficient funds to provide a thorough and efficient education within the District as required by law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk be and he is hereby authorized and directed to forward certified copies of the within Resolution, no later than Monday, May 20, 2019, to the Board of Education of the City of Garfield, the Bergen County Superintendent of Schools, the Bergen County Board of Taxation and to the City of Garfield Tax Assessor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk is hereby directed to prepare, based upon the contents of this resolution, the necessary forms for admission to the County of Bergen, including form A-4F or other forms reasonably required in order to effectuate the provision of this Resolution.

Special Meeting May 7, 2019, Continued

RESOLUTIONS

On call of roll, Ayes 4,
Recused 1 – Mayor Rigoglioso

(Sgd) Erin N. Delaney
Joseph Delaney

CITIZENS AND TAXPAYERS

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Barabasz of 1 Garden Court East, both complained about property taxes being too high to support the Garfield School System.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Councilmember Calandriello said that he respects what was said by the taxpayers. He said that, in the past, there was a lack of respect by School Officials toward the Mayor and Council and there was a lack of trust of what was being communicated. He said that he has a greater trust in the School Professionals currently in office and that things are changing for the better.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:15 PM, there being no further business, Councilmember Aloia moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Calandriello duly seconded the motion.

On call of roll, Ayes 4,
Recused 1 – Mayor Rigoglioso



Andrew J. Pavlica, CITY CLERK