

A Work Session of the City Council was held Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 6:25 PM in the Council Chamber, in City Hall, 111 Outwater Lane, Garfield, NJ 07026.

Mayor Richard Rigoglioso presided. City Clerk Andrew J. Pavlica announced that the Work Session was being held in accordance with provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act and under guidelines set forth by the New Jersey Division of Local Government Services in an email dated March 12, 2020, and in accordance with Executive Order 104 issued by Governor Phil Murphy and in accordance with Local Finance Notice No. 2020-21 issued September 24, 2020, for Remote Public Meetings held during a Declared Emergency. City Clerk Pavlica announced 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, and front and back doors of City Hall, and on the City Website. City Clerk Pavlica also announced that a public notice was published in the April 10, 2021 edition of the Bergen Record and the Herald News newspapers advising of this meeting being held remotely, and the public was also directed to the City Website for guidance in order to listen and watch and participate.

Councilmembers Present: Richard Rigoglioso

Councilmembers Present Telephonically: Joseph Delaney, Pawel Maslag, Romi Herrera and Erin Delaney

Also Present: City Manager Thomas J. Duch, City Clerk Andrew J. Pavlica, Deputy City Clerk Diane Rosolen and Interim Chief Financial Officer Roy Riggitano

Also Present Telephonically: City Attorney Robert Ferraro, Labor Counsel John Lavin, City Engineer Carl O'Brien, Fire Official/Construction Code Official Gerald Walis, Housing Inspector Ronald Svrcek and Special Projects Engineer Kevin J. Boswell

HOUSING INSPECTIONS

The City Council and Cabinet met with Housing Inspector Ronald Svrcek and Fire Official/Construction Code Officer/Housing Inspector Gerald Walis regarding Code Enforcement of City and State Housing Regulations and regarding daytime and evening Housing Inspections.

EXIT OF HOUSING INSPECTORS

At 6:45 PM, Housing Inspector Ronald Svrcek and Fire Official/Construction Code Officer/Housing Inspector Gerald Walis left the Work Session and it was duly noted for the record.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

City Manager Thomas J. Duch reported on the following:

1. The update of the Housing Element of the Master Plan.
2. The John Cocula Golf Outing scheduled to be held June 24, 2021.
3. The Independence Day Fireworks scheduled to be held July 1, 2021 in Twentieth Century Field with a rain date of July 2, 2021.
4. The recent Trash Summons issued to the owners of the old Kalama Chemical Plant property bounded by River Drive, Monroe Street, Cambridge Avenue and Hudson Street.
5. A proposed Ordinance prohibiting parking within 25 feet of a Stop Sign rather than within 50 feet of a Stop Sign.
6. The calculations indicating savings in the change of Health Care Providers.
7. The City Engineer's proposal for improvements to Columbus Park.
8. The extension of Outdoor Dining regulations.
9. A proposed Ordinance to increase the Registered Contractor's Fee.
10. The timeline for the Cannabis Zone Planning Study to be completed by Topology.

IMMIGRATION

The City Council and Cabinet met with Sara Cullinane, Esq., the Director of Make the Road New Jersey, who spoke in favor of the Mayor and Council adopting a Resolution in support of President Joseph Biden's Immigration Proposals, or issuing a statement of support.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

11. A proposed Shared Services Agreement with the Board of Education in connection with Federal Stimulus Funding.
12. The proposal to address the enforcement of cleanliness in City Parks by re-establishing Police Bicycle Patrols in Twentieth Century Field on Saturdays and Sundays from April through July.
13. City Engineer Carl O'Brien and Colliers Engineering proposals for improvements to Columbus Park, the Jewell Street Playground, Basketball Courts behind Fire House No. Three located at 159 Gaston Avenue, and for the 2020 and 2021 Road Improvement Programs.
14. Clarifications regarding policy concerning Mobile Food Truck regulations and the proposed Ordinance to allow Catering Trucks on Commercial Properties at the invitation of businesses, with a 30 minute limit, and prohibited from being located on City Streets.
15. The Grant for Improvements to Semel Avenue.
16. A proposed Ordinance incorporating elements of the Lodi Used Car Sales Ordinance into the proposed Garfield City Ordinance regulating Auto Body Shops and Vehicle Sales.
17. The proposed establishment of Restaurant Row on Passaic Street from River Drive to Marsellus Place.
18. His meeting with City Auditor Dieter Lerch on Saturday, April 10, 2021, to seek ways to cut the Introduced 2021 Municipal Budget by One Tax Point.
19. The City Carnival scheduled to be held April 28, 2021 to May 2, 2021.
20. The timeline of the Monroe Street Improvement including the removal of the Train Tracks that run down the middle of Monroe Street from Pierre Avenue to the Passaic River.

CLOSED SESSION

Resolution No. 21-117

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 8:10 P.M. on Tuesday, April 13, 2021, to discuss the following as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

- * Collective bargaining agreements including the negotiation of the terms and thereof with employees or representatives of employees of the public body; (proposed extension of collective bargaining agreement with PBA Local No. 46; Juneteenth as a City holiday).
- * Matters involving the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of banking rates or investment of public funds; (eminent domain re: 327 River Drive; appraisal of the value of the old Fire House No. Three property on Willard Street at \$720,000 and proposed redevelopment of that property).

CLOSED SESSION

- * Pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiations or matters falling within attorney-client privilege; (Federal Lawsuit re: Newark Bay Litigation; Stormwater Management Agreement with Carl O'Brien and Colliers Engineering; Library funding and 100th Anniversary of the Garfield Free Public Library in 2023).
- * Matters involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance of, promotion or disciplinary action of personnel unless the individual in the right request a public meeting in writing; (proposed \$25,000 incentive for employees to retire; Zoning Board Clerk position; use of sick days for Covid time off; break time rules for DPW employees; Police Captains exam and appointment; proposed retirement of Plumbing Inspector Domenick Nasuta and proposed appointment of Robert Schultz to succeed him; possible Police overtime for City Carnival scheduled to be held April 28 – May 2, 2021; proposed retirement of City Clerk Andrew J. Pavlica on June 30, 2021 and proposed appointment of Diane Rosolen as City Clerk effective July 1, 2021; proposed appointment of Daniel Golabek as “Assistant City Manager” effective July 1, 2021).

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 5

(Sgd) Erin Delaney
Romí Herrera

EXIT OF SPECIAL PROJECTS ENGINEER BOSWELL AND
INTERIM CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER RIGGITANO

Immediately after the City Council voted to go into Closed Session, Special Projects Engineer Kevin Boswell left the Work Session. At 8:45 PM, Interim Chief Financial Officer Roy Riggitano left the Work Session during Closed Session. It was duly noted for the record.

ADJOURNMENT

After the City Council came out of Closed Session at 9:45 PM, there being no further business, the Work Session was adjourned.

Andrew J. Pavlica, CITY CLERK