



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

MINUTES – PUBLIC MEETING – September 18, 2013

Call to Order 7:30 PM

According to the Open Public Meetings Act, this meeting of September 18, 2013 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 8, 2013 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. Ouellette
 Comm. Kazimir - Absent
 Comm. Kovalcik
 Comm. Valenzuela
 Mayor Scarpa

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dimitria Leakis
Mayor Scarpa asked that everyone remain standing for a moment of silence remembering those in the military and the victims of the 9-11 attack.

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

A motion was offered by Comm. Valenzuela and seconded by Mayor Scarpa to approve the minutes of the Public Meeting held August 21, 2013. Motion carried on a voice vote – all present voting “Aye”.

Reports:
 Health Department - August 2013
 Municipal Court - August 2013
 Building Department - August 2013

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

Resolution #2013 – 162

A Resolution – Payment of Bills – September 2013

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 #2013 – 163

A Resolution – Issuing Raffle License #434-13 – PTA Midland School #1

Be it resolved, by the Township Committee of the Township of Rochelle Park, Bergen County, State of New Jersey, that the application for a OFF-PREMISE RAFFLE LICENSE -434-13 as presented by PTA MIDLAND SCHOOL #1 ID# 427-5-37358 requesting permission to conduct a OFF-PRESISE RAFFLE on December 11, 2013 be approved and the requested license be issued.

Attest: Virginia De Maria

Resolution #2013 - 164

A Resolution – Authorizing Submission of State Aid Grant Application – NJDOT –Cedar Drive

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Township Committee of the Township of Rochelle Park formally approves the grant application for the above stated project.

Resolution #2013 – 164 (cont.)

Be it further resolved, that the Township Committee and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as MA2014-00432 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Township of Rochelle Park.

Be it further resolved that the Township Committee and Clark are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Rochelle Park and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

My signature and the Clerk’s seal serve to acknowledge the above resolution and constitute acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approve the execution of the grant agreement as authorized by the resolution above.

Attest: Virginia De Maria

Resolution #2013 – 165

A Resolution – Authorizing Settlement of Tax Appeal – Adamson Properties LLC

PROPERTY OWNER: Adamson Properties, LLC
ADDRESS: 87 West Passaic Street
Rochelle Park, New Jersey
LOT: 2.01
BLOCK: 84.01
TAX COURT DOCKET NO: 008928-2011

	Original Assessment 2011	Reduced/Settlement Assessment 2011
Land	\$ 643,300	\$ 643,300
Improvements	\$1,276,200	\$1,056,700
TOTAL	\$1,910,500	\$1,700,000

Whereas, a real property tax appeal has been filed in connection with the above referenced property; and

Whereas, the within tax appeal has been reviewed by the Tax Assessor, Township Attorney as well as the Municipality’s Appeal Appraisal Expert. (if applicable); and

Whereas, all professionals have agreed that it would be in the best interest of the Municipality to enter into the settlement described above.

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 of the above referenced real property tax appeal be and is hereby authorized
2. The settlement shall be on the terms and conditions described above.
3. The Municipal attorney is hereby authorized and directed to execute any documents including a Stipulation of Settlement which may be necessary in order to effectuate the provisions of this resolution.
4. The Tax Assessor is hereby authorized and directed to amend the records of the Municipality to reflect the above referenced settlement.

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 Township Attorney and the Township Tax Assessor

Attest: Virginia De Maria

Resolution #2013 – 166

A Resolution – Authorizing Tax Court Judgment Refunds –Various Accounts

Resolved, by the mayor and council of the Township of Rochelle Park that the tax collector is hereby authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$63,878.72, payable to “various accounts” as a result of a tax court judgment covering the year 2012.

be it further resolved, that the township clerk is hereby authorized to furnish copies of this resolution to the following:

1. Chief Financial Officer
2. Tax Collector

Attest: Virginia De Maria

Resolution #2013 – 167

A Resolution – Authorizing Transfer of Trailer to the City of Hackensack

Whereas, in 2009, the Township of Rochelle Park entered into an Agreement with the City of Hackensack under which the City of Hackensack agreed to provide the Township with use of its showmobile, on an annual basis, without charge; and

Whereas, in consideration for that agreement, the Township agreed to transfer ownership of a certain trailer which was maintained by the Township as part of a program from FEMA; and

Whereas, the Township now believes that it would be in the best interest of the Municipality to transfer title to that trailer to the City of Hackensack.

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. The trailer currently used by the City of Hackensack but in the name of the Township of Rochelle Park may now be transferred to the City of Hackensack.
2. The Township Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to take any and all action which may be necessary in order to facilitate this transfer including, without being limited to, execution of the title or other transfer document.

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 City of Hackensack, the Township Auditor and the Township Attorney.

Attest: Virginia De Maria

Resolution #2013 – 168

A Resolution – Introduction Ord. #1063 – 13 – Amending Chapter 16 – First Aid and Emergency Squad

Be It Resolved, by the Township Committee of the Township of Rochelle Park, Bergen County, New Jersey, that an ordinance entitled “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 16 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ROCHELLE ENTITLED “FIRST AID AND EMERGENCY SQUADAN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 16 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ROCHELLE ENTITLED “FIRST AID AND EMERGENCY SQUAD” be and it is hereby introduced and passed on first reading September 18, 2013 and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on October 16, 2013 at 7:30 PM or as soon thereafter as the matter 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

Resolution #2013 – 169

A Resolution – Authorizing the Hiring of Dispatcher –Daniel Larkin

Whereas, the Township of Rochelle Park hires civilian police dispatchers to work within the Police Department; and

Whereas, pursuant to a prior Resolution, the Township Committee determined that civilian police dispatchers will now be paid pursuant to the established salary guide which will include salary steps providing for annual increases: and

Whereas, the Township Committee has agreed with the recommendations made by the Chief of Police with regard to the individual to be rehired.

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 following individual shall be hired as a full-time civilian Police Dispatcher for the Township of Rochelle Park:

Daniel Larkin
43 Brooks Ave.
Rochelle Park, NJ 07662
Starting Salary: \$28,791.00 per year

Be it further resolved, that the civilian Police Dispatcher shall be paid pursuant to the Salary Ordinance of the Township of Rochelle Park; and

Be it further resolved, that employment for this individual shall commence as of September 25, 2013; and

Be it further resolved, that the Township Clerk be and she is hereby authorized to forward a certified copy of the within Resolution to the Township Administrator, the Rochelle Park Chief of Police, Daniel Larkin and the Township Attorney.

Attest: Virginia De Maria

Resolution 2013 – 170

A Resolution – Authorizing Entering into Grant Agreement – Community Development \$4,500.00

Be it resolved, that the Township Committee of the Township of Rochelle Park wishes to enter into a grant agreement with the County of Bergen for the purpose of using \$4,500.00 in 2013 Community Development Block Grant funds for Senior Citizen Activities located at 151 W. Passaic Street

Be it further resolved, that the Township Committee hereby authorizes Jay Kovalcik to be a signatory for the aforesaid grant agreement; and

Be it further resolved, that the Township Committee hereby authorizes Virginia De Maria, RMC to sign all County vouchers submitted in connection with the aforesaid project; and

Be it further resolved, that the Township Committee recognizes that the Township of Rochelle Park is liable for any funds not spent in accordance with the Grant Agreement; and that liability of the Township Committee is in accordance with HUD requirements.

This resolution was adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Rochelle Park at a meeting on September 18, 2013.

Attest: Virginia De Maria

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

Committee’s/Administrator’s/Attorney’s Reports

Comm. Kovalcik – Reported on the success of the ninth annual Summerfest concert held on Thursday, August 22nd. It was well attended by approximately 1000 people. The reviews on “Shirley Alston Reeves” were excellent. This event, as always, was generously sponsored by Park Ave. BMW Acura. Kovalcik thanked Roy Sommerhalter for his continuous support.

Comm. Valenzuela – A motion was offered by Comm. Valenzuela and seconded by Mayor Scarpa to appoint Vincent Eckardt to the Rochelle Park Fire Department as a regular member. Motion carried on a roll call vote – all present voting “Aye”. Valenzuela thanked all the volunteer fire fighters for their continuous community service. Mr. Eckardt was currently attending a mandatory Blood Borne Pathogen’s class. Valenzuela advised that all involved did a wonderful job on the construction of the 9-11 memorial. He thanked the 9-11 Committee, Township Committee, Board of Education, American Legion and Bob Davidson helping to make this project a reality. He has received many positive comments and feels this monument enhances the beauty of the Township. He also thanked the many contributors. Building Dept. – Valenzuela thanked the Building Department for their assistance in cleaning up the property located at 114 Howard Avenue. He stated that Rochelle Park takes Code Enforcement seriously and is very aggressive with property maintenance. Valenzuela welcomed back displaced resident Gail Artola to Rochelle Park. Her home suffered serious damage during Hurricane Irene. After a number of years and dealings with the DEP, DCA and various contractors, her home has been placed on stilts and is now habitable.

Comm. Ouellette - A motion was offered by Comm. Ouellette and seconded by Comm. Valenzuela to appoint Michelle Martinez, Brianna Jiminez, William Berios and Taylor Borsina to the Rochelle Park Ambulance Corp. Motion carried on a roll call vote – all present voting “Aye”.

Library Report – The Library had over 200 people participating in or attending the Summer Reading Programs and events. Due to interest, teen book groups that met during the summer will continue throughout the school year. Book circulation has nearly doubled since April. A new book group for adults has been established. New subscription data bases that allow patrons to download free music and e-books has been added. Currently the Library hosts at least two programs each week. The Library continues to provide community service hours for students from Rochelle Park and surrounding towns. Interaction with the public via social media (Twitter, Facebook, Tumblr, Instagram) is encouraged. Ouellette is very enthusiastic about the direction the library has taken under leadership by the Director, Nicole Williams.

Administrator Davidson – Was overwhelmed with emotion discussing the 9-11 memorial site and ceremony. He thanked all those involved making this somber event successful. He was extremely proud to have participated in this project.

Mayor Scarpa – Spoke regarding the new 9-11 monument. He was proud at the attendance at the 9-11 ceremony. It was a great community event, honoring two one-time residents of the Township who perished on that fateful date. He thanked everyone for their efforts, specifically Bergen Landscaping and Shoprite. He was pleased that all branches of the military were honored.

Virginia De Maria – Municipal Clerk – Advised that “Monument Park” was the new center of town. She also advised that Recreation was holding a Movie night at Carlock Field on Saturday, September 21st at 7:30 PM showing the movie Epic.

Attorney Rotolo – Advised that he became a first time grandfather last week.

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

Demetria Leakis – 41 Powell Avenue – Spoke regarding the upcoming 5K event in the Township. She said that the project could not have moved forward without the cooperation of the Township Committee, Police Department, Fire Department, Ambulance Corp., DPW and Administration Davidson. She asked Mayor Scarpa to start the runners or possibly present the awards at the end of the event. He agreed. Ms. Leakis advised that Board of Education negotiations are moving forward. The School Board feels that the 9-11 monument exceeded their expectations. It enhances the school property and reminds the children of life changes.

Gail Artolo – 110 Howard Avenue – Thanked the Committee for welcoming her back. She also thanked the Committee for the 9-11 ceremony, stating it was beautiful. She thanked the Township Committee for mowing the lawn and cleaning up the abandoned property located at 114 Howard Avenue. This has been an eyesore for years. She had concerns regarding the mold issues at this location. The Administrator advised that he had spoken to the Health Inspector who stated there were no mold issues at this location. Ms. Artolo advised that she had contacted the police several times due to the back door of this location being open. After a discussion it was agreed that the DPW would secure this door.

Proclamation

Nanni’s Ristorante – 25 Years

Mayor Scarpa read the proclamation honoring Nanni’s Ristorante.

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia De Maria
Municipal Clerk