

**Workshop Meeting
Borough of Eatontown Governing Body
Wednesday, December 21, 2022**

*This meeting has been advertised in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act: A notice of the meeting has been published in the Asbury Park Press, Star Ledger and the Link News, posted on the bulletin board in the lobby of Borough Hall, and posted to the Borough website.
Public comment is welcome at any time.*

Mayor Talerico opened the Workshop at 7:02pm, noting the Borough's compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act

1. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Anthony Talerico, Jr., Council President Kevin L. Gonzalez,
Councilmembers Maria Escalante, Danielle M. Jones, David Gindi, Everett D. Lucas

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney Zach Levy, Interim Administrator Lucia, Borough Clerk Martin

The Flag Salute was led by C/Escalante

Councilmember Mark Regan, Jr. arrived at 7:05pm

2. 2023 COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Mayor Talerico asked the council to make sure the dates don't conflict with any personal and/or religious reasons.

3. BUSINESS INSURANCE REGISTRY, ORDINANCE 20-2022 DISCUSSION

Mayor Talerico provided an overview and history of this ordinance. Mayor Talerico explained the reasoning for re-examining the \$200 fee and suggests what the Borough should do regarding this ordinance in the future. Mayor Talerico asked the council what their view of this ordinance is. Councilmember Regan agreed the \$200 fee needs to be adjusted, and suggested a \$0 rate, as well as make refunds for the applicants who have submitted their checks previously. Mayor Talerico asked Attorney Levy if in January, the council would be able to introduce an ordinance to lower the fee or withdraw it. Mayor Talerico explained to the public that the Borough cannot refund any fees until after the ordinance to do so has passed. Councilmember Lucas asked Mayor Talerico if there is a time limit to achieve this. Mayor Talerico responded. Councilmember Jones explained that she will do more research about possibly repealing the ordinance but agrees with lowering the fee. Mayor Talerico asked the council if anyone disagrees with lowering the fee. The council responded. Council President Gonzalez asked if there would be any ramifications from the State. Mayor Talerico responded. Council President Gonzalez asked Attorney Levy if he has dealt with any issues regarding the State with any of his other towns, if so, how did the State go after those municipalities. Attorney Levy responded. Borough Clerk Martin asked Mayor Talerico for specifics. Mayor Talerico responded.

Mayor Talerico opened the meeting to the public.

Frank Scaturchio, Monmouth Road, asked about the insurance requirement. Mayor Talerico and Councilmember Regan responded.

Toni B., Shore Place, complained about the \$200 fee. Mayor Talerico responded.

Vic Romano, Holmdel, owns four properties in Eatontown, and shared his concerns regarding the increased monthly rate that the tenants would now have to pay to compensate the \$200 annual fee. Mayor Talerico responded.

Mayor Talerico closed the meeting to the public.

4. CLOSED SESSION

A. Resolution 261-2022

- 1) Contract Negotiations – Monmouth Mall
- 2) Personnel – Department Requests
- 3) Contractual – 2023 Professional RFPs
- 4) Potential Litigation

Mayor Talerico noted the Council would not act on the items in workshop.

Mayor Talerico added closed session item 4 to the agenda.

Attorney Levy read the resolution into the record.

RESOLUTION 261-2022

AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT FOR THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF EATONTOWN

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., a municipality may exclude the public from a meeting of the Municipal Council where the Council intends to discuss certain matters for which privacy is needed in order to protect the public interest or certain enumerated private interests; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Eatontown to discuss in session not open to the public certain matters that are required by law to be confidential, more specifically: 1) Contract Negotiations – Monmouth Mall; 2) Personnel – Department Requests; 3) Contractual – 2023 Professional RFPs; 4) Potential Litigation

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the minutes from the deliberations conducted in closed session may be disclosed to the public upon the determination that the public interest will no longer be served by such confidentiality.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Eatontown do hereby authorize the above-referenced executive session to be held closed to the public, on Wednesday, December 21, 2022.

Motion to enter into Closed Session by C/Jones; seconded C/ Escalante

Voice Vote: AYE - C/Gonzalez, C/Regan, C/Escalante, C/Jones, C/Gindi, C/Lucas

Council entered Closed Session at 7:25pm

Council returned from Closed Session at 8:25pm

Borough Clerk Martin took roll:

Present - Mayor Talerico, C/Gonzalez, C/Regan, C/Escalante, C/Jones, C/Gindi, C/Lucas
Interim Administrator Lucia and Attorney Levy

Motion to re-enter into Open Session by C/Jones; seconded by C/Escalante

Voice Vote: AYE - C/Gonzalez, C/Regan, C/Escalante, C/Jones, C/Gindi, C/Lucas

5. ADJOURNMENT – 8:25pm

Motion to adjourn by C/Jones; seconded by C/Escalante

Voice Vote: AYE - C/Gonzalez, C/Regan, C/Escalante, C/Jones, C/Gindi, C/Lucas



By: Julie Martin, RMC, Borough Clerk

Exhibits are on file in the Borough Clerk's Office, according to the NJ State Records Retention Schedule established by NJSA 47:3-15 et seq and approved by the State Records Committee. Audio is available on the Borough website.
Approval 01/11/2023