

**Workshop Meeting
Borough of Eatontown Governing Body
Wednesday, April 26, 2023**

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 7:04pm, noting the Borough's compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act

1. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Anthony Talerico, Jr., Council President Virginia M. East,
Councilmembers Danielle M. Jones, David Gindi, Everett D. Lucas, Meir Araman

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney Bayer, Interim Administrator Lucia, Deputy Borough Clerk Muscillo

ABSENT: Councilmember Mark Regan, Jr.

The Flag Salute was led by Mayor Talerico. Mayor Talerico asked the Council and residents to remain standing for a moment of silence for the passing of Lieutenant and acting EMS Captain Henry Kleberg.

2. PROCLAMATION – Municipal Clerk Week (April 30 – May 6)

Mayor Talerico read the proclamation into the record. Mayor Talerico further showed his appreciation for the Borough Clerk and Deputy Borough Clerk.

The agenda was taken out of order.

5. BUDGET 2023 DISCUSSION (C/GINDI)

Councilmember Gindi thanked Interim Administrator Lucia, Dena Amodea, CFO, Bob Oliwa, the Auditor, and John Gillooly, the Tax Assessor for the 2023 Budget. Councilmember Gindi explained his understanding of how it is difficult to cut a budget. Councilmember Gindi explained that about 70% of school taxes go out of the Borough and would like the Council to look at the school funding part of the budget. Councilmember Gindi suggested looking at the Eatontown Library as an expenditure, and to look at the stipends of the Mayor and Council. Discussion continued between the Mayor and Council regarding the 2023-2024 Budget cuts.

Councilmember Jones arrived at the meeting at 7:13pm.

Councilmember Gindi then suggested adding another retail Cannabis License. Mayor Talerico and Councilmember Jones responded. Councilmember Araman showed his support for adding another retail Cannabis License. Further discussion continued between the Mayor, Council and Attorney Bayer regarding the Cannabis Licenses.

3. FOOD HEROES FOOD DRIVE (4/16-5/15) (C/JONES)

Councilmember Jones gave an update on the Food Heroes Food Drive, and reminded the Council and residents that the food drive is dedicated to Eileen Ferrugia and Joel Stark. Councilmember Jones then commented on the Food Co-Op and Pantry.

4. EATONTOWN MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT INTERNSHIP – FLYER & APPLICATION (UPDATE) (C/JONES)

Councilmember Jones presented an update on the application. Councilmember Jones then reminded residents of the applicable age for the internship and the number of spaces available. Councilmember Jones thanked the Council for their support. Councilmember Araman asked about the application. Councilmember Jones responded.

Mayor Talerico opened the meeting to the public on anything prior to Council going into Closed Session.

Gary Cummings, Richardson Avenue, President of the Eatontown Admirals Corp., Lieutenant of the Eatontown First Aid Squad, and Engineer on the Eatontown First Aid Squad, commented on the First Aid Squad membership. Mr. Cummings spoke about the dwindling numbers of volunteers after Covid-19. Mr. Cummings explained the First Aid Squad has recruited two new members and is looking into getting the ambulances licensed by the state. Mr. Cummings shared his desire to start billing the residents and is looking to have a paid squad. Mayor Talerico responded. Councilmember Gindi asked about the cost for the First Aid Squad to effectively service the Borough. Mr. Cummings and Mayor Talerico responded. Council President East asked about the possibility of inviting college students to join the squad. Mr. Cummings responded.

Councilmember Lucas asked if the First Aid Squad can have their emergency vehicles near their full-time jobs. Mr. Cummings responded.

Lorraine Gribbin, Conifer Crest Way, Ms. Khanna, Wyckoff Road, commented on the ban of Airbnb's and asked for possibility of ideas where they can continue to rent out their one-bedroom. Mayor Talerico responded. Ms. Gribbin explained they are booked through the summer. Mayor Talerico responded. Ms. Gribbin further explained that they are only renting out one room, and not a whole house. Ms. Khanna explained her impossibility of obtaining a Certificate of Occupancy for every tenant. Mayor Talerico responded. Ms. Khanna explained it's their income. Attorney Bayer and Mayor Talerico responded. Further discussion was had.

Kim Cummings, Richardson Avenue, asked about why a Certificate of Occupancy is needed for every tenant even though they live there. Attorney Bayer and Mayor Talerico responded.

There being no further comments, the meeting was closed to the public.

6. CLOSED SESSION

A. Resolution 92-2023

- 1) Contract Negotiation - Personnel
- 2) Contractual – Monmouth Mall
- 3) Litigation - Cannabis

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

Attorney Bayer read the resolution into the record.

RESOLUTION 92-2023

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 Negotiation - Personnel; 2) Contractual – Monmouth Mall; 3) Litigation - Cannabis

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 April 26, 2023.

Motion to enter into closed session by C/Araman; seconded C/Jones

Voice Vote: AYE - C/East, C/Jones, C/Gindi, C/Lucas, C/Araman
ABSENT - C/Regan

Council entered Closed Session at 8:38pm

Council returned from Closed Session at 9:34pm

Motion to enter into open session by C/East; seconded C/Jones

Voice Vote: AYE - C/East, C/Regan, C/Jones, C/Gindi, C/Lucas, C/Araman

Deputy Borough Clerk Muscillo took roll:

Present - Mayor Talerico, C/East, C/Jones, C/Gindi, C/Lucas, C/Araman
Interim Administrator Lucia and Attorney Bayer

Absent - C/Regan

7. ADJOURNMENT – 9:35pm

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

Voice Vote: AYE - C/East, C/Jones, C/Gindi, C/Lucas, C/Araman
ABSENT - C/Regan



By: Kathleen Muscillo, Deputy Borough Clerk

Exhibits are on file in the Borough Clerk's Office, according to the NJ State Records Retention Schedule established by NJS 47:3-15 *et seq* and approved by the State Records Committee. Audio is available on the Borough website.
Approval 5/10/2023