

BOROUGH OF PARK RIDGE
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
SPECIAL WORK SESSION

December 13, 2010
8:05 P.M.

Present: Council members; Viola, Maguire, Hopper, Misciagna, Council President Kane and Mayor Ruschman

Absent: Councilmember Maughan

Also Present: Helene Fall, Administrator
Kelley O'Donnell, Borough Clerk

Mayor Ruschman read the compliance statement earlier as required by the Open Public Meeting Act, P.L. 1975, Chapter 231.

Council discussed dates and time for the **2011 Reorganization Meeting**
2011 Reorganization will be held Saturday, January 1, 2011 at 1:00 p.m.
Sine Die will be Saturday, January 1, 2011 at 12:30 p.m.

Councilman Viola stated he will not be present

Copies of Council President Kane's email dated December 12, 2010, along with blank chart for liaison assignments and 2010 Roster were distributed to everyone present.

Mayor Ruschman advised those present that the role of liaison is not to be an advocate to the Boards and Committees, but to act as a conduit for communication between the Boards and Committees and the Governing Body.

- Council President Kane asked if everyone present had taken the opportunity to look at the liaison roles including the Bipartisan committees.
- Council President Kane further stated that the Council may want to look at combining boards/committees
 - Councilman Maguire stated that it would be helpful if an explanation was included with some of the boards and committees
- Council discussion on the "Policy Committee"
 - **All present agree to remove Policy Committee from list**
- Council discussion on "Vision Plan Committee"
 - Councilman Maguire said the Council could consider combining it with Planning Board
 - Mayor Ruschman stated that it was left as a committee as per the request of former Councilman Wells
 - **All present agree to remove Vision Plan Committee from list**
- Ms. Fall asked that the Council consider including TriBoro Public Safety with the "Police and Safety Committee"
- Ms. Fall also recommended that Operations be combined with Public Buildings and Grounds
- Councilman Maguire questioned why PRAA and Recreation and Cultural Committee were combined

- **Council agrees to separate PRAA and Recreation and Cultural Committee**
- Council discussion on the Mayors' Wellness Committee

Council chose liaison assignments as per the By Laws adopted in 2010:

Council member	1st Round	2nd Round	3rd Round	4th Round
KANE	Operations/Buildings & Grounds	D.A.R.E./Municipal Alliance	Technology	Shade Tree
VIOLA	Fire	Board of Health	Insurance	Historical Advisory
MAGUIRE	Open Space /Beautification	Cable TV/PKRG-TV	Business Community	
HOPPER	Green Team	Emergency Mgmt.	Recreation & Cultural Comm.	
MISCIAGNA	Police	PRAA	Mayors' Wellness	
KILMARTIN	Board of Education	Municipal Pool	Senior Citizen Advisory	

Council asks that the Clerk and Administrator check the Borough Code to see if there is a limit on the number of members on the Open Space Committee.

Bipartisan Committee Selections

- **Mayor Ruschman recommends Council elect Kilmartin to the Finance Committee**
 - Council President Kane asked if Council elect Kilmartin is unable to fulfill the duties of the Finance Committee will another Councilperson act as alternate
- Council discussion on choosing alternates from both parties for Finance Committee
 - **Councilman Maguire volunteers as alternate for Council elect Kilmartin on the Finance Committee**
- **Council President Kane will serve on Finance Committee, with an alternate to be determined**
- **Negotiations – Councilmembers Misciagna and Viola**
- **Shared Services – Councilmembers Misciagna and Hopper**

Professional Appointments

- Councilman Maguire recommends assigning Councilmembers to review submitted Qualification Statements
- Council discussion on the current 2010 Professionals
 - Council discussion on Bond Counsel and Borough Planner
 - Council discussion on holding over the 2010 Court professionals; Prosecutor and Defender for the portion of 2011 prior to the formation of the Joint Court

Joint Court

- Council discussion that the first round of appointments would be chosen from the current (2010) professionals
 - Ms. Fall stated that the underlying assumption was that the municipalities would hold over their court professionals into 2011
 - Our Court administrative staff will be offered jobs with the Joint Court

- Councilman Viola asked that the minutes reflect his advice to those present that if the Council persists on changing the Park Ridge Borough Prosecutor for 2011 it will negate the Joint Court Agreement. He further stated that the 2010 Court Professionals must remain in 2011.

Council President Kane asked the Council and Clerk to consider beginning the RFQ Process earlier next year so that Qualification Statements are received by mid-December for 2012

- Mayor Ruschman proposes that the Council move forward with the adoption of the Joint Court Resolution at the 12/14 meeting and polls those present
 - Councilman Viola agrees with adoption of resolution and holding over Prosecutor and Defender into 2011
 - Councilman Maguire agrees with adoption of resolution; but disagrees with holding over professionals
 - Council President Kane agrees with adoption of resolution and holding over Prosecutor and Defender into 2011
 - Councilman Hopper agrees
 - Councilman Misciagna abstains at this time

Councilman Viola stated that if Park Ridge delays any further or makes changes to the agreement Montvale and Woodcliff Lake will move forward without Park Ridge.

- Council President Kane asked if the Utility Board was going to make a recommendation to fill the vacancy
 - Councilman Maguire stated that they have three candidates
 - **Mayor Ruschman will speak to George Mehm**

Council discussion on meeting to discuss RFQ's

- **December 28th Closed Session will begin at 6:30 p.m.**
- **Clerk to advertise accordingly**
- Council elect Kilmartin will be asked if she wishes to call into meeting

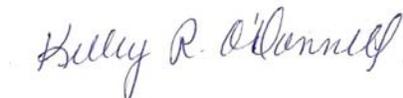
Council discussion on Joint Court Ordinance

- Will be introduced in 2011

Council discussion on latest version of Joint Court Agreement includes clarification on Judge and "capital expenses" was changed to "operating expenses".

Work Session adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelley R. O'Donnell, RMC
Borough Clerk