

**TOWNSHIP OF EDGEWATER PARK  
MINUTES-JUNE 12, 2012**

Mayor McElwee called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

**Open Public Meetings Act Statement**

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, CHAPTER 231,  
P.L. 1975 THE CLERK READ THE STATEMENT:

Notice of this meeting pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act has been given by the Township Committee in the following manner:

- A. By posting written notice on the Official Bulletin Board at the Municipal Building 400 Delanco Road Edgewater Park, New Jersey on January 9, 2012.
- B. By e-mailing written notice to the Burlington County Times and Courier Post on January 9, 2012.
- C. By filing written notice with the Clerk of the Township of Edgewater Park on January 9, 2012.

Present: Mrs. Aimee Belgard, Mr. Darrell Booker, Mr. Scott Kercher Mr. Joseph Pullion, Mayor John McElwee (Committee Members)

Also present: Mr. Robert Brian, Chief of Police, (Public and Closed), Mr. William Kearns, Solicitor (Public and Closed) Linda M. Dougherty, Clerk/Administrator (Public and Closed), Mrs. Margaret Peak, Chief Financial Officer and Mr. Rakesh Darji, Township Engineer (Public),

**PRESENTATION(S)/AUTHORIZATION(S)/CONSIDERATION(S):**

***Proclamations:***

Mayor McElwee presented a proclamation to Mrs. Beverly Haaf, Editor of the Beverly Bee for receiving the Burlington County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs Preservation Award in the category of Archival Records/Documentation

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee of the Township of Edgewater Park is proud to recognize Mrs. Beverly Haaf, Editor-in Chief of the Beverly Bee; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Haaf created the Beverly Bee and the first issue was produced in June 1999 and in February 2007 the Bee grew into the tabloid we appreciate today; and

**WHEREAS**, in January of 2004 the Township of Edgewater Park officially became a part of the Beverly Bee monthly publication; and;

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Haaf as Editor of the Beverly Bee publishes and preserves the history of our area by recounting local events of today and years past; and

**WHEREAS**, many local residents enjoy the various articles and take pride in what our communities have accomplished while chattering about whose picture appeared or at what local event the picture was taken; and

**WHEREAS** May is the National Historic Preservation month and each year, under the sponsorship of the Burlington County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs local County Historians par take in the selection of people, places and things which contribute to the preservation of the rich history of Burlington County; and

**WHEREAS** this year Mrs. Beverly Haaf was recognized and received the prestigious Burlington County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs Preservation Award in the category of Archival Records/Documentation; and

**WHEREAS**, we gather here to honor Mrs. Haaf for her outstanding accomplishments and commitment to the preservation of our local history.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor, and on behalf of the entire Edgewater Park Township Committee, I do hereby commend Mrs. Beverly Haaf for her dedicated service, offering this expression of recognition and appreciation for her contributions to the Township of Edgewater Park.

Moved by: Mayor McElwee      Second: Mr. Pullion

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Mrs. Belgard-yes, Mr. Booker -yes, Mr. Kercher-yes, Mr. Pullion-yes, Mayor McElwee -yes

**APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS: NONE**

## **REPORTS**

### ***Report from the Solicitor***

#### **EMS Service**

Mr. Kearns discussed the Request for Competitive Proposals (RFQ) for EMS Services; the decision to award the contract was delayed in part due to the request from Senator Diane Allen requesting Committee's consideration not to award the contract until determination by the County Prosecutor's Office. The time to award the contract under competitive quotes, 60 days, has expired. Mr. Kearns further discussed that while reviewing the submitted RFQ's that the amount of consideration would be under the bid threshold. Therefore the simple quote process would be appropriate. A new request for proposal notification was issued to all parties that should an interest in the service. The new quotes for EMS Service are due on Monday June 18<sup>th</sup>; he further recommend to consider award of the contract at the June 19, 2012 meeting.

#### **COAH**

Mr. Kearns reported the NJ Supreme Court denied Governor Christie's request to abolish COAH. The court issued an order denying the governor's request to stay an appellate court ruling from earlier this year. The lower-court ruling, which stands for now, found that it was illegal for the governor to unilaterally eliminate the affordable-housing agency.

### ***Report from the Engineer is appended hereto.***

#### **Transportation Enhancement Grant-Cooper Street Phase II**

Mr. Darji reviewed that NJDOT is accepting applications for the 2012 Transportation Enhancement Grant which is due on July 17. A grant application was submitted a few years back and the Township was not awarded the funding; recommended resubmission of the project. The project will enhance pedestrian safety and provide for increased usage along Cooper Street by pedestrians for public transportation and local business access. Improvements would include for sidewalk, lighting and aesthetic improvements from East Franklin Avenue to Route 130.

Upon discussion, consensus of Township Committee authorized Mr. Darji to apply for the grant; formalize the submission by resolution at the June 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Ridgway Basketball and Tennis Courts**

Mr. Darji submitted an estimate for the reconstruction of basketball and tennis courts at Ridgway. Upon discussion, Mr. Darji will look into a repair options for the courts.

*Report from Municipal Clerk/Administrator is appended hereto.*

**Boy State**

Township Committee authorized Mrs. Dougherty to speak at Boy State.

**Clearance for Fire Trucks**

Upon discussion, Township Committee authorized Mrs. Dougherty to send a letter to the residents on Warren Street and submit an article for the Beverly Bee recommending that driveways have a minimum clearance of fourteen feet in width and eighteen feet in height.

**Feral Cat Program**

Upon discussion Committee authorized Mrs. Dougherty to attend a meeting/seminar in June concerning the Feral Cat Program.

*Report from the Superintendent of Public Works is appended hereto.*

*Report from the Chief of Police is appended hereto.*

Mayor McElwee questioned the steps necessary to have a full time medicine drop box. Chief Brian stated a there would have to be a box on the outside of the building and a regular scheduled pick of the medicine. Security would also have to be addressed.

*There were no other reports.*

**REPORT ACCEPTANCE**

Moved by: Mr. Kercher Second: Mrs. Belgard

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Mrs. Belgard-yes, Mr. Booker -yes, Mr. Kercher-yes, Mr. Pullion–yes, Mayor McElwee –yes

**RAFFLE/FUNCTION APPLICATIONS: NONE**

**RESOLUTIONS - CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2012-85 through 2012-89 by consent agenda; if any items on the consent agenda require consideration by separate roll call vote, it shall be removed from the consent agenda to the regular agenda.

Moved by: Mr. Booker Second: Mr. Kercher

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Mrs. Belgard-yes, Mr. Booker -yes, Mr. Kercher-yes, Mr. Pullion–yes, Mayor McElwee –yes

**RESOLUTION NO. 2012-85**

*Authorizing Execution Internet Business Banking Agreement and A Wire Transfer Agreement Between Beneficial Bank And The Township Of Edgewater Park*

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Edgewater Park utilizes Internet Business banking and Wire transfer with Beneficial Bank; and

**WHEREAS**, Beneficial Bank is requires a Internet Business Banking Agreement and a Wire Transfer Agreement to utilize such services; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Edgewater Park that the Mayor and/or Clerk/Administrator is hereby authorized to execute said agreements on behalf of the Township of Edgewater Park.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2012-86**  
*Resolution Authorizing the 2012 Tax Sale*

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of the Tax Collector of the Township of Edgewater Park to conduct the 2012 tax sale of the prior year's delinquent taxes, assessments, municipal utility charges and other municipal charges; and

**WHEREAS**, R.S. 54:5-26 states that in lieu of any two publications, notice to the property owner and to any person or entity, entitle to notice of the foreclosure pursuant to section 20 of P.L. 1948.C96 cc, 54:5-104.48 may be given by regular or certified mail, the cost of which shall be added to the cost of sale in addition to those provided in R.S. 54:5-38 not to exceed \$25.00 (twenty-five dollars) for each notice for a particular property, Failure of property owner to receive notice of tax sale properly mailed by the Tax Collector shall not constitute grounds to void subsequent tax sale.

**NOW THERE FOR BE IT RESOLVED BY THE** Township Committee of the Township of Edgewater Park, assembled in public session on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June 2012 that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to conduct the annual tax sale of prior year delinquencies.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2012-87**  
*Resolution Authorizing Liquor License Renewals for July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013*

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Edgewater Park, County of Burlington and State of New Jersey that:

1. Application having been duly made, the following are hereby adjudged to be entitled to the alcoholic beverage license for the licensed premise and the effective date of July 1, 2012:

PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSES - FEE \$2,500.00

#0312-33-003-005	MMS Restaurant Inc.	4303 Route 130 South
#0312-33-005-005	Kove Catering Inc	4313 Route 130 – Park Plaza
#0312-33-001-006	Edgewater Park Beverage Associates, Inc (Inactive License)	46 Newman Springs Rd Red Bank, NJ 07701

#0312-33-001-006: Application having been duly made in year 2011 for a two year Special Ruling permit, and the State of New Jersey, Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control, has

granted a Special Ruling to permit consideration of the renewal application for Inactive License No. 0312-33-001-006 for the 2012-2013 license term pursuant to N.J.S.A. 33:1-12.39.

PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LICENSE - FEE \$2,500.00

#0312-44-002-004      Cramp's Liquor Store, Inc.                  4267A S. Route 130  
   t/a Cramp's Liquor Store

2. There are no violations against the above referenced licensees.
3. The Township Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to sign, issue and deliver license certificates in accordance with the foregoing on behalf of Township Committee.
4. That the Chief of Police has no objection to the renewal of the liquor licenses.
5. Edgewater Park B.P.O. Elks #2550, whose mailing address is 315 Green Street, Edgewater Park, New Jersey 08010 license #0312-31-004-002 is a conflict license, approval of renewal has been received from Director of Alcoholic Beverage Control; all applicable fee have been paid to the Township.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2012-88**

*In Support Of S-302 Sponsored By Senator Joe Pennacchio The "Transparency In Government Act" Which Would Codify And Expand On The State Public Finance Website*

**WHEREAS**, the clamor of eliminating waste, fraud and abuse is often stated, but rarely addressed and efforts to do so are nearly impossible; and

**WHEREAS**, transparency in government is necessary to identify State spending and where State taxpayer dollars are going; and

**WHEREAS**, the State public finance website which retains and displays data and information on the State's annual revenues, expenditures, and total bonded indebtedness is necessary as a user-friendly source of information to track State revenues and expenditures and to gauge its past and present levels of indebtedness; and

**WHEREAS**, the State website includes information such as contractual service purchases, salaries and wages, gifts and grants and bonded obligations and must be accessible to the public no later than 45 days following the close of each fiscal year; and

**WHEREAS**, a bi-partisan approach to improving transparency, identifying waste and eliminating abuse at each level of State government and the establishment of the Public Finance Transparency Committee would facilitate the organization, development and maintenance of such websites; and

**WHEREAS**, Senator Joe Pennacchio has introduced S-302 the "Transparency in Government Act", to codify and expand on such aforementioned State public finance website and to establish a Public Transparency Committee.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we voice our support of Senator Pennacchio's bill, S-302, the "Transparency in Government Act", and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a certified copy of this resolution shall be sent to Governor Chris Christie, Senate President Stephen Sweeney, Senate Minority Leader Tom Kean, Jr., and Senator Joe Pennacchio.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2012-89**

*Resolution Authorizing the Cancellation of Totally Disabled Veteran for Milford Theadford Located at Block 802 Lot 26 Tax Year 2012 and Thereafter and Refunding Taxes Paid*

**WHEREAS**, the owner of real property located at Block 802 Lot 26 has made application for a Totally Disabled Veteran to the Edgewater Park Tax Assessor which has been accepted in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30 A and 54:4-3.32, and

**WHEREAS**, the Edgewater Park Tax Assessor has approved the cancellation of taxes for 2012 on real property located at 307 Cherrix Ave., Edgewater Park, NJ 08010, Block 802 Lot 26; and

**WHEREAS**, the Edgewater Park Tax Assessor and Tax Collector have also approved the refunding of taxes already paid from April 1, 2012 the date of disability:

2012 property and county taxes for 90 days  
2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2012  
\$1,309.70

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Township Committee of the Township of Edgewater Park, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, hereby approves the real owner of real property, Milford Theadford, located at Block 802 Lot 26, for Total Disabled Veteran status, for the cancellation of taxes for 2012 and thereafter, for the cancelling taxes, for the cancellation of taxes for 2012 and thereafter, for the refunding of taxes paid in 2012 for \$1,309.70.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of said resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector, the Treasurer and the County Board of Taxation for their information and any appropriate action.

**ORDINANCES: NONE**

**REPORT OF OFFICIALS**

***Committeeman Booker:***

Mr. Booker reported he received an email from the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society requesting submission of park enhancement projects; Mr. Booker discussed that Committee should consider submitting improvements for Woodlake Park and the rain garden at the Magowan School once the projects are complete.

***Committeeman Pullion:***

Liaison to the Redevelopment Committee:

Mr. Pullion reported Bottom Dollar is proceeding on schedule.

***Committeewoman Belgard:***

Liaison to Senior Advisory

Mrs. Belgard reported Senior Advisory is on hiatus for the summer.

Liaison to Planning Board

Mrs. Belgard further reported the next Planning Board meeting is scheduled for June 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 PM.

***Committeeman Kercher***

Liaison to Environmental

Mr. Kercher reported the environmental advisory committee will meet on July 10 at 7:30 PM.

Liaison to the School Board

Mr. Kercher reminded everyone to be mindful of kids at play since school is out. The next school board meeting is on June 26<sup>th</sup> at Ridgway School.

***Mayor McElwee:***

Liaison to Neighborhood Watch

The next meeting for Neighborhood Watch is on June 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.

Liaison to Memorial Day Parade

Mr. McElwee thanked everyone who helped with the parade and attended. He acknowledged members of the Elk's Lodge, Neighborhood Watch, John Loftus for his military support and involvement and Paula Teixeira for her assistance with the parade; everyone's participation was a great team effort.

Liaison to EPAA

Mr. McElwee discussed that EPAA meeting is tonight at the 45<sup>th</sup> Street Pub at 8:30 PM

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

February 7, 2012 closed session, February 21, 2012 closed session, March 6, 2012 public

Moved by: Mayor McElwee Second: Mr. Booker

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Mrs. Belgard-yes, Mr. Booker -yes, Mr. Kercher-yes abstain March 6, 2012, Mr.

Pullion-yes, Mayor McElwee -yes

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

May 11, 2012 through June 6, 2012

Moved by: Mayor McElwee Second: Mr. Kercher

Discussion: Committee questioned various items listed on the bill list.

Questions were reviewed and discussed by the CFO.

Roll Call: Mrs. Belgard-yes, Mr. Booker -yes, Mr. Kercher-yes, Mr. Pullion-yes, Mayor McElwee -yes

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** The Mayor opened this portion of the meeting to public comment.

*Mr. John Loftus, 420 Jefferson Ave,* thanked and acknowledged the Mayor, members of the Elk's Lodge and for all those who volunteered their time and hard work for the Memorial Day Parade.

Mr. Loftus also stated he would like to see sidewalks on Cooper Street because people tend to walk in the street.

*Mr. Don Horner, 303 N Arthur Drive,* discussed that his home is located at a busy intersect at N Arthur, Monroe and Harrison cars go through the stop sign and he feels it is a safety hazard.

*Mr. Horner* further discussed a vacant property is not being maintained, there is a mosquito problem because there is a pool, possible health issues and the property may have been broken into. Upkeep on the property is once or twice a month.

*Mr. Horner* also stated there is sink hole in front of his property.

*Mr. Darji* reported that he will inspect the sink hole.

Township Committee thanked *Mr. Horner* for his input. The further suggested that he should consider participating in Neighborhood Watch program because a lot of his issues are addressed during Neighborhood Watch meetings.

*Mrs. Joan Addiego*, 128 Lafayette Road, questioned information about fencing and sheds? She further questioned if there is a leash law at our local parks?

*Mrs. Dougherty* advised *Mrs. Addiego* to come to the administrative offices for further information about permits. She further discussed there are leash laws that residents and visitors to parks must abide by.

*Mr. Darnell Moye*, 103 Cardinal Road, stated the tennis courts on Woodlane Road are too small. The ones at Ridgway are must better. He further questioned when his street and curb will be done.

*Mr. Darji* discussed that Committee submitted a grant DOT grant and was not awarded the contract; the application was re-submitted under discretionary aid for Cardinal and Jamestown Roads.

*Mr. Dennis Robins*, 9 Crystal Drive, met with PSE & G last Tuesday to discuss the tree trimming and the electrical wires are uncoated. *Mr. Robbins* further questioned the poison ivy located at Pathmark on the side of the building. *Mr. Robbins* also questioned the status of retention basin.

*Mr. Darji* explained he is waiting for minor submissions; the SPW Association can move forward with obtaining contractor quotes for the basin.

*Mr. Robbins* further acknowledged and recognized Sarah-Cannon Moye a member of the Environmental Advisory Committee on her safe return from a tour in Iraq.

*Mr. Devon Adams* 213 N Arthur Drive, wanted to know if anything can be done about the moles all over town. He further questioned if is it possible to have a bike trail.

Township Committee discussed that the Township has applied for bike trail grants; it is difficult to have designated bike trails within the community do to the width of the roads. They further discussed that Woodlake Park is in the process of an enhancement project; the trails will be updated. In the case of moles it was recommended that he look into applying a deterrent.

*Mr. Adams* also asked if the stop sign can be replaced on N. Arthur Drive.

*Mr. Painter* stated he was in the process changing all the stop signs in the township.

*Mr. Noel Rainey*, 7 Spring Lane questioned the drive by shooting on Woodlane Road and the shooting at the Gatehouse Apartments. *Mr. Rainey* further asked if there will be a police bike patrol.

*Mrs. Dougherty* discussed that due to budgetary constraints there was lay off in all departments including the police department; currently there are only two officers per shift which inhibits bike patrols due to officer safety and response times.



Mr. Rainey further questioned whether Silver Park West could place road signs throughout the development. Many people speed through the development. Township Committee discussed that they are public roads which require any requests be made through Township Committee. The further recommended that SPW residents may want to consider joining the Neighborhood Watch Program; Kevin Johnson, President of Neighborhood Watch organizes neighborhood patrols.

**CLOSE:** Hearing no one else wishing to speak the Mayor closed this portion of the meeting to public comment.

**THERE WAS NO OTHER BUSINESS**

***Resolution No. 2012-90***

***Closed Session***

***Where it is necessary to discuss affordable housing obligations. Where it is necessary to discuss items falling under litigation and or attorney client privilege including personnel. Minutes will be kept and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentially, then the matter will be made public.***

**WHEREAS,** it is necessary to discuss personnel possible litigation involving the Township of Edgewater Park which is a proper subject of exemption under the Open Public Meetings Act; and

**WHEREAS,** questions dealing with personnel matters is a proper subject of exemption under the Open Public Meetings Act; and

**WHEREAS,** questions dealing with the purchase lease or acquisition of real property with public funds is a proper subject of exemption under the Open Public Meetings Act; and

**WHEREAS,** questions dealing with any collective bargaining agreement or the terms or conditions of that agreement is a proper subject of exemption under the Open Public Meetings Act; and

**WHEREAS,** the disclosure of any material which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy is a proper subject of exemption under the Open Public Meetings Act; and

**WHEREAS,** the release of any information would impair a right to receive funds from the Government of the United States; is a proper subject of exemption under the Open Public Meetings Act; and

**WHEREAS,** any deliberations of a public body occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party as a result of an act or omission for which the responding party bears responsibility is a proper subject of exemption under the Open Public Meetings Act;

**WHEREAS,** the Township Committee desires to close this portion of the meeting to consider the aforementioned titled matters.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the portion of the meeting dealing with the aforementioned matters shall be closed to the public and the results of the discussions held under the closed sessions shall be made available to the public at such early a time as possible.

Moved by: Mr. Booker                      Second: Mr. Kercher                      Time: 9:25PM  
Roll Call: Mrs. Belgard-yes, Mr. Booker -yes, Mr. Kercher-yes, Mr. Pullion-yes, Mayor McElwee -yes

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS:**

Appointment of Ryan Dubiel as a Special Class II Officer at a pay of \$15.00 an hour effective until December 31, 2012 or reorganization and upon the completion of a background checks, drug alcohol and physical.

Moved by: Mr. Booker                      Second: Mrs. Belgard  
Discussion: None  
Roll Call: Mrs. Belgard-yes, Mr. Booker -yes, Mr. Kercher-yes, Mr. Pullion-yes, Mayor McElwee -yes

**ADJOURN**

Moved by: Mrs. Belgard                      Second: Mr. Booker                      Time 10:35 PM  
Roll Call: Mrs. Belgard-yes, Mr. Booker -yes, Mr. Kercher-yes, Mr. Pullion-yes, Mayor McElwee -yes

*John McElwee*

John McElwee, Mayor

*Linda M. Dougherty*

Linda M. Dougherty, RMC/Administrator