

Englewood, N.J., June 5, 2008

A Formal Meeting of the City Council of the City of Englewood, Bergen County, New Jersey, was held this evening in the Municipal Court in the Public Safety Building commencing at 7:00 PM.

Present: Council President Ken Rosenzweig; Council members Charlotte Bennett Schoen, Scott Reddin, and Gordon Johnson.

Absent: Mayor Michael Wildes; Council member Jack Drakeford.

Also present Robert Casey, City Manager/Acting City Clerk; William Bailey, City Solicitor.

President Rosenzweig called the meeting to order.

The City Clerk stated that adequate notice of this meeting was given by the posting, filing, and distribution of the notice as required by the Open Public Meetings Act.

President Rosenzweig asked those present to stand while the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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President Rosenzweig explained the resolutions on the agenda and invited questions/comments on the items from the public.

Ms. Schoen moved that the following resolution be adopted. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all Council members present voted "Yes". President Rosenzweig declared the motion carried and the resolution duly adopted.

WHEREAS, Ordinance 08-11 entitled: "An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 05-08 establishing Fees for Licenses, Permits and other Applications within the City of Englewood" was adopted by the City Council on May 20, 2008; and

WHEREAS, following adoption, the Mayor of the City of Englewood vetoed said ordinance and delivered a veto statement dated May 27, 2008, delivered to the City Clerk's Office on May 27, 2008 citing the cost impact of the increased recreation and rear yard collection fees on City residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Englewood, Bergen County, New Jersey, that the City Council hereby makes the following findings:

1. Ordinance 08-11 provides new fees for expanded recreations program for the youth of the City increasing the number of weeks of structured recreation activity as well as the number of planned trips and special activities. The budgetary decision of the City Council was to generate more income from recreation fees rather than decreasing recreation opportunities for local youth. A survey of comparable recreation activities in neighboring communities indicates that at the base level of \$20 per week for the summer camp program only one of the six survey communities had a lower fee (municipalities in survey: Englewood, Tenafly, Bogota, Hackensack, Bergenfield, Leonia and Teaneck) whereas at the top level of \$100 per week salary the Englewood program is less than comparable full scale programs in Bogota, Teaneck and Hackensack, and may be less than the other municipalities surveys depending upon the number of trips taken in these other municipalities;

2. Ordinance 08-11 provides for a quarterly fee for the voluntary continuation of rear yard refuse collection in the City. In order to reduce and control expenditures in the Sanitation and Recycling budgets, the 2008 budget anticipates the termination of the rear yard collection service with the employees assigned to this service being reassigned to other DPW activities. This reassignment resulted in the reduction in contract costs in the City's park maintenance and tree maintenance budgets. The existing rear yard collection service was not utilized in all parts of the city and only impacted the collection of household and kitchen garbage (excluding the collections of recyclables, trash and vegetative wastes).

3. These fee changes are a part of the 2008 Budget review, cost reduction, and revenue enhancement program required if the city is to provide tax relief to all of its tax payers. In adopting the 2008 Budget the City Council opted for these revisions rather than the alternates of layoffs or program terminations.

4. The Mayor was invited to participate in the detailed budget meetings wherein these and other changes were discussed in detail but choose to not participate and consequently is not aware of the actions taken by the Council to affect cost reductions / revenue enhancements in the budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by not less than a two-third vote, that the City Council hereby overrides the veto by the Mayor of Ordinance 08-11 and that Ordinance 08-11 is hereby duly adopted.

Ms. Schoen moved that the following resolution be adopted. Mr. Reddin seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all Council members present voted "Yes". President Rosenzweig declared the motion carried and the resolution duly adopted.

WHEREAS, Ordinance 08-15 entitled: "An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 07-22 fixing the annual salaries to be paid to officers and employees in the Unclassified Services of the City of Englewood as of January 1, 2008" was adopted by the City Council on May 20, 2008; and

WHEREAS, following adoption, the Mayor of the City of Englewood vetoed said ordinance and delivered a veto statement dated May 27, 2008, delivered to the City Clerk's Office on May 27, 2008 citing the cost impact of the salary and benefits for the incoming city manager and the negative impact on the City tax payer for this personnel benefit;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Englewood, Bergen County, New Jersey, that the City Council hereby makes the following findings:

1. Ordinance 08-15 provides salary adjustments for all unclassified City employees at a level that is less than the increases provided in the negotiated labor contracts of the City and / or reflects commitments made by the Council to retain the services of certain qualified employees / officials of the City who have the potential to seek other employment or to retire from city service;

2. The salary and benefits for the incoming City Manager were negotiated by the City Council based upon the experience and capabilities of the incoming manager and the desire of the Council that this manager live in and be active in the City. The salary and relocation costs reflect this negotiation process. The salary is less than the comparable salaries and retirement benefits provided to top school and police officials in the City. The incoming City Manager will not be a part of the existing Public Employee Retirement System of the State of New Jersey and consequently the retirement payments negotiated between the City and the incoming manager are less than the retirement costs for existing employees in the city and will have no long term impact on the city's financial position since there are no future liabilities to be funded.

3. The Mayor was invited to participate in the city manager recruitment process but choose to not participate and consequently is not aware of the actions taken by the Council to secure a qualified candidate and the salary requirements for comparable qualified candidates; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by not less than a two-third vote, that the City Council hereby overrides the veto by the Mayor of Ordinance 08-15 and that Ordinance 08-15 is hereby duly adopted.

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President Rosenzweig opened the meeting to the public for comments or questions.

Inasmuch as there was no further business to come before the City Council, the Council President adjourned the meeting.

City Clerk