

City of Englewood
Minutes of the Mayor and City Council Joint Meeting
with the Englewood Board of Education
October 11, 2011

A Regular Formal Meeting of the Mayor and Council and the Englewood Board of Education of the City of Englewood, Bergen County, New Jersey, was held in the Cafeteria in Dr. John Grieco Elementary School, 50 Durie Avenue, Englewood, NJ 07631 commencing at 7:30 P.M.

Roll Call: Present: Council member Ken Rosenzweig
Council member Michael Cohen
Council member Scott Reddin
Council member Jack Drakeford
Council member Lynne Algrant
Mayor / Council President Frank Huttle III
City Manager Timothy Dacey
City Solicitor William Bailey
City Clerk Lauren Vande Vaarst

Council President Huttle 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 Annual Notice of Meetings as required by the Open Public Meetings Act.

Presentation:

- Christopher Rim, founder of "It Ends Now", anti-bullying student group located at the Academies@Englewood.
- Mr. Rim started the program as a Sophomore and is now a Junior,
- "It Ends Now" supports ant-bullying programs and student to student mentoring to combat it. The group also awards a \$2,500 scholarship for the winner of an anti-bullying message contest.
- Assemblywoman Valerie Huttle, District 37 presented a Resolution from the State of New Jersey, and spoke about the ant-bullying law and last week's "Week of Respect".
- The Mayor and City Council presented a Proclamation to Mr. Rim and congratulated him for being proactive against bullying in school.

Moment of Silence:

- Mayor Huttle asked for a Moment of Silence in honor of Englewood resident Sylvia Robinson, Music Entrepreneur.

Remarks:

- Mayor/Council President Frank Huttle III
 - Feels that this Joint Meeting is important not just because the State and the Governor require it as part of their "Best Practices Guidelines", but it promotes a common sense approach to government.
 - Englewood's two governing body are part of one community and need to work together and come together. Both governing bodies have the same mission- to serve the residents of Englewood.
- Board of Education Vice President Enrique Diaz
 - Spoke on behalf of the Board of Education President George Garrison III, and commended Board Member Henry Pruitt for his work as the liaison between the Board of Education and City of Englewood.
- Superintendent of Schools, Donald K. Carlisle
 - Spoke about the new outlook and positive changes that are occurring in both the Middle School and High School this school year.

Old Business:

- **Liberty School Lease Agreement :**
 - Mayor Huttle gave an overview of the history and agreement.
 - Thanked Councilman Rosenzweig for starting the process with the Liberty School.
 - Spoke about the defeated 2010 School Budget.
 - After the lease is finalized, then the Board of Education will receive the \$5.8 million for the building with the remaining \$1 million dollars to be held in abeyance until the lease agreement is finalized.
 - The attorneys for the City and the Board of Education need to finish the agreement so it can be signed.
 - The Board of Education will continue to occupy the Liberty School.
 - Board of Education member Henry Pruitt, Board Liaison to the City, commented that the lease agreement is close to be finalized and he has enjoyed working with the City on this item.

Discussion:

- **Potential Shared Services:**
 - Tim Dacey, City Manager spoke about Tryon (owned by the BOE) and Mackay (owned by the City) Pools, and that next summer the City plans on using the YMCA to run the pools in an effort to reduce costs.
 - Expand community use of school facilities to broaden afterschool activities and programs for the children of Englewood.
 - Utilize BOE school buses for the City's Recreation programs.
 - The Boys and Girls Club is in discussion with the City about offering an Afterschool Program beginning in Fall 2012.
 - Expand the relationship between the City, BOE and the BergenPAC to offer Programs in the Arts.
 - Introduce a Park Ranger Program to provide upgraded Park Supervision Program.
 - The BOE is interested in utilizing the John T. Wright Ice Arena for Afterschool programs.
 - Mayor Huttle stated that an emphasis needs to be placed on providing After 3 programs for the children of Englewood and that both the City and the BOE need to hunker down and plan programs that will work to fill this need and utilize existing facilities to their best advantage.
 - Comments followed from the Mayor, City Council, Superintendent and BOE members as to different programs, services (snow plowing), and facilities/assets that can be shared.

Public Session:

- Eugene Skurnick 296 Marlboro Road:
 - Spoke about the long history of the BOE and the City working together and is glad that it is being resurrected.
- David Popkin 303 Tenafly Road:
 - Also happy about the togetherness of the City and the BOE, but wants to see action.
 - Spoke about the \$6.8 million of taxpayer money that was used to purchase the Lincoln and Liberty Schools.
- David Matthews 215 W. Hudson Avenue:
 - Concerned with the BOE being so self congratulatory this evening.
 - Wants the BOE to visit the Bergen Academies so that the Academies@Englewood can model itself on them.
 - Spoke about the School Budget.
- David Rodriguez 102 Davison Place:
 - Executive Director of the BergenPAC and wants to work more closely with the schools to collaborate on Arts programming.
- Chavez Ravine 288 Marlboro Road:
 - Point person for school uniforms, parents are in favor of it.
 - Would like to present the BOE with a proposal for an Arts Enrichment Program.
 - Asked why there is not a Dizzy Gillespie Cultural Pride Parade in town?
 - The City needs to celebrate National Arts Day and Afro-Latin- Caribbean Day.

- Curtis Caviness 41 E. Forest Avenue:
 - Former BOE member, and back then the BOE had a \$9 million surplus and test scores were on the rise.
 - Spoke about evaluating programs, test scores and athletic programs in the schools.
 - Does not want the City to give the BOE the \$6.8 million dollars from the purchase of Liberty and Lincoln schools until a forensic audit is conducted and we know where all the money has gone.
- Felicia :
 - Spoke about the food served in the school system.
 - The BOE should make an effort to provide tutoring to students and also hire from within the community.
 - Telling HS students that they can be on a 5-year plan for graduation is setting them up for failure.
- Liliana Saunet 260 Engle Street:
 - Concerned with the schools, and especially concerned with the Principal situation at the Middle School.
 - Her son is an Honor Roll student at the Middle School.
- Joe Sorbanelli 215 St. Nichols Avenue:
 - Life-long resident of Englewood, City employee and coaches in the travel baseball program.
 - Came to the meeting tonight to ask the BOE to reconsider allowing the travel baseball program to use a gymnasium during the winter.
- Miguel Castro 137 St. Nichols Avenue:
 - Coaches in the travel baseball program.
 - Asked the BOE why the travel baseball program was denied the use of a gymnasium.
- Lucy Walker 363 Washington Place:
 - Concerned with the amount of money the BOE spends on consultants.
 - Dwight Morrow HS has stalled and is very upset with their stressing a 5-year plan to students, and wants results from the school.
- Magalye Matos 307 Rosemount Place:
 - Spoke about the importance and need of Afterschool Programs.
 - October 20, 2011 will be "Lights on for Afterschool Programs" at the Bergen Family Center from 6:00PM to 8:00PM.
- Gail Hughes Bish 228 W. Hudson Avenue:
 - Asked how the BOE develops its bus routes and can they be relocated to safer corners and less traveled roads.
- Suzanne Slagader 149 Cambridge Avenue:
 - Spoke about problems at Dwight Morrow HS with the football coach.
- Brian Kudowitz 201 Allison Court:
 - The son of Paul Kudowitz who was killed in a hit and run on Broad Avenue in December 2010.
 - Concerned with pedestrian safety.
 - Would like to see the speed bumps put back on Broad Avenue.
- Jennifer Herredia Tudor Hall:
 - Spoke about the dual language (Spanish/English) program and what a great program it is.
- Rosa Ruddock 180 Tenafly Road:
 - Pleased with the public schools, especially the Middle School and High School, but is concerned about the lack of a Principal at the Middle School.
- Manny Suerro 379 Tenafly Road:
 - Travel baseball coach and wants to provide the children with a well rounded year-round program.

- Teshawn Wamen Brookway Avenue:
 - Dwight Morrow HS student and Captain of the Football team and attends the Academies@Englewood. Spoke about the need for residents to do their research and be better informed about what is going on in the schools.
- Kayla Waller Belmont Street:
 - Dwight Morrow HS student and attends the Academies@Englewood. Spoke about the good things that are happening in the school and that people should come and take a look.
- Leon De Weerd 115 W. Hudson Avenue:
 - There should be a priority on programs that bring children in the community together from the public, private and parochial schools.
 - The dual language and mandarin programs encourage students to be both bilingual and bicultural.
- Ricardo Vega 377 N. Woodland Street:
 - Spoke about the safety issue that exists on N/S Woodland Streets because they have no sidewalks or street lighting and they are very busy roads.
 - Concerned about his daughter's safety when walking home from school because they do not meet the criteria for busing.
- Anthony Cureton 383 Liberty Road:
 - Spoke about the impact of community members being involved with the children in the community.
- Tikva Ofeck 10 Hillside Avenue:
 - Asked about Pep Rally monies.
- Elsie Herbert 309 Washington Place:
 - Feels that it is important to have community members as teachers and principals.
 - Spoke in support of hiring Mr. Thomas as Principal for the Middle School.

RESOLUTION # 210-10-11-11

PERMIT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ENGLEWOOD TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Englewood, pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, that the Council meet in closed session to discuss the following subject matter:

Litigation and Contract Negotiations

Which subject matter is permitted to be discussed in closed session pursuant to the following designated sub-section(s) of Section 7 of the Open Public Meetings Act:

- () Sub-section 1 dealing with material rendered confidential by express provision of Federal or State law.
- () Sub-section 2 covering a matter in which release of information would impair a right to receive federal funds.
- () Sub-section 3 involving disclosure of material which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy, including material related to an individual's personal and family circumstances, without the express written consent of the individual involved.
- () Sub-section 4 pertaining to collective bargaining agreements and the terms, conditions, and negotiations thereof.
- () Sub-section 5 dealing with the acquisition of real property, the settling of bank rates, or the investment of public funds where discussion thereof would adversely affect the public interest.
- () Sub-section 6 dealing with tactics and techniques used in protecting the safety and property of the public where disclosure could impair such protection or investigation of violation of the law.
- (X) Sub-section 7 dealing with pending or anticipated litigation, contract negotiations, or matters falling within the attorney-client privilege.
- (X) Sub-section 8 dealing concerning personnel matters dealing with employment, appointment, termination, or terms and conditions of employment of any person or persons, or the evaluation, promotion or disciplining of employees unless all employees involved consent to disclosure thereof.

() Sub-section 9 involving deliberations after public hearing on a matter which may result in the imposition of a civil penalty or the suspension or loss of a license.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, as precisely as can be determined at this time, the discussion conducted in the said closed session can be disclosed to the public upon taking final action thereon, provided disclosure shall not violate the attorney-client privilege or constitute an undue invasion of privacy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, although it is not envisioned that the Council will return to open session after this meeting, the Council reserves the right to do so upon conclusion of the closed session.

<i>COUNCIL</i>	<i>MOTION</i>	<i>AYES</i>	<i>NAYS</i>	<i>ABSTAIN</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>
<i>Algrant</i>		X			
<i>Rosenzweig</i>	X	X			
<i>Reddin</i>		X			
<i>Cohen</i>		X			
<i>Drakeford</i>		X			

ADJOURN: 10:45PM

Motion: Algrant
All in Favor

Lauren Vande Vaarst, RMC
City Clerk