

Borough of Palisades Park
275 Broad Avenue
County of Bergen
State of New Jersey

Special Meeting
of the Mayor & Council
May 15, 2024

Borough of Palisades Park
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Mayor Chong Paul Kim opened the Special Meeting at 7:00 P.M.

STATEMENT:

This is a Special Meeting of the Mayor and Council, and notice was given as follows:

1. Notice was filed May 7, 2024 with the Record & Newark Star-Ledger, both official newspapers of the Borough.
2. Notice was posted on the Bulletin Board at the Borough Hall and the Borough website at <https://mypalisadespark.com/>
3. Copy is preserved in the Clerk's Office.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE:

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Kim	Present
Councilwoman Jang	Present
Councilman Kim	Absent
Councilwoman Lee	Present
Councilman Min	Present
Councilman Vietri	Absent
Councilwoman Won-Yoon	Present
Borough Attorney Scott Krumholtz	Present
Borough Administrator Ray Herr	Present

Mayor Chong Paul Kim made a statement for the record that Borough Attorney Scott Krumholtz is in, instead of Allan Roth.

OFF CONSENT AGENDA:

RESOLUTION 2024-133 Authorization to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for the 2024 Local Recreation Improvement Grant Program. - Revised.

Mayor Kim asked for a motion to pass resolution 133. Councilwoman Jang made a motion, and Councilman Min seconded. The motion carried on a roll call vote and was recorded as followed:

Councilwoman Jang	Yes
Councilwoman Lee	Yes
Councilman Min	Yes
Councilwoman Won-Yoon	Yes

OFF CONSENT AGENDA:

RESOLUTION 2024-134 Awarding Contract for Egress for Borough Hall -Revised.

Councilwoman Stephanie Jang questioned as to why we are changing the company. Borough Administrator Raymond Herr explained that the reason behind changing the company was because the previous contractors' plans were insufficient -meaning they were not including a scope of the work that still needed to be done. Mayor Kim interjected and explained specifically the plumbing is what the current company was not covering. Councilwoman Jang asked if the new contractors are going to be well equipped. Mayor Kim agreed that they are going to be well equipped and then went into detail on the process. Mayor Kim explained that if the lowest bid winner is disqualified for any reason, they then move onto the next lowest bidder, which is verified.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon questioned how Mayor Kim can be sure that this time the scope of work will include all the requirements. Mayor Kim explained he felt the last procedures were insufficient and how it ultimately created a concern when the governing body was presented with the resolutions. He went into depth on how the bid packet was looked over multiple times to ensure that all standards were met and the previous situation does not happen again.

Mayor Kim asked for a motion to pass resolution 134. Councilwoman Jang made a motion, and Councilman Min seconded. The motion carried on a roll call vote and was recorded as followed:

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Councilwoman Jang	Yes
Councilwoman Lee	Yes
Councilman Min	Yes
Councilwoman Won-Yoon	Yes

OFF CONSENT AGENDA:

RESOLUTION 2024-135 Authorization of HABC Grant for Palisades Park Senior Apartment Roof

Mayor Kim asked for a motion to pass resolution 135. Councilwoman Jang made a motion, and Councilman Min seconded. The motion carried on a roll call vote and was recorded as followed:

Councilwoman Jang	Yes
Councilwoman Lee	Yes
Councilman Min	Yes
Councilwoman Won-Yoon	Yes

OFF CONSENT AGENDA:

RESOLUTION 2024-136 Authorization of Deputy Clerk to Advertise for Position of Deputy Clerk's Assistant

Mayor Kim asked for a motion to pass resolution 136. Councilwoman Jang made a motion, and Councilman Min seconded. The motion carried on a roll call vote and was recorded as followed:

Councilwoman Jang	Yes
Councilwoman Lee	Yes
Councilman Min	Yes
Councilwoman Won-Yoon	Yes

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION;

Mayor Kim asked for a motion to close the agenda and open to the public. Councilman Min made a motion and Councilwoman Jang seconded and everyone favored in vote. None opposed. Mayor Kim invited the public to speak for the next three minutes.

Susan Brauer asked about a dog park and if this new grant would be a matched grant. Mayor Kim stated the grant is for \$100,000 and he was not exactly sure if it was a matching grant but most likely we would have to put in 20%. Mayor Kim stated he would ask the person who was working on that and get an answer back to her at a later time. Susan Brauer then asked what happens if we spend over the \$100,000 and if tax payers would be responsible for paying that. Mayor Kim stated that we will have a plan beforehand so there are not expenditures going over whatever is matched in the grant. Mayor Kim brought up an example of a past streetscape that took place and the governing body decided that even though the grant was a match, the bid was too expensive so they decided to cancel it. Susan Brauer asked for clarity again, if whatever is matched still is too expensive that it will be cancelled and it would not cost taxpayers anything. Mayor Kim stated that is a decision between the governing body but he would keep the public notified.

Reta Martini had a question regarding the dog park. Reta Martini stated that the county park already had a dog park so why do we need another one in Palisades Park? Reta Martini argued that every surrounding town has a spray park for the kids and we do not. Reta Martini asked if the space and money could be used on something like that rather than a dog park.

Neris Papoters asked about why we are focusing on a dog park when we could be focusing on an indoor recreation center for the kids. Mayor Kim stated that this is a long-term project that he does agree is important. Neris Papoters liked the idea of the dog park but believes we do need more places for the kids to be able to go and play. Neris Papoters asked if the taxpayers are responsible for paying in which Mayor Kim reminded her that this is a grant that was given. Neris Papoters also asked about the deputy clerk assistant position, as well as if Sophia Jang will be moving to the clerk position. Mayor Kim clarified the deputy clerk assistant position is a full-time position to help assist Deputy Borough Clerk Sophia Jang.

Marsha Schor asked about the egress for Borough Hall and where it is going to go. Mayor Kim explained that he had that information handy and that he would give to her by the work session.

Mayor Kim asked for a motion to close the public session, in which was motioned by Councilwoman Jang, Councilwoman Won-Yoon seconded, and all in favored. None opposed. Mayor Kim thanked everyone for coming to the session and reiterated that 300 Highland Avenue, which is the senior center is awaiting approval to get the roof fixed. Mayor Kim was aware of the leaky roof, but again he does need approval.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilman Min added onto the comments regarding the grant. Councilman Min explained the grant money was very specific so why blow the chance and actually see how the borough could use the money on bettering Palisades Park. Mayor Kim added on that prior administration were not taking advantage of the grant money.

Councilwoman Jang announced July 7th there will be a party at the pool for the 125th birthday of Palisades Park. The council are currently awaiting donations, and working together in trying to get an ice cream truck although there is an ordinance that does not allow food trucks. Councilwoman Jang asked if it was possible to try and get a resolution specifically designed for that one day in order to allow the ice cream truck. Mayor Kim asked for clarity in how many trucks are going to be at the event, as well as the agenda for the day. Councilwoman Jang stated only one truck was going to be present, and there would be fun activities all evening such as concert music, and games. This event will be free for everyone in town and residents can swim between festivities. Mayor Kim asked the council if it was possible to do an exception for the no food trucks ordinance. Deputy Clerk Sophia Jang answered that it was possible and that it was done in the previous years, although a resolution must be passed first.

Councilwoman Won-Yoon stated that the library would have a new section ready by the end of the month for the middle school students, due to some work being done including changing out the carpets.

Mayor Kim asked if there was anything left to report- there was not. Mayor Kim followed this with a request to adjourn the meeting.

Susan Brauer interjected that she was previously told before, that the public session was just open to the public regarding the agenda. Susan Brauer asked if the public would get the chance to speak about anything else. Mayor Kim explained that the only questions that could be asked in special meetings need to be regarding the agenda. Susan Brauer responds that she had done it in the past and asked different questions before. Borough Attorney Scott Krumholtz explained that the questions are limited to the agenda and Susan may have been referring to a workshop meeting where the questions were not as limited.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Kim asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Councilwoman Jang, seconded by Councilman Min, all in favored. None opposed.

Attest:



Sophia H. Jang, RMC
Deputy Borough Clerk