

Executive Session

January 25, 2010

An Executive Session meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Newton was held on the above date at 8:27 p.m. Present were Mrs. Unhoch, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Le Frois, Mr. Ricciardo, Mayor Elvidge and Town Manager, Mr. Thomas Russo, Jr.

Mr. Russo read the following Resolution which authorized the Town Council to enter into Executive Session.

RESOLUTION #14-2010

“A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR A MEETING NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12”

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Newton is subject to certain requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, provides that an Executive Session, not open to the public, may be held for certain specific purposes when authorized by Resolution; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Town Council of the Town of Newton to discuss in a session not open to the public certain matters relating to the item or items authorized by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b and designated below:

(1) Personnel

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton, assembled in public session on January 25, 2010, that an Executive Session closed to the public shall be held on January 25, 2010, at 8:27 PM in the Town of Newton Municipal Building, 39 Trinity Street, Newton, NJ, for the discussion of matters relating to the specific item designated above.

It is anticipated that the deliberations conducted in closed session may be disclosed to the public upon the determination of the Town Council that the public interest will no longer be served by such confidentiality.

The aforementioned **RESOLUTION** was offered by Mrs. Le Frois, seconded by Mr. Ricciardo and unanimously carried, and the Town Council entered into Executive Session at 8:27 p.m.

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Mr. Russo recused himself prior to the discussion of Town Manager's contract modifications.

Mr. Russo submitted a letter to the Town Council to request consideration of eight items in his contract as Town Manager.

The Town Council held a lengthy discussion outlining in detail each item requested as a modification to Mr. Russo's contract.

Mr. Russo returned to the meeting to discuss the finding of the Town Council.

Mayor Elvidge reviewed each item outlined in the memorandum and advised that

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the following items would be modified in his contract.

- 1) Appointment for a seven (7) year term.
- 2) Vehicle Allowance rolled into annual salary, with elimination of said allowance.
- 3) Stipulation that the Town Manager's salary shall never be less than \$1 more than any other Town employee (effective 1/1/2011).
- 4) Twenty (20) vacation days instead of the previous fifteen (15) days allotted.
- 5) More detail on the types of local and county organization under Section 7.
- 6) Mileage reimbursement at the same rate as other administrative employees.

In addition, Council denied the request to incorporate 45-day termination clause instead of the previous 60-day provision. Mayor Elvidge noted that the request for a 25% payment on cost differential between individual and dependent medical coverage, instead of the 50% provision, was discussed in length and is not agreed to at this time. Council would like to have a general discussion in the future on the medical coverage since it does impact additional employees.

Councilman Ricciardo informed the Council of a few thoughts he had regarding personnel and will talk about it at the budget hearing on Saturday, January 30, 2010.

There being no further business to be conducted in Executive Session, upon motion of Mrs. Le Frois, seconded by Mr. Ricciardo and unanimously carried, Council left Executive Session at 9:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine A. Read, RMC
Municipal Clerk