

February 4, 2015
Special Meeting

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Special Meeting will be held by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of West New York, New Jersey, on Wednesday, January 21, 2015 at 12:00 p.m. (No Work Session) in the Court Chambers, Municipal Building, 428 – 60th Street, West New York, New Jersey, for the purpose of considering the following business:

1. Resolution – Re: To accept resignation of Commissioner Ruben Vargas
2. Resolution – Re: appointment to fill the unexpired term of Commissioner Ruben Vargas
3. Resolution – Re: Designation of appointed Commissioner as Director of the Dept. of Public Affairs
4. Public Portion
5. Adjournment

AND ANY OTHER MATTERS THAT MAY COME UP BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.

"ACTION MAY OR MAY NOT BE TAKEN ON THE FOREGOING"

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of due notice of the above special meeting and other or further notice thereof is hereby waived as unnecessary.

Commissioner FiorD'Aliza Frias
Commissioner Gabriel Rodriguez
Commissioner Count J. Wiley
Mayor Felix E. Roque
Board of Commissioners

Attest: Carmela Riccie, RMC
Town Clerk

Present: Commissioners Frias, Rodriguez, Wiley and Mayor Roque
Absent: None
Also Present: Town Administrator Matthew U. Watkins, Town Clerk Carmela Riccie,
Corporation Counsel Donald Scarinci and Sean Dias

Meeting commenced at 12:10 p.m.

Town Clerk Carmela Riccie made the following announcement:

As presiding officer of this meeting I do hereby certify that the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act pertaining to this meeting scheduled to be held this: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 at 12:00 p.m. (No Work Session) in the Court Chambers, Municipal Building, have been satisfied by the delivery of the 48 hour notice to each of the newspapers circulating in the Town of West New York (The Jersey Journal and the Bergen Record); by posting in the Municipal Building on the Municipal Bulletin Board; and by filing with the Clerk of the Municipality with copies to all persons desiring the same.

Copies are available to the public in accordance with the law.

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**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING RESIGNATION OF
COMMISSIONER RUBEN VARGAS**

WHEREAS, West New York Commissioner Ruben Vargas has submitted a letter of resignation from his appointment as a West New York Commissioner which was effective January 22, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of West New York do hereby accept the resignation of Commissioner Vargas; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Commissioners want to thank Commissioner Vargas for all of his time, effort, hard work and commitment to the Town of West New York; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commissioners do hereby accept the resignation of Commissioner Ruben Vargas effective January 22, 2015.

Motion was made by Mayor Roque, seconded by Comm. Frias, to adopt the foregoing Resolution, was carried by the following vote:

YEAS: Commissioners Frias, Rodriguez, and Mayor Roque
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: Commissioner Wiley

Note: Town Clerk Riccie read title of Resolution aloud.

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING COSMO A. CIRILLO AS A COMMISSIONER
OF THE TOWN OF WEST NEW YORK**

WHEREAS, Commissioner Ruben Vargas resigned effective on January 22, 2015; and

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists in the membership of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of West New York, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:16-4, have the power to fill the vacancy in the membership of the governing body for the remainder of the term; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Commissioners seek to appoint Cosmo A. Cirillo, residing at 116 65th Street, West New York, New Jersey, as a Commissioner of the Town of West New York commencing February 4, 2015 and until May 19, 2015, to fill the remainder of the term of Ruben Vargas; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commissioners do hereby appoint Cosmo A. Cirillo as a Commissioner of the Town of West New York commencing February 4, 2015 and until May 19, 2015.

Motion was made by Comm. Rodriguez, seconded by Mayor Roque, to adopt the foregoing Resolution, was carried by the following vote:

YEAS: Commissioners Frias, Rodriguez, and Mayor Roque
NAYS: Commissioner Wiley
ABSENT: None

**Note: Mr. Scarinci handed this Resolution to Town Clerk Riccie prior to vote.
Town Clerk Riccie read the title of Resolution aloud.**

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**RESOLUTION APPOINTING COSMO A. CIRILLO AS THE
DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

WHEREAS, Cosmo A. Cirillo has been appointed as a Commissioner of the Town of West New York to fill the unexpired term of Ruben Vargas; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of West New York, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:72-6, designate the Commissioners to be the directors of the Departments of the Town of West New York; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Commissioners seek to appoint Cosmo A. Cirillo as the Director of the Department of Public Affairs commencing February 4, 2015 and until May 19, 2015; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commissioners do hereby appoint Cosmo A. Cirillo as the Director of the Department of Public Affairs commencing February 4, 2015 and until May 19, 2015.

Motion was made by Mayor Roque, seconded by Comm. Frias, to adopt the foregoing Resolution, was carried by the following vote:

YEAS: Commissioners Frias, Rodriguez, and Mayor Roque
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: Commissioner Wiley

Note: Mr. Scarinci handed this Resolution to Town Clerk Riccie prior to vote. At the request of Mr. Scarinci, Town Clerk Riccie read the entire Resolution aloud.

Note: Mayor Roque read the background of Cosmo Cirillo, which is attached to the end of these Minutes. Mayor Roque introduced North Bergen Chief of Staff Joe Munoz. Mr. Munoz commented that Mayor Roque has “passion and vision for moving West New York forward” and that the appointment of Cosmo Cirillo is an example of that. Mr. Munoz recognized the following dignitaries who were in attendance:

Mayors of Bayonne, Guttenberg and North Bergen; Senator Sacco; Assembly Speaker Vincent Prieto; Assemblyman from Jersey City’s 33rd District; WNY Assemblywoman Angelica Jimenez; Former Commissioner of WNY Michele Fernandez Lopez; Former WNY Mayor Sal Vega; Former WNY Police Director Bringa; WNY Superintendent of Schools John Fauta; and North Bergen Commissioner Hugo Cabrera.

At this point, Senator Sacco, Assembly Speaker Prieto and Assemblywoman Jimenez came to the front of the Chambers whereby Senator Sacco administered the Oath of Office to Cosmo Cirillo. Newly appointed Commissioner Cosmo Cirillo thanked Mayor Roque and the Board of Commissioners, the dignitaries in attendance specifically Senator Sacco, Assembly Speaker Prieto, Assemblywoman Jimenez and Former Mayor Vega; his parents, sister (who was not able to be present) and his wife Vanessa. Mr. Munoz also acknowledged WNY Corporation Counsel Donald Scarinci and Former North Bergen Town Attorney Herb Klitzner.

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Motion was made by Mayor Roque, seconded by Comm. Frias to **open the public portion of the meeting at 12:40 p.m.**, was carried by the following vote:

YEAS: Commissioners Frias, Rodriguez, Wiley and Mayor Roque
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

Public Portion:

1. **Patrick Cullen, 72 – 67th Street, WNY:**
Mr. Cullen commented that he owed a “million Salutes” to Mayor Roque for appointing Cosmo Cirillo as a Commissioner and saluted the Mayor. He commented that Comm. Cirillo’s appointment demonstrates the Mayor’s “open mindedness”. He also commented about Comm. Cirillo’s past opposition to tax abatements and hopes he (Comm. Cirillo) retains that same opposition. He also commented about Ord. 1/15 which was introduced at the January meeting insofar as the hours of construction and complained that said Ordinance gives broad powers to Town Administrator to be able to circumvent. Mr. Scarinci informed Mr. Cullen that his comments would be discussed during the Public Hearing of said Ordinance which is scheduled for February 18th. Mr. Cullen congratulated Comm. Cirillo on his appointment.
2. **Rick Solares, Lincoln Place, WNY:**
Mr. Solares commented “It takes a village to raise a child. In politics it takes vision to choose the best person to do the job which is in the best interest of WNY”. He commended Mayor Roque and everyone who advised the Mayor to appoint Cosmo Cirillo.
3. **Beatrice Olivetti, 6115 Granton Avenue, North Bergen:**
Ms. Olivetti commented that she grew up in WNY and is a current employee and that she knows Cosmo for over 12 yrs. She congratulated him on his appointment as Commissioner and congratulated Comm. Rodriguez on his recent appointment as Commissioner. She thanked the Mayor and Board of Commissioners for both appointments.
4. **Superintendent of Schools John Fauta:**
Mr. Fauta congratulated Comm. Rodriguez and Comm. Cirillo on their appointments as Commissioner. He commented that he served with Cosmo when he (Cosmo) was President of the WNY Board of Education and that he (Cosmo) is good for the Town and for the children. He thanked the Mayor and Board of Commissioners for this appointment.

Motion was made by Mayor Roque, seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez to **close the public portion of the meeting at 12:48 p.m.**, was carried by the following vote:

YEAS: Commissioners Frias, Rodriguez, Wiley and Mayor Roque
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

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Motion was made by Comm. Frias, seconded by Comm. Cirillo to **adjourn the meeting at 12:48 p.m.**, was carried by the following vote:

YEAS: Commissioners Cirillo, Frias, Rodriguez, Wiley and Mayor Roque
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

Commissioner Cosmo A. Cirillo

Commissioner FiorD'Aliza Frias

Commissioner Gabriel Rodriguez

Commissioner Count J. Wiley

Mayor Felix E. Roque
Board of Commissioners

Attest: _____
Carmela Riccie, RMC
Town Clerk

Cosmo is a life-long resident of West New York with a passion for public service. His connection to West New York began when his grandparents immigrated with his father to the United States in 1972 and chose to call West New York their home. His family has lived here ever since.

Cosmo knew early on that he wanted to give back to the same community that welcomed his family. At the age of 16, he began interning for the Town and continued his employment throughout his college career. He attended Seton Hall University where he received a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and a Master's Degree in Public Administration. He is currently pursuing his Ph.D. in Educational Leadership at Caldwell University.

At the age of 20, Cosmo served on the West New York Board of Education. He served for over four years on the Board; two of those years as the Board President. In addition to this, Cosmo also served as the ABC Board Secretary and the Deputy Town Clerk of West New York.

Not only does Cosmo bring vast municipal government experience, but he also brings State government experience as well. Cosmo served as Chief of Staff to Assemblywoman Angelica Jimenez and currently serves as Senior Advisor to NJ Assembly Speaker Vincent Prieto.

Cosmo's dedication to West New York is also evident in his volunteer efforts. Cosmo has volunteered at numerous senior events and was a founder and Charter President for the Union City-West New York Rotary Club, now known as the North Hudson Rotary Club. Cosmo has also given his time as a six-term member of the WNY Democratic Committee and currently serves as the Committee's Executive Director.

Cosmo will bring a unique perspective as a Commissioner and I know he will serve the residents of West New York well. It should also be noted that today, at the age of 27, Cosmo is officially the youngest person to become a commissioner within this great town. His youth, enthusiasm and experience will be invaluable to the Board of Commissioners. Congratulations