

**BOROUGH OF RARITAN  
REGULAR MEETING  
MAY 24, 2011**

The Regular Meeting of the Borough of Raritan Council was held on May 24, 2011 in the Municipal Building, 22 First Street, Raritan, NJ 08869 at 7:05 pm.

Mayor Liptak presided and stated the following: Notice of this meeting has been made by advising The Courier News and the Star Ledger of the time, date and place of this Council Meeting, posting a notice on the bulletin board, Raritan Borough website, filing a copy in the Borough's Clerk office and including this statement in the minutes of this meeting.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Stefanie Gara, Paul Giraldi, Victor Laggini, Greg Lobell and Anthony Soriano

Absent: None

Also Present: Mayor Jo-Ann Liptak, Daniel Jaxel, Borough Administrator; Mark Anderson, Borough Attorney; and Rayna E. Harris, Borough Clerk

Councilman Victor Laggini presented the invocation and flag salute.

**PROCLAMATION**

Mayor Liptak read the following:

# Proclamation

## 2011 EMS WEEK EMS: Everyday Heroes

**WHEREAS**, the Somerville Rescue Squad is a vital public service to the residents and visitors of the Borough of Somerville and Borough of Raritan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Somerville Rescue Squad provides a high level of volunteer and professional services to its residents; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2011 the Somerville Rescue Squad will celebrate its 83<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary; and

**WHEREAS**, the 85 plus members of this emergency medical service organization are ready to answer in excess of 2,100 calls in 2011 for those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

**WHEREAS**, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

**WHEREAS**, the volunteer members of the Somerville Rescue Squad engage in excess of 6,000 hours of service to the community as well as specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

**WHEREAS**, it is appropriate to recognize the value and outstanding accomplishments of the Somerville Rescue Squad by designating “Emergency Medical Services Week”;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Brian Gallagher, Mayor of the Borough of Somerville, and Jo-Ann Liptak, Mayor of the Borough of Raritan, do hereby jointly **PROCLAIM** the week of May 15-21, 2010 as

**“EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK”**  
In the Borough of Somerville and Raritan

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Borough Councils of Somerville and Raritan encourage the citizens and businesses of Somerville and Raritan to donate to the squad.

Mayor Liptak also read a Public Works Proclamation signed by Governor Chris Christie.

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Regular Meeting: March 22, 2011

Regular Meeting: March 22, 2011 Minutes were presented for approval. Motion was made by Councilwoman Carra to approve, seconded by Council President Lobell. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
X		Carra	X			
		Gara	X			
		Giraldi	X			
		Laggini	X			
	X	Lobell	X			
		Soriano	X			

2. Executive Session: March 22, 2011

Executive Session: March 22, 2011 Minutes were presented for approval. Motion was made by Council President Lobell to approve, seconded by Councilman Paul Giraldi. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Carra	X			
		Gara	X			
	X	Giraldi	X			
		Laggini	X			
X		Lobell	X			
		Soriano	X			

3. Regular Meeting: April 26, 2011

Regular Meeting: April 26, 2011 Minutes were presented for approval. Motion was made by Council President Lobell to approve, seconded by Councilman Paul Giraldi. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Carra	X			
	X	Gara	X			
X		Giraldi	X			
		Laggini	X			
		Lobell			X	
		Soriano			X	

4. Executive Session: April 26, 2011

Executive Session: April 26, 2011 Minutes were presented for approval. Motion was made by Council President Lobell to approve, seconded by Councilman Paul Giraldi. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
X		Carra	X			
		Gara	X			
		Giraldi	X			
	X	Laggini	X			
		Lobell			X	
		Soriano			X	

**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mayor Liptak read the following statement: Borough Council welcomes comments from any member of the public. To help facilitate an orderly meeting and to permit the opportunity for anyone who wishes to be heard, **speakers are asked to limit their comments to 5 minutes.** If reading from a prepared statement, please provide a hard copy and e-mail a copy to the Clerk’s Office after making your comments.

Robert B. Zederbaum on behalf of the America Cancer Society Relay for Life: Mr. Zederbaum thanked the Governing Body for allowing the hanging of the banner and noted the tremendous success of the event. He stated how helpful the Borough employees were to him and that his team raised approximately \$13,000.00.

**III. ORDINANCES: PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION**  
**ORDINANCE 2011-05**

Councilwoman Carra moved and Councilwoman Gara seconded the opening of the public hearing on **Ordinance 2011-05**. Motion carried.

No one spoke.

Councilwoman Carra moved and Councilwoman Gara seconded the closing of the public hearing on **Ordinance 2011-05**. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Carra moved and Councilwoman Gara seconded the adoption of **Ordinance 2011-05** on second and final reading. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

**ORDINANCE 2011-05**

**BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS BY THE BOROUGH OF RARITAN, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$465,000 THEREFORE AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$442,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF RARITAN, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The several improvements described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are hereby respectively authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of Raritan, New Jersey as general improvements. For the several improvements or purposes described in Section 3, there are hereby appropriated the respective sums of money therein stated as the appropriation made for each improvement or purpose, such sums amounting in the aggregate to \$465,000, including the aggregate sum of \$23,000 as the several down payments for the improvements or purposes required by the Local Bond Law. The down payments have been made available by virtue of provision for down payment or for capital improvement purposes in one or more previously adopted budgets.

Section 2. In order to finance the cost of the several improvements or purposes not covered by application of the several down payments, negotiable bonds are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$442,000 pursuant to the Local Bond Law. In anticipation of the issuance of the bonds, negotiable bond anticipation notes are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to and within the limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

Section 3. The several improvements hereby authorized and the several purposes for which the bonds are to be issued, the estimated cost of each improvement and the appropriation therefor, the estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued for each improvement and the period of usefulness of each improvement are as follows:

(a) Providing for the purchase of radios for the Police Department and interior reconstruction of the Municipal Building, including the Police Department and including all work and materials necessary therefore or incidental thereto.

<u>APPROPRIATION</u>	<u>BOND AUTHORIZATION</u>	<u>PERIOD OF USEFULNESS</u>
\$235,000	\$223,500	10 years

(b) Providing for the acquisition of a new heating system for the Public Works Department Garage.

<u>APPROPRIATION</u>	<u>BOND AUTHORIZATION</u>	<u>PERIOD OF USEFULNESS</u>
\$ 10,000	\$ 9,500	10 years

(c) Providing for the Borough's share of the cost of the reconstruction of LaGrange Street, in addition to a grant expected to be received from the State of New Jersey and including all work and materials necessary therefor or incidental thereto.

<u>APPROPRIATION</u>	<u>BOND AUTHORIZATION</u>	<u>PERIOD OF USEFULNESS</u>
\$ 20,000	\$ 19,000	20 years

(d) Providing for the reconstruction of Marson Place, Avon Place and Ashton Street, including all work and materials necessary therefore or incidental thereto.

<u>APPROPRIATION</u>	<u>BOND AUTHORIZATION</u>	<u>PERIOD OF USEFULNESS</u>
\$200,000	\$190,000	20 years
<u>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</u>	<u>TOTAL BOND AUTHORIZATION</u>	<u>AVERAGE PERIOD OF USEFULNESS</u>
\$465,000	\$442,000	14.71 years

Section 4. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the chief financial officer; provided that no note shall mature later than one year from its date. The notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the chief financial officer. The chief financial officer shall determine all matters in connection with notes issued pursuant to this ordinance, and the chief financial officer's signature upon the notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:2-8.1. The chief financial officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the notes from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchasers

thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price plus accrued interest from their dates to the date of delivery thereof. The chief financial officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the notes pursuant to this ordinance is made. Such report must include the amount, the description, the interest rate and the maturity schedule of the notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

Section 5. The capital budget of the Borough of Raritan is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith.

Section 6. The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

(a) The purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are not current expenses. They are all improvements that the Borough may lawfully undertake as general improvements, and no part of the costs thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefited thereby.

(b) The average period of usefulness, computed on the basis of the respective amounts of obligations authorized for each purpose and the reasonable life thereof within the limitations of the Local Bond Law, is 14.71 years.

(c) The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly prepared and filed in the office of the Clerk, and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey. Such statement shows that the gross debt of the Borough as defined in the Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the bonds and notes provided in this bond ordinance by \$442,000, and the obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by that Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$45,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20 is included in the estimated costs indicated herein for the purposes or improvements.

Section 7. The full faith and credit of the Borough are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on the obligations authorized by this bond ordinance. The

obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Borough, and the Borough shall be obligated to levy ad valorem taxes upon all the taxable real property within the Borough for the payment of the obligations and the interest thereon without limitation of rate or amount.

Section 8. This bond ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
X		Carra	X			
	X	Gara	X			
		Giraldi	X			
		Laggini	X			
		Lobell	X			
		Soriano	X			

**IV. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**  
**ORDINANCE 2011-06**

Councilwoman Carra moved and Councilwoman Gara seconded the adoption of **Ordinance 2011-06** on First Reading. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

CY 2011 Ordinance to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45,14)

Public Hearing will be held on June 28, 2011 at 7:00 pm.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
X		Carra	X			
	X	Gara	X			
		Giraldi	X			
		Laggini	X			
		Lobell	X			
		Soriano	X			

**V. RESOLUTIONS**  
**RESOLUTION 2011-05-075**

Councilman Victor Laggini moved to approve Resolution 2011-05-075 and was seconded by Councilman Paul Giraldi. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

**REFUND PERMIT FEE**

**WHEREAS**, the Building Department advises there is a voided permit; and

**WHEREAS**, the Contractor who made the payments have requested a refund;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan, Somerset County, State of New Jersey that the Chief Finance Officer is directed to pay the following:

\$98.00 to Wagner Roofing, Inc., 11 Deerpath Road, Flemington, NJ 08822

Re: Permit # 11-115 - Roofing  
 Property Address: 267 Weiss Terrance  
 Property Owner: Richard Yadlosky

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Carra	X			
		Gara	X			
	X	Giraldi	X			
X		Laggini	X			
		Lobell	X			
		Soriano	X			

**RESOLUTION 2011-05-076**

Councilman Anthony Soriano moved to approve Resolution 2011-05-076 and was seconded by Council President Greg Lobell. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Raritan entered into certain contracts (the “Contracts”) with Farewell Mills Gatsch Architects, LLC, specifically:

Raritan Firehouse AIA Document B101 dated July, 2010 for Phase 3 Construction Documents and Bidder Prequalification, FMG #0404.20,

AIA G802 Professional Services Amendment dated March 2011 for Somerset Co. Grant #FMG #0404.22,

Raritan Library AIA Document B155 dated October 2008for Phase 3 Repair and Restoration Documents, FMG #0520.5, and

AIA A141 Services Agreement dated May 2009 for Raritan Library Phase 3 Repair and Restoration Bidding and Construction Administration;

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has been informed that Farewell Mills Gatsch Architects, LLC will dissolve by mutual agreement of its Partners; and

**WHEREAS**, Mills + Schnoering Architects, LLC will assume some of the duties and responsibilities of Farewell Mills Gatsch Architects, LLC; and

**WHEREAS**, Mills + Schnoering Architects, LLC has offered to assume the duties and responsibilities of Farewell Mills Gatsch Architects, LLC under the Contracts; and

**WHEREAS**, all rights and obligations of the Borough and of the Contractor under the Contracts will be unaffected by the assumption of responsibilities by Mills + Schnoering Architects, LLC; and

**WHEREAS**, the dissolution of Farewell Mills Gatsch Architects, LLC creates a need for the Borough to appoint a licensed architect to complete the work under the Contracts; and

**WHEREAS**, by reason of continuation of personnel and special knowledge of the Contracts, Mills + Schnoering Architects, LLC is best equipped to complete the work of the Contracts in a timely, efficient and cost-effective manner; and

**WHEREAS**, the cost of completing the Contracts may exceed \$17,500; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough and Mills + Schnoering Architects, LLC have agreed to a transfer of duties from Mills + Schnoering Architects, LLC to Farewell Mills Gatsch Architects, LLC pursuant to the attached Transfer Agreement.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan as follows:

1. The Borough Council hereby awards a professional services contract to Mills + Schnoering Architects, LLC for the completion of the Contracts in accordance with this Resolution and the attached Transfer Agreement.
2. This award is made under a “non-fair and open procedure”, whereby the award is made to the entity judged by the Borough Council to best serve the needs of the Borough to complete the work of the Contracts in a timely, efficient and cost-effective manner, and not based on public solicitation or award to the lowest bidder.
3. The Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized and directed to execute the attached Transfer Agreement.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Carra	X			
		Gara	X			
		Giraldi	X			
		Laggini	X			
	X	Lobell	X			
X		Soriano	X			

**RESOLUTION 2011-05-077**

Council President Greg Lobell moved to approve Resolution 2011-05-077 and was seconded by Councilman Anthony Soriano. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO SENATE BILL NO. 1351**

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill No. 1351 (hereinafter referred to as S-1351) would amend the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq., to include many new requirements that are unnecessary to protect the public’s interest in open and transparent government, and which would unduly burden municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, S-1351 would impose new procedural requirements on municipalities which will be time consuming and costly, at a time when municipalities are facing unprecedented financial constraints; and

**WHEREAS**, S-1351 would impose new procedural requirements on municipalities that are impractical and wasteful, and which would result in longer meetings and less efficient governance; and

**WHEREAS**, among the time consuming, costly, impractical and wasteful new requirements of S-1351 are the following:

- A. new requirements pertaining to subcommittees, including notice of subcommittee meetings and the preparation of minutes, which would, among other things, necessitate additional administrative support for all meetings of subcommittees so that minutes can be prepared; and,
- B. new requirement that agendas provide a description of all agenda items, including the names of the parties to and approximate dollar amounts of any contracts to be acted upon, which would increase preparation time for agendas; and,
- C. new requirement that agendas include estimated starting times for the public portion of the meeting and the portion of the meeting from which the public is to be excluded, though this information would be purely speculative and unreliable; and,
- D. new requirement that no public body be permitted to act upon or discuss a matter that is not listed on the agenda except in emergencies, which requirement would be impractical and unnecessarily inhibit the operations of municipal government, as it is often necessary for the effective and efficient administration of municipal governmental purposes to discuss or act on matters for which three business days' notice may not be possible; and this would effectively prevent discussion of items brought forward by the public; and,
- E. new requirement that a public body provide for public comment on emergency items that are added to a meeting agenda, adding unnecessary and time-consuming process to meetings; and,
- F. new requirement that a public body provide for public comment before taking final action on any matter at any meeting of at least three minutes per person, which requirement, as written, would result in an unworkable series of public comment periods on every action of the governing body, from appointments to resolutions to approval of minutes, thereby adding substantial time to every meeting of the public body; and,
- G. new requirement eliminating attorney-client privilege as a basis for excluding the public from a portion of the meeting, which will inhibit the public body's ability to obtain needed legal advice, which is contrary to the public interest; also the requirements would conflict with municipal attorneys' duties as attorneys; and,
- H. new requirement that public bodies be permitted to exclude the public from discussion of personnel matters only with the written consent of the potentially affected employee, thereby inhibiting the public body's ability to take necessary actions on personnel matters; and,
- I. new requirements for more extensive minutes of public body meetings, such as the inclusion of each member's stated reasons for his or her actions or vote, the identity of each member of the public who spoke and a summary of what was said, which shall cause the preparation of minutes to be more time consuming and costly; and,
- J. confusing new requirements pertaining to disclosure of recordings of meetings, including making recordings promptly available after meetings, and somehow incorporating such recordings with meeting minutes; and,

- K. new requirements that minutes would include electronic communications concerning public business among an effective majority of the members that occurred prior to a meeting, which would be an unworkable and ineffective imposition on municipalities, and would purport to make pre-meeting communications somehow become part of the meeting itself, an unprecedented expansion of the meeting concept; and,
- L. new requirements for maintaining on the municipal website schedules of meetings, agendas, notices of emergency meetings, minutes, resolutions and ordinance to the extent not already set forth in the minutes, and closed meetings resolutions, for a period of at least five years, which would result in additional costs for posting and maintaining website information;

**WHEREAS**, there is no justifiable basis for the imposition of the burdensome and cost generative provisions of S-1351; and

**WHEREAS**, portions of S-1351 place financial, time, manpower and other burdens on municipalities at a time when municipalities are constrained to layoff municipal employees, impose furloughs, and reduce departmental budgets so that municipalities can meet strict CAP requirements even when revenues are decreased and operating costs continue to climb; and

**WHEREAS**, the cost generative provisions of S-1351 are unfunded mandates that violate the “State Mandate, State Pay” amendment to the New Jersey Constitution;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, and State of New Jersey, for the reasons stated above, do hereby opposes Senate Bill No. 1351 in its current form, and urge the New Jersey State Senate and Assembly to oppose this Bill; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to State Senator Loretta Weinberg, State Senator Stephen Sweeney, the members of the Senate and Budget Appropriations Committee, the legislators of the 16<sup>th</sup> State Legislative District, the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, and the Municipal Clerks’ Association of New Jersey.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Carra	X			
		Gara	X			
		Giraldi	X			
		Laggini	X			
X		Lobell	X			
	X	Soriano	X			

**RESOLUTION 2011-05-078**

Councilwoman Carra moved and to approve Resolution 2011-05-078 and was seconded by Councilwoman Gara. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

**A RESOLUTION OF CONCURRENCE SUPPORTING THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION’S PROMULGATION OF A TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER, WHICH ORDER IS NECESSARY TO ESTABLISH A “NO**

**PASSING ZONE” ALONG NEW JERSEY STATE ROUTE 28 IN THE BOROUGH OF RARITAN.**

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) conducted an investigation to inventory the existing centerline markings along New Jersey State Route 28 in the Borough of Raritan;

**WHEREAS**, the NJDOT has recommended that the centerline pavement markings be revised to a “No Passing Zone” on New Jersey State Route 28 within the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to establish the “No Passing Zone”, the NJDOT is first required to promulgate a Traffic Regulation Order, with the consent and support of the Borough;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan that the Borough Council consents to and supports the NJDOT’s promulgation of a Traffic Regulation Order in order to establish a “No Passing Zone” along New Jersey State Route 28 in the Borough of Raritan.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
X		Carra	X			
	X	Gara	X			
		Giraldi	X			
		Laggini	X			
		Lobell	X			
		Soriano	X			

**RESOLUTION 2011-05-079**

Councilwoman Gara moved and to approve Resolution 2011-05-079 and was seconded by Council President Lobell. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

**SANITARY SEWER BID AWARD**

**WHEREAS**, bids for Sanitary Sewer; Assessment and Mapping were advertised to be received on May 5, 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, four bids were received; and

**WHEREAS**, the lowest bid was for \$11,249.00 and made by Fred A. Cook, Jr. Inc, 22 Albany Post Road, PO Box 70, Montrose, NY 10548;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan that award for Sanitary Sewer Assessment and Mapping be made to Fred Cook, Jr. Inc., 22 Albany Post Road, PO Box 70, Montrose, NY 10548 for \$11,249.00.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Carra	X			
X		Gara	X			

		Giraldi	X			
		Laggini	X			
	X	Lobell	X			
		Soriano	X			

**RESOLUTION 2011-05-080**

Councilman Laggini moved and to approve Resolution 2011-05-080 and was seconded by Council President Lobell. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

**RAILROAD MONTHLY PARKING REFUND**

**WHEREAS**, the Administrator has informed the Chief Finance Officer that the purchaser of monthly railroad parking decal stickers have returned the unused portion of the sticker; and

**WHEREAS**, the purchaser of monthly parking decal stickers has requested the balance of the payment be refunded;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Raritan Borough Council that the Chief Finance Officer is hereby authorized to refund monthly railroad parking decal sticker payment to the following purchaser:

Sonia Wood, 89 Chelsea Circle, Flemington, NJ 08822: June – December 2011; \$280.00

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Carra	X			
		Gara	X			
		Giraldi	X			
X		Laggini	X			
	X	Lobell	X			
		Soriano	X			

**RESOLUTION 2011-05-081**

Councilwoman Gara moved and to approve Resolution 2011-05-081 and was seconded by Councilman Giraldi. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

**AUTHORIZING A LIEN FOR COSTS OF REMEDIATING PROPERTY MAINTENANCE VIOLATIONS AT 68 FIRST AVENUE, IN THE BOROUGH OF RARITAN, ALSO KNOWN AS BLOCK 81, LOT 10 ON THE RARITAN BOROUGH TAX MAP.**

**WHEREAS**, on May 28, 2010, a Notice of Violation was issued by the Somerset County Department of Health for the property located at 68 First Avenue for a property maintenance violation;

**WHEREAS**, the property owner failed to abate the property maintenance violation within the prescribed time;

**WHEREAS**, the Raritan Borough Department of Public Works performed the necessary maintenance at 68 First Avenue, the labor cost of which totaled \$622.04; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 56A-1 of the Code of the Borough of Raritan authorizes the Borough to place a lien on property for costs expended by the Borough for remediating property maintenance violations where the property owner fails to do so;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan that the Raritan Borough Tax Collector is hereby authorized to place a lien in the amount of \$622.04 plus filing fees and costs on the property at 68 First Avenue in the Borough of Raritan, also known as Block 81, Lot 10 on the Raritan Borough Tax Map.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Carra	X			
X		Gara	X			
	X	Giraldi	X			
		Laggini	X			
		Lobell	X			
		Soriano	X			

**VI. INTRODUCTION OF CY 2011 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

Councilwoman Carra read a statement on the budget.

Councilwoman Carra moved and to approve CY 2011 Municipal Budget Resolution and was seconded by Council President Lobell. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
X		Carra	X			
		Gara	X			
		Giraldi	X			
		Laggini	X			
	X	Lobell	X			
		Soriano	X			

**VII. PURCHASE ORDER REQUESTS**

Recreation: Todd Harris Co. Inc. in the amount of \$7,500.00

Councilman Anthony Soriano made a motion to approve the purchase order request. The motion to approve was seconded by Council President Lobell. Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
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		Carra	X			
		Gara	X			
		Giraldi	X			
		Laggini	X			
	X	Lobell	X			
X		Soriano	X			

**VIII. APPROVAL OF BILLS LIST**

Councilwoman Denise Carra moved to approve the Bills List and was seconded by Council President Lobell. Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that claims in the amount of \$2,851,116.04 having been listed on the Bill List and recorded in the files of the Borough Hall, and are hereby approved to be paid.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
X		Carra	X			
		Gara	X			
		Giraldi	X			
		Laggini	X			
	X	Lobell	X			
		Soriano	X			

**IX. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS**

Council President Lobell offered the Public Works report and also noted the parking spot expansion. He was pleased to report that DPW is saving money on tonnage. Council President Lobell also noted that the Cultural & Historic Committee is offering packages of Post cards for a recommended donation of \$10.00.

Councilwoman Stefanie Gara offered the following report:

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

May 24, 2011

**POLICE –**

**May 9, 2011 - Operation Take Back Results**

On April 30, 2011 the Raritan Borough Police Department participated in the DEA, Operation Take Back Program. This program allows Borough residents to bring their used/expired medications to police headquarters for disposal. At the conclusion of the program the Raritan Police Department collected a total of 56 pounds of used/expired medications which were turned over to the DEA.

There will be another Take Back program in the fall of 2011.

**New Police Vehicle:** On May 11, 2011 Lt McCormick and Chief Ciesla responded to Warnock Fleet in East Hanover NJ transporting the

equipment needed to be added to the new patrol vehicle. A 2011 Ford Crown Vic black in color was on the property of Warnock and their technicians are in the process of having the equipment (emergency lighting, cage, radio, radar, shotgun assembly etc) installed into it. All purchase orders have been completed and forwarded to Warnock. We were advised that the **turnaround time for the completion of the vehicle is within 6 weeks.**

**Police Unity Tour:** The police department would like to commend Officer Kenneth Drews for participating in the Police Unity Tour. This bicycle tour starts in New Jersey and ends in Washington DC at the Law Enforcement Memorial. This is a synopsis of Officer Drews Journey: On May 9th Officer Drews with approx 600 riders consisting of police officers and survivors rode bicycles from Jersey City through the Holland Tunnel stopping at the World Trade Center site for a ceremony for the anniversary of 911. On May 10th Officer Drews teamed up in Somerset NJ (Franklin) and along with 250 officers and survivors and rode their Bicycles to Philadelphia Pennsylvania stopping for the night. On Wednesday May 11th Officer Drews continued his journey to Washington bicycling to Baltimore Maryland (stopping for the night). On Thursday May 12 Officer Drews completed his journey arriving in Washington DC and meeting up with 1400 bicyclist at RFK Stadium. From there all 1400 bicyclist rode to the Police Memorial in Washington DC for a ceremony honoring fallen law enforcement officers. The police department would like to acknowledge the dedication and pride that Officer Drews shows for his fellow officer. Congratulations to him and to everyone who participated in this worthwhile cause.

**Thompson Street Crosswalk:** On 5-20-11 Lt Ludwig and I took a ride on Thompson Street referencing the possibility of a cross walk in the area between Colfax Street and Lagrange Street. Currently there is a faded crosswalk on the south side of the Railroad Tracks north of Lagrange Street that **needs** to be repainted. This cross walk already has the cutouts for wheel chair accessibility to the sidewalks. If a second crosswalk is requested **in my opinion (Chief Ciesla)** the only possible location would be at the intersection of Second Street and Thompson Street at the south side of the intersection. A cutout would need to be made in the curbing with work done to have access to the sidewalk on the East side of Thompson Street. The loss of a minimum of 50 ft of parking will occur on the East Side of Thompson Street. Also curb work and sidewalk work would need to be done on the South West Corner of the intersection for the accessibility of wheelchairs and other similar type apparatus.

I had the pleasure of attending DARE Graduation at St. Ann's School today with Mayor Liptak, Chief Ciesla, Lt. McCormick, Lt. Ludwig, Somerset County Prosecutor Soriano and Jack Bennett with the Prosecutors Office. DARE=Drug Abuse Resistance Education. (D-define, A-assess, R-respond & E-evaluate) The DARE program was offered throughout the Bridgewater-Raritan School district and St. Ann's to all 5<sup>th</sup> graders. It is an amazing program teaching our youth about cigarettes, drugs, alcohol and peer pressure. I would like to thank our two DARE officers for all the time they have invested in our children, Officer Kathleen Sausa and Sergeant Raymond Nolti. Unfortunately, last year Bridgewater Township cancelled the DARE program due to a decrease in the Police Department. I am requesting that this Council as well as residents send a letter to the Mayor of Bridgewater as well as the Chief of the Bridgewater Police Department and stress to them the importance of this class and urge them to re-instate the program for the up-coming 2011-2012 school year. We must look out for our children and we must be proactive as a community to insure that they are getting the necessary information needed about these harmful and life threatening addictions.

On Saturday May 21<sup>st</sup> – Mayor Liptak, Council President Lobell, Councilmen Soriano, Councilman Giraldi, Councilman Laggini and I along with our Youth on Main Street teens and the Somerset County Community Service personnel came in and cleaned the Council Chambers from top to bottom. I would like to thank everyone for there hard work and I would like to send a huge thank you to Dominic and Noreen with the Somerset County Probation Department for sending us the help. Dominic and Noreen have been working very hard with us getting Community Service Personnel to the Borough to assist us in many projects. They have help every week at DPW with the grass collection, they helped with the Dog Park clean up, they waxed the entire fleet of cars in our Police Department and help cleaned the Council Chambers to name a few. Again a huge thank you to Dominic and Noreen for all of there assistance.

**GRANTS** - The Grants committee will be meeting tomorrow in the Community room at 6pm. We will be following up on several different grant opportunities.

**HUMAN RESOURCES** – The Human Resources Committee is in the process of interviewing for a replacement assistant in our Property Maintenance Department. I would like to get Council Approval to place an ad in the papers for this position ASAP.

Councilwoman Gara asked for Council approval to have a letter sent regarding maintaining the D.A.R.E. program.

There was general consent of the Governing Body.

Councilman Anthony Soriano gave the Fire Chief's, Recreation Commission and Youth on Main Street reports. He noted that the pools are tentatively scheduled to open June 27<sup>th</sup>.

Councilwoman Denise Carra gave the Economic Development report.

Councilman Laggini reported for the School Board and the Board of Health. He noted that a special meeting of the Board of Health with the Office of Emergency Management will be held to discuss guidelines and emergency plans.

Councilman Giraldi reported Library and the Basilone Parade committee. He noted that the Library Board of Trustees voted unanimously to give the Borough of Raritan \$100,000 for inclusion in the municipal budget.

Mayor Liptak reported on various items of correspondence. She also offered the report on the registration for the Dog Park prepared by Annie Lella.

#### **X. OLD BUSINESS**

Council President Lobell noted that a meeting will be held with Somerville representatives regarding garbage pick-up in Somerville by Raritan's DPW on Main Street.

#### **XI. NEW BUSINESS**

Shrine Chapel Procession: There was general consent of the Governing Body to allow the procession.

#### **XII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Enzo Padovani, 904A Farrand Street: Mr. Padovani commented on the implementation of the new housing Ordinance and the paying of double fees. He noted that he owns several properties in Raritan and expressed his displeasure with the requirements of the Ordinance.

Mayor Liptak responded to his comments and concerns.

#### **XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Liptak read the Resolution to enter Executive Session.

#### **RESOLUTION 2011-05-082**

Councilwoman Denise Carra moved to adopt resolution 2011-05-082 and was seconded by Councilman Victor Laggini. Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**WHEREAS**, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-7, et seq., commonly known as the "Sunshine Law", requires that Borough Council meetings be open to the public except for the discussion of certain subjects; and

**WHEREAS**, the “Sunshine Law” requires that a closed session be authorized by Resolution;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the Borough of Raritan that the following portion of this meeting shall be closed to the public; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the meeting shall be resumed at the end of closed session; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the subjects to be discussed and the time of public release of the minutes of the closed session are indicated below:

SUBJECT MATTER

1. Personnel – Construction and Recreation
2. Attorney-Client Privilege

TIME WHEN AND THE CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH THE SUBJECT MATTER CAN BE DISCLOSED:

Upon authorization by the Borough Attorney

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
X		Carra	X			
		Gara	X			
		Giraldi	X			
	X	Laggini	X			
		Lobell	X			
		Soriano	X			

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gara and seconded by Councilman Laggini to adjourn the Executive Session and to return to the normal order of business. Motion carried.

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

Councilwoman Gara moved to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Councilman Laggini. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rayna E. Harris, RMC  
Borough Clerk