

**BOROUGH OF RARITAN
ANNUAL REORGANIZATION MEETING**

Raritan Fire Department with pipers Jessica Marzocca and Matt Thiel presented the colors.

Monsignor Michael Corona Pastor, St. Ann’s Church offered the invocation.

Daniel Jaxel, Borough Administrator read the following Open Public Meetings Act statement: This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. Notices of this meeting were sent to The Courier News and the Star Ledger on November 28, 2011. In addition, copies of notices were posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building, on the Raritan Borough website and filed in the Office of the Borough Clerk on the aforementioned date. Notices on the bulletin board have remained continuously posted. Proper notice having been given, the Borough Clerk is directed to include this statement in the minutes of this meeting.

John Hudak, 2009 Basilone Parade Grand Marshall, led the pledge of allegiance.

Lisa Simonetti sang the Star Spangled Banner.

The Oath of Office was administered to Honorable Jo-Ann Liptak.

The Oath of Office was administered to Honorable Denise Carra.

The Oath of Office was administered to Honorable Donald Tozzi.

ROLL CALL

Present: Denise Carra, Stefanie Gara, Paul Giraldi, Greg Lobell, Anthony Soriano and Donald Tozzi

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

Motion was made by Councilman Lobell to approve, seconded by Councilwoman Carra to nominate Stefanie Gara as Council President. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

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

STATE OF THE BOROUGH SPEECH BY MAYOR JO-ANN LIPTAK

2012 State of the Borough Speech

Ladies and gentlemen, distinguished guests, family and friends welcome to our annual reorganization meeting for the Borough of Raritan. Thank you for joining us today. 2011 was not only a year of major weather events but also a year of major activity within the borough. I am so proud of the fine work that all the departments do and the people who accomplish each and every task. We are, you are, so fortunate to have such dedicated people working for and on your behalf. In our tax assessor's office 349 building permits and certificates of occupancy were outstanding for this year. The office accomplished 23 inspections, which included additions, decks, pools, patios, and renovations. These inspections translated into 15 added assessments that have a total assessment value of \$1,118,800. This additional assessed value for the town should help with next year's tax rate.

The Tax office, once again, has a property tax collection rate of 99% as of 12/30/11. This consistent rate year after year speaks to the integrity of our property owners.

Beginning on April 1, 2011, the revised housing ordinance took effect requiring all rental apartments in the Borough to be registered and inspected by the property maintenance department. We have registered 1071 apartments and have collected \$53,550.00 in registration fees. We have collected \$4,720 in penalties with several cases still pending in Municipal Court. The most notable constructions projects in 2011 were the renovation of Toy-R-U's; the installation of the Solar Energy System at Janssen Pharmaceuticals and Johnson and Johnson Information Technology facilities on Route 202; and the permits for the building in the Stone Bridge at Raritan development (formerly known as Willow Walk) are under review. Permits have been released for footing and foundation of three buildings consisting of a 24 and 36 unit three story apartment buildings and the 5800 square foot club house with sales office and model. We are also very proud of the handicapped adaptable building that will be on the site to house disabled veterans.

Our engineering department, led by Borough Engineer Stan Schrek, has had a banner year. The following items were either begun or completed this past year:

1. Third Street curbs and sidewalks were reconstructed. Favorable bidding allowed remaining funds to enable milling and resurfacing of the roadway. This project was funded through a CDBG grant with an added off-tract contribution from Stone Bridge at Raritan. No borough capital dollars were invested.
2. Design was completed for improvements to Johnson Drive. Work was started in late fall and has ceased for the winter. The project will proceed in March 2012. This project was partly funded by NJDOT Transportation Fund grant.
3. Design was completed for improvements to LaGrange Street. This project will be bid over the winter months and construction will proceed during the spring. This project is also partially funded by NJDOT Transportation Trust Fund grant.
4. Design was completed for improvements to Ashton Street, Avon Place, and Marson Place. This project has been bid and a contract has been awarded. The project will proceed in early spring.

5. Design work is progressing on the reconstruction of Orlando Drive. This project will bid in late winter for an expected construction window over the summer months. This project is expected to be partially funded by a NJDOT Transportation Trust Fund grant.
6. A major trench failure was repaired on Roderer Drive and the cul-de-sac was resurfaced. This corrected a long standing problem due to initial improper construction techniques.
7. Sanitary sewers were video inspected, the area mapped and repairs were completed to the system in Cardinal Woods. This corrected a long standing inflow and infiltration surcharge to the Cardinal Woods Pump Station. This project was fully funded through a Regional Center Planning Grant.
8. Design is progressing for the reconstruction of the Route 28 Pump station. The equipment at this PS has reached the terminus of its useful life and must be replaced.
9. Design is progressing for improvements to the sanitary sewer system on Old York Road and Orlando Drive. This area is prone to surcharge from river flooding. This project is intended to relieve backwater infiltration to the low lying sewer connections. This project is fully funded by CDBG grant money.
10. The Borough was the recipient of the Complete Streets Grant from North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority for towns to plan the reconstructions of street for pedestrians and bicyclists. We are one of 15 municipalities in New Jersey to be awarded this grant. By having this policy in place we are ranked higher than other towns that have not adopted a plan and we are more likely to receive future grants from NJTPA.

Work is presently proceeding with security improvements to the Municipal Building. These improvements coincide with the transfer of Police Dispatch Duties to Somerset County Dispatch. The security improvements will enable partial and full lock down of the building. We anticipated moving over to County dispatch by January 1st. The entire configuration of the interior of the Police Department is in the process of being completed. Major items that needed to be addressed for the migration to County Dispatch were the purchase of new police radios and we began operating on the Somerset County Radio trunking system in September 2011. Our police department continues to be a proactive organization that is community oriented. A bike rodeo was sponsored by the PD in June and National Night Out was held at the Washington School Field in August. Foot patrols continue as did bike patrols is the warmer weather.

I would be remiss, if at this point, I did not mention and commend the outstanding work that our Public Works Department, our Fire Department, and Office of Emergency Management did during Hurricane Irene in August. Hurricane Irene caused catastrophic damage to our Public Works Garage. Our DPW not only worked day and night to clean up their situation but also continued to do the day to day work that you expect from them. Just when they were finally getting everything back in order we were hit by a freak Halloween snow storm which devastated some areas of town with trees and power lines down. Again, out they went to take care of the necessities while still doing their day to day jobs. Our Fire department must have pumped out nearly half the basements in town. It seemed as if we had three or four different Fire departments because you saw them all over town at the same time. Emergency Management led by Bob Lisa, whom I might mention is a volunteer, did an outstanding job of keeping lines of communication

open between the PD, FD, DPW, and the Mayor and also sending out necessary NIXLE messages to keep the public informed.

As we embark on 2012, budgetary items are foremost in our minds. We will continue to tighten our belts and continue to be as fiscally prudent as possible. We are slowly beginning to overcome the “we’ve always done it that way” mindset and, as a municipality, we must begin to look beyond our municipal boundaries in order to preserve the services you’ve come to expect. If that means more shared services or inter-local agreements then we will do that. One new policy adopted this past year was that we set our capital budget before our operating budget and we will continue to do our budget in that way. One can only assume that the 2% budget cap will remain for this coming year. I commend all departments for the budget cuts that they made last year.

President Reagan said that “America is too great for small dreams.” Well, I am going to paraphrase his saying and say “Raritan is too great for small dreams. “The Bloustein School of Public Policy and Planning has been working with the borough and the Economic Development Committee on a concept plan for our historic Nevius Street Bridge and the waterfront in general. The river was the focal point of our community years ago with all the mills and factories along its bank and it should and will become the focal point again for us. We are the northern terminus into Duke Farms Foundation and we need to take advantage of that. DFF is anticipating hundreds of thousands of visitors to the property once it’s renovated and we should take advantage of the trade and commerce that that many people will bring to our area. We can have just as much to offer as any town along the Delaware.

No community can function without its volunteers and we are grateful for their service to our town. It is their altruistic desire to serve their community which compels them to public service. They give their time and talents to help plan our community and preserve our quality of life. This year for the first time we honored a husband and wife. Pat and Katherine Mastice were honored as the 2011 Nicholas Esposito Volunteers of the Year. Congratulations to Pat and Katherine and the sincere thanks from the community.

Abraham Lincoln said that “I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives. I like to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him”. I know that each and every one of the Council members shares that sentiment with me. We are here at your service. Community must come first. Effective government represents diverse opinions and works toward informed, conscientious decisions and compromises for the good of the order and not personal gain or self-aggrandizement. We are here to make Raritan the best it can be and the finest community in Somerset County and the State of New Jersey.

In the four plus one year of this administration we have seen the following accomplishments:

1. A newly designed website that is still being redesigned and fine-tuned.
2. A bi-annual newsletter that is transmitted electronically and by hard copy here and at the Library.
3. Recognition of our volunteers with an annual award and a buffet dinner with a true “Taste of Raritan” compliments of our fine restaurants.
4. Youth on Main Street...a group of high school aged people doing community service projects.

5. Economic Development Committee to encourage business and make Raritan a business friendly community.
6. Cultural and Historic Committee which has really made its mark on town with videotaped oral histories discussions with our older residents. They also sponsored the Warren G. Harding historical re-enactor last September at the library.

It has been very gratifying to work with so many dedicated and enthusiastic people. What does the future hold? I would like to anticipate that in the next four years we will have a new area of commerce along the new smoothly paved Orlando Drive. I would like us to have a market similar to Rice's Market in Pennsylvania operating along Orlando Drive during the warm weather. I'd like to see the castle near the Nevius Street Bridge operating as a visitor's center and borough museum. I'd hope that we now have a new focal center for our community and the riverfront is now a major tourist attraction. We can with your help accomplish those objectives.

We would like to welcome back to council Denise Carra and welcome our newest councilmember Don Tozzi. Thank you for your commitment to our town. I would also like to thank Paul Giraldi, Anthony Soriano, Greg Lobell and Stefanie Gara for their help and commitment to making Raritan a great place to live and work. You have an extraordinary group of talented people on the Council who are eager to get down to business and continue to move Raritan forward.

May you and your loved ones enjoy good health and happiness in this New Year! Please God Bless all our young men and women in our armed services wherever they may be. Keep them safe and return them quickly to their families. God Bless Raritan and God Bless America.

REMARKS BY COUNCIL

Council President Gara delivered the following remarks:

I would like to welcome and thank everyone for joining us today for our annual reorganization meeting. I am looking forward to working with our new councilman Donald Tozzi as well as continuing to work with Mayor Liptak, Councilwoman Carra, Councilman Giraldi, Councilman Lobell and Councilman Soriano, Jr.

2011 was a productive year for our borough. We implemented many new ordinances and committees focusing on our quality of life. We also faced and overcame unprecedented snow falls, flooding, power outages, and hurricanes and yet we came together as a well-informed community neighbor helping neighbor. We are anticipating 2012 will also be a year of continued productivity, I urge all residents to get involved in any way possible. We have many community events on the horizon and their successes rely on the many wonderful volunteers who step up to help make these events a reality. Your Council will continue to work to improve our quality of life, the efficiency of our many Borough departments, and of course to provide continued services while focusing on maintaining our taxes at the lowest possible rate. We have worked very hard to be better structured and more organized to help meet both the present and future needs of Raritan.

This past year serving our Borough I had the privilege to working closely with the Public Safety Community, the Police Department, the Fire Department, OEM Department and the

Rescue Squad. I can sincerely say we have incredible first responders looking out for our wellbeing and I thank them for all their hard work and dedication to Raritan. We are a strong community thanks to these men and women.

My duties in 2012 will include Administration/Personal and Public Buildings /Public Grounds. I will be liaison to the Environmental Commission, Senior Citizens and the Municipal Land Use Board. I am readily available to all of you and of course I welcome communication from you.

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and I wish you all a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Councilman Giraldi congratulated Mayor Liptak, Councilwoman Carra and Councilman Tozzi and vowed to again provide great service to the residents of Raritan Borough.

Councilman Tozzi delivered the following remarks:

I would like to this opportunity to thank the residents of Raritan Boro for putting their trust in me on Election Day, a great day for me and my family.

For my mother, Rose Tozzi, I have fulfilled your dream of having a son in politics. I hope to make you proud.

To my wife, Carrie, I owe special thanks and gratitude for supporting me in taking the first step and encouraging me all along the way. I appreciate your time and sacrifice.

I would like to congratulate Denise Cara on your re-election to serve on the Council and a big congratulation to Mayor Liptak on continuing your successful role in serving the Boro.

I would also like to thank the Republican Party, with special thanks to Greg Lobell and Stephanie Gara; we could not have won this election without all of your help and support.

And finally, I look forward to my roles and serving as a liaison to a number of groups for Raritan Boro. I will serve Raritan by exercising common sense and looking beyond any political boundaries, when it comes to solving our challenges.

Councilman Lobell congratulated Mayor Liptak, Councilwoman Carra and Councilman Tozzi on their election victories, congratulated Councilwoman Gara on her appointment as Council President and thanked everyone for coming out.

Councilman Soriano congratulated Mayor Liptak, Councilwoman Carra and Councilman Tozzi. He stated that it is a pleasure to work with the Council and looks forward to serving as liaison to both the Board of Health and the Regional Center. Councilman Soriano wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Councilwoman Carra delivered the following remarks:

Good Afternoon. I would like to thank the voters of Raritan for placing their continued trust in me and re-electing me to the Borough Council. I will serve with honesty, integrity and dedication as I have done in my previous three terms. I am excited about the progress this Mayor and Council are making in moving Raritan forward.

Congratulations to Mayor Liptak and Councilman Tozzi on their election victory. I would like to thank Councilman Lobell for serving as Council President this past year. I look forward to working with Council President Gara this year as we continue to improve our town and do “great” things for Raritan.

This year Mayor Liptak has appointed me to the Finance Committee. Raritan Borough expects to again financially operate within both a state mandated 2 ½% budget appropriation CAP limitation and a 2% tax levy CAP limitation for 2012. Department heads are completing their 2012 operating budget requests by January 9. Some 2012 Municipal budget components are unknown as of this moment, including the extremely important revenue known as “Surplus Appropriated”. State aid dropped from \$831,729 in 2009 to \$662,436 in 2010. It stayed at \$662,436 in 2011, and we hope state aid will at least stay at this amount in 2012. We are happy that many important non-salary expense line items will be flat, the tax collection rate is good, and the 2012 Police salaries account should be contained by not budgeting dispatches salaries and prudent 2011 budgeting of the Police salaries account.

Employee health insurance costs are once again rising, but employees will be contributing more towards the State Health Benefits System premiums. The Police Pension system contribution by the borough is falling from \$538,149 in 2011 to \$374,555 in 2012.

We are doing everything possible to recover borough expenses incurred from Hurricane Irene and October snow storm. The borough’s net debt as a percentage of its legal borrowing power under the State is less than ten percent. We are in the process of negotiating employment contracts with both Public Works Union and the Police Union. The Mayor and Council will be working with the Borough Administrator and department heads in the next few months to produce a Municipal Budget that is financially responsible long term.

I am liaison to the Economic Development Committee again this year. The committee is focusing on the Raritan River development as the town’s recreation anchor and a magnet for tourism. We are working with the Bloustein School of Public Policy and Planning at Rutgers University to develop a concept plan for our waterfront and Orlando Drive Corridor. The waterfront development would create a robust, sustain able and di versified economy for the borough, thus making Raritan a more desirable place to work, live, shop or visit.

In closing, I would like to extend my thanks and gratitude to our Borough Attorney, Mark Anderson, Borough Engineer, Stan Schrek, Borough Administrator, Dan Jaxel, and Municipal Clerk, Rayna Harris for their knowledge and guidance throughout the year. A special thank you to the Public Works Department, Police Department, Fire Department, Rescue Squad, OEM and all the volunteers who give back to our community. I would like to wish everyone a Happy, Healthy and Safe New Year.

ADOPTION OF NEW GENERAL RULES OF ORDER

Motion was made by Councilman Lobell to approve, seconded by Councilman Tozzi to adopt the 2012 Rules of Order. Motion carried on the following vote.

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

APPOINTMENTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Mayor Liptak noted the following Council assignments:

- **ENGINEERING and PUBLIC WORKS**
Councilman Soriano
Councilwoman Carra
- **FINANCE**
Councilwoman Carra
Councilman Giraldi
- **POLICE and COURTS**
Councilman Giraldi
Councilman Lobell
- **PUBLIC SAFETY (FIRE,RESCUE,OEM)**
Councilman Lobell
Councilman Soriano
- **PUBLIC PROPERTIES**
Councilman Tozzi
Councilwoman Gara
- **ADMINISTRATION and PERSONNEL**
Councilwoman Gara
Councilman Tozzi

2012 COUNCIL LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS

Mayor Liptak noted the following Council assignments:

- **COUNCILWOMAN DENISE CARRA**
Youth on Main Street
Economic Development Committee
- **COUNCILWOMAN STEFANIE GARA**
Environmental Commission
Senior Citizens
- **COUNCILMAN PAUL GIRALDI**
Recreation Commission
Grants Committee
- **COUNCILMAN GREG LOBELL**
Basilone Parade Committee
Board of Education/Schools

- **COUNCILMAN ANTHONY SORIANO**
Board of Health
Regional Center

- **COUNCILMAN DONALD TOZZI**
Library Board of Trustees
Cultural and Historic Committee

APPOINTMENTS BY MAYOR WITHOUT CONSENT OF COUNCIL:

Mayor Liptak announced the following appointments:

MUNICIPAL LAND USE BOARD:

Don Dinella (Class IV) 4 year term 1/1/12 to 12/31/15
 Thomas H. Brown (Alternate #1) 2 year term 1/1/12 to 12/31/13
 Mary Lou Cunningham (Alternate #2) 2 year term 1/1/12 to 12/31/13
 Rob McGinley (Alternate #3) 1 year term 1/1/12 to 12/31/12
 Rich Bracey (Alternate #4) 1 year term 1/1/12 to 12.31.12

APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL LAND USE BOARD MEMBER BY COUNCIL:

Councilwoman Gara (III) 1 year term 1/1/12 to 12/31/12

Motion was made by Councilwoman Carra and seconded by Councilman Lobell to appoint Council President Gara to the 1 year term from 1/1/11 to 12/31/11. Motion carried.

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

RECREATION COMMISSION:

Smirti Agrawal 5 year term 1/1/12 to 12/31/16
 Alex Windrem 5 year term 1/1/12 to 12/31/16
 Lisa Snyder 5 year term 1/1/12 to 12/31/16

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSIONS MEMBERS

Olga Metaxas 3 year term 1/1/12 to 12/31/14
 Elizabeth Horvath 3 year term 1/1/12 to 12/31/14
 Wayne Barry 1 year term 1/1/12 to 12/31/12 (Unexpired)

CULTURAL AND HISTORIC COMMITTEE

Karen Eastlund 3 year term 1/1/12 to 12/31/14
 James Fidacaro 3 year term 1/1/12 to 12/31/14

REGIONAL CENTER BOARD

Mayor Liptak 1 year term 1/1/12 to 12/31/12
 Councilman Soriano 1 year term 1/1/12 to 12/31/12
 Dave Maski 1 year term 1/1/12 to 12/31/12

APPOINTMENTS BY MAYOR WITH CONSENT OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Alsdorf Smith 5 year term 1/1/12 to 12/31/ 16

BOARD OF HEALTH

Irene Sixt 3 year term 1/1/12 to 12/31/15
 Anna Louise Bongiovi 3 year term 1/1/12 to 12/31/15

SOMERSET COUNTY CULTURAL & HERITAGE COMMISSION ADVISORY BOARD

Jane Fidacaro 1 year term 1/1/11 to 12/31/11

CONSTABLE

Robert DeStefano 3 year term 1/1/12 to 12/31/15
 John Hudak 3 year term 1/1/12 to 12/31/15

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 2012-01-001

Council President Gara moved to adopt Resolution 2012-01-001 and Councilman Lobell seconded the motion. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

BOROUGH ATTORNEY

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the Borough of Raritan has nominated and the Raritan Borough Council has appointed Mark Anderson, Woolson Sutphen Anderson as Borough Attorney;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Mark Anderson shall serve as Borough Attorney for a term of one year, commencing January 1, 2012 and terminating December 31, 2012 at a retainer fee of \$8,400.00 per year. The Mayor and Council of the Borough of Raritan have entered into an agreement with Mark Anderson pertaining to compensation of fees without competitive bidding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The Mayor and Clerk of the Borough of the Raritan are hereby authorized and directed to execute said agreement on behalf of the Borough of Raritan. The Clerk is hereby directed to publish notice of this appointment within ten (10) days of the adoption of this resolution as required by law.

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

RESOLUTION 2012-01-002

Councilman Lobell moved to adopt Resolution 2012-01-002 and Councilman Soriano seconded the motion. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

BOND COUNSEL

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the Borough of Raritan has nominated John L. Kraft, Esq. of Lomurro, Davison, Eastman & Munoz, P.A., 100 Willow Brook Road, Suite 1 W. Freehold, NJ 07728 as Bond Counsel:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan hereby appoints John L. Kraft, Esq. of Lomurro, Davison, Eastman & Munoz, and P.A. to serve as Bond Counsel for a term of one year commencing January 1, 2012 terminating December 31, 2012. The Borough of Raritan has entered into an agreement with the Bond Counsel pertaining to compensation of fees without competitive bidding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The Mayor and Clerk of the Borough of the Raritan are hereby authorized and directed to execute said agreement on behalf of the Borough of Raritan. The Clerk is hereby directed to publish notice of this appointment within ten (10) days of the adoption of this resolution as required by law.

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

RESOLUTION 2012-01-003

Council President Gara moved to adopt Resolution 2012-01-003 and Councilman Giraldi seconded the motion. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

BOROUGH PROSECUTOR

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the Borough of Raritan has nominated Steven Rothblatt as Municipal Prosecutor;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan that Steven Rothblatt is hereby appointed to serve as the Municipal Prosecutor for a term of one year, commencing January 1, 2012 and terminating December 31, 2012 at an annual base salary of \$7,843.00 per year.

BE IT RESOLVED that it is agreed that Steve Rothblatt shall be responsible to prosecute any and all cases wherein the complainant is the Borough of Raritan, but that he shall not be responsible to prosecute cases wherein the complainant is the New Jersey State Police or a private citizen.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The Mayor and Clerk of the Borough of the Raritan are hereby authorized and directed to execute said agreement on behalf of the Borough of Raritan. The Clerk is hereby directed to publish notice of this appointment within ten (10) days of the adoption of this resolution as required by law.

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

RESOLUTION 2012-01-004

Councilman Soriano moved to adopt Resolution 2012-01-004 and Councilman Lobell seconded the motion. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

PUBLIC DEFENDER

WHEREAS, that the Mayor of the Borough of Raritan has nominated Frank Taddeo, 25 West High Street, Somerville, NJ 08876 as Public Defender;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan that Frank Taddeo of 25 West High Street, Somerville, NJ 08876 is hereby appointed as the Public Defender for a term of one year, commencing January 1, 2012 and terminating December 31, 2012 at a rate of \$3,922.00 per year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The Mayor and Clerk of the Borough of the Raritan are hereby authorized and directed to execute said agreement on behalf of the Borough of Raritan. The Clerk is hereby directed to publish notice of this appointment within ten (10) days of the adoption of this resolution as required by law.

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

RESOLUTION 2012-01-005

Councilman Lobell moved to adopt Resolution 2012-01-005 and Councilman Giraldi seconded the motion. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

ALTERNATE PUBLIC DEFENDER

WHEREAS, the office of the Municipal Court Administrator has advised the Mayor and Council of a need to appoint an alternate Public Defender for the Borough to represent defendants in the Municipal Court on such occasions when the appointed Public Defender cannot represent such defendants as a result of a legal or ethical conflict; and

WHEREAS, James Loewen, Esq. of 69 Grove Street, Somerville, NJ 08876 possesses the appropriate qualifications, and has expressed a willingness to accept such position;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that James Loewen shall be and is hereby appointed Alternate Public Defender for the Borough of Raritan to be compensated on a per case basis as may be authorized by the Council upon notice from the Administrator of the Municipal Court of the necessity to appoint the Alternate Public Defender in any particular case.

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

RESOLUTION 2012-01-006

Councilman Tozzi moved to adopt Resolution 2012-01-006 and Councilman Lobell seconded the motion. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

INSURANCE AGENT

WHEREAS, there is a need for an insurance agent for the Borough of Raritan for 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contract Law requires that a notice of an award for professional services without competitive bidding must be publicly advertised;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan that Wills of New Jersey, Inc. 350 Mt. Kemble Avenue, 2nd Floor, PO Box 1969, Morristown, NJ 07962 be appointed Insurance Agent for a term of one year from January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The Mayor and Clerk of the Borough of the Raritan are hereby authorized and directed to execute said agreement on behalf of the Borough

of Raritan. The Clerk is hereby directed to publish notice of this appointment within ten (10) days of the adoption of this resolution as required by law and file a copy in the Office of the Borough Clerk.

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

RESOLUTION 2012-01-007

Councilman Lobell moved to adopt Resolution 2012-01-007 and Councilwoman Carra seconded the motion. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

REGISTERED MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTANT

WHEREAS, that the Mayor of the Borough of Raritan has nominated Suplee, Cooney & Company, as Registered Municipal Accountant;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan that Suplee, Clooney & Company is hereby appointed to serve as Registered Municipal Accountant for a term of one year, commencing January 1, 2012 and terminating December 31, 2012. The Mayor and Council of the Borough of Raritan have entered into an agreement with Suplee, Clooney & Company pertaining to compensation of fees without competitive bidding.

BE IT RESOLVED that the audit shall be performed in accordance with requirements as prescribed by the Division of Local Government and applicable statutes and that the compensation shall be provided for in the Annual Adopted Budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The Mayor and Clerk of the Borough of the Raritan are hereby authorized and directed to execute said agreement on behalf of the Borough of Raritan. The Clerk is hereby directed to publish notice of this appointment within ten (10) days of the adoption of this resolution as required by law and file a copy in the Office of the Borough Clerk.

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

RESOLUTION 2012-01-008

Councilman Soriano moved to adopt Resolution 2012-01-008 and Council President Gara seconded the motion. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

FIRE CHIEF AND ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF

WHEREAS, the Borough of Raritan has been notified by Relief Hose Company No.2 Fire Department that they have held their elections and submitted their results to the Mayor and Borough Council for approval;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council approve of the actions of the members of Relief Hose Company No. 2 by concurring with the appointment of Carl Memoli as Fire Chief term of office commencing January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Council approve of the actions of the members of Relief Hose Company No. 2 by concurring with the appointment of William Mener as Assistant Fire chief for a term of office commencing January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012.

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

RESOLUTION 2012-01-009 PULLED

RESOLUTION 2012-01-010

Councilman Lobell moved to adopt Resolution 2012-01-010 and Councilwoman Carra seconded the motion. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

CUSTODIANS OF ACCOUNTS

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan that the following Borough Officials are hereby authorized as custodians of the following financial accounts:

<u>Fund Accounts</u>	<u>Custodian</u>	<u>Name</u>
1. Current	Chief Finance Officer	Karin Kneafsey
2. Capital	Chief Finance Officer	Karin Kneafsey
3. Dog	Chief Finance Officer	Karin Kneafsey
4. Trust	Chief Finance Officer	Karin Kneafsey
5. Construction Account	Chief Finance Officer	Karin Kneafsey

6. Payroll	Chief Finance Officer	Karin Kneafsey
7. Payroll Agency	Chief Finance Officer	Karin Kneafsey
8. Magistrate Court	Court Administrator	Linda Lella
9. Court/Bail	Court Administrator	Linda Lella
10. Vital Statistics	Registrar of Vital Statistics	Constance M. DelRocco
11. Tax Collector Trust	Tax Collector	Lisa Simonetti

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

RESOLUTION 2012-01-011

Councilwoman Carra moved to adopt Resolution 2012-01-011 and Council President Gara seconded the motion. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

DEPOSITORIES/FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14, the following financial institutions be designated as depositories for Borough monies, said banks or trust companies having their place of business in New Jersey, organized under the laws of the United States or New Jersey:

1. **TD Bank, 34 W. Somerset Street, Raritan, NJ 08869**
2. **PNC Bank, 555 Route 28 West, Raritan, NJ 08869**
3. **Skylands Community Bank, 91 N. Gaston Avenue, Somerville, NJ 08876**
4. **Peapack-Gladstone Bank, 190 Main Street, Gladstone, NJ 07934**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that prior to the deposit of any municipal funds in the above mentioned depositories, said bank shall file with the Chief Financial Officer a statement indicating that the bank is covered under the government Units Deposit Protection Act (R.S. 17:9-41).

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

RESOLUTION 2012-01-012

Councilwoman Carra moved to adopt Resolution 2012-01-012 and Councilman Tozzi seconded the motion. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

RATE OF INTEREST ON DELINQUENT TAXES AND SEWER

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:4-67 permits the Governing Body of each municipality to fix the rate of interest to be charged for non-payment of taxes or assessments subject to any abatement or discount for the late payment of taxes as provided by law; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:4-67 has been amended to permit the fixing of said rate at 8% per annum on the first \$1,500.00 of the delinquency and 18% per annum on any amount in excess of \$1,500.00 and allows an additional penalty of 6% be collected against a delinquency in excess of \$10,000.00 on properties that fail to pay the delinquency prior to the end of the calendar year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset; State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The Tax Collector is hereby authorized and directed to charge 8% per annum on the first \$1,500.00 of taxes and sewer fees becoming delinquent after due date and 18% per annum on any amount of taxes in excess of \$1, 500.00 becoming delinquent after due date and if a delinquency is in excess of \$10, 000.00 and remains in arrears on December 31st of the calendar year an additional penalty of 6% shall be charged against the delinquency.

2. Effective January 1, 2012 there will be a ten (10) day grace period on quarterly tax payments.

3. Any payments not made in accordance with paragraph two of this resolution shall be charged interest from the due date as set forth in paragraph one of this resolution.

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

RESOLUTION 2012-01-013

Councilwoman Carra moved to adopt Resolution 2012-01-013 and Councilman Lobell seconded the motion. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

TEMPORARY BUDGET

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-19 of the Local Budget Act provides that temporary appropriations shall be made for the purpose and amounts required in the manner and time therein provided:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following temporary appropriations be made for the year 2012:

APPROPRIATIONS EXPENSES	SALARIES AND WAGES	OTHER
Administrative and Executive	\$ 62,200.00	\$ 11,000.00
Borough Clerk	19,000.00	5,000.00
Financial Administration	22,700.00	12,000.00
Assessment of Taxes		19,000.00
Collection of Taxes	13,700.00	3,000.00
Legal Services and Costs		30,000.00
Municipal Court	35,000.00	3,500.00
Public Defender	1,500.00	
Municipal Prosecutor	2,614.00	
Engineering Services and Cost		12,000.00
Public Buildings	8,500.00	20,000.00
Public Grounds		800.00
Planning Board	830.00	4,000.00
Environment Commission	370.00	500.00
Insurance:		
Group Insurance Plan Employees		250,000.00
Surety Bond Premiums		1,300.00
Other Insurance		140,000.00
Workers' Compensation Insurance		70,000.00
Elections		1,000.00
Uniform Fire Safety Act	7,700.00	4,000.00
Fire	200.00	11,000.00
Police	300,000.00	40,000.00
Construction Official (inside Cap)	33,000.00	5,000.00
Interlocal Agreement Somerville		
Electric Subcode		5,000.00
Property Maintenance	22,000.00	
Emergency Management		500.00
Road Repairs and Maintenance	82,000.00	15,000.00
Snow Removal	20,000.00	8,000.00
Garbage and Trash Removal	147,000.00	110,000.00
Sewerage Authority Share of costs		\$200,000.00
Board of Health	\$500.00	18,000.00
Dog Regulation		6,000.00
Vital Statistics	3,800.00	1,000.00
Parks and Playgrounds	20,000.00	25,000.00
Celebration of Public Events		4,000.00

APPROPRIATIONS EXPENSES	SALARIES AND WAGES	OTHER
Maintenance of Public Library		143,000.00
Utilities:		
Gasoline		23,000.00
Electricity		23,000.00
Telephone and Telegraph		14,000.00
Natural Gas		7,000.00
Heating Oil		20,000.00
Street Lighting		40,000.00
Fire Hydrant Service		36,000.00
Water		3,000.00
Contingent		3,000.00
Capital Improvement Fund		30,000.00
Social Security System		48,000.00
Payment of Bond Principal		280,000.00
Interest on Bonds		70,687.50
NJ Transit Lease		27,500.00
Due from Assessment Trust		20,000.00
Interest on Notes		20,437.95
State Unemployment Insurance		10,000.00
Public Employees Pensions System		170,625.00
TOTALS	\$802,614.00	1,978,850.45

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

RESOLUTION 2012-01-014

Council President Gara moved to adopt Resolution 2012-01-014 and Councilman Lobell seconded the motion. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS

WHEREAS, all legal notices, ordinances, and resolutions must be advertised so as to inform the public of all happenings and events;

WHEREAS, Notices shall be mailed, telephoned, telegraphed or hand delivered to at least two (2) newspapers;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan gives notice that The Courier News and The Star Ledger are the official newspapers of the Borough for 2012 and are designated by the public body to receive legal notices.

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

RESOLUTION 2012-01-015

Councilwoman Carra moved to adopt Resolution 2012-01-015 and Councilman Giraldi seconded the motion. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

TO CANCEL 2011 OPEN BALANCES LESS THAN \$10.00 FOR PROPERTY TAX

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17-1 allows the Tax Collector to cancel all property tax open balances in the amount of \$10.00 or less at the close of the fiscal year, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset; State of New Jersey that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to cancel all property tax open balances in the amount of \$10.00 or less for the year 2011.

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

RESOLUTION 2012-01-016

Council President Gara moved to adopt Resolution 2012-01-016 and Councilman Tozzi seconded the motion. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

PAID HOLIDAYS

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan that each employee of the Public Works Department shall be paid for the following twelve holidays in 2011 provided he/she shall work on the scheduled work day before and after said holiday:

1. New Year's Day	January 2, 2012 (Monday)
2. Presidents' Day	February 20, 2012 (Monday)
3. Good Friday	April 6, 2012 (Friday)
4. Memorial Day	May 28, 2012 (Monday)
5. Independence Day	July 4, 2012 (Wednesday)
6. Labor Day	September 3, 2012 (Monday)
7. Columbus Day	October 8, 2012 (Monday)

8. Veterans' Day (Administration Staff Only)	November 12, 2012 (Monday)
9. Thanksgiving Day	November 22, 2012 (Thursday)
10. Day after Thanksgiving Day	November 23, 2012 (Friday)
11. Christmas Eve	December 24, 2012 (Monday)
12. Christmas Day	December 25, 2012 (Tuesday)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each employee of the Public Works shall be entitled to one Floating Holiday.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each employee of the Administrative Department shall be paid for twelve holidays in 2012 provided he/she shall work on the scheduled work day before and after said holiday, which shall consist of the holidays listed above. Instead of One Floating Holiday, substitute Veterans' Day for Administrative Staff.

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

RESOLUTION 2012-01-017

Council President Gara moved to adopt Resolution 2012-01-017 and Councilman Lobell seconded the motion. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

2012 ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset; State of New Jersey that the meeting schedule for the period January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012 will be Agenda-Workshop Meetings at 7:00 PM with an Executive (Closed) Session listed on the meeting agenda on the 2nd Tuesday of the month or as designated, official action will be taken. All meetings shall be held at 22 First Street, Raritan, NJ 08869.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Regular Meetings at 7:00 PM with an Executive (Closed) Session listed on the meeting agenda will be on the 4th Tuesday of the month or as designated, official action will be taken. All meetings shall be held at 22 First Street, Raritan, NJ 08869 on the following dates:

<u>AGENDA-WORKSHOP MEETING</u>	<u>REGULAR MEETING</u>
January 10, 2012	January 24, 2012
February 14, 2012	February 28, 2012
March 13, 2012	March 27, 2012
April 10, 2012	April 24, 2012
May 08, 2012	May 22, 2012

June 12, 2012	June 26, 2012
July 10, 2012	July 24, 2012
August 14, 2012	August 28, 2012
September 11, 2012	September 25, 2012
October 09, 2012	October 23, 2012
*November 20, 2012 at 6:00 PM	November 20, 2012
*December 18, 2012 at 6:00 PM	December 18, 2012

The Clerk is hereby directed to publish notice of this appointment in the Courier News or Star Ledger within ten (10) days of the adoption of this resolution as required by law.

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

RESOLUTION 2012-01-018

Councilman Tozzi moved to adopt Resolution 2012-01-018 and Councilman Lobell seconded the motion. Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

RESOLUTION TO REDUCE POLICE DEPARTMENT CHANGE FUND

WHEREAS, a change fund of \$100.00 was established by resolution for the Police Department in 2003, and

WHEREAS, the Police Chief returned these funds and has requested that the amount of the change fund be decreased, and

WHEREAS, this procedure does not require approval by DLGS;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of Raritan Borough, Somerset County, hereby authorize the Chief Finance Officer to provide the Police Chief with a change fund of \$30.00 to begin January 1, 2012.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one spoke.

The Reverend Dr. Ronald W. Jones, Pastor of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Raritan, New Jersey gave the benediction.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Carra moved to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Councilman Lobell. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rayna E. Harris,
Borough Clerk