

The Regular Meeting of the Raritan Borough Council was called to order by Mayor Liptak at 6:00p.m. The meeting was held in the Meeting Room of the Raritan Borough Municipal Building at 22 First Street, Raritan, NJ 08869.

Mayor Liptak announced that the meeting was 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 May 20, 2014. 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. Notices on the bulletin board have remained continuously posted.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilwoman Carra, Councilwoman Gara,
Councilman Giraldi, Councilman Lobell, Councilman
Sibilia, Council President Tozzi

Absent: XXX

Also Present: Mayor Liptak, Borough Attorney Wenner (arrived
6:05p.m.), Borough Engineer Schrek (departed
8:40p.m.), Borough Administrator Jaxel, Police
Chief McCormick (departed 8:40p.m.), Borough
Clerk Schmitt

FLAG SALUTE AND INVOCATION

Council President Tozzi led the invocation and flag salute.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

Somerville/Raritan Rescue Squad (AS)

Chief Jim Barry and President Steve Weinman of the Somerville/Raritan Rescue Squad addressed Mayor and Council along with the residents in attendance about the future of the rescue squad and the pending changes.

Chief Barry reviewed the current services provided through the Somerset Shared Service Ambulance Alliance. The Chief stated that fundraising drives, that support the volunteer services, have significantly dropped off over the years therefore, revenue is not covering expenses. In order to maintain solvency the rescue squad is looking into implementing a soft billing system. This will not change the quality or timeliness of service. The Chief explained that the rescue squad will still remain a community based EMS and explained the billing process and the possibility of a subscription service.

Mayor Liptak opened the discussion up to the residents in attendance for a question and answer session. After a brief session of question and answers, the residents thanked the representatives of the Rescue Squad for their services.

Raritan Public Library Addition (ML)

Mayor Liptak welcomed the representatives of the Raritan Library Board of Trustees and invited Anthony Iovino from Arcari & Iovino Architects, 1 Katherine Street, Little Falls, New Jersey 07643 to review the plans for the proposed library addition.

Council inquired about the cost of the addition per square foot, drainage issues, handicap ramp and parking, staff room, and the issue with flat roof on the current building.

Discussion continued on the funding of the project through the library fund balance, how the money would be allocated, which party would be responsible for capital improvements and the future of the library system.

Ron Rospoli, President of the Trustees of the Raritan Public Library explained to Council the idea, concept and plans for the addition of the community room to the library.

Mayor Liptak invited the residents to asked questions or comment on the discussion. Some residents voiced concern over parking and loitering; there was both support and opposition to the addition.

Borough Attorney Wenner inquired if the library has an approved capital improvement plan from the State. Mr. Rispoli said he would forward a copy of the approved plan. Mr. Wenner also suggested that an agreement should be prepared to define the rights and obligations of the respected parties.

Mayor Liptak stated that she would entertain a motion.

On motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved to proceed with approving the addition to the Raritan Public Library as presented to Council.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Carra, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Tozzi
Nay: Sibilialia
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-1-0.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Liptak read a Proclamation into record in support of Raising Awareness of Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Executive Session - March 12, 2013
Executive Session - April 23, 2013
Executive Session - July 9, 2013
Executive Session - July 23, 2013
Executive Session - August 27, 2013
Executive Session - September 10, 2013
Executive Session I - October 8, 2013
Executive Session II - October 8, 2013
Executive Session - January 28, 2014

On motion by Councilwoman Carra, seconded by Council President Tozzi, it was moved to approve the above listed minutes.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Carra, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Tozzi
Nay: XXX
Abstain: Sibiliala,

Motion Carried 5-0-1.

Executive Session - October 22, 2013
Executive Session - November 12, 2013
Special Meeting - January 14, 2014
Executive Session I - January 14, 2014
Executive Session II - January 14, 2014
Executive Session I - February 25, 2014
Executive Session II - February 25, 2014
Special Meeting - March 19, 2014
April 8, 2014 - Agenda Workshop Meeting
April 8, 2014 - Executive Session
April 29, 2014 - Special Meeting

On motion by Councilman Lobell, seconded by Council President Tozzi, it was moved to approve the above listed minutes.

Recorded Vote on the above excluding the Special Meeting of March 19, 2014:

Aye: Carra, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibiliala, Tozzi
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

Recorded Vote on Special Meeting - March 19, 2014

Aye: Carra, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibilia, Tozzi

Nay: XXX

Abstain: Gara

Motion Carried 5-0-1.

Special Meeting - February 26, 2013

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Council President Tozzi, it was moved to approve the minutes from the Special Meeting of February 26, 2014.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Gara, Lobell, Tozzi

Nay: XXX

Abstain: Carra, Giraldi, Sibilia

Motion Carried 3-0-3.

Executive Session - December 17, 2013

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilman Lobell, it was moved to approve the Executive Session Minutes of December 17, 2013.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Gara, Lobell, Sibilia, Tozzi

Nay: XXX

Abstain: Carra, Giraldi

Motion Carried 4-0-2.

Executive Session - March 25, 2014

On motion by Councilman Lobell, seconded by Councilwoman Carra, it was moved to approve the Executive Session Minutes of March 25, 2014.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Carra, Gara, Lobell, Tozzi

Nay: XXX

Abstain: Giraldi, Sibilia

Motion Carried 4-0-2.

April 22, 2014 - Regular Meeting
April 22, 2014 - Executive Session

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Council President Tozzi, it was moved to approve the above listed minutes.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Carra, Gara, Lobell, Sibilialia, Tozzi
Nay: XXX
Abstain: Giraldi

Motion Carried 5-0-1.

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

Ordinance No. 2014-03 - An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey to Amend the "Land Use and Development" Ordinance

WHEREAS, the Borough of Raritan finds that the public welfare will be served by assuring that further development is consistent with the Borough of Raritan's desire to create a more sustainable community.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough of Raritan as follows:

The Land Use and Development Ordinance is amended to include the Green Development Checklist as item (7) under Section 207-47.B. to read as follows:

(7) Checklist No. 7 for determining completeness of application for all levels of site plan approval.

The completion of the Checklist by applicants is mandatory; however, compliance with the Checklist items is not a condition of approval.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that his ordinance shall take effect upon final adoption and publication in accordance with the law.

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilman Lobell, it was moved to introduce Ordinance No. 2014-03.

Recorded Vote:
Aye: Carra, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibilialia, Tozzi
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

Mayor Liptak announced that this ordinance will be considered for final passage after public hearing thereon at a meeting of said Borough Council to be held in the Municipal Building, 22

First Street, Raritan, New Jersey, on Tuesday, June 24, 2014 at 7:00 PM or at any time and place to which the meeting for the further consideration of the ordinance shall be adjourned.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 2014-05-79 - Resolution Opposing Senate Bill S-1801 and Assembly Bills A-2621 and A-2495 Seeking to Authorize County Government to Create County Tax Assessment While Abolishing Tax Assessment at a Local Municipal Level

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilman Lobell, it was moved to adopt Resolution 2014-05-79.

Recorded Vote on Resolution No. 2014-05-79.

Aye: Carra, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibilia, Tozzi

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

Resolution No. 2014-05-80 - Resolution Awarding Contracts for the Raritan Home Improvement Program

On motion by Councilman Lobell, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved to adopt Resolution 2014-05-80.

Recorded Vote on Resolution No. 2014-05-80.

Aye: Carra, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibilia, Tozzi

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

Resolution No. 2014-05-81 - Chapter 159 - 2014 NJDOT Grant - Improvements to Orlando Drive - Phase 3

On motion by Councilwoman Carra, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved to adopt Resolution 2014-05-81.

Recorded Vote on Resolution No. 2014-05-81.

Aye: Carra, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibilia, Tozzi

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

Resolution No. 2014-05-82 - Resolution Authorizing Discharge of
Lien - Amending Resolution No. 2014-05-77

On motion by Councilman Sibilialia, seconded by Councilman Lobell,
it was moved to adopt Resolution 2014-05-82.

Recorded Vote on Resolution No. 2014-05-82.

Aye: Carra, Gara, Giralardi, Lobell, Sibilialia, Tozzi

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

Resolution No. 2014-05-83 - Resolution Authorizing Refund of
Redemption Monies to Outside Lien Holder (Tax Sale Certificate
#130007)

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Council President
Tozzi, it was moved to adopt Resolution 2014-05-83.

Recorded Vote on Resolution No. 2014-05-83.

Aye: Carra, Gara, Giralardi, Lobell, Sibilialia, Tozzi

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

Resolution No. 2014-05-84 - Resolution Authorizing Refund of
Redemption Monies to Outside Lien Holder (Tax Sale Monies to
Outside Lien Holder (Tax Sale Certificate #11-00003)

On motion by Councilman Lobell, seconded by Councilman Sibilialia,
it was moved to adopt Resolution 2014-05-84.

Recorded Vote on Resolution No. 2014-05-84.

Aye: Carra, Gara, Giralardi, Lobell, Sibilialia, Tozzi

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

Resolution No. 2014-05-85 - Disposition of Equipment by the
Raritan Public Library

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilman Lobell,
it was moved to adopt Resolution 2014-05-85.

Recorded Vote on Resolution No. 2014-05-85.

Aye: Carra, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibilia, Tozzi
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

Resolution No. 2014-05-86 - Disposition of Equipment by the
Raritan Police Department

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilman Lobell,
it was moved to adopt Resolution 2014-05-86.

Recorded Vote on Resolution No. 2014-05-86.

Aye: Carra, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibilia, Tozzi
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

Resolution No. 2014-05-87 - Tower/Wrecker Licenses

On motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilwoman
Gara, it was moved to adopt Resolution 2014-05-87.

Recorded Vote on Resolution No. 2014-05-87.

Aye: Carra, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibilia, Tozzi
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

MOTION

Ratification of Social Affair Permit
St. Ann Church Carnival - Beer Garden
June 10, 11, 12, 2014 - 6:00p.m. to 10:00p.m.
June 13, 2014 - 6:00p.m. to 10:30p.m.
June 14, 2014 - 6:00p.m. to 11:00p.m.

On motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilwoman
Carra, it was moved to approve the above listed motion.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibilia, Tozzi
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

APPROVAL OF BILLS LIST

On motion by Councilman Lobell, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved to approve the Bills List totaling \$2,730,195.94

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibilia, Tozzi
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

PURCHASE ORDER REQUESTS

1. Police Department (2013 Ford Interceptor) - Beyer Fleet in the amount of \$29,777.96.

On motion by Councilman Lobell, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved to approve the above listed Purchase Order Request.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibilia, Tozzi
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

2. Raritan Public Library (Tree Trimming) - Absolute Tree Experts in the amount of \$1,650.00.

On motion by Councilman Lobell, seconded by Council President Tozzi, it was moved to approve the above listed Purchase Order Request.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibilia, Tozzi
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

Council President Tozzi reported that the John Basilone parade committee is working on fund raising and related items. The Economic Development Committee is working on putting a website together. The Department of Public Works did a fantastic job on set up and clean up of the bike race. The race was phenomenal

and many businesses participated. Mr. Tozzi and Ms. Gara meet with parks and grounds about the diseased trees and are handling the replacement. Mr. Tozzi also mentioned that he attended the Memorial Day ceremony which was heart touching and stated that we all should honor and support our veterans.

Councilwoman Carra had nothing new to report and stated that the bike race was a great event.

Councilman Giraldi reported that the Board of Health has no relevant issues.

Councilman Lobell reported that the Cultural and Historical Committee held a walking tour on June 17th and he will provide a report at the next meeting. He has made contact with the County on the proposal to paint a mural under the bridge but has not heard back and will continue to follow up. A walk through of the Orlando Drive Corridor Redevelopment has been scheduled with Mr. Berger of the Raritan Mall for June 4th at 4:00p.m. Councilwoman Gara and Borough Engineer Schrek will also attend. Mr. Lobell also stated that he has received a complaint that it is difficult for bicyclist to see the benches on the bridge at dusk and suggests adding reflector tape to the edge of the benches. Councilman Lobell also stated that the Memorial Day celebration was very nice and veterans should be treated better. Mr. Lobell read the police department report.

Councilwoman Gara reported that four Japanese Cherry Blossom trees have been donated and they will go between the two parking lots at the Municipal Building. Ms. Gara requested that Public Works dig the holes and she would like the children from Kennedy School to participate in the planting. Ms. Gara also stated that she has scheduled a meeting with Public Works to reevaluate the foliage and plantings in front of the Municipal that may have died this past winter. Ms. Gara also reported that at the last Environmental Commission meeting Jerry Kovac was sworn in as an alternate member; however Ms. Gara would like to request that Mayor Liptak appoint Jerry Kovac as a permanent member to fill the unexpired term of Lindsay San Giacomo, through December 31, 2015, due to Ms. San Giacomo's resignation. Councilwoman Gara thanked Ms. San Giacomo for her service over the years and wished her and her family all the best.

Councilman Sibilgia had no report to deliver from the Board of Education. The Recreation Department will hold baseball pictures and a picnic on June 7th; the pool will open on Monday,

June 23rd and swim lesson sign ups have begun. Also a family movie night is scheduled for June 27th at Washington School.

Mayor Liptak stated that it is always a pleasure to receive good news and reported that recently Sgt. Thomas Fisher, while off duty at a friend's barbeque, rescued a child from a neighboring pool. Sgt. Fisher heard frantic screaming, jumped the fence and rescued a toddler who fell into a pool and was trapped. Sgt. Fisher successfully performed CPR and will be recognized for his efforts by the Raritan Township Police Department at a future Council Meeting.

Mayor Liptak also reported that the Memorial Day Service was very poignant; however next year the Borough needs try to get more people to participate in honoring our war dead and veterans.

Mayor Liptak acknowledged that she received a letter from Lindsey San Giacomo resigning from the Environmental Commission. Mayor Liptak also noted a few items of correspondence one of which is an email received from the New Jersey League of Municipalities opposing Senate Bill 1972 which would prohibit municipal registration of multi-family dwellings which Mayor Liptak feels is essential to the Borough.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Raritan Riverfront Progress Page (SG)

Councilwoman Gara stated that back in October of 2013, Borough Planner Maski suggested that the Borough add an additional page/link to the website to post information related to the Riverfront Progress. Ms. Gara requested Council's authorization to solicit a quote on the additional cost this may incur. Council agreed that Ms. Gara was authorized to investigate the additional cost.

2. Elizabeth Park (SG)

Councilwoman Gara stated that she received an email from a resident concerning the trees in Elizabeth Park that were removed but not properly cleaned up or replaced. Ms. Gara stated that the park needs some additional care and she has a source that is willing to donate trees. Councilman Sibilias stated that he would contact the Public Works and Recreation Department for assistance.

3. Chapter 88 - Borough Post-Retirement Health Benefits (AS)

Councilman Sibilias stated that he would like Council to approve the extension of health benefits to a retiree's spouse

for one additional month upon the death of the retiree. Borough Attorney Wenner said that he would look into the legality through the State Health Benefits regulations.

4. Update on CDL for Public Works (AS)

Councilman Sibiliala conferred with Borough Administrator Jaxel on the commercial driver's licenses for Public Works employees and it was confirmed that this will be completed by June 10th.

5. Library Roof (DJ)

Borough Administrator Jaxel reported that the original contractor secured for the repairs to the library roof wishes to be relieved of their obligation. Mr. Jaxel presented Council with a new quote to perform the required work and requested Council's approval to nullify the previous purchase order and approve the new purchase order from Pieros Construction for \$8,788.00

On motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved to nullify the previous purchase order and approve the new purchase order from Pieros Construction for \$8,788.00.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibiliala, Tozzi
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

6. Stream Encroachment Draft Ordinance (DJ)

Borough Engineer Schrek stated that he would like to investigate the potential penalties related to this ordinance in more detail and delay discussion on this item until the July Agenda-Workshop Meeting.

7. Catch Basin Repair (DJ)

Borough Administrator Jaxel upon conferring with Borough Engineer Schrek reported that they would like to integrate these repairs with the road improvements.

8. Fire Prevention (DJ)

Borough Administrator Jaxel requested Council's authorization to advertise for the position of fire prevention officer at a maximum of sixteen hours per week. Council approved of the request.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Liaison Assignments/Conflicts (DC)

Councilwoman Carra reviewed the liaisons obligations and requested that all conflicts and business be discussed openly.

2. Summer Help (DJ)

Borough Administrator Jaxel inquired if Council wished to advertise for summer help in the Public Works Department at a rate of \$10.00 per hour. Council agreed to advertise.

3. Painting of Pools (DJ)

Mayor Liptak stated that the paint in the Frelinghuysen Park pool is peeling and trees alongside the pool are undermining the park. Borough Administrator Jaxel stated that the Public Works Department may be able to assist with the painting of the pool and Borough Engineer Schrek suggested removing the trees.

4. FEMA Grant Match for Public Works Building Mezzanine (DJ)

Borough Administrator Jaxel informed Council that Robert Lisa, Office of Emergency Management Coordinator is looking into a grant to provide funding to add a mezzanine area to the Public Works building. The cost would be over \$300,000.00 and the Borough would be required to contribute twenty-five percent of the cost according to the terms of the grant. Mr. Jaxel asked if Council had an objections to which none where stated.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Richard Yadlosky of 267 Weiss Terrace, Raritan, New Jersey made a few comments which included his position on supporting the library and thanking Mr. Lobell for supporting the veterans. Mr. Yadlosky inquired if there had been a vote on the raise for Daniel LaVerde and referenced stacking Mr. LaVerde's salary for pension purposes. Mr. Yadlosky stated thate he feels this is unacceptable. Mr. Yadlosky also inquired about the multi-family dwelling bill and Raritan Borough's position on building multi-family units. Mayor Liptak gave an explanation on the bill and explained the Planning Board and variance process.

Thomas Brown of 18 Elmer Street, Raritan, New Jersey inquired about the amount the Borough contributes to the rescue squad. Mayor Liptak commented that the Borough contributes approximately \$26,000.00; however this contribution may eventually go away. Mr. Brown also commented that the vote on the library addition may essential mitigate his share of the tax burden.

Anthony DeCicco of 10 Anderson Street, Raritan, New Jersey complimented the Borough Clerk on getting the liquor license renewals out in a timely manner and inquired when the approving resolution would be on the agenda. Mr. DeCicco also commented on the affordable housing resolution on the current agenda and asked if the names of the grantees would be read. Mayor Liptak commented that the names would not be read to protect their privacy.

Jennifer Capici of 111 Woodmere Street, Raritan, New Jersey inquired where the money is coming from to settle the recent ruling on the Gannet lawsuit. Mayor Liptak commented that the newspaper article which reported on the Gannet lawsuit was inaccurate and since the case will progress to the appellate court it is premature to say where the funds will come from. Borough Attorney Wenner explained the current ruling and the appeal process.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution No. 2014-05-88 - Executive Session-Subject Matter:
Attorney Client Privilege; Personnel - Finance Administration,
Deputy Registrar; Police Contract Negotiations

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Council President Tozzi, it was moved to adopt Resolution 2014-05-88.

Recorded Vote on Resolution No. 2014-05-88

Aye: Carra, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibilia, Tozzi

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

Council broke for a brief recess at 8:40p.m.

Council convened in Executive Session at 8:50p.m.

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilman Sibilia, it was moved to come out of Executive Session.

Recorded Vote: AYE: All Ayes.

NAY: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

Council resumed in open session at 9:15p.m.

Mayor Liptak called for a motion to approve the appointment of Marguerite Schmitt as Deputy Registrar effective immediately.

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilman Sibilialia, it was moved to approve the appointment of Marguerite Schmitt as Deputy Registrar effective immediately.

Recorded Vote: AYE: All Ayes.
NAY: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilman Sibilialia, it was moved to adjourn the meeting.

Recorded Vote: AYE: All Ayes.
NAY: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:17p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Marguerite Schmitt, RMC
Borough Clerk

Approved: _____