

November 25, 2014
Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Raritan Borough Council was called to order by Mayor Liptak at 6:01p.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 March 3, 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 (left at 7:40p.m.), Councilman Lobell, Councilman Sibilia, Council President Tozzi

Absent: XXX

Also Present: Mayor Liptak, Borough Attorney Wenner, Borough Engineer Schrek, Borough Administrator Jaxel, Police Chief McCormick, Borough Clerk Schmitt

FLAG SALUTE AND INVOCATION

Councilman Sibilia led the invocation and flag salute.

PROCLAMATION

Recognition of Emergency Medical Service First Responders for 25 Years of Service

Mayor Liptak stated that the Borough of Raritan and the Borough of Somerville are very fortunate to have a superb rescue squad and tonight the Borough has the opportunity to draw attention to the outstanding job performed by the members of the rescue squad with 25 years or more service.

Mayor Liptak read the Proclamation into record and presented it to Steven Weinman, representing the members of the rescue squad.

Mr. Weinman commented that the collaboration between the squads and the building of relationships have helped to make the rescue squad a success and able to work for the community.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution No. 2014-11-148 - Executive Session - Subject Matter:
Police Contract Negotiations; Administrative Salaries

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilman Lobell,
it was moved to approve Resolution No. 2014-11-148.

Recorded Vote on Resolution No. 2014-11-148:

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

Council convened in Executive Session at 6:09p.m. Councilman
Elect Foohey and Steve Glickman, Borough Labor Counsel were in
attendance.

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Council President
Tozzi, 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 6:40p.m.

Councilman Giraldi left the meeting at 6:40p.m.

Borough Attorney Wenner gave a synopsis on the content of the
Executive Session and stated that Council discussed contract
negotiations with the PBA as well as budgetary items related to
administrative salaries, no action was taken.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 28, 2014 - Agenda-Workshop Meeting

On motion by Councilman Lobell, seconded by Councilwoman Carra,
it was moved to approve the October 28, 2014 - Agenda-Workshop
Meeting minutes.

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain: Gara

Motion Carried 4-0-1.

October 28, 2014 - Executive Session

On motion by Councilman Lobell, seconded by Council President Tozzi, it was moved to approve the October 28, 2014 - Executive Session minutes.

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

Motion Carried 4-0-1.

ORDINANCES - SECOND READING

Ordinance No. 2014-10 - An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Granting Non-Exclusive Permission and Consent to Sunesys, LLC, Its Successors and Assigns, to Use the Existing Public Right-Of-Way Along Johnson Avenue, Woodmere Street and Centre Street in the Borough of Raritan, Somerset County, New Jersey, Above the Surface Thereof for the Installation, Operation, Repair, Maintenance and Replacement of Fiber Optic Cable

Mayor Liptak called for a motion to open the Public Hearing.

On motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilman Sibilia, it was moved to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2014-10.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

There being no comments, Mayor Liptak called for a motion to close the public hearing.

On motion by Councilman Lobell, seconded by Councilman Sibilia, it was moved to close the public hearing.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilman Sibilialia, it was moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2014-10.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

Ordinance No. 2014-11 - An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Amending Chapter 207, Land Use and Development, of the Code of the Borough of Raritan to Address Emergency Generator Zoning Regulations

Mayor Liptak requested a motion to open the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2014-11.

On motion by Councilwoman Cara, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2014-11.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

There being no comments, Mayor Liptak called for a motion to close the public hearing.

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilman Lobell, it was moved to close the public hearing.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

On motion by Councilwoman Carra, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2014-11.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

Ordinance No. 2014-12 - An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Amending Chapter 87, Amusements, Section 2, Application for License, of the Code of the Borough of Raritan, To Specify a Term for the License

Mayor Liptak requested a motion to open the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2014-12.

On motion by Councilman Lobell, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2014-12.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

There being no comments, Mayor Liptak called for a motion to close the public hearing.

On motion by Councilman Lobell, seconded by Councilman Sibilialia, it was moved to close the public hearing.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilman Lobell, it was moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2014-12.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

Ordinance No. 2014-13 - An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Amending Ordinance No. 2014-09, Concerning Health Benefits

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 2014-09 was adopted by the Borough Council on October 28, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of Ordinance No. 2014-09 was to establish Borough policy regarding the payment of health benefits premiums for one (1) month on behalf of the surviving spouse of a deceased member who was Chapter 88 (P.L. 1974) eligible; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 2014-09 does not explicitly state that this benefit offered by the Borough is only applicable to the surviving spouse of a deceased member who was Chapter 88 (P.L. 1974) eligible; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council desires to clarify the extent and scope of policy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset and State of New Jersey, that Ordinance No. 2014-09 is hereby amended to specify that it shall be the policy of the Borough of Raritan to pay the health benefits premiums for one (1) month on behalf of the surviving spouse of a deceased member who was Chapter 88 (P.L. 1974) eligible, said month constituting the first full month subsequent to the date of the death of a deceased member.

Section B

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistencies.

Section C

If any section, subsection, paragraph, phrase or sentence of this ordinance is, for any reason, declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, such section, subsection, paragraph, phrase or sentence shall be deemed severable.

Section D

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final publication as provided by law.

On motion by Councilman Sibilialia, seconded by Council President Tozzi, it was moved to introduce Ordinance No. 2014-13.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

Councilwoman Gara requested clarification on the wording of this ordinance. Borough Attorney Wenner explained that this Ordinance

specifies that this benefit applies to those employees who are Chapter 88 eligible.

Ordinance No. 2014-14 - An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Amending Chapter 40 of the Code of the Borough of Raritan, Officers and Employees, and Amending Sections 7 and 9 of the Code Relating to Borough Clerk and Engineer Respectively

BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset and State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1

Chapter 40-7, *Borough Clerk* paragraph (A) is hereby deleted in its entirety and in its place and stead replaced with the following:

40-7(A) Appointment, Qualifications and Compensation. The Mayor, with the advice and consent of the Council, shall appoint a Borough Clerk for the term prescribed by law. Prior to the appointment, the Borough Clerk shall have been qualified by training and experience to perform the duties of the office. The person shall serve as the Clerk of the Council and shall have such other functions, powers and duties as provided by law. Such person shall acquire tenure upon being reappointed as Municipal Clerk, subsequent to having served as Municipal Clerk for not less than three (3) consecutive years immediately prior to such reappointment. The compensation of the Borough Clerk shall be as set forth in the annual salary ordinance.

Chapter 40-9, *Engineer*, paragraph (D) is hereby deleted in its entirety and in its place and stead replaced with the following:

40-9 (D) The term for the office of Municipal Engineer shall be for three (3) years pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:9-140.

Section 2

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistencies.

Section 3

If any section, subsection, paragraph, phrase or sentence of this ordinance is, for any reason, declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, such section, subsection, paragraph, phrase or sentence shall be deemed severable.

Section 4

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final publication as provided by law.

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilman Lobell, it was moved to introduce Ordinance No. 2014-14.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

Ordinance No. 2014-15 - An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Amending Chapter 40 Entitled "Officers and Employees" of the Code of the Borough of Raritan, To Establish the Position of Qualified Purchasing Agent

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law ("LPCL") provides that the position of Qualified Purchasing Agent must be created by Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the LPCL further provides that once the Qualifying Purchasing Agent ("QPA") position has been created and the QPA has been appointed, the governing body of the contracting unit may establish the bid threshold to be up to the higher threshold amount adjusted by the Governor pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3(e); and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Raritan desired to establish the position of QPA by Ordinance and avail itself to the higher bid threshold amount.

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

Section A

Chapter 40, *Officers and Employees*, of the Code of the Borough of Raritan is hereby amended by creating a new Section 10, *Qualified Purchasing Agent*, as set forth below:

Chapter 40-10 Qualified Purchasing Agent.

- A. There is hereby created the position of Purchasing Agent for the Borough of Raritan.
- B. The Purchasing Agent shall be appointed by the Mayor upon the advice and consent of the Council.
- C. The Purchasing Agent is required to possess a valid qualified Purchasing Agent Certificate, as issued by the New Jersey

Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs.

- D. The Purchasing Agent shall have, on behalf of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Raritan, the authority, responsibility and accountability for: the purchasing activity pursuant to Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., to prepare public advertising for and to receive bids and requests for proposals for the provision of performance of goods, services and construction contracts; to award contracts pursuant to New Jersey law in accordance with the regulations, forums and procedures promulgated by state regulatory agencies; the establishment and enforcement of any and all local purchasing policies adopted by the governing body; the purchasing and claims approval authority of the Borough Purchasing Officer set forth by Ordinance; and the conduct of any activities as may be necessary or appropriate to the purchasing function of the Borough of Raritan.
- E. Having appointed a Qualified Purchasing Agent pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-9, the Borough will take advantage of the higher bid threshold (currently \$36,000.00, with a quote threshold of 15% or \$5,400.00), pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3(a), as such threshold may be adjusted from time to time pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3(e), but may at its discretion go to bid at a lower amount to encourage greater competition among bidders.

Section B

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistencies.

Section C

If any section, subsection, paragraph, phrase or sentence of this ordinance is, for any reason, declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, such section, subsection, paragraph, phrase or sentence shall be deemed severable.

Section D

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final publication as provided by law.

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilman Lobell, it was moved to introduce Ordinance No. 2014-15.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

Ordinance No. 2014-16 - An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan,
County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Establishing the
Position of Tax Collector Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:9-141

BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan,
County of Somerset and State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section A

Chapter 40, *Officers and Employees*, of the Code of the Borough of Raritan, is hereby amended by adding a new Section 11 entitled, "Tax Collector", as follows:

Chapter 40-11 *Tax Collector, Position Created, Term.*

The Borough of Raritan hereby creates the position of Tax Collector pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:9-141 to carry out the responsibilities set forth under N.J.S.A. 40A:9-141, et seq., as amended. The term of said Tax Collector shall be as provided by law.

Section B

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistencies.

Section C

If any section, subsection, paragraph, phrase or sentence of this ordinance is, for any reason, declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, such section, subsection, paragraph, phrase or sentence shall be deemed severable.

Section D

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final publication as provided by law.

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilman Sibilgia, it was moved to introduce Ordinance No. 2014-16.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

Ordinance No. 2014-17 - An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan,
County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Amending Chapter 167,
Fire Prevention, of the Code of the Borough of Raritan, Section
5, Non-Life Hazard Uses, Regarding Registration Fees

November 25, 2014
Regular Meeting

BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset and State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section A

Chapter 167-5(A) (1) is hereby deleted in its entirety and in its place and stead replaced with the following:

- (1) Business use, as defined in the latest edition of the BOCA Basic National Building Code, where there is a single tenant:

Total Gross Floor Area, Including Basement (Square Feet)	Registration Fee
0 to 1,000	\$ 37.50
1,001 to 2,000	\$ 43.75
2,001 to 2,500	\$ 50.00
2,501 to 3,500	\$ 56.25
3,501 to 4,500	\$ 62.50
4,501 to 5,000	\$ 68.75
5,001 to 6,000	\$ 75.00
6,001 to 7,000	\$ 81.25
7,001 to 7,500	\$ 87.50
7,501 to 8,000	\$ 112.50
8,001 to 9,000	\$ 131.25
9,001 to 9,500	\$ 150.00
9,501 to 10,500	\$ 175.00
10,501 to 11,500	\$ 200.00
11,501 to 12,000	\$ 212.50
Each additional 1,000	\$ 12.50

Section B

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistencies.

Section C

If any section, subsection, paragraph, phrase or sentence of this ordinance is, for any reason, declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, such section, subsection, paragraph, phrase or sentence shall be deemed severable.

Section D

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final publication as provided by law.

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilman Lobell, it was moved to introduce Ordinance No. 2014-17.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

Ordinance No. 2014-18 - An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Amending Chapter 167, Fire Prevention, of the Code of the Borough of Raritan, Section 12, Smoke Detector/Carbon Monoxide Certifications, Regarding Fees

BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset and State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section A

Chapter 167-12, Smoke Detector/Carbon Monoxide Certifications, Paragraph A, is hereby amended by increasing the fee to \$50.00

Section B

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistencies.

Section C

If any section, subsection, paragraph, phrase or sentence of this ordinance is, for any reason, declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, such section, subsection, paragraph, phrase or sentence shall be deemed severable.

Section D

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final publication as provided by law.

On motion by Councilwoman Carra, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved to introduce Ordinance No. 2014-18.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

Mayor Liptak stated that the ordinances listed above for first reading 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, December 16, 2014 at 6:00 PM or at any time and place to which the meeting for the further consideration of the ordinance shall be adjourned.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No.2014-11-149 - Resolution Authorizing Participation
in the Regional Center Partnership Challenge Grant Program

On motion by Councilman Gara, seconded by Councilwoman Carra, it
was moved to adopt Resolution 2014-11-149.

Recorded Vote on Resolution No. 2014-11-149.

Aye: Carra, Gara, Lobell, Sibilialia, Tozzi

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

Resolution No. 2014-11-150 - Resolution Authorizing the
Execution of a Right of Way Agreement With Sunesys, LLC to
Install, Operate and Maintain Fiber Optic Cable Within the
Borough of Raritan

On motion by Councilman Lobell, seconded by Councilman Sibilialia,
it was moved to adopt Resolution 2014-11-150.

Recorded Vote on Resolution No. 2014-11-150.

Aye: Carra, Gara, Lobell, Sibilialia, Tozzi

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

Resolution No. 2014-11-151 - Rejection of Bid for Raritan Home
Improvement Program

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilman Lobell,
it was moved to adopt Resolution 2014-11-151.

Recorded Vote on Resolution No. 2014-11-151.

Aye: Carra, Gara, Lobell, Sibilialia, Tozzi

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

Resolution No. 2014-11-152 - Assignment of Totally Tax Exempt
Status - Block 28 Lot 4

On motion by Councilman Lobell, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved to adopt Resolution 2014-11-152.

Recorded Vote on Resolution No. 2014-11-152.

Aye: Carra, Gara, Lobell, Sibilialia, Tozzi

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

Councilwoman Gara noted that there was a typographical error in the name on this Resolution.

Resolution No. 2014-11-153 - Disposition of Equipment by the Raritan Police Department

On motion by Councilwoman Carra, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved to adopt Resolution 2014-11-153.

Recorded Vote on Resolution No. 2014-11-153.

Aye: Carra, Gara, Lobell, Sibilialia, Tozzi

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

Resolution No. 2014-11-154 - Railroad Monthly Parking Refund

On motion by Councilman Sibilialia, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved to adopt Resolution 2014-11-154.

Recorded Vote on Resolution No. 2014-11-154.

Aye: Carra, Gara, Lobell, Sibilialia, Tozzi

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

APPROVAL OF BILLS LIST

Mayor Liptak called for a motion for approval of the Bills List.

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilwoman Carra, it was moved to approve the Bills List totaling \$3,097,055.72.

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

PURCHASE ORDER REQUESTS

1. Police Department - Nikon D7100 camera system - Adorama in the amount of \$2,217.70.

On motion by Councilman Lobell, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved to approve the above listed purchase order.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

2. Fire Department - Streamlight Vantage LED Tactical Lights - Emergency Equipment Sales in the amount of \$1,960.00.

On motion by Councilman Lobell, seconded by Councilman Sibilia, it was moved to approve the above listed purchase order.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

3. Fire Department - Firefighter Equipment - Emergency Equipment Sales in the amount of \$3,589.01.

On motion by Councilman Sibilia, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved to approve the above listed purchase order.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

4. Fire Department - Fire turn-out gear for 7 Firefighters - Skyland Area Fire Equipment & Training in the amount of \$17,736.60.

On motion by Councilwoman Carra, seconded by Councilman Sibilialia, it was moved to approve the above listed purchase order.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

5. Raritan Library - Purchase and installation of 7 landscaping lights - Storr Tractor Company in the amount of \$1,553.67.

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilman Lobell, it was moved to approve the above listed purchase order.

Council President Tozzi inquired as to why the Library was installing landscaping lights in the winter. Mayor Liptak explained that the landscaping lights are being installed down the front walkway at the Library and are for safety purposes.

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

Motion Carried 4-1.

COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

Council President Tozzi and Councilwoman Carra did not have any current news to report.

Councilman Sibilialia reported that the Department of Public Works is in the process of picking up leaves; Chad Niles the Assistant Recreation Director has stepped down; and Santa is coming to Raritan on December 7th at 2:00p.m., all are invited.

Councilwoman Gara reported that on the Environmental Commission, Jerry Kovac has stepped up to be the Chairman and Ann Marie McCarthy the secretary. The Commission has not had a regular meeting due to the NJ League of Municipalities Convention.

Councilman Lobell gave the Police Department report and mentioned that the Regional Center Newsletter recently reported that Somerset County has been voted the 5th best place to live in the country.

Borough Engineer Schrek gave a brief Engineer's Report commenting that all construction work has been completed and the only work currently being performed is on miscellaneous road repairs; all catch basin repairs have been completed and going forward the Borough needs to look into accomplishing one road project each year; the sanitary sewer repair still needs to be completed on Johnson Drive.

Mayor Liptak mentioned that there is a sewer back-up issue on Rhine Boulevard and 1st Avenue and Councilwoman Gara mentioned that there is a similar situation on Frelinghuysen Avenue. Mr. Schrek said he would look into both situations.

Mr. Shrek mentioned that a homeowner was upset with the driveway repair on his property. Also, with regard to the Nevius Street Bridge lighting a letter of support is required from Somerset County for the Historic Preservation Office. Councilman Lobell said this issue is still in the works and he will continue to try to acquire the letter of support.

Mayor Liptak read a letter of resignation from Francesco Taddeo, Municipal Public Defender, and stated to Council that she has directed the Borough Clerk to place an advertisement for Requests for Proposals for this position.

Mayor Liptak also commented on the recent Library Board of Trustees Meeting. Mayor Liptak reported that the results have come in from the focus group and some of items discussed included addressing the lighting issue along the walkway entrance and increasing the operating hours to be consistent throughout the week.

Mayor Liptak also wished Borough Administrator Dan Jaxel a Happy Birthday, he has just celebrated a significant Birthday milestone. In addition, Mayor Liptak wished everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilman Lobell mentioned that the recent opening of Stonebridge has increased traffic significantly and a stop sign may be warranted at the intersection of Raritan and Quick Avenues, he requested that Borough Engineer Schrek evaluate the intersection.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Fire Prevention Vehicles (DJ)

Borough Administrator Jaxel reported that he has not received any comments from the Fire Department on their request to acquire this vehicle. Councilman Lobell commented that the Fire Department was going to submit a report regarding the related use of this vehicle and the request may be appropriate. However, there should be a cap placed on the maintenance costs.

2. Draft Ordinance - Riverfront (Land Use Amendment) (SS)

Mayor Liptak stated that this item will be tabled to a later meeting.

3. Acceptance of Patrolman after completion of Probationary Period (DJ)

Borough Administrator Jaxel stated that this item is for Council approval and is regarding the memo received from Chief McCormick recommending that Officer Benjamin Griffin be appointed to the position of permanent Raritan Borough Patrol Officer. Councilman Sibilias seconded the request and the roll call vote was as follows:

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

4. Police cameras and camera maintenance for 2014/2015 Municipal Budget (KM)

Chief McCormick stated that to comply with the new law the Police Department is looking into the purchase of body cameras for use by each officer. Chief McCormick explained the purchase procedure under State Contract and requested that Council approve the encumbrance for the purchase of the cameras in the 2014 budget since the price of the system is projected to increase in 2015. The cost for maintenance will be applied to the 2015 budget. Borough Administrator Jaxel requested that Council approve the encumbrance of the camera and related equipment since the amount is in excess of \$1,500.00.

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilman Lobell, it was moved to approve the encumbrance for the purchase of the police department body cameras.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

5. Tree in front of Raritan Public Library (ML)

Mayor Liptak remarked that the tree in front of the Raritan Public Library appears to be in bad shape and esthetically it does not look good. Mayor Liptak requested that Borough Administrator Jaxel have the tree evaluated and obtain a quote for trimming or removal if necessary. Councilman Lobell also mentioned the tree at the Frelinghuysen pool and Mr. Jaxel stated he would look into both tree issues.

Mayor Liptak also commented that she is dismayed over the very large leak in the ceiling at the office on Anderson Street. Mayor Liptak remarked that there are conditions at this office that are horrific and the issues need to be addressed. Borough Engineer Schrek inquired if the Borough would like to make this a capital project and make the proper repairs. Mr. Schrek stated that he would look into the scope of this project.

6. 2015 River Fest and Charity Duck Race (DT)

Council President Tozzi asked Mayor Liptak how she plans to proceed with the ADHOC Committee for the River Fest next year. Mayor Liptak responded that right now her focus is on Reorganization and she does not plan on working on related issues to the River Fest and Duck Race until after the first of the year.

Councilman Lobell made the following requests/statements:

1. Could Councilman Sibiliala look into having Public Works mow the lawn in front of the Municipal Building prior to Santa's coming to Raritan.
2. The Recreation Department is requesting permission to string lights across the front of the Municipal Building.
3. If permitted, Christmas lights will be strong across the Nevius Street Bridge utilizing the power from the pump house.
4. Outside power is needed to light the Christmas tree.

November 25, 2014
Regular Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved to adjourn the meeting.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Marguerite Schmitt, RMC
Borough Clerk

Approved: _____