

The Agenda-Workshop Meeting of the Raritan Borough Council was called to order by Mayor Liptak at 6:30p.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 January 6, 2015. 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, Councilman Foohy,
Councilwoman Gara, Councilman Giraldi, Council
President Lobell, Councilman Sibilgia

Absent: XXX

Also Present: Mayor Liptak, Borough Attorney Wenner, Borough
Engineer McGregor (arrived at 7:18p.m.), Borough
Administrator Jaxel, Police Chief McCormick,
Borough Clerk Schmitt

FLAG SALUTE AND INVOCATION

Councilman Foohy led the invocation and flag salute.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution No. 2015-04-49 - Executive Session - Subject Matter:
Police Contract; Police Personnel; Public Works Contract;
Recreation Personnel

On motion by Council President Lobell, seconded by Councilman Foohy, it was moved to approve Resolution No. 2015-04-49.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Foohy, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibilgia
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

Council convened in Executive Session at 6:32p.m.

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

Recorded Vote: AYE: All Ayes.
NAY: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

Council came out of Executive Session at 7:17p.m. and resumed in open session at 7:18p.m.

PROCLAMATION

Earth Day - April 22, 2015

Mayor Liptak read a Proclamation, attached hereto, proclaiming Earth Day on April 22, 2015 and announced that the Raritan Borough Environmental Commission will hold their Annual River Clean Up on Saturday, April 25th. Mayor Liptak presented this Proclamation to Jerry Kovac, a representative from the Environmental Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Liptak commended the Raritan Fire Department for their assistance in finding an elderly woman missing from her home last week.

Donald Tozzi of 38 Glaser Avenue, Raritan, New Jersey asked what the annual cost would be to record the council meetings. Councilman Foohey responded that once the camera equipment was purchased, the annual cost would be minimal.

Kelly Worosila of 421 Vanderveer Road, Raritan, New Jersey commented about the disposition of Cardinal Woods Park. Ms. Worosila stated that she was sad to see the park close because she knows that the young children enjoyed playing in the park; however, she also realizes that the park has become a hangout for adolescents and she feels that closing the park is the right thing to do.

WORK SESSION

1. Engineer's Report (SS)

Shelly McGregor, Borough Engineer, delivered the following Engineer's Report:

2015 CDBG Application

Our application has been submitted requesting funding for manhole rehabilitation.

Orlando Drive, Phase 3

Design is complete. We are in discussions with the County with regard to the abandonment of their ROW where Orlando Drive crosses County parkland in the vicinity of Canal Street. This

issue was never resolved when Orlando Drive was realigned back in the late '80s. The County Park is on the Green Acres inventory so a diversion must be approved before the County will discuss the ROW abandonment. We met with Green Acres on 4/9 to discuss alternatives and the municipal park, to the south of the Woolen Mill is the most likely compensation piece. The settled ratio will be 5/1 and this piece of land provides sufficient area.

Victoria Street Sidewalks

A CDBG, in the amount of \$98,405, is in place for side improvements on Victoria Street extending from Frelinghuysen Ave. to Railroad Ave. The County has authorized commencement of work. Design is completed and we will be advertising for bids shortly.

Riverfront Land Use Ordinance

The Ordinance, amending the RCD zone, was discussed by the Planning Board at their March 25 meeting. Revisions were suggested and Dave Maski made revisions which the Board will review at their April 22 meeting. It is expected the Board will send a letter to the Council so that the Second reading can proceed in May.

2. Cardinal Woods Park Proposal - Public Comments (GL)

Council President Lobell stated that the Recreation Committee has recommended that Cardinal Woods Park be closed due to the exposure of goose droppings, vandalism, lack of parking, and excessive maintenance. Mr. Lobell reviewed some of the proposed changes which would include moving the pavilion, tot climber and swings to other parks in town. Eventually, the Recreation Committee would like to construct a walking path at Cardinal Woods Park. Mr. Lobell requested Council approval to proceed with these changes.

On motion by Council President Lobell, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved to remove the equipment from Cardinal Woods Park, make it a passive field and relocate the equipment.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Foohey, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibilgia

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

3. Recreation Committee Update on Summer Pool Positions (GL)

Council President Lobell updated Council on the Recreation Committee's proposal for a pool supervisor position. Mr. Lobell stated that this position would be a total of 19 weeks starting in mid-May; eleven of the weeks during the summer months would entail a 48 hour work week for a total salary of \$8300.00. Mr. Lobell reviewed the supervisor's duties, certifications, and the pool opening date and times. After some discussion on duties and operating hours; prep work prior to pool opening; hourly rate and total salary; whether interviewing would be required; Council President Lobell made the following motion:

On motion by Council President Lobell, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved to approve the Summer Pool Supervisor and Activities Manager position at an annual salary of \$8,300.00.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Foohey, Gara, Lobell

Nay: Giraldi, Sibilila

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-2.

4. Capital Budget (DJ)

Borough Administrator Jaxel reviewed with Mayor and Council the proposed Capital Budget items which total \$884,291.00. After review and discussion, it was agreed to cut the proposed work at Frelinghuysen Park from \$20,000 to \$10,000 and to potentially cut the purchase of two pick-up trucks by the Department of Public Works to one pick-up truck, pending further information on the condition of the vehicles. Councilman Giraldi requested a list of all Borough owned vehicles.

5. Update on Credit Card Use for the Train Station (DJ)

Borough Administrator Jaxel updated the Mayor and Council on the hardware and quarterly costs to update the train station pay boxes for credit card use. Mr. Jaxel added that in order to recoup these additional costs, it may be necessary to increase the daily fee from \$3.00 to \$3.50 per day, for which he is waiting on approval from New Jersey Transit. Mr. Jaxel also stated that the Borough Attorney has reviewed and approved the contract and he is requesting Council's approval to move forward. Council agreed to have Mr. Jaxel proceed with the conversion process.

6. Update on Television Cameras (PG)

Councilman Giraldi requested an update on the televising of council meetings and the costs associated with providing this service. Councilman Foohey stated that he has been doing some research and he provided an explanation on live streaming, taping and the use of Public Access TV. Councilman Giraldi expressed his concerns over the possible liabilities associated with taping and other available options for cost savings. Councilman Sibiliala inquired if a photo consent form would be required. Mayor Liptak expressed her concerns that details have not been fully discussed and suggested that Councilman Foohey reach out to other communities for feedback on their procedures. Councilman Foohey stated that this is about open and honest government and since there is no adequate newspaper coverage, taping/televising is a viable option.

7. Police Car Leasing (CMC)

Police Chief McCormick referenced his April 6th memo to Mayor and Council regarding the potential leasing of police vehicles rather than the current purchasing policy. The Chief explained that the current fleet is under stress and the Police Department is behind with vehicles that should be replaced. He stated that at this time leasing seems to make more sense. Discussion ensued on the cost of leasing, warranty and mileage limits. Councilman Giraldi inquired if other municipalities, who are currently using this option, were surveyed. Chief McCormick replied that he has reached out to other municipalities that are leasing and they are satisfied with this option. Councilman Sibiliala inquired if the Borough can assess all vehicles and see where we stand on vehicle maintenance and replacement. Discussion ensued on how many cars should be leased this year and potential leasing in future years.

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, it was moved to authorize the Police Chief to proceed with the leasing of three new vehicles.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Foohey, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibiliala

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

8. Definition of Full-Time Employee (DJ)

Borough Administrator Jaxel reviewed the current policy established designating minimum work hours required for health benefits at 25 hours per week. Mr. Jaxel suggested that due to the current changes in Chapter 78 that minimum hours should be established for full-time employment. Mr. Jaxel recommended that 35 hours per week be established for full-time employment and inquired if Council would be comfortable with this concept. Council was in agreement with the concept.

9. Baseball Opening Day Parade (CMC)

Police Chief McCormick reported to Mayor and Council that the Recreation Department recently advised him of a Baseball Opening Day Parade to be held this Saturday and reviewed the proposed route. Council President Lobell advised that the Recreation Department has made some adjustments to the route and Somerset Street would be excluded.

On motion by Council President Lobell, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved for the Recreation Department to hold a Baseball Opening Day Parade from Borough Hall, down First Street, to Anderson Street, up Sherman Street and ending at Frelinghuysen Park on Saturday, May 18th at 9:45a.m.

Recorded Vote:

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

ORDINANCES - SECOND READING

Ordinance No. 2015-02 - An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Amending, Revising and Supplementing the Code of the Borough of Raritan, Chapter 207-126.1, "RC Riverfront Commercial District" in Order to Add Certain Conditional Uses and to Provide for Certain Signage

Mayor Liptak called for a motion to table the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2015-02, pending Planning Board review.

On motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved to table Ordinance No. 2015-02, pending Planning Board review.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Carra, Foohey, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibilia,

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

Ordinance No. 2015-03 - Calendar Year 2015 - Ordinance to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40a:4-45.14)

On motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Council President Lobell, it was moved to introduce Ordinance No. 2015-03.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Foohey, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibilialia,
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

Mayor Liptak announced that the ordinance 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, May 12, 2015 at 6:30p.m. or at any time and place to which the meeting for the further consideration of the ordinance shall be adjourned.

INTRODUCTION OF 2015 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Resolution No. 2015-04-50 - 2015 Municipal Budget

Borough Administrator Jaxel read the Budget Notice into record and announced that the Public Hearing on the Budget and Tax Resolution would be held in the Municipal Building, 22 First Street, Raritan, New Jersey on Tuesday, May 12, 2015 at 7:00p.m.

On motion by Councilwoman Carra, seconded by Council President Lobell, it was moved to introduce the 2015 Municipal Budget.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Foohey, Gara, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibilialia
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 2015-04-51 - A Resolution of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Rejecting All Bids for the Relief Hose Company #2 Firehouse Generator Project

On motion by Councilman Sibilia, seconded by Councilwoman Carra, it was moved to approve Resolution No. 2015-04-51.

Recorded Vote:

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

Resolution No. 2015-04-52 - A Resolution of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Approving Change Order No. 1 for the Rehabilitation of the Canal Street Sewer System

On motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Council President Lobell, it was moved to approve Resolution No. 2015-04-52.

Recorded Vote:

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

PURCHASE ORDERS

1. Administration - Codification of 2014 Ordinances and supplements - General Code in the amount of \$3,250.00.

On motion by Council President Lobell, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, it was moved to approve the above purchase.

Recorded Vote:

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

2. Fire Department - Repairs to Tower Ladder 52 - Emergency Equipment Sales in the amount of \$6,358.60.

On motion by Councilwoman Carra, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved to approve the above purchase.

Recorded Vote:

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

Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

3. Public Works - Installation of Two Storm Drains on Thompson Street - Paternoster Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$4,000.00.

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

Recorded Vote:

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

Motion Carried 6-0.

4. Administration - Purchase of camera and accessories to record Council Meetings - NJ Accessory in the amount of \$2,866.99.

On motion by Councilman Foohey, seconded by Council President Lobell, it was moved to approve the above purchase.

Upon the roll call vote there was a tie. Mayor Liptak with the authority to break the tie stated that she would have liked to have seen more details or a concrete plan on how this concept would move forward and therefore would want to see a plan prior to expending money and voted no.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Foohey, Gara, Lobell,
Nay: Carra, Giraldi, Sibilia, Liptak
Abstain: XXX

Motion Defeated 3-4.

CORRESPONDENCE

Council President Lobell stated the Department of Public Works has asked that he bring up some issues. The first issue involves speed sign on Woodmere Street. It is still not working and Public Works would like to remove the control module from another sign to make the repair. Council felt that DPW should wait for the replacement parts and not remove parts from other working signs.

Another issue is the potential need for summer help in addition to the standard summer help. After a brief discussion on exactly what additional help is required, Council President Lobell stated that he would request more information from DPW.

Mayor Liptak stated that on behalf of Council, she would like to extend condolences to the Borough's Administrative Assistant, Annie Lella on the passing of her brother.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Adele Goetsch of 6 Nevius Street, Raritan, New Jersey made a general comment that she feels that this meeting was very confusing; there were no real answers to anything. Also, Ms. Goetsch stated that the graffiti is back in the tunnel and inquired about the procedure regarding the enforcement of the Borough noise ordinance. Police Chief McCormick advised Ms. Goetsch on the police department's authority and informed her that a resident can file a complaint at any time.

Donald Tozzi of 38 Glaser Avenue, Raritan, New Jersey inquired as to when the pools would be opening and stated that the only time the Borough did not have problems with the opening of the pools was when a private contractor was hired.

Tom Brown of 18 Elmer Street, Raritan, New Jersey asked for clarification on full-time employees' hours for health benefits. Borough Administrator Jaxel stated that New Jersey State Health Benefits gives flexibility on this policy and stated what is required as a minimum. Mr. Brown does not understand the rationale of creating more paperwork when this may never come to pass.

Debra Thomas of 36 Canal Street, Raritan, New Jersey stated that she was of the understanding that the noise ordinance kicks in at 10:00p.m. and suggested that the police could patrol the area and file a complaint. Ms. Thomas asked why the onus is always on the resident. Chief McCormick gave an explanation that the court has suggested as a guideline. Borough Administrator Jaxel gave an explanation of the word "unnecessary" noise and suggested documenting the dates and times that the excessive noise occurred.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Council President Lobell, seconded by Councilman Sibilgia, it was moved to adjourn the meeting.

Recorded Vote: AYE: All Ayes
NAY: XXX

April 14, 2015
Agenda-Workshop Meeting

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Marguerite Schmitt, RMC
Borough Clerk

Approved: _____