

April 28, 2014
Regular Meeting

The Regular 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,
Councilman Giraldi, Council President Lobell,
Councilman Sibilialia
Absent: Councilwoman Gara
Also Present: Mayor Liptak, Borough Attorney Wenner, Borough
Engineer Schrek (arrived at 7:00p.m.), Borough
Administrator/Acting Deputy Clerk Jaxel, Police
Chief McCormick

FLAG SALUTE AND INVOCATION

Councilman Giraldi led the invocation and flag salute.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution No. 2015-04-53 - Executive Session - Subject Matter:
Public Works Personnel; Environmental Commission

On motion by Council President Lobell, seconded by Councilman Foohy, it was moved to approve Resolution No. 2015-04-53.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Foohy, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibilialia
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

Council convened in Executive Session at 6:33p.m.

On motion by Council President Lobell, seconded by Councilman Sibilialia, it was moved to come out of Executive Session.

Recorded Vote: AYE: All Ayes.
NAY: XXX

April 28, 2014
Regular Meeting

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

Council came out of Executive Session and resumed in Regular Session at 7:00p.m.

A motion was made by Councilman Foohey, seconded by Council President Lobell, to move Officer Chromowsky to permanent status effective April 28, 2015 retroactive to September 17, 2014.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibilia

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

George Stafford representing the NJ Highlands Coalition, 508 Main Street, Boonton, New Jersey addressed Mayor and Council and requested their support by endorsing a Resolution of support to not change the current Highlands Act. Mr. Stafford briefed Council on the function of the Highlands Coalition and changes occurring in the Highlands communities.

Donald Tozzi of 38 Glaser Avenue, Raritan, New Jersey stated that there is currently money targeted for a Borough calendar that has been donated by Borough businesses and suggested that Councilman Foohey complete this project. Mayor Liptak supported the idea.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 24, 2015 - Regular Meeting

On motion by Councilwoman Carra, seconded by Councilman Sibilia, it was moved to approve the March 24, 2015 - Regular Meeting minutes.

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

March 24, 2015 - Executive Session

April 28, 2014
Regular Meeting

On motion by Councilman Sibilialia, seconded by Council President Lobell, it was moved to approve the March 24, 2015 - Executive Session minutes.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

March 31, 2015 - Special Agenda-Workshop Budget Meeting

On motion by Councilwoman Carra, seconded by Councilman Foohey, it was moved to approve the March 31, 2015 - Special Agenda-Workshop Budget Meeting minutes.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

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, until the meeting of May 12, 2015.

On motion by Council President Lobell, seconded by Councilman Foohey, it was moved to table Ordinance No. 2015-02, until the meeting of May 12, 2015.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

Ordinance No. 2015-04 - An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Amending Chapter 24 of the Code of the Borough of Raritan, Parks, Public, Section 11,

April 28, 2014
Regular Meeting

Domestic Animals, to Provide for the Regulation of Domestic
Animals on Borough Athletic Fields

On motion by Council President Lobell, seconded by Councilwoman Carra, it was moved to introduce Ordinance No. 2015-04.

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

Motion Carried 4-1-0.

Ordinance No. 2015-05 - An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan,
County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Amending Chapter 5,
Boards, Committees, and Commissions, Article II, Environmental
Commission, in Order to Provide for the Appointment of Alternate
Members

On motion by Councilman Foohey, seconded by Councilman Lobell, it was moved to introduce Ordinance No. 2015-05.

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

Motion Carried 4-1-0.

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, May 26, 2015 at 7:00p.m. or at any time and place to which the meeting for the further consideration of the ordinance shall be adjourned.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 2015-04-54 - A Resolution of the Borough of
Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Authorizing
the Execution of Mandatory Deed Restrictions for Bridgewalk, LLC

On motion by Councilwoman Carra, seconded by Council President Lobell, it was moved to adopt Resolution No. 2015-04-54.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

Resolution No. 2015-04-55 - A Resolution of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Execution of an Escrow Agreement for the Housing Trust Fund

On motion by Council President Lobell, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, it was moved to adopt Resolution No. 2015-04-55.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

Resolution No. 2015-04-56 - Ratifying the Collective Bargaining Agreement with Local 2168 A.F.S.C.M.E., AFL-CIO

On motion by Council President Lobell, seconded by Councilwoman Carra, it was moved to adopt Resolution No. 2015-04-56.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

Resolution No. 2015-04-57 - Tower/Wrecker

On motion by Councilman Sibilialia, seconded by Councilman Foohey, it was moved to adopt Resolution No. 2015-04-57

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

Resolution No. 2015-04-58 - Railroad Monthly Parking Refund

On motion by Councilman Sibilialia, seconded by Councilwoman Carra, it was moved to adopt Resolution No. 2015-04-58.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, Lobell, Sibilialia
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 Carra, seconded by Councilman Foohey, it was moved to approve the Bills List for the period March 23, 2015 through April 24, 2015 in the amount of \$2,190,614.75.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

MOTIONS

Mayor Liptak made the following appointment to the Environmental Commission:

Tom Delacruz to serve as a Regular Member for a 3 year term - retroactive to 1/1/2015 through 12/31/17.

PURCHASE ORDER REQUESTS

1. Recreation - Baseball and Softball Uniforms - Screen Style in the amount of \$3,076.75.

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

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

2. Administration - Hardware and set-up costs for credit card acceptance at train station parking lot - Amano McGann in the amount of \$2,467.72.

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

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

Council President Lobell reported that the Economic Development Committee is working on contacting the Girl Scouts to place a flower bed in front of the Nevius Street Bridge. The Sunflower contest is on schedule and a new column will be in the Breeze Newspaper highlighting news and events of the Economic Development Committee. The Recreation Department is underway with the summer sports programs and the pools are going well and on schedule for opening. The Department of Public Works compiled a report of all vehicles for Council's review and the department is working on grass cutting and field clean-up.

Councilwoman Carra reported that the Board of Health did not meet last month due to a lack of a quorum. Ms. Cara gave a financial report from the Office of Vital Statistics and commended Judge Howes and the Municipal Court Administrative Staff on a good job generating revenue for the Borough and alleviating the case back log.

Councilman Giraldi reported that the Basilone meeting is tomorrow. The Historic and Cultural Committee will be hosting a walking tour, a brochure is available, however a date is yet to be determined. Mr. Giraldi also inquired if River Fest was going to be held this year. Mayor Liptak responded that she has been advised that the event is on and a committee is being formed.

Councilman Foohey reported that the Environmental Commission held their annual Earth Day clean-up last Saturday and a lot of garbage was collected from the canal. Mr. Foohey attended a high school PTO meeting last week and reported on the appointment of the new Principal and Superintendent. Mr. Foohey also delivered the Police Report and mentioned that he was glad to see that the Police Department was cracking down on cell phone use while driving.

Councilman Sibilgia stated that there was nothing new to report regarding litigation and the Regional Planning Center did not meet this month.

Mayor Liptak reported on a letter received from Jamie Fox, Commissioner of the NJ State Department of Transportation informing the Borough that it has been selected to receive funding from the 2015 Municipal Aid Program for Bell Avenue in

the amount of \$175,000. Mayor Liptak stated that last Saturday was a great day for the Baseball Opening Day events. The Mayor congratulated the Police Department for the incredible surge in cell phone tickets and stated that this is definitely a serious offense. Mayor Liptak thanked both the selection committee and dinner committee volunteers for their assistance with the volunteer appreciation dinner. The Mayor also thanked the firefighters for hosting a great dinner for the retiring and newly appointed fire chiefs.

Mayor Liptak also reported that every year Rutgers distributes an annual New Jersey Legislative District Data Book and felt it was notable to mention that in 2014 Raritan had an eleven percent population increase and she gave a breakdown of the population demographics.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Driver Feedback Signs (ML)

Mayor Liptak stated that Council needs to decide on the placement of the two new driver feedback signs that have been issued by Somerset County. Discussion ensued on the status of the sign that needed repair and placement of the new signs. After suggestions from Council and the Police Chief it was decided to place one sign on Thompson Street and the other on Helene Place.

2. Recreation - Pool Supervisor Position (DC)

Councilwoman Carra stated that after the approval of the pool supervisor position at the last meeting there seemed to be some confusion on the exact number of weeks this position would entail and requested clarification. Borough Administrator Jaxel stated that he has spoken to Recreation Director Andreychak about the specifics of this position and stated that Council needs to be clear on how this position would be paid. After some discussion to determine the exact number of weeks this position would require the following motion was made.

On motion by Councilwoman Carra, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, it was moved to rescind the approval of the pool supervisor position.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, Sibilis
Nay: Lobell
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

This topic would be revisited at the next Agenda-Workshop Meeting.

3. Television Camera (JF)

Councilman Foohey informed Council that next week he will deliver to them a proposal on the televising of the Council Meetings that will include all the information he has gathered including an analysis and cost breakdown.

4. Building on Route 202 (AS)

Mayor Liptak asked Councilman Sibilgia if Construction official Gara had answered his question on the status of the Building on Route 202. Councilman Sibilgia stated that this building is a liability waiting to happen. Councilman Giraldi stated that this building is an eye sore. Mayor Liptak responded that unfortunately this site is tied up in litigation and there is nothing that can be done at this time.

5. Capital Budget (DJ)

Borough Administrator Jaxel asked if Council was prepared to authorize the preparation of the bond ordinance for the requested capital budget items and reviewed the items. Discussion ensued on the requested improvements to the pool areas. Consensus was to define that improvements would be made to the wading pool walkways at both Frelinghuysen and Basilone Parks. Council agreed to move forward with the Bond Ordinance based on this criteria.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Model Ordinance - Precious Metals, Gems and Secondhand Goods (KM)

Police Chief McCormick stated that this model ordinance is being suggested by the State Attorney General's office, to be implemented as a state wide system, to regulate the business of precious metals and second hand goods, through the issuance of a license. Discussion ensued on what this would entail for local jewelry store owners. Police Chief McCormick and Borough Attorney Wenner explained the purpose of the new regulations.

2. Planning Board Secretary (DJ)

Mayor Liptak explained the purpose of the Planning Board and the need for a competent and reliable secretary. Borough Engineer Schrek added that this is a very important position that requires a very responsible person. Mayor Liptak stated that she has reached out locally in search of interested

parties and no one has shown interest. However, there is an experienced individual, who is currently a Planning Board Secretary in another town, who may be interested.

Mayor Liptak read an email from Planning Board Chairman Miller requesting an increased salary for this position and the reasons warranting this increase. Planning Board Chairman Miller, in attendance at the meeting, explained there is a critical need for a qualified and responsible individual to perform these duties and he is concerned that past minutes have not been transcribed. Mr. Miller supported the need for a salary increase with regard to this position. Borough Engineer Schrek supported the amount of work required to adequately perform the duties of this position.

Councilman Sibilgia questioned why this issue is just coming to the attention of Borough Council now, when it has apparently been going on for months, and why it is coupled with a salary increase. Borough Administrator Jaxel gave his opinion on the perspective of a salary increase and the implications on the budget and other factors. Discussion ensued on the salary increase, how the salary would be distributed, and other available applicants. After some discussion there was consensus to pay this position at a rate of \$375.00 per month.

Councilman Sibilgia had another item of new business to bring up. Mr. Sibilgia requested that the newly compiled vehicle list be placed in a binder so Council could estimate going forward the need for new vehicles each year.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Robert Lee of 87 E. Somerset Street, Raritan, New Jersey approached the podium and Mayor Liptak informed him that the garage is coming down and a shed will be put in its place. Mr. Lee stated that he wants to make Council aware that Frank Taddeo, Property Maintenance Inspector, should not be instructing a contractor on what to do.

Adele Goetsch of 6 Nevius Street, Raritan, New Jersey suggested that with regard to revisions at the pools, money may be better spent by installing benches inside the enclosure. Ms. Goetsch also questioned why \$8300.00 was the magic number for the pool supervisor position instead of an hourly rate. Some discussion ensued and Mayor Liptak explained that to the best of her knowledge, Recreation Director Andreychak felt this would be the best way to run the pools and he came up with the figure.

April 28, 2014
Regular Meeting

Richard Yadlosky of Weiss Terrace, Raritan, New Jersey stated that the televising of Council Meetings is a ridiculous plan and the money could be better allocated to the Planning Board secretary salary.

Donald Tozzi of 38 Glaser Avenue, Raritan, New Jersey stated that he has asked several times about conducting the Duck Race and to date has not received an answer. Council President Lobell stated that he has tried to meet with Mr. Tozzi; however, Mr. Tozzi has refused to meet unless the Mayor is present. Mayor Liptak invited Mr. Tozzi to come to her office if he would like to speak about the Duck Race.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Councilman Sibilia, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, it was moved to adjourn the meeting.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Marguerite Schmitt, RMC
Borough Clerk

Daniel Jaxel
Acting Deputy Clerk

Approved: _____