

August 25, 2015
Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Raritan Borough Council was called to order by Mayor Liptak at 7:00p.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 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 Foohey, Councilman Giraldi, Council President Lobell
Absent: Councilwoman Gara, Councilman Sibilgia
Also Present: Mayor Liptak, Borough Attorney Wenner (arrived at 7:20p.m.), Borough Administrator Jaxel, Borough Engineer Schrek, Police Chief McCormick, Borough Clerk Schmitt

FLAG SALUTE AND INVOCATION

Councilwoman Carra led the invocation and flag salute. Ms. Carra requested a moment of silence in remembrance of former Councilman Frank Fortuna who passed away on August 18th.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

GREEN ACRES SCOPING HEARING - (PUBLIC HEARING REQUIRED)

Diversion of Parkland - Block 114, Lot 1 and Block 115, Lot 1

On motion by Council President Lobell, seconded by Councilwoman Carra, it was moved to open the Green Acres Scoping Hearing on the Diversion of Parkland - Block 114, Lot 1 and Block 115, Lot 1.

Recorded Vote:

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

Motion Carried 4-0.

Borough Engineer Schrek reviewed the plans for the reconstruction of Orlando Drive Phase III which encompasses the area of Thompson Street to Old York Road. Mr. Schrek stated

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that upon surveying the area, it was discovered that part of Orlando Drive is in fact owned by Somerset County.

Mr. Schrek informed those in attendance that in order to continue with this project the Borough must obtain approval for a right of way from Somerset County and consequently, compensate Green Acres for the taking of the property; this process is called diversion.

Mr. Shrek reviewed the alignment of the Green Acres Diversion and the compensation to Somerset County. Tom Boccino, Principal Planner with the Somerset County Park Commission, reviewed the importance of this compensation to Somerset County and the impact on the future bikeway along the Riverfront Greenway. Mayor Liptak requested that the make-shift soccer field along Orlando Drive remain in place since it is often used on weekends.

Mayor Liptak asked if any member from the public or Borough Council had any questions or comments concerning this diversion. There were no objections to the proposal and no comments from the public.

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

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

Motion Carried 4-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 28, 2015 - Regular Meeting

On motion by Councilwoman Carra, seconded by Councilman Foohey, it was moved to approve the July 28, 2015 - Regular Meeting minutes.

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

Motion Carried 4-0.

July 28, 2015 - Executive Session

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On motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Council President Lobell, it was moved to approve the July 28, 2015 - Executive Session minutes.

Recorded Vote:

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

Motion Carried 4-0.

August 11, 2015 - Agenda-Workshop Meeting

On motion by Councilwoman Carra, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, it was moved to approve the August 11, 2015 - Agenda-Workshop Meeting minutes.

Recorded Vote:

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

Motion Carried 3-0-1.

August 11, 2015 - Executive Session I

On motion by Councilwoman Carra, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, it was moved to approve the August 11, 2015 - Executive Session I minutes.

Recorded Vote:

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

Motion Carried 3-0-1.

August 11, 2015 - Executive Session II

On motion by Councilwoman Carra, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, it was moved to approve the August 11, 2015 - Executive Session II minutes.

Recorded Vote:

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

Motion Carried 3-0-1.

ORDINANCES - SECOND READING

Ordinance No. 2015-09 - An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Adding Chapter 260, Precious Metals, Gems, and Secondhand Goods, to the Code of the Borough of Raritan

Mayor Liptak stated that this ordinance is currently tabled. No action was taken, it remained on the table.

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

Ordinance No. 2015-12 - An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Amending Chapter 207, Land Use and Development, Section 61, Subdivisions, of the Code of the Borough of Raritan to Change the Minimum Radius of Turnarounds at the Terminus of Dead End or Cul De Sac Streets From 50 Feet to 45 Feet

On motion by Councilwoman Carra, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, it was moved to introduce Ordinance No. 2015-12.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, Lobell

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Mayor Liptak announced that the Public Hearing on this ordinance would be held on September 22, 2015 at a meeting of the Borough Council.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 2015-08-98 - Resolution of Concurrence Supporting the Use of a "No Passing Zone" on New Jersey Route 28 in the Borough of Raritan, Somerset County, New Jersey

On motion by Council President Lobell, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, it was moved to adopt Resolution No. 2015-08-98.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, Lobell

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Resolution No. 2015-08-99 - Elevator Subcode Inspections and Services

On motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Councilman Foohey, it was moved to adopt Resolution No. 2015-08-99.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, Lobell

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Resolution No. 2015-08-100 - Renewal of 2015-2016 Plenary Retail Consumption License

On motion by Councilwoman Carra, seconded by Councilman Foohey, it was moved to adopt Resolution No. 2015-08-100.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, Lobell

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Resolution No. 2015-08-101 - Resolution Authorizing Refund of Redemption Monies to Outside Lienholder

On motion by Council President Lobell, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, it was moved to adopt Resolution No. 2015-08-101.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, Lobell

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Resolution No. 2015-08-102 - Railroad Monthly Parking Refund

On motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Council President Lobell, it was moved to adopt Resolution No. 2015-08-102.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, Lobell

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Resolution No. 2015-08-103 - Taxicab Vehicle / Taxicab Driver License

On motion by Council President Lobell, seconded by Councilman Giralaldi, it was moved to adopt Resolution No. 2015-08-103.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Foohey, Giralaldi, Lobell

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

APPROVAL OF BILLS LIST

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

On motion by Councilwoman Carra, seconded by Council President Lobell, it was moved to approve the Bills List for the period of July 27, 2015 through August 21, 2015 in the amount of \$2,189,983.78.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Foohey, Giralaldi, Lobell

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

PURCHASE ORDER REQUESTS

Recreation Department - 2015 Participation in Recreational Services for Disabled Residents - Somerset County Park Commission in the amount of \$2,030.00.

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

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Foohey, Giralaldi, Lobell

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

Council President Lobell stated that he was on vacation therefore; he missed the Recreation and Economic Development Committee Meetings. Mr. Lobell reported on the Department of Public Works activities and bulk pick-up for the past month.

Councilman Carra stated that the Board of Health does not meet in July and August and reported on the registrar of vital statistics and food establishment fees collected. Ms. Carra also reported on the Municipal Court fees collected.

Councilman Giraldi stated that the Historic and Cultural Committee did not meet this month. The Basilone Committee is currently meeting weekly to prepare for the parade. The Marine Corps Band will not be playing at the Basilone Concert this year; it will be the same band as last year.

Councilman Foohey gave the Police Department report. Mr. Foohey also reported that John F. Kennedy School will be hosting an Open House on September 8th. Also, the Bridgewater/Raritan High School is ranked #26 in New Jersey and strives to maintain quality standards.

Mayor Liptak commented on a letter received from Somerset County Freeholder Pat Walsh thanking Raritan Borough for hosting the BOGO Friday Food Drive. Mayor Liptak referenced the last edition of New Jersey Monthly which rated Raritan Borough 37th out of the top 100 towns.

Mayor Liptak also congratulated Pastor Ronald Jones of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church on his retirement on September 11th. Mayor Liptak stated that she presented Pastor Jones with a Proclamation at a dinner held in his honor last Sunday.

Mayor Liptak also stated that other items the Borough needs to address are Uber Taxis and POD Storage boxes. Borough Attorney Wenner informed those in attendance that Uber's regulations are currently pending legislation in the Assembly.

OLD BUSINESS

Status of Property Maintenance Office Move (DJ)

Borough Administrator Jaxel briefed the Mayor and Council on moving the Property Maintenance Office to the Municipal Building. Mr. Jaxel stated that fire-proof file cabinets are on order for the Planning Board files and once received these files will be moved and the office will be cleaned and painted.

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Councilman Giraldi asked for a time frame and Mr. Jaxel responded approximately one month.

Council President Lobell requested a status on the light pole at Anderson and Somerset Street and Mr. Jaxel responded that he wrote a letter to PSE&G and to date has not received a response.

Councilman Giraldi inquired about the status of the authorized purchase of the new fire truck. Council President Lobell responded that the Fire Department has been very busy and they are currently looking into purchasing a truck.

NEW BUSINESS

Raritan Public Library Electrical Issues (ML)

Mayor Liptak stated that at the last Raritan Library Board of Trustees meeting it was brought up that there is a major problem with the HVAC system. The Board of Trustees has authorized the repair, however; another problem has arisen with the current electrical box. Apparently, the electrical box is in such poor condition that the County has refused to open it. Mayor Liptak informed Council that this being a Municipal Building, the estimated cost to replace the box would be a minimum of \$5,000 and any additional repairs would not be realized until the box was opened.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Motion Carried 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Marguerite Schmitt, RMC
Borough Clerk

Approved: _____