

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,
Councilwoman Gara, Councilman Giraldi, Council
President Lobell, Councilman Sibilialia

Absent: XXX

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

INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE

Councilman Sibilialia led the invocation and flag salute.

PROCLAMATION

Veterans Day - November 11, 2015

Mayor Liptak wished the Marine Corp a Happy 240th Birthday, thanked all veterans for their service and read into record a Proclamation for Veterans Day attached hereto.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Adele Goetsch of 6 Nevius Street, Raritan, New Jersey inquired about the status of the current proposed apartments. Mayor Liptak explained that an application has been received; the applicants have appeared before the Planning Board and hearings are currently being conducted. Ms. Goetsch voiced some concerns to which Councilwoman Gara advised her to attend the Planning Board meetings and voice her concerns during public comment.

Borough Engineer Schrek stated that the proposed apartments are a conditional use for that zone with a conforming site plan; the plans are available for review in the Construction Official's Office.

Councilman Giraldi commented that he and Councilman Sibilialia have made an inquiry to the Somerset County Freeholders about a

possible purchase of this property for open space. Council President Lobell and Councilwoman Gara reviewed proposed projects and plans for this site.

WORK SESSION

1. Engineer's Report (SS)

Borough Engineer Schrek delivered the following report:

Orlando Drive, Phase 3

We are continuing to work with Green Acres to resolve the necessary diversion associated with the Orlando Drive ROW encroachment onto County and private lands. Green Acres has responded to the minutes of the scoping hearing. We are coordinating our response with Somerset County Parks.

Thompson Street

New Jersey American Water Company is replacing 1100LF of CI water main on Thompson Street between Somerset Street and the railroad. New services and hydrants are included in scope. The trenching will receive asphalt restoration. Upon completion of the installation the entire roadway, from curb to curb will be milled and resurfaced. The resurfacing will proceed as weather permits.

Stonebridge at Raritan

We are working the developer on final punch list items and required documentation to recommend a final performance bond release before the end of the year. One outstanding item is the easement from NJ Transit required to complete the pedestrian access route from the site, along Tillman Street, 1st Ave, 3rd Street, 2nd Ave and into the NJ Transit parking lot. If the route is not completed at the time of bond release, the Settlement Agreement permits the placement of a secondary bond to secure completion.

Sherman Avenue Improvements

We prepared the NJDOT Local Aid Grant and submitted via SAGE.

Council President Lobell reviewed the quarterly sewerage report. Councilwoman Gara voiced her concerns over who authorized two councilmembers to approach the County governing body to make a proposal on a property while an application was before the Planning Board. Mayor Liptak stated that she assumes this was an informal discussion and there is nothing that prohibits an informal discussion.

Council President Lobell also inquired about the status of the electrical work at the library. Borough Engineer Schrek stated that this project is still in the design phase. Discussion ensued on the immediate need of this project.

2. Final Library Work - NJ State Historic Grant (DJ)

Borough Administrator Jaxel informed Council that he has been trying to expend the remaining portion of the Library Grant funds and has been soliciting vendors for quotes on the ramp repair and new railing. Unfortunately, the quote received come in way over budget. Mr. Jaxel said he would try to get another quote or the Council may want to consider scaling down the project.

Council President Lobell inquired about the remaining balance of grant money for the Anderson Street Fire House and its proposed uses. Mr. Jaxel stated that these funds are for the interior of the building only.

3. Update on Televising Council Meetings - Verizon (JF)

Councilman Foohey stated that the audio portion of the council meeting broadcast has been repaired for those viewers watching from home; Cablevision has updated the equipment on their end. Also, Mr. Foohey stated that he hopes to have a Verizon connection in time for the 2016 Reorganization Meeting.

4. Update on Borough Calendar (JF)

Councilman Foohey stated that he has been working with Councilwoman Gara and Bruce Doorly on the Borough calendar and once everything is confirmed for 2016 the calendar can go to print. Mr. Foohey stated that the plan is to produce a twelve month calendar and to also place a pdf version on the Borough website.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 2015-11-117 - Resolution of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Award of a Fire House Generator Project to Envirocon of Hackettstown, New Jersey for \$51,500.00

On motion by Councilwoman Carra, seconded by Councilwoman Gara, it was moved to approve Resolution No. 2015-11-117.

Recorded Vote:

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

Resolution No. 2015-11-118 - Resolution of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Execution of a Subordination Agreement for 27 Bluebird Way in the Borough of Raritan

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Council President Lobell, it was moved to approve Resolution No. 2015-11-118.

Recorded Vote:

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

Resolution No. 2015-11-119 - Appointment of Firefighter

On motion by Councilwoman Gara, seconded by Councilman Sibilialia, it was moved to approve Resolution No. 2015-11-119.

Recorded Vote:

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

PURCHASE ORDERS

1. Police Department - Purchase of 2 computers - Computer Management Corporation in the amount of \$1,754.00.

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

Recorded Vote:

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

2. Fire, Police & Recreation Departments - 6 defibrillators - Life Savers Inc. in the amount of \$4,794.00.

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

Recorded Vote:

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 6-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

Council President Lobell stated that the Economic Development Committee will be sending invitations to approximately 250 businesses in Raritan for a meet and greet at Nik's Raritan Pub on December 8th from 6-8p.m. The purpose is to gather new members for the Economic Development Committee and to also garner support for economic growth in Raritan. Mr. Lobell extended the invitation to the current Council and also to the Mayor and Council elect.

Councilman Sibilialia wished everyone at the Indian Temple a Happy Diwali or Happy Indian New Year.

Councilman Foohey reminded everyone that the Library will be holding a book sale this coming Friday and Saturday.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Recorded Vote: All Ayes

Meeting adjourned at 7:26p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Marguerite Schmitt, RMC
Borough Clerk

Approved: _____