

The Regular Meeting of the Borough of Raritan Council was called to order by Mayor McMullin at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was held in the Meeting Room of the Raritan Municipal Building, 22 First Street, Raritan, NJ 08869.

Mayor McMullin announced that the meeting was called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Notices of the meeting were sent to *The Courier News* and *The Star Ledger* on January 28, 2016. In addition, notices were also posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building, on the Borough website and made available in the Office of the Borough Clerk. Notices on the bulletin board have remained continuously posted.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor McMullin, Council President Carra,  
Councilman Bray, Councilman Foohey, Councilman  
Giraldi, Councilman McGinley and Councilman Sibilialia  
Absent: None  
Also Present: Borough Attorney Wenner, Borough Administrator  
Jaxel, Borough Engineer Schrek and Borough Clerk  
Colvin

**INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE**

Councilman Sibilialia led the Invocation and Flag Salute, praying that all members of the Governing Body receive the guidance needed to work for the good of the community.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Resolution No. 2016-08-122 - Executive Session - Subject Matter:  
Personnel and Contract Negotiations.

On a motion by Councilman Sibilialia, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, Council moved to Approve Resolution No. 2016-08-122.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Bray, Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, McGinley, Sibilialia  
Nay: x  
Abstain: x

Motion Carried, 6-0

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

On a motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Councilman Foohey, Council moved to Leave Executive Session.

Recorded Vote: All in Favor

Motion Carried, 6-0

Council came out of Executive Session at 7:37 p.m. and resumed in Regular Session at 7:38 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor McMullin opened the meeting to the public for comment.

Jim Paliani, 704 Riverside Avenue:

Mr. Paliani said his home and property sustained substantial water damage during a recent storm. He said Administrator Jaxel responded quickly, sent the Bob Bogart to access. Mayor McMullin also personally visited his home. The issue might be a collapsed pipe in front of his home, not yet certain. Other homes were also damaged and this was not the first time.

Attorney Wenner said he will consult with Engineer Schrek and then advise Mayor and Council. Engineer Schrek said he has looked into the matter and said more examination is needed he said he should have something ready for the next council meeting.

Seeing no additional hands, Mayor McMullin closed this Public Comment portion of the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

July 26, 2016 - Executive Session

July 26, 2016 - Regular Session

On a motion by Councilman McGinley, seconded by Council President Carra, Council moved to Approve the Minutes of July 26, 2016 - Regular and Executive Sessions.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, McGinley

Nay: x

Abstain: Bray and Sibiliala

Motion Carried, 4-0

**WORK SESSION**

1. Engineer's Report

Borough Engineer Schrek delivered the following report:

Raritan Library Addition

Work is proceeding. There were minor framing revisions, which delayed the exterior work for a short while. Interior work has been proceeding.

Bell Avenue Improvements (2015 NJDOT Local Aid Grant)

The project design is 95 percent complete. Scope includes curb/sidewalk repairs, ADA ramping at crosswalks, drainage improvements, base repairs and surface mill/overlay. This project is substantially funded through the 2015 NJDOT Transportation Trust Fund.

Sherman Avenue Improvements (2016 NJDOT Local Aid Grant)

The project design is 80 percent complete. It is our intent to combine both the 2015 and 2016 Local Aid projects under a single bid thereby achieving an economy of scale.

Redevelopment Area Study - LaGrange Street

The Planning Board has appointed this office to proceed with the needs analysis for Block 93 Lots 1&2. Our field investigation has been completed and we are finalizing the report.

Manville Shared Services Initiative

As discussed at the last work meeting, Borough Attorney Wenner drafted an agreement to enable the sharing of manpower on an hour-to-hour basis. With the execution of the agreement, repair of catch basins will commence.

Minor Flooding Events on 7/25/2016

Recent heavy rain events resulted in minor flooding on Riverside Avenue and LaGrange Street. DPW was helpful in responding to the event. The cause has been investigated and protocol will be set to keep watch and be vigilant in cleaning our storm water conveyance system.

2. Gaston Avenue Brook

Mayor McMullin said Engineer Schrek visited the site and Attorney Wenner looked into easements and other records. Attorney Wenner said he believes the Borough's obligation is limited to maintaining the pipe that was installed roughly 20 years ago. Engineer Schrek agreed with Attorney Wenner and said he would look into the matter more and report back.

Mayor and Council permitted resident Florence Russo, 20 Gaston Avenue, to speak during this portion of the meeting. Mrs. Russo questioned why the Borough has cleaned the Gaston Avenue Brook property in the past, but no longer does. Attorney Wenner said the Borough does not own the property in question. Mrs. Russo asked whose responsibility

it would be if a child were injured playing in the pipe. No one was certain.

3. Unfit Building 13 East Somerset Street  
Mayor and Council had a brief discussion related to the condition of the property and what steps the town has taken to date regarding the building. It was decided to have a motion to authorize a hearing for the building.

On a motion by Council President Carra, seconded by Councilman McGinley, Council moved to Authorize a hearing on 13 East Somerset Street.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Bray, Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, McGinley, Sibilia  
Nay: x  
Abstain: x

Motion Carried, 6-0

**ORDINANCE - SECOND READING & PUBLIC HEARING**

Ordinance No. 2016-11 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF RARITAN, COUNTY OF SOMERSET, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RARITAN IN ORDER TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 260 ENTITLED PROPERTIES, UPKEEP OF VACANT AND ABANDONED RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES TO THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RARITAN

Mayor McMullin opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2016-11. Seeing no hands, Mayor McMullin closed the Public Hearing.

On motion by Council President Carra, seconded by Councilman McGinley, Council moved to Adopt Ordinance No. 2016-09.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Bray, Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, McGinley, Sibilia  
Nay: x  
Abstain: x

Motion Carried, 6-0

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Resolution No. 2016-08-123      Refund Unused Railroad Parking  
Resolution No. 2016-08-124      Cancel Lien Redemption Resolution

On motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Councilman Bray, Council moved to Approve the Consent Agenda.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Bray, Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, McGinley, Sibilia  
Nay: x  
Abstain: x

Motion Carried, 6-0

**APPROVAL OF BILL LIST**

None

**PURCHASE ORDER REQUESTS**

1. Annual Fire Hose and Ground Ladder Testing - Fail Safe Testing - \$2,052.00

On motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Councilman Foohey, Council moved to Approve the Purchase Order Request.

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Bray, Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, McGinley, Sibilia  
Nay: x  
Abstain: x

Motion Carried, 6-0

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS**

Councilman Sibilia said the County has put out bids for the Canal Bridge. Also, trying to work with the Board of Education to launch a pilot program to have more kids walk to school.

Councilman Foohey informed Mayor and Council Jim Fidacaro and the Historical and Cultural Committee just finished successfully installing a dual light at the Basilone Monument. One light will be on the monument and the other will shine on the street to improve visibility for motorists.

Councilman McGinley said he did not have anything yet to report.

Council President Carra said the Property Maintenance Sub Committee is meeting August 22. Thank you to the Council for approving the Ordinance tonight.

Councilman Bray reported the Recreation Committee will meet this coming Thursday night. He said the Municipal Court collected \$21,816 this month and of that today, the Borough will keep

\$11,419. The councilman requested any residents who are having their water tested should have those results sent to the BOH, which is also going to be providing radon information and will have hurricane preparedness information at Riverfest.

Councilman Giraldi read a letter from John Pacifico, of the Basilone Parade Committee, thanking Mayor and Council for their increased financial contribution to the parade this year.

Mayor McMullin said the Borough will be having an unveiling of a new addition to the Wall of Heroes on Saturday, Sept. 17. Dennis Crane, who served in the Vietnam War will be honored. He announced Mr. Crane will also be on a banner on Main Street during the Basilone Parade this year.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor McMullin opened the meeting to members of the public wishing to speak. Seeing no hands, the Mayor closed the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion by Councilman Sibilgia, seconded by Councilman Bray, Council moved to Adjourn the Meeting.

Recorded Vote: All in Favor

Motion Carried, 6-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

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Eric M. Colvin, RMC, CMR  
Borough Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_