

This Regular Meeting of the Borough of Raritan Governing Body was called to order by Mayor Zachary Bray utilizing the Zoom virtual platform, as a result of the COVID-19 health pandemic, on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 6p.m.

The Mayor announced this Regular Meeting was called pursuant to applicable portions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Adequate notice was communicated to *The Courier news*, *The Star Ledger*, and *The Breeze* on February 5, 2021, posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and on the Borough website.

ROLL CALL

Present: Council President Carra, Councilman Giraldi, Councilwoman Harris, Councilwoman Melitsky, Councilman Orozco, Councilman Patente
Also Present: Mayor Bray, Borough Administrator/Clerk Colvin, Borough Attorney Robertson, Borough Engineer Schreck

Absent: None

INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE

Councilman Giraldi

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution No. 2021-02-036

Entering Executive Session

1. Personnel
Administration, Property Maintenance,
Recreation, Public Works

On a motion by Council President Carra, seconded by Councilwoman Giraldi, Council moved to Reconvene in Regular Session.

Recorded Vote:

Yea: Carra, Giraldi, Harris, Orozco Melitsky, Patente

Nay: x

Abstain:

Absent: x

Motion Carried: 6-0

Council exited Executive Session and resumed Regular Session at 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

January 26, 2021- Regular Session

On a motion by Councilman Patente, seconded by Councilwoman Melitsky, Council moved to Table Adoption of January 26 2021 Minutes.

Recorded Vote:

Yea: Carra, Giraldi, Harris, Melitsky, Orozco, Patente

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Absent: x

Motion Carried: 6-0

WORK SESSION

1. Tour of Somerville (PO)

Councilman Orozco said he spoke with the Director of the Tour of Somerville and was informed that the date had been changed from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

On a motion by Councilman Orozco, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, Council moved to Approve the Tour of Somerville Date Change.

Recorded Vote:

Yea: Carra, Giraldi, Harris, Melitsky, Orozco, Patente

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Absent: x

Motion Carried: 6-0

2. Playground Equipment (ZB)

Mayor Bray said the Borough has received two quotes for playground equipment for Frelinghuysen Park and is available for review. The Mayor said the playground equipment will be one of the first tasks that the new Recreation Director will take on once an appointment is made.

3. CDBG Grant Update (EC)

Borough Administrator/Clerk Colvin said the CDGB grant funding from the County is currently pending and that he will provide an update when more information is received. He explained that each year, appointments are made to serve on the Community Development Committee which historically have been the Borough Administrator and the Borough Clerk. Borough Administrator Colvin asked that this year, those appointed be the Borough Administrator/Clerk and the Assistant Administrator. He said if Mayor and Council so choose to make the appointments, it would require a Mayoral appointment for the Borough Administrator to serve on the committee and consent of Council for the Assistant Administrator to serve.

Mayor Bray appointed Borough Administrator/Clerk Colvin to serve on the Community Development Committee.

On a motion by Council President Carra, seconded by Councilman Orozco, Council moved to Appoint Assistant Administrator Cathy Cook to Serve on the Community Development Committee for 2021.

Recorded Vote:

Yea: Carra, Giraldi, Harris, Melitsky, Orozco, Patente

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Absent: x

Motion Carried: 6-0

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution No. 2021-02-037	Disposition of Equipment by the Administration & Police Departments
Resolution No. 2021-02-038	Authorizing a Shared Service Agreement For Sanitary Sewer Professional Licensed Services with Manville Borough for the Years 2021-2023
Resolution No. 2021-02-039	Authorizing Redemption of Tax Lien
Resolution No. 2021-02-040	Approving and Authorizing the Execution of The First Addendum to Route 202, First Avenue Intersection Improvements Agreement Between The New Jersey Department of Transportation, Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset
Resolution No. 2021-02-041	Appointment of Special Council
Resolution No. 2021-01-043	Appointing Ronald Cefalone To The Position of Recreation Director For The Borough of Raritan
Resolution No. 2021-02-044	Appointing Brian Blute To The Position of Property Maintenance Officer For The Borough of Raritan

Mayor Bray asked if anyone would like to pull any Resolution on the Consent Agenda to discuss separately.

Borough Attorney Robertson asked that Resolution 2021-02-040 be carried to the next meeting.

Councilman Patente asked that Resolution 2021-02-038 be pulled to discuss separately.

Borough Administrator/Clerk Colvin explained the shared service agreement will be providing for a position of a sewer professional from the Borough of Manville. He said the cost will be slightly less than what is currently being paid and also said the recommendation came from the Borough's Engineering firm.

On a motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Council President Carra, Council moved to approve Resolutions 2021-02-037 Through 2021-02-141 Absent Resolution 2021-02-140.

Recorded Vote:

Yea: Carra, Giraldi, Harris, Melitsky, Orozco, Patente

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Absent: x

Motion Carried: 6-0

BILL LIST

Resolution No. 2021-02-042

Approving Bill List

Mayor Bray asked if any members of the Council had any questions. Neither seeing nor hearing any member of Council, Mayor Bray asked for a motion to approve the bill.

On a motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Council President Carra, Council moved to approve Resolution No. 2021-02-042.

Recorded Vote:

Yea: Carra, Giraldi, Harris, Orozco, Melitsky, Patente

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Absent: x

Motion Carried: 6-0

PURCHASE ORDER(S)

1. Brian Kronick\$8,250.00

On a motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Councilwoman Harris, Council moved to approve Purchase Order No. 1

Recorded Vote:

Yea: Carra, Giraldi, Harris, Orozco, Melitsky, Patente

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Absent: x

Motion Carried: 6-0

COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

Council President Carra – Council President Carra said the Board of Health will be meeting on February 12 through Zoom and the Planning Board will meet on February 24 also on Zoom. He said he met with the Finance Office Department Heads to go over preliminary numbers for the operating budget which will then be prepared to present to Council. The Council President also asked if there was something the Borough could do to assist Senior Residents who do not have computers sign up for the COVID-19 Vaccine.

Councilman Giraldi – Councilman Giraldi said Public Works has completed snow removal throughout the Borough. He said DPW is planning to clean of Main Street but are waiting to get more information about additional snow. Councilman Giraldi said he spoke to Mr. Doorley (Spelling) about the Basilone Parade and planning is still up in the air.

Councilwoman Harris – Councilwoman Harris said the Environmental Commission has their next meeting on February 18 at 7p.m. She said she spoke with the Office of Emergency Management Coordinator who told her that his focus over the last week as been on snow removal and coordinating with DPW.

Councilwoman Melitsky – Councilwoman Melitsky said the Building Department conducted 105 inspections. She said in the last 2 weeks, 13 certificates were issued, total construction cost was \$3,056,395.00 and \$125.00 in certificates were collected. For the Police Department, Councilwoman Melitsky said during the month of January, the Ford Motor Company donated a case of masks to the Raritan Police Department. She said the Police Department is in the process of partnering with Ring. The partnership would allow for the Police Department to request videos from Residents Ring Cameras from a specific time and area. She explained that this will be a helpful tool for the Raritan PD and that residents can deny a request for their Ring Camera footage. Councilwoman Melitsky also said during the month of January, Officer Timothy DeBari was awarded the 2020 Mothers Against Drunk Driving Award.

Councilman Orozco – Councilman Orozco said he had nothing new to report for the Board of Education. For the Fire Department, the Councilman said the Department went on 14 calls in January and 18 calls year to date. He said in the year 2020, the Fire Department put in 3,675 hours and extended his gratitude on behalf of the Residents.

Councilman Patente Councilman Patente said he had nothing new to report for the Economic Development Committee or the Historical Committee. He said the Somerset Regional Partnership had an emergency meeting to authorize funding for a company to review new legislation that was passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

(In accordance with Section 29-1 of the Code of the Borough of Raritan, there shall be a five-minute limit per speaker)

Mayor Bray opened Public Comment for any member of the Public wishing to be heard.

Jessica Ifan 1015 Tysley PlaceMs. Ifan said she wanted to speak about Recreation. She asked about a timeline for when the Borough would complete the hiring process for a Recreation Directions and said she has some concerns regarding the playgrounds and pools needing to be repaired. She said she hopes that a Recreation Director will be hired soon so that summer programs can be up and running for the Children.

Neither seeing nor hearing any member of the Public, Mayor Bray closed Public Comment Session.

Council then motioned to re-enter Executive Session.

On a motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Council President Carra, Council moved to Re-enter Executive Session

Recorded Vote

Yea: Carra, Giraldi Harris, Melitsky, Orozco, Patente

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Absent:

Motion Carried: 6-0

REGULAR MEETING ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilman Giraldi seconded by Council President Carra, Council moved to Adjourn the Regular Meeting.

Recorded Vote:

All in favor

Motion Passed: 6-0

Regular Meeting adjourned at 7:42pm

Ashley Kurbanoglu,
Deputy Clerk

Approved: _____