

This Regular Meeting of the Borough of Raritan Governing Body was called to order by Mayor Zachary Bray in the Meeting Room of the Raritan Municipal Building, 22 First Street, Raritan, NJ 08869 at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 20, 2022.

Mayor Bray 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 January 7, 2022, posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building, on the Borough website and made available in the Office of the Borough Clerk.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Bray, Council President Carra, Councilman Fritzingler, Councilman Giraldi, Councilwoman Hutzler, Councilwoman Melitsky, Councilman Orozco

Also Present: Borough Administrator/Clerk Colvin, Borough Assistant Administrator/Assistant CFO Cook-Vitale, Borough Attorney Robertson, Borough Engineer Schrek

Absent:

INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE

Councilwoman Melitsky

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution No. 2022-09-140

Entering Executive Session

1. Attorney Client
Public Buildings, Hidden Pond, BOH, Alpine Way, Public Works

On a motion by Council President Carra, seconded by Councilwoman Melitsky, Council moved to Enter Executive Session.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Carra, Fritzingler, Giraldi, Hutzler, Melitsky, Orozco

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 6-0

Council convened in Executive Session at 6:32 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilman Carra, seconded by Councilman Fritzingler, Council moved to Reconvene in Regular Session.

Recorded Vote

All in Favor

Motion Carried: 6-0

Council exited Executive Session and resumed Regular Session at 7:08 p.m.

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.

Marilyn Nagel, 71 LaGrange Street: Ms. Nagel asked if someone could explain exactly what Ordinance number 2022-13, Block 93, Lots 1& 2 is about and what's going on. Mayor Bray stated that there is going to be a Public Hearing on that Ordinance later in the meeting and she can speak on it then.

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

OLD BUSINESS

1. Splash Park (NC)
Council President Carra asked Borough Engineer Schrek if he had obtained a map of Basilone Pool yet, Borough Engineer Schrek responded by stating that there is no map on file so they have to do some survey work out there
2. Street Cleaning (PO)
Councilman Orozco wanted to give an update from last meeting, the street cleaner is down right now for a couple weeks but, once it is up and running the DPW Director will get back to him on whether they will do the shared service or not.
3. Public Buildings (PO)
Councilman Orozco stated this was a topic discussed in Executive Session and he asked Borough Engineer Schrek to give a public update. Borough Engineer Schrek stated that Barrett Council did authorize looking into the East Building on First Avenue by the park and he is hoping for this year, as for the Public Works Building, had a foundation investigation for any health insurance. Councilman Orozco asked if there were cost estimates available yet, to which Borough Engineer Schrek replied no yet, they are working on gathering them.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Engineer's Report (SS)
Borough Engineer Schrek delivered the preprepared report below:

NJTPA/NJDOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)

NV5 is continuing to work on the Preliminary Design Drawings for the Thompson/Anderson pedestrian routes from the NJ Transit Station to the Riverfront. Project coordination between, NV5, VCEA and NJDOT will continue throughout this process. We have reviewed the Preliminary Design Submission as dated October 2021 and have suggested various cost savings measures to bring the project within the grant budget. The consultant will be making a presentation in November/December meeting depending on Council's schedule. **Update:** NJDOT has awarded an additional **\$636,018** to the project. Required Public Information Meeting is scheduled for October 4 from 3pm to 5pm in the Municipal Building.

Public Safety Building/ DPW Building

Public Safety Building will be designed for PD use only pending approval of concept by Mayor and Council. DPW design is progressing. **Update:** PD building design and documents to be completed in September.

Bell Ave Sewer

Bids have been received for Bell Avenue Storm and Sanitary Sewer repairs. Two bids were received on rebid. Underground Utilities Corp. with a total bid of \$521,074.00 and Lima Charlie Corp. with a total bid of \$664,679.00. An award to Underground Utilities, in the amount of **\$521,074.00**, has been approved.

Update: Underground work is completed. Final paving will be installed later in October to allow for any settlement.

2022 CDBG Applications

We submitted an application for sanitary sewer and storm sewer repairs and maintenance within the CDBG designated areas. An application has been submitted. **Update:** The Borough has been awarded **\$100,000** toward this project

2021 NJDOT – Meehan and Helene 2022 NJDOT- Arnold, Berwick and Colby

Design completed for Meehan and Helene. Design progressing on Arnold, Berwick and Colby. **Update:** Meehan and Helene have just been approved by NJDOT Bids will be received on September 22. Award recommendation will be from the October 4 Council Meeting.

2023 NJDOT – Drainage Improvements

NJDOT Local Aid applications are due on July 1. We are suggesting that an application be submitted for drainage improvements to the Richard Street section of the Borough. This will address many of the complaints we have had in the area. **Update:** All required documents have been submitted to NJDOT. Awaiting award.

LaGrange Street Redevelopment

RDP Ordinance awaiting 2nd reading.

Raritan Crossing Redevelopment

Awaiting site plan submission per approved RDP.

1st Ave. and Burns Redevelopment

AINR Study public hearing is scheduled for the September 28 Planning Board meeting.

Raritan Mall Redevelopment

AINR Study public hearing is scheduled for the September 28 Planning Board meeting.

Tillman Street Redevelopment

AINR Study public hearing is scheduled for the September 28 Planning Board meeting.

Downtown Economic Development Planning

TRC will review recommendations as related to parking, this Wednesday, September 21.

Block 81

Update: Draft Amended Lease Agreement under review which will enable the installation of the pedestrian link between the project and the NJ Transit parking westerly parking lot. **No agreement yet from NJ Transit.** Final CO has been issued and bond release is in process with exception of bond held for NJ Transit link.

2. Recreation Website (EC)

Borough Administrator/Clerk Colvin stated that he received a request from our Recreation Director, Andy Sibia, to have a Recreation website. Borough Administrator/Clerk Colvin stated that it is policy for Council to approve any social media website training, adding that it hasn't been budgeted for this year, but he wanted to bring it before Council since it was a request and to see where Council is on that creation of the website. Mayor Bray stated that he doesn't have an issue with this but requested that the budget be ready for January and then the website could be launched in the new year, to which Council all unofficially agreed to.

3. Contribution to JFK School Environmental Program (EC)

Borough Administrator/Clerk Colvin stated that he received an email from one of the teachers at JFK, the Borough has been contributing to an Environmental Program over the years but the program stopped during COVID, JFK would like to start the program up again and would like to start receiving that contribution again, which is usually between \$1,000 - \$1,500 which comes out of our Community Grant. Borough Administrator/Clerk Colvin stated that he wanted to see if Council was okay with making that contribution, to which council all unofficially agreed.

4. TAP Grant Public Meeting (EC)

Borough Administrator/Clerk Colvin stated on Tuesday, October 4, 2022, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. here at Borough Hall, Borough Engineer Schrek and his group will be discussing their project to connect the train station down to the Nevius Street Bridge for the sidewalk in The Pedestrian Improvements, the project is being funded from the Federal Funding from the NJDOT and they will be on site to answer questions from the public if anyone would like to attend, you can also email or call in questions.

Borough Engineer Schrek stated that this is a public information required meeting on the preliminary design, once the State understands any public comments, they will authorize the final design, adding that he himself is not the engineer on this project, the State is. Borough Engineer Schrek also mentioned that everyone in the affected areas has been notified.

5. Road Closures (PO)

Councilman Orozco stated that he wanted to thank the DPW and the Police Department for their work with the two road closures we had this past weekend, adding that he knows how much work is involved and how difficult that is. Councilman Orozco stated that he wanted to talk about future road closures, adding that he has heard multiple people talking about the inconvenience of the street closures, perhaps because it was twice in once weekend, mostly complaints from the 5k, which closed down more streets and boxed people in, adding that this is a conversation they need to have with the upcoming 5K in December. There was a brief

discussion between Council, which ended in agreement that this topic does need to be discussed and revised.

ORDINANCE – SECOND READING & PUBLIC HEARING

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

Ordinance No. 2022-12

An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey Amending and Supplementing Chapter 49, Police Department, of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Raritan to Add a New Section – 49-9: Extraneous-Duty Employment of Police Officers for Police-Related Activities

On a motion by Council President Carra, seconded by Councilwoman Melitsky, Council moved to Open the Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2022-12.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Carra, Fritzinger, Giraldi, Hutzler, Melitsky, Orozco

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 6-0

On a motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Councilman Orozco, Council moved to Adopt Ordinance No. 2022-12.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Carra, Fritzinger, Giraldi, Hutzler, Melitsky, Orozco

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 6-0

Ordinance No. 2022-13

An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey Adopting a Redevelopment Plan for an Area in Need of Redevelopment Consisting of Block 93 Lots 1 and 2

On a motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Councilwoman Hutzler, Council moved to Open the Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2022-13.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Fritzinger, Giraldi, Hutzler, Melitsky, Orozco

Nay: x

Abstain: Carra

Motion Carried: 5-0

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

Marilyn Nagel, 71 LaGrange Street: Ms. Nagel asked if someone could explain exactly what this Ordinance means, expand on it, how it's going to work, etc. Borough Engineer Schrek stated that the Planning Board and Council have been reviewing this for the last four years, adding that the property itself along with location has been a factor in the timeframe. Borough Engineer Schrek said that this property gives a developer an opportunity to build attached-multifamily units within the restrictions of the R4 Zone, we don't have a site plan yet, a developer would have to come in and go through the complete cycling of approval with an application before the Planning Board, adding that if/when they have a cycling in, everyone within 200 feet of the property will get a notice.

Ms. Nagel then asked about the issue of potential horrible parking conditions and getting school buses, garbage trucks and/or fire trucks through. Borough Engineer Schrek responded by saying, parking is regulated by the State under the Residential Site Proof and Standards, meaning that there has to be so many parking spaces based on the number of units built, there would also be an Ordinance specifically for that site in place that the developer would have to work around, perhaps having basements for more storage and cars can be in the garage instead of on the street. Borough Engineer Schrek stated that when a site plan does come in, they will be notified of the public hearing and can express their concerns there.

Mr. John Hudak, LaGrange Street: Mr. HUDAK stated that they were talking about lots 1 & 2 and lot 93, there is a brief conversation between Mr. HUDAK and Borough Engineer Schrek ensued but was inaudible. Mr. HUDAK expressed his concern over parking issues that may occur, adding that more streets in that area should have parking allowed. Mr. HUDAK then inquired what type of buildings might go up, to which Borough Engineer Schrek replied by saying, probably typical townhouses with two bedrooms and two levels and a garage, adding that the required parking will be on site. Borough Engineer Schrek stated that he didn't want to get into specifics since there is not a site plan in place but, a site plan includes a traffic study and a traffic analysis, so all their concerns will be a part of that site review, adding that he understands the problems that are out there. Mr. HUDAK then inquired about how far back the buildings would be, Borough Engineer Schrek stated they would be setback roughly 25 feet to allow for parking. Borough Engineer Schrek reiterated that a traffic study and a traffic analysis are part of the Planning Board application and everyone within 200 feet of the property line will be notified of the public hearings to voice their concerns. Mr. HUDAK continued a conversation with Borough Engineer Schrek regarding number of potential buildings, possible spaces between buildings, school buses, speeding cars and tight corners, which resulted in Borough Engineer Schrek stating that all of this will get looked into when a Land Use application gets submitted.

Marilyn Nagel, 71 LaGrange Street: Ms. Nagel asked when it will be determined whether the units will be purchased for home ownership or for rentals, Borough Engineer Schrek stated that he believes it was written as for sale, not rentals.

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

On a motion by Councilman Orozco, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, Council moved to Approve Ordinance No. 2022-13.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Giraldi, Orozco

Nay: Fritzinger, Hutzler, Melitsky

Abstain: Carra

Motion Failed: 2-3

ORDINANCE – INTRODUCTION

Ordinance No. 2022-14

An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey Permitting Medical Cannabis Alternative Treatment Centers as a Conditional Use

Mayor Bray stated that Sarah Trent and Seth Tipton are in attendance and that he would like them to take the floor to explain the process of what is happening here.

Mrs. Trent thanked Mayor Bray and Council for inviting her to speak and for entertaining this Ordinance tonight. Mrs. Trent stated that Mr. Tipton appeared on their behalf last month during the August Council Meeting and initially made this introduction to Council, making them aware that Valley Wellness is currently building out their medical facility, construction is going as planned, and they are on target to complete construction approximately on November 1, 2022. Mrs. Trent stated that when they obtained their medical approval from the State, initially there was a requirement on them that they had to operate as a medical facility for one year, the State has since lifted that requirement formally in a letter, saying they are allowed to go through the conversion process upon opening, adding that there are hurdles they need to overcome and that is in part why they are here.

Mrs. Trent went on to explain that the hurdles they have are at the State level and they need to have a few things in place before the state will even consider their conversion application, such as, proof of an Ordinance allowing them to operate, a resolution allowing them to operate, they need to present our diversity, equity and inclusion plan to the State and they need to show them how we will prioritize patients over adult use consumers. Mrs. Trent stated that she is here to start that process of passing an ordinance and securing a resolution, which she understands will not happen overnight, but once they have them secured, they will present them to the State along with their conversion application shortly after opening, which is tentatively set for November. Mrs. Trent said that the CRC would have to evaluate the conversion application and then vote on it at a public meeting, which take place monthly, adding that the State takes approximately three-months to evaluate the conversion applications. Mrs. Trent stated that she will still be sticking with her plan of opening for medical use and then proving to Council that she can also open for adult use within those few months of the evaluation while they are operating as a Medical Alternative Treatment Center. Mrs. Trent stated that the Resolution in which she is operating under currently requires her to come back before the Planning Board for get site plan approval when/if they want to convert to adult use. Mrs. Trent stated that introducing this Ordinance tonight is the first step in the conversion process, they would need State approval and while awaiting the approval from the State she will complete all the other necessary studies and procedures, then around December or January she will present a new site plan to the Planning Board.

Councilman Giraldi asked why introduce the Ordinance now when they don't have their building complete and up and running yet, to which Mrs. Trent replied that most medical operators

have converted and the sales of medical marijuana aren't very good, making the conversion into adult use necessary to run a successful business. Mr. Tipton stated that passing this Ordinance would only allow Mrs. Trent's business to become an adult use, any other treatment center would have to apply for their own conversion. Mr. Trent also stated that the conversion will still be operating under an expanded ATC which is predominantly a medical license. Councilman Giraldi expressed his concerns that if Council passes this conversion Ordinance now, they cannot see how the first business will run or how the neighbors will react and then they will already be granted permission to convert to adult use sales, adding that he would like to see how their first business operates before they grant them permission to open/convert to their new business.

Mayor Bray stated again that this is a little unorthodox, but this is just to introduce the Ordinance so that it can appear on the next agenda for a final vote, adding that he wanted to give them a chance to outline the request for everyone since it was received a little bit late in the week last week.

Mayor Bray stated that this is just an introduction and discussion on this ordinance will take place at the next Council Meeting.

On a motion by Councilman Orozco, seconded by Councilman Fritzinger, Council moved to Introduce Ordinance No. 2022-14.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Carra, Fritzinger, Giraldi, Hutzler, Melitsky, Orozco

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 6-0

Ordinance No. 2022-15

An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey Amending Chapter 82, Vehicles and Traffic, Part 4 (Handicapped Parking), Section 82-71.1D of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Raritan

Mayor Bray stated that this is just an introduction and discussion on this ordinance will take place at the next Council Meeting.

On a motion by Councilman Orozco, seconded by Council President Carra, Council moved to Introduce Ordinance No. 2022-15.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Carra, Fritzinger, Giraldi, Hutzler, Melitsky, Orozco

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 6-0

CONSENT AGENDA

(Resolution Nos. 2022-09-141 – 2022-09-143)

Resolution No. 2022-09-141

Refunding Tax Overpayment – B5, L4

Resolution No. 2022-09-142
Resolution No. 2022-09-143

Authorizing Person-to-Person Transfer ABC License
Approving Change Order – Underground Utilities

Mayor Bray asked for a brief explanation of Resolution No. 2022-09-143, to which Borough Clerk/Administrator Colvin stated that the contractor for the Bell Avenue Sewer project discovered a few changes along the way. Borough Engineer Schrek stated the final change order will be coming in less than what the contract was for.

On a motion by Council President Carra, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, Council moved to Approve the Consent Agenda.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Carra, Fritzinger, Giraldi, Hutzler, Melitsky, Orozco
Nay: x
Abstain: x
Motion Carried: 6-0

BILL LIST

1. Resolution No. 2022-09-144 Approving Bill List

On a motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Councilman Orozco, Council moved to Approve the Bill List.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Carra, Fritzinger, Giraldi, Hutzler, Melitsky, Orozco
Nay: x
Abstain: x
Motion Carried: 6-0

2. Resolution No. 2022-09-145 Supplemental Bill List

On a motion by Councilwoman Hutzler, seconded by Councilwoman Melitsky, Council moved to Approve the Supplemental Bill List.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Carra, Fritzinger, Giraldi, Hutzler, Melitsky, Orozco
Nay: x
Abstain: x
Motion Carried: 6-0

PURCHASE ORDER REQUESTS

1. Engineering – Van Cleef Engineering Associates, LLC. – \$130,305.40 – Various Engineering

On a motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Councilman Fritzinger, Council moved to Approve Van Cleef Engineering PO.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Carra, Fritzingler, Giraldi, Hutzler, Melitsky, Orozco

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 6-0

2. Construction – Underground Utilities Corporation – \$388,745.26 – Bell Avenue Sewer & Road

On a motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Councilman Orozco, Council moved to Approve Underground Utilities Corporation PO.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Carra, Fritzingler, Giraldi, Hutzler, Melitsky, Orozco

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 6-0

3. Administration – Somerset Raritan Valley Sewerage Authority – \$92,328.72 – September 2022

On a motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Councilman Orozco, Council moved to Approve Somerset Raritan Valley Sewerage Authority Quarterly PO.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Carra, Fritzingler, Giraldi, Hutzler, Melitsky, Orozco

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 6-0

4. DPW & Police – Somerset County Vehicle Maintenance – \$13,297.45 – Fuel Charges

On a motion by Councilwoman Melitsky, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, Council moved to Approve Somerset County Vehicle Maintenance PO.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Carra, Fritzingler, Giraldi, Hutzler, Melitsky, Orozco

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 6-0

5. Administration – GoGov, Inc. – \$10,500 – Municipal Maintenance Software

Councilman Orozco stated he wanted to discuss this PO, adding that he thought this service was cancelled last year. Borough Clerk/Administrator Colvin stated that it was cancelled but there has been back and forth with the company and Borough Attorney Robertson to pay for the cancelled service. There was a brief conversation between Council in which Councilman Orozco inquired about perhaps getting a credit for next years' service, but Council President Carra pointed out that it had already been voted on earlier in the year to no longer use this service as it caused issues for the Police Department and Borough Insurance advised against it.

On a motion by Council President Carra, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, Council moved to Approve GoGov, Inc. PO.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Carra, Fritzingler, Giraldi, Hutzler, Melitsky

Abstain: Orozco

Nay: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

6. DPW – Placing Flower Pots on Main Street

On a motion by Council President Carra, seconded by Councilwoman Hutzler, Council moved to Approve Flower Pot Placement on Main Street PO.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Carra, Fritzingler, Giraldi, Hutzler, Melitsky, Orozco

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 6-0

COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

Councilman Giraldi – Councilman Giraldi stated that he does not have a Police report for this month but that the John Basilone Parade was on Sunday, adding that it was a very nice event, with great weather and everybody had a good time with no Police issues occurring.

Councilman Orozco – Councilman Orozco reported that he didn't have anything for Board of Education and that the Environmental Committee will be meeting on Thursday, September 22, 2022. Mayor Bray then introduced Mike Peppe to Councilman Orozco, as he will be filling in for the rest of the term for this year.

Councilman Fritzingler – Councilman Fritzingler reported that during the period of September 7, 2022 through September 16, 2022, Construction issued one building permit, four plumbing permits, six electrical, two fire and one WHAT, totaling in 14 permits with \$21,304.00 collected to the Borough.

Councilman Fritzinger stated that the Historical and Cultural Committee will be at Borough Hall tomorrow night at 7 o'clock, adding that the public are always welcome.

Council President Cara – Council President Cara said that he gave an update on the Planning Board at the last Council meeting and reminded everyone that their next meeting will be Wednesday, September 28, 2022, at 6:30 p.m., here in the Municipal building, in the courtroom. Council President Cara reported that the Regional Center Partnership cancelled their meeting tomorrow for the month of September, they will meet next on Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at 5 p.m. virtually, also adding that the EDC did not meet in August but are currently meeting downstairs for September and he will have an update at the next Council Meeting.

Councilwoman Melitsky – Councilwoman Melitsky stated that the Board of Health meeting on September 14, 2022, was cancelled due to lack of quorum, one temporary food license application was received from Mangia Buono, which did the catering at the Basilone Parade. Councilwoman Melitsky reported that Property Maintenance performed 41 inspections and issued 32 violations and two fines for a total of \$300.00.

Councilwoman Melitsky reported that Public Works has been really busy this month, stating that she will minimize the list they gave her to the following: they routinely patched potholes, chip brushed, performed maintenance on tractors and lawn equipment, out new street signs up at Coddington, La Grange, Second Street and First Avenue, they maintained pump stations and completed checks, they did routine maintenance throughout the parks and athletic fields, they manned grass drop-off, they prepared various areas for the 5K and the Basilone Parade and they repaired the damaged items along with cleaning the Municipal Building and the train station, adding that they do multiple other services. Councilwoman Melitsky stated that she wanted to personally commend everyone and thank everyone for being a part of the various activities his past week, adding that we are learning about John Basilone.

Councilwoman Hutzler – Councilwoman Hutzler reported that for Recreation, T-ball is in full swing right now, Raritan cross-country began last week and runs through October, and is held on Wednesday and Friday evenings from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Washington School, signup forms along with more information can be found on the Borough website. Councilwoman Hutzler shared that Recreation is also working on their Trunk-or-Treat event, which is scheduled for Saturday, October 22 with a rain date of October 29, adding that she was advised earlier today that Recreation received approval to use the parking lot at JFK for this event, information about this event will be up on the Borough website soon. Councilwoman Hutzler stated that she will have the September Municipal Court report at one of the October Council Meetings.

Mayor Bray – Mayor Bray stated that he wanted to echo many of the Council Members by thanking everyone for their participation and helping with a wonderful weekend between the Police Department, DPW, all volunteers that help put on the parade, all the participants that come from near and far, stating that it was a lovely day, and adding that he really liked the new changes to the seating and presentation structure at the ceremony after the parade. Mayor Bray thanked all again and the Marine Corps Marching Band.

SECOND 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.

Anthony DeCicco, Anderson Street: Mr. DeCicco started by saying congratulations on the parade, adding that it was excellent and thanking Borough Clerk/Administrator Colvin for going through a lot of work to get that done. Mr. DeCicco then thanked Councilman Giraldi for all his years here helping with the Basilone parade and continuing to get money for it, adding that he hopes the next person who follows his step does the same thing, keeping the parade going, to which Councilman Giraldi thanked him. Mr. DeCicco also thanked Borough Clerk/Administrator Colvin for helping get his liquor license transferred, adding that there was a lot of back and forth that he handled and got it taken care of. Mr. DeCicco then told Councilman Giraldi to enjoy retirement, adding that he hopes the next guy does as well as he did with the parade.

Michael Pepe, 810 Old York Road: Mr. Pepe stated that he is honored to be appointed to the Bridgewater Raritan Board of Education for the rest of this calendar year and he looks forward to meeting all, around town and working on behalf of the students of Bridgewater and Raritan. Mr. Pepe stated that he hasn't officially been appointed as the liaison to this committee yet but believes it will default to him as the only Raritan member, adding that he is looking forward to getting to work with the administration and his fellow board members have been really gracious. Mr. Pepe also stated that he hopes to meet with the superintendent soon and hopefully get tours of some of the buildings, especially get over to JFK and see what's going on over there. Mr. Pepe then thanked Council for having him tonight and that he would love to learn more about the environmental program that was brought up for council approval earlier in the meeting, adding that he is looking forward to learning more.

Council all thanked Mr. Pepe and Councilman Orozco stated that he is the Council Liaison to the Board of Education, and he has had a really good relationship with both your predecessors, adding that they had always gotten together for instrumental lunches, and he would like to continue that with Mr. Pepe, to which Mr. Pepe replied that he looks forward to that.

Juan Alvarez, 100 Valpic Avenue: Mr. Alvarez stated that he is the Environmental Commission Chair, and that Councilman Orozco is his liaison, at their June 16, 2022, meeting their Secretary, Mrs. Stander, introduced a motion on his behalf to amend the current bylaws of the ECC to read "any resident or homeowner of Raritan can be a chairman of this committee" and he wanted to bring that to the table for the rest of Council. Mr. Alvarez explained that the reason he made this request is because he is still a homeowner and a taxpayer here in Raritan but as of a week ago, he is a Bridgewater resident. Borough Clerk/Administrator Colvin said they will look into the process of amending the bylaws before the ECC's next meeting in October, adding that Council's next meeting is October 4, 2022, Mr. Alvarez confirmed that it would be written into the agenda to bring it up.

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

REGULAR MEETING ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilwoman Melitsky, seconded by Councilman Orozco, Council moved to Adjourn the Regular Meeting.

Recorded Vote:

All in Favor

Motion Passed: 6-0

Regular Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Alyssa Cornella
Administrative Assistant / Deputy Registrar
Office of the Borough Clerk

Approved: _____
Eric M. Colvin
Borough Clerk/Administrator

Date: _____