

## MINUTES

### BOROUGH OF RARITAN REGULAR SESSION

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2023

6:30 P.M.

7:00 P.M.

The Regular Meeting of the Borough of Raritan Governing Body was called to order by Mayor Anthony Bray in the Meeting Room of the Raritan Municipal Building, 22 First Street, Raritan, NJ 08869 at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 7, 2023.

The Mayor announced the 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: Council President Carra, Councilman Armahizer, Councilman Fritzingler, Councilwoman Hutzler, Councilman Orozco

Also Present: Administrator/Borough Clerk Colvin, Deputy Borough Clerk/HR Coordinator Gravatt, Assistant Administrator/Chief Financial Officer Cooke-Vitale, Borough Engineer Stanley Schreck

Absent: Councilwoman Melitsky

#### INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE

Councilman Armahizer

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution No. 2023-02-026

#### Entering Executive Session

1. Attorney Client  
Public Facilities, Redevelopment
2. Personnel  
Administration, Police
3. Fire Department  
Contract Negotiations

On a motion by Councilman Fritzingler, seconded by Councilman Orozco, Council moved to Approve Resolution No. 2023-02-026.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Carra, Fritzinger, Hutzler, Orozco, Armahizer

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Absent: Melitsky

Motion Carried: 5-0

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION ADJOURNMENT**

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

Council exited Executive Session, and resumed Regular Session at 7:05 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 speak.

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

**MINUTES**

1. November 29, 2022
2. December 20, 2022
3. January 17, 2023

1. On a motion by Councilman Fritzinger, seconded by Councilman Orozco, Council moved to Approve the Minutes of November 29, 2022.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Carra, Fritzinger, Hutzler, Orozco, Armahizer

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Absent: Melitsky

Motion Carried: 5-0

2. On a motion by Council President Carra, seconded by Councilwoman Hutzler, Council moved to Approve the Minutes of December 20, 2022.

4. Handicapped Parking Request  
Administrator/Borough Clerk Colvin said Mr. Carlo Montanari, made a request to have Handicapped Parking space placed at 31 Thompson Street. Borough Clerk Colvin asked the Council for authorization to inspect the site and draft an Ordinance. The Council agreed unanimously.
5. NJDOT Local Aid Grant  
Administrator/Borough Clerk Colvin reported on the utilization of grant funds for flood and drainage relief in the area of Riverside and Columbus. The design should be completed by the Spring of this year with work commencing sometime in the Summer. Notification will be made to residents prior to work commencing to allow for their input on the project.
6. Recreation Master Plan  
Council President Carra reported on discussions with Recreation Director Andy Sibilgia regarding improvements to the facilities, playgrounds, basketball courts, lighting, signage, etc. Council President Carra suggested the Finance Department, Finance and Recreation Committee be assigned to examine the expenditures and lists of improvements, with the improvements being made over a two, to five-year time period in mind.
7. Redevelopment Process  
Council President Carra advised the Council that anyone interested in a Redevelopment Project should contact Mayor Bray or Borough Clerk Colvin. The plan is then passed on to the Borough Engineer for review to ensure it is a suitable for the Borough's Master Plan, a resolution is then executed and passed on to the Planning Board. The Planning Board posts a public notice to conduct a public hearing. Once all statutory criteria have been met, it is considered for redevelopment and presented to the Council for their approval and adopted by Ordinance.
8. Historical & Cultural Appointment  
Councilman David Fritzingler recommended Frank DelRocco for a seat on the Historical and Cultural Committee.

On a motion by Councilman Fritzingler, seconded by Council President Carra, Council moved to Appoint Frank DelRocco to the Historical and Cultural Committee.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Carra, Fritzingler, Hutzler, Orozco, Armahizer

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Absent: Melitsky

Motion Carried: 5-0

9. Annual Budget Meeting  
Borough Clerk Colvin recommended to hold a Special Meeting be held at 6:00 p.m., February 28, 2023 to discuss the Annual Budget.

On a motion by Council President Carra, seconded by Councilwoman Hutzler, Council moved to Hold a Special Meeting for the Annual Budget.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Carra, Fritzinger, Hutzler, Orozco, Armahizer

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Absent: Melitsky

Motion Carried: 5-0

**CONSENT AGENDA**

*(Resolution No. 2023-02-027 – Resolution No. 2023-02-034)*

Resolution No. 2023-02-027

Accepting Various Office Furniture and Supplies  
Donation – Labcorp

Resolution No. 2023-02-028

Approving 2023 Tower/Wrecker Licenses

Resolution No. 2023-02-029

Authorizing 2023 Recycling Agreement – Somerset  
County

Resolution No. 2023-02-030

Approving Refund – Tax Overpayment – B100 L31

Resolution No. 2023-02-031

Authorizing Disposal of Two (2) DPW Vehicles

Resolution No. 2023-02-032

Approving Contract – Brinks Service

Resolution No. 2023-02-033

Authorizing Refund – Permit Fee – A-Z Electric

Resolution No. 2023-02-034

Authorizing Bond Reduction – Accurate Builders

A motion to adopt Resolution numbers 2023-02-027 through 2023-02-034 of the **CONSENT AGENDA** was made by Council President Carra and seconded by Councilman Fritzinger.

Recorded Vote

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

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Absent: Melitsky

Motion Carried: 5-0

**BILL LIST**

Resolution No. 2023-02-035

Approving Bill List

On a motion by Councilwoman Hutzler, seconded by Council President Carra, Council moved to Approve Resolution No. 2023-02-035 – Bill List.

**CERTIFICATION OF FUNDS**

1. All Traffic Solutions – Speed Trailer – \$15,205.85
2. Ditschman Flemington Ford – Ford Pickup – \$36,290.00
3. Statewide Insurance Fund – Insurance – \$82,586.75

A motion to adopt the Certification of Funds was made by Council President Carra and seconded by Councilman Fritzingler.

Recorded Vote

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

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Absent: Melitsky

Motion Carried: 5-0

**COMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS**

Councilman Armahizer

The Environmental Commission held their monthly meeting on January 19, 2023. The Committee approved their monthly meeting schedule for 2023. The next meeting will be held at Borough Hall on February 16, 2023. The next meeting for the Board of Health will be held on February 8, 2023, at Borough Hall.

Councilman Orozco

The Board of Education had their meeting on February 7, 2023. Councilman Orozco reminded the Council of the Special Referendum in March.

Councilman Fritzingler

Councilman Fritzingler reported on the Building Permit Activity for January 13, 2023, through January 30, 2023. Public Works performed routine maintenance to include patching, brush chipping, vehicle maintenance, replacement of traffic signs, general sewer maintenance and train station window repair. Councilman Fritzingler met with employees of the Public Works Department earlier in the week. He commended the employees who performed the painting and furniture move at Borough Hall, as well as Director of Public Works Vince LoMedico and Administrative Assistant Joanne Brandt, Foreman Hank Schallenberger, and Foreman Brad Hendershot for their efforts. The Historical Society met on January 16, 2023, at the Raritan Library. Councilman Fritzingler reported the Committees expenditures and beginning through the end of year balances. The corner stone from the Old Mill Factory was received back from the restorer. Councilman Fritzingler thanked them for a job well done. The Historical Society will meet again February 16, 2023.

Council President Carra

The Planning Board met on January 25, 2023. Items discussed were the adoption of the redevelopment study of Tillman Street and Site Plan testimony for Granetz Plaza. Testimony for Granetz Plaza will be continue February 22, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. located at Borough Hall. The Regional Center Partnership met January 10, 2023, and the Committee created a subcommittee for discussion on the project. The Police Department is accepting applications for fulltime Probationary Police Officers. Details are available on the Police Department's website. Council President Carra gave the Property Maintenance Report.

Councilwoman Hutzler

Registration is available for the Recreation Department's Softball, T-Ball and Baseball Programs with Opening Season beginning in April. The Recreation Committee will host a craft event Sunday, February 11, 2023, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. located in the basement of Borough Hall. Sign up for the event is available on the Raritan Recreation Facebook page. The Recreation Committee meeting is cancelled for February 14, 2023. A future date will be forthcoming. Councilwoman Hutzler, Mayor Bray, Council President Carra and the Economic Development Committee welcomed new business Ambee Coffee Company at a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on January 28, 2023. The Committee is working on future projects to spur economic growth in the community and looking to obtain additional members. Anyone interested on becoming a member or more information should email [makeraritanours@gmail.com](mailto:makeraritanours@gmail.com). Councilwoman Hutzler gave the Court Report January 20, 2023.

**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 speak.

Susan Mosca-Grosso, 122 Sherman Avenue inquired about the Borough's regulations on the use of medical and recreational cannabis within its borders. She expressed her displeasure on the regulation to allow recreational use of the substance. Mayor Bray said that a singular proprietor came forward to request the ability to sell the substance to individuals who were medically cleared for its use. That proprietor is the only one of its kind and does not open the Borough to allow for additional businesses be approved.

The business is still under review by the Planning Board for approval.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

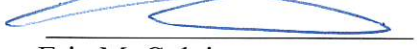
Recorded Vote:

All in favor

Motion Passed: 5-0

Regular Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

  
Patricia Gravatt  
Deputy Clerk/HR Coordinator

Approved:   
Eric M. Colvin  
Borough Clerk/Administrator

Date: 2/21/23