

## MINUTES

### **BOROUGH OF RARITAN REGULAR MEETING**

**TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024**  
**6:30 P.M. – EXECUTIVE SESSION**  
**7 P.M. – REGULAR SESSION**

This Regular Meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Raritan was called to order by Mayor Carra in the Meeting Room of the Raritan Municipal Building, 22 First Street, Raritan, NJ 08869 at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21, 2024.

Mayor Carra announced the Regular Meeting was called pursuant to applicable portions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Adequate Notice of this Regular Meeting was posted in Borough Hall, on the Borough website and communicated to *The Courier News*, *The Star Ledger* and *The Breeze* on January 3, 2024.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Present: Council President Tozzi, Councilman Agrawal, Councilman Fritzingler,  
Councilman Patente

Also Present: Borough Administrator Colvin, Borough Attorney William Robertson, and  
Borough Engineer Joseph Brosnan

Absent: Councilman Armahizer

#### **INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE**

Councilman Fritzingler

#### **COUNCIL MEMBER APPOINTMENT**

Mayor Carra stated that he wanted to address Agenda item six, the vacancy on Council. In accordance with the State Law, Borough Administrator Colvin read aloud the nominations from the Raritan Republican Party to fill the vacant Council seat:

Denise Carra  
Kenneth DiGraziano  
Craig Goetsch

On a motion by Councilman Patente nominating Kenneth DiGraziano, seconded by Council President Tozzi, Council voted to appoint Kenneth DiGraziano.

#### **Recorded Vote**

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, Fritzingler, Patente

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 4-0

Mayor Carra administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Councilman DiGraziano.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Resolution No. 2024-05-094

Entering Executive Session

1. Personnel  
Police, Administration
2. Attorney Client  
St. Ann's Request

On motion by Councilman Fritzing, seconded by Council President Tozzi Fritzing, Council moved to approve Resolution No. 2024-05-094.

**Recorded Vote**

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Fritzing, Patente

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

Council convened in Executive Session at 6:35 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION ADJOURNMENT**

Council moved to reconvene in Regular Session unanimously.

Council exited Executive Session, and resumed Regular Session at 7:01 p.m.

**NEW OFFICER – OATH OF OFFICE & RESOLUTION**

Resolution No. 2024-05-95

Appointing Probationary Patrol Officer –  
Jared Prendeville

**Borough of Karitan**

**Oath of Office**

**State of New Jersey }**

**County of Somerset }**                    **ss.**

I, JARED PRENDEVILLE, DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR, THAT I WILL SUPPORT THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES, AND OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AND THAT I WILL BEAR TRUE FAITH AND ALLEGIANCE TO THE SAME, AND TO THE GOVERNMENTS ESTABLISHED IN THE UNITED STATES, AND IN THIS STATE, UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PEOPLE, AND THAT I WILL FAITHFULLY, IMPARTIALLY,

AND JUSTLY, PERFORM ALL OF THE DUTIES, OF BOROUGH OF RARITAN POLICE PATROL OFFICER, TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY.

On a motion by Councilman Fritzingler, seconded by Councilman Patente, Council moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-05-095

**PRESENTATION**

Save My Life Program – Medical Essential Diagnostics  
(The presentation did not happen)

**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 Carra opened the Public Comment portion of the meeting for members of the public wishing to speak.

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

**COMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS**

Councilman Patente –The Municipal Court reported 274 total cases filed, total amount collected was \$21,824.43 and the total amount for the Borough was \$11,436.23. The Board of Health has a new inspector in town, Peter Enea who comes with over 20 years of experience. The Councilman went on to state the Board of Health discussed a recommendation which could turn into an ordinance. Residents who put out mattresses or upholstered furniture should, in the future wrap them in plastic. The plastic cover would protect the individuals who could be collecting the bulk items as well as any resident who could be walking or riding by. Councilman Patente added that he wanted to congratulate Joyce Melitsky on her retirement and wish her well in her future endeavors.

Councilman Fritzingler – The Councilman started with the Building Department reporting the permit activity from May 8, 2024, to May 17, 2024; 2 building permits, 1 plumbing permit, and 6 electrical permits, fees totaling \$1,915.00 to the Borough. Public Works reports that 115 of the street signs have been replaced as well as 10 No Parking signs have been replaced on First Avenue, Route 202, and Route 28. He also added that the crack sealing has been completed. Bulk pick-up produced over 43 tons. Saturday’s Electric drop-off went well collecting over 50 tires and two dump truck loads of TVs. The Councilman announced the next Bulk Pick-Up date is June 13<sup>th</sup> and wanted to remind everyone that this week is National Public Works week. The Historic Committee met last Wednesday, reporting a budget of \$3,380.04 and the trust fund is \$1,199.15. Check out their Facebook page for news and updates. The Councilman also mentioned that the Historic Committee is working on a Field of Honor in celebration of 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Councilman Fritzingler also encouraged residents to come out to Main Street and check out some of our local shops and restaurants.

Council President Tozzi – Reported that Property Maintenance completed 31 inspections, 16 violations, and 2 fines for \$1,750.00. Recreation’s dodge ball ends tonight but there is still time to register for summer camps. The pool is getting prepped and ready for June and the summer

months thanks to Habitat for Humanity who painted the pool and the pool house, free of charge. Recreation is working on a soccer program to introduce in the springtime. DPW put the flowerpots out early this year for residents to enjoy. The Councilman stated they are looking into purchasing electric blowers to blow off the main streets in town. He also advised that he will be walking around with DPW Director to see what can be done to make the streets of the Borough more attractive.

Councilman Agrawal – School Board update; at their last meeting they entered activities fees for sports and clubs for the students; this would be managed within their budget. The Council of the School Association will be running 47 different programs for students of all ages this summer, more information can be found on the District Homepage. At the last meeting, the district shared the results of the strategic planning process with the public. Councilman went on to state the library visited the Raritan Senior Meeting at the Isenhower School and had a good reception for library card sign up.

Mayor Carra stated that he will be meeting with newly appointed Councilman DiGraziano later in the week to discuss Liaison assignments. He then went on to thank our Public Works Department for all they do for the Borough of Raritan. He also encouraged the public to show their appreciation to the DPW workers they may see around town. Last week he attended the 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Mayor’s Conference in Atlantic City and added that it was a great networking opportunity to meet and speak with other Mayors around the state and swap ideas that could be brought to the Borough. Mayor Carra stated there were many classes offered during the convention; one of the classes the mayor attended was regarding the new affordable housing law and the fourth round that is approaching. He also mentioned that he attended a Legislative meeting with updates about the new OPRA bill that passed both the State Senate and Assembly. The Mayor stated that he, along with the Borough Administrator, Council President Tozzi and the Economic Development Manager for Somerset County, Jessica Palini as well the Jeff Bueller the Manager of the Office of Municipal and District Business Advocacy at the New Jersey Business Action Center will be meeting tomorrow to conduct a special assessment for the town that could eventually lead to Jeff coming to the Borough to do a walk downtown to see how we can help our businesses. The mayor also mentioned the Sustainable Economic Development Plan, that we are fortunate enough to have community outreach and stakeholder meetings in order to move forward and eventually adopt the plan that was crafted over two years ago. He also added that the contract had been awarded for the new Municipal Building with a timeline of about 10 months to complete the project. Lastly, Mayor Carra thanked Councilman DiGraziano for filling in and stepping up to volunteer to fill the vacant seat and represent the Borough.

Councilman Fritzing added that the Historical Committee will be participating in the John Basilone Parade and are working out ideas for their float. Their next meeting will be June 19 at 6:30 p.m.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Engineer’s Report (JB)

Borough Engineer Joseph Brosnan reported:

**Capital Improvement Initiatives**

- Relocation of Municipal Building (VCEA Project No. 3300066)

The new municipal building that will be situated at 9 West Somerset Street is finally underway. Pharos Enterprises was selected at the previous Borough Council meeting and my office has begun the process of getting signed contracts and updating the design team so we can collectively have a preconstruction meeting and determine the project timeline. Once that is settled, the project will continue to move forward relatively smoothly with reports from my office at each council meeting for any major hangups or decisions that Council may be requested to make. If all goes according to plan, the renovations should be complete before May of 2025.

- Redevelopment of Raritan Mall (VCEA Project No. 3300063)

Last council meeting the Redevelopment Plan for the Raritan Mall that was prepared by my office failed to be adopted. Procedurally, there is nothing required from the Borough Council at this time, however it should be emphasized that currently the Area in Need of Redevelopment without condemnation is still active on the property. This has no bearing on the current zoning code, and should the Borough wish to proceed with a different Redevelopment Plan, the Council may direct my office to proceed, and we shall take input from the Redevelopment Advisory Committee on next steps.

- Redevelopment of the Tilman Street Parcel (VCEA Project No. 3300061)

This Redevelopment Plan was adopted earlier this year in order to conform with the requirements listed in the Fair Share Plan. There has been no activity on this site to my knowledge. Unless there is an update of relevance, this will be removed in subsequent reports as nothing further is required.

- Potential Property Acquisition – Mehalick Parcel (Potential Detention Facility)

It is my understanding that this parcel was acquired, or at least is scheduled to be acquired by the Borough. There is no further action required by my office in connection with this activity, however my office shall coordinate with the DPW if required on proper protocol for maintaining the detention basin, which the parcel is essentially acting as.

- Construction Inspection

In our appointment as Borough Engineer, we provide final closeout of Planning Board projects by doing the “Resolution Compliance” review. This typically includes the review of the final plans and, if necessary, developer’s agreements that include inspection escrow, which our staff oversee to ensure compliance with approved plans.

- Infrastructure Improvements- NJ American Water- Replacement of Water Main & Services – **WRAPPING UP – Within this week**
- Infrastructure Improvements- PSE& G- Replacement of Gas Main & Services
- Road Improvement Program, as requested
- Pedestrian Improvements, as requested
- Development of Bike Routes, as requested

**Grant-Based Initiatives**

**NJDOT: Grant Management: PMRS & SAGE Software Management**

Our office provides ongoing assistance to the Borough for coordinating documents through SAGE and PRMS, the online software used by the NJDOT to manage, administer, and coordinate comments for their grant programs.

**2025 NJDOT Local Aid Application**

My office is in the process of reviewing potential locations where the Borough is most likely to receive funds for NJDOT Local Aid grants and will coordinate with the Department of Public Works prior to suggesting them formally to Council.

**2024 Drainage Improvements (Plainfield to Brooklyn) Phase 2 (VCEA Project No. 3315006)**  
**2023 Drainage Improvements (Rhine Blvd to Columbus) Phase 1 (VCEA Project No. 3315005)**

The Borough of Raritan was awarded \$395,316 for stormwater improvements along Richard Street from Plainfield Avenue to Brooklyn Avenue (NJDOT 2024) and **\$347,580** for stormwater improvements along Richard Street toward DeCicco Drive (NJDOT 2023). Both projects will be bid out together to save on costs and include capital improvements to interface with the New Jersey American Water improvements in the area. We anticipate that this project will go out to bid later this summer. Once the design drawings are finalized, I strongly suggest Council host a public meeting on the closure of Columbus Avenue so that all of the residents affected will have an opportunity to be educated on the project and minimize any concerns.

**2022 Improvements to Colby, Berwick & Arnold (VCEA Project No. 3310034)**

On May 9th there was a bid opening the results of which are an item on tonight's agenda. It should be noted that the Borough of Raritan will have to take ownership of many non-participating items that are no longer considered by the NJDOT. Once the bidder is accepted, the Borough can expect construction to start early this summer.

**2021 Improvements to Meehan & Helene**

This project is being held up by changes to NJDOT staff and their refusal to accept the finished conditions of the road. My office is preparing documents to appeal to the NJDOT to pursue project closeout and coordinate with Top Line Construction to get their final payment reimbursed. Part of the issue are "mid-block sidewalks" which have since failed due to water and gas service connections. I strongly suggest revisions to ordinance to minimize future issues.

**2016 Tap Grant – Thompson-Anderson (NJ Transit Rail – Raritan River)**

- NV5 has completed the Preliminary Design Phase including the Public Meeting.
- NJDOT has acknowledged the inflationary issues with labor and materials and increased funding for the projects construction phase.
- NV5 has submitted their proposal for Final Design which has been approved by both Raritan Borough and NJDOT.
- NJDOT was issued a letter formally allocating the requested funds. Raritan's next step is to execute a contract with NV5 for the Final Design.
- Project coordination between, NV5, VCEA and NJDOT will continue throughout this process.

**CDBG: Assistance with Orange Vouchers & Reimbursement Requests**

In addition to facilitating grant application, our office also helps get the grants initialized through the agreement process, filling out forms where requested, and providing any backup needed by the Borough to receive reimbursement for work done under grants.

**2023 Sanitary Sewer Capacity and Rehabilitation – Busky Lane/ Orlando Drive**

We received a CDBG grant to make repairs to increase the capacity of the existing sanitary sewer system near Busky Lane and Orlando Drive in anticipation of the Redevelopment of the Raritan Mall. Even though the redevelopment of the Raritan Mall site is not currently progressing, the deliverables requested by CDBG are design documents. While our staff is ready to prepare such design documents, we are waiting on field investigations such as camerawork in the sewers to properly address the repair work needed in accordance with the grant.

**NJTPA: Transit Hub Planning Grant**

Previously, the Borough was interested in pursuing a Transit Hub designation which would lead to more grants.

**Services and Coordination**

Van Cleef Engineering through its Borough Engineer appointment also provides technical assistance in the following ways with the following agencies:

- Sanitary Sewer Billing – Excessive Users List
- Tax Map Updates
- **Revaluation wrapping up this week**
- Road Opening Permits – NJ American Water, PSE&G, miscellaneous residential contractors
- Resident Drainage Complaints – Arnold Ave, Riverside Ave, Brooklyn Ave, Bound Brook Ave  
Our office provides ongoing technical assistance in resolving drainage disputes within the Borough. Oftentimes this results in us educating the residents about easements, drainage practices, and researching site history.
- Soliciting Quotes for work below Public Bid Threshold (primarily infrastructure repairs) If there is a project that requires public bidding, our office is typically utilized in facilitating and executing those contracts and running construction administration until closeout. This is true for both NJDOT grants and large private improvements.
- Assistance to Construction Department (Barbara & Lou Gara)
- Assistance to Tax Assessor’s Office (Anthony DiRado)
- Assistance to DPW (Vince Lo Medico, Hank & Brad) Sanitary sewer, storm sewer, roads, etc. as needed.)
- Coordination with the following agencies:
  - County:
    - Engineering and Planning
    - Parks & Recreation
  - State:
    - NJDEP – Permits, Reports, Project Management
    - NJDOT – Permits, Traffic Signals, Work within or adjacent to Routes 202/206/28
    - DCA – Fair Share Housing Element, Master Plan
    - NJ Transit – Coord for improvements adjacent to Railroad Properties
  - Utilities:
    - PSE&G – Utility Poles, Street Lights, Traffic Signals, etc.
    - NJ Am Water – Coordination & scheduling, leak detection, resident issues.
  - Federal:
    - USGS – Raritan River and tributaries impacted by flooding
    - FEMA
    - HUD

**Other Appointments**

- Board Engineer
  - Technical reviews for ongoing applications using escrow monies rather than Borough funds. Generating reports based on reviews and on-site inspections of conditions, position works in tandem with Borough Planner Appointment. Currently ongoing projects include:
    - Tri-Murray Holdings (17 Frelinghuysen Avenue) – Minor Site Plan with Variances
    - Handa (10 Goellner Drive) – Minor Subdivision with Variances
- Borough Planner
  - Area in Need of Redevelopment Study: 1st Ave & Burns Parcel (**On May 22 Agenda**)
  - Master Plan and Associated Elements Revisions/Reexaminations

- Provides interpretations on Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance as a technical resource for the Joint Land Use Board.
- Involved in future planning initiatives and critical for planning grants.

**Stormwater Program Coordinator Duties**

**• MS4 Permitting – SPPP Revisions**

Van Cleef Engineering prepared a revised Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SPPP) in alignment with the updated requirements of the NJDEP mandated Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit process. Based on the revised stormwater management ordinances and comments provided by the Borough of Raritan case manager from the NJDEP, there is merit to updating the SPPP this summer.

**• MS4 Permitting – Annual Permit**

Each year around May, every municipality in New Jersey is required to have its designed Stormwater Program Coordinator (Joseph A. Brosnan for Raritan Borough) to provide a report in conformance with the SPPP, which includes reports of training from members of the governing body, information from the Department of Public Works such as how many tons of debris were cleared from what inlets, updated mapping of stormwater features, and community engagement. Last year was more involved due to the change in the requirements. There was a \$25,000.00 grant partially received by the Borough in 2023 for these efforts with the remainder to be paid out after we attain full conformance with the mapping requirements. The May submission deadline was met successfully this year. The mapping infrastructure is a challenge I expect to address to Council this summer to get the remaining payout from the \$25,000 grant issued by the NJDEP.

**• Stormwater Management Ordinances**

These should be on tonight's agenda. My office prepared an ordinance that addresses all of the recent requirements and runs maintenance on the existing Raritan Code to remove outdated ordinances, relocating stormwater management codes into one comprehensive chapter. Additionally, using the NJDEP model Stormwater Control Ordinance, it is not expected that Raritan should need to change the "major development" portion of this code for a very long time. This code change also incorporates a Tree Removal and Replacement ordinance which needs much discussion by Council.

2. Handicapped Parking (EC)

Administrator Colvin stated the matter would be tabled until the next meeting.

3. Washington School-Fire Department (DT)

Council President Tozzi stated the Fire Department is requesting use of the Washington School on September 7th from 9:00 a.m. 9:00 p.m. for a fundraiser with food trucks.

On motion by Councilman Fritzingler, seconded by Councilman Patente, Council moved to approve the use of Washington School for the Fire Department's event.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Fritzingler, Patente

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

4. Downtown Raritan Ad (DT)  
Council President Tozzi reported that he would like to have Council pay for the business' of Raritan to be advertised on the first page in the *The Breeze*. He went on to state that this could potentially help promote our local business and help get them going again. Councilman Agrawal inquired where the funding would be coming from to which Councilman Tozzi responded that the money would come from the Downtown Raritan line item within the budget.

On motion by Councilman Patente, seconded by Councilman Fritzingler, Council moved to approve the local business advertisement in *The Breeze* funded by the Borough.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Fritzingler, Patente

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

5. Jacks Kids Event (DT)  
Council President Tozzi stated that on July 13th, Jack's Kids has requested the use of the Frelinghuysen field for their fundraising event. He stated that he coordinated with the Recreation Director to reserve the fields from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

On motion by Councilman Fritzingler, seconded by Councilman Agrawal, Council moved to approve the use of Frelinghuysen Field for the Jack's Kids event.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Fritzingler, Patente

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

6. Valley Wellness Request (NC)  
Mayor Carra asked Sarah Trent, owner of Valley Wellness, to present her request to Council. Ms. Trent stated that Valley Wellness just reached their one-year anniversary of recreational sales and has been operating for the last eighteen months on the medical side. She went on to request that Council consider extending the current, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., operating hours under the Ordinance. The State Cannabis Regulatory Commission requires that they have 14 patient only hours per week. Valley Wellness has patient only hours from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. every day which does limit the amount of hours of recreational/adult use sales. Ms. Trent is requesting the Council to consider amending the current ordinance that Valley Wellness operates under to allow the establishment to operate until 10:00 p.m. Councilman Patente asked about any complaints regarding parking issues at the establishment. Ms. Trent responded, stating that under the current

Ordinance, site plan approval is required from the Planning Board for operating as medicinal and then get approval again from the Planning Board for operating a recreational. She went on to say that her staff parks off-site which allows full use of the parking lot for customers/patrons.

On motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilman Fritzinger, Council moved to allow Borough Attorney to start working on amending the current ordinance.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Fritzinger, Patente

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

**ORDINANCE – SECOND READING & PUBLIC HEARING**

Ordinance No. 2024-09

An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey Amending Chapter 217, Section 4, Garbage and Receptacles; Collection, of the Code of the Borough of Raritan

The purpose of this Ordinance is to amend the existing Code to limit the number of trash containers permitted to be placed at curbside for collection.

On motion by Councilman Fritzinger, seconded by Councilman Patente, Council moved to open Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2024-09.

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

On motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilman Agrawal, Council moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2024-09.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, Fritzinger, Patente

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer

Abstain: DiGraziano

Motion Carried: 4-0

Ordinance No. 2024-10

An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey Amending Chapter 82, Vehicles and Traffic.

The purpose of this Ordinance is to amend the existing Code to eliminate overnight parking of commercial vehicles.

On motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilman Fritzinger, Council moved to open Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2024-10.

Roger Copt, 1120 Route 202 - Mr. Copt inquired about residents who bring a commercial vehicle home with them from their job. Mayor Carra stated residents are not allowed to park a commercial vehicle overnight on the streets from 8:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.

Councilman DiGraziano asked what defines a commercial vehicle? Mayor responded stating any vehicle that has commercial plates.

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

On motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilman Patente, Council moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2024-10.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, Fritzinger, Patente

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer

Abstain: DiGraziano

Motion Carried: 4-0

Ordinance No. 2024-11

An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey Amending Chapter 82, Vehicles and Traffic

The purpose of this Ordinance is to amend the existing Code to eliminate overnight parking of trailers.

On motion by Councilman Patente, seconded by Councilman Fritzinger, Council moved to open Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2024-11.

The Mayor opened Public Comment portion of the meeting for members of the public wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2024-11.

Tom Brown, 18 Elm Street- Mr. Brown asked for clarification of a trailer. Administrator Colvin responded that any trailer parked on the roadways overnight would be in violation.

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

On motion by Councilman Patente, seconded by Councilman Fritzinger, Council moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2024-11.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, Fritzinger, Patente

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer

Abstain: DiGraziano

Motion Carried: 4-0

**ORDINANCE – INTRODUCTION**

Ordinance No. 2024-12

An Ordinance fixing and determining the salaries, wages or compensation to be paid to certain officers and employees of the Borough of Raritan

The purpose of this Ordinance is to provide the annual salary ranges for the Borough employees.

Councilman Patente stated he thinks the ordinance needs to be adjusted, stating he noticed some of the ranges for some managerial positions reflected the same salary range as a subordinate employee. Councilman Agrawal added that in some circumstances the salary would be depicted by your tenure and not just the position or title held by an employee.

On motion by Councilman Patente, seconded by Councilman Agrawal, Council moved to Introduce Ordinance No. 2024-12.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, Fritzinger, Patente

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer

Abstain: DiGraziano

Motion Carried: 4-0

Mayor Carra stated that the second reading and public hearing for Ordinance No. 2024-12 is set for June 11, 2024

Ordinance No. 2024-13

An ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, New Jersey amending and modifying Chapter 1 and Chapter 315 of the Code of the

Borough of Raritan.

The purpose of this ordinance is to address inconsistencies with stormwater management ordinances within the current Borough of Raritan Land Use Code and bring the stormwater control ordinance(s) into compliance with current New Jersey State requirements.

On motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilman Patente, Council moved to Introduce Ordinance No. 2024-13.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, Fritzinger, Patente

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer

Abstain: DiGraziano

Motion Carried: 4-0

Mayor Carra stated that the second reading and public hearing for Ordinance No. 2024-13 is set for June 11, 2024

**CONSENT AGENDA**

*(Resolution No. 2024-05-096 through No. 2024-05-102)*

Resolution No. 2024-05-096	Appointing Police Lieutenant – Everett Holt
Resolution No. 2024-05-097	Appointing Police Sergeant – Timothy DeBerry
Resolution No. 2024-05-098	Approving Chapter 159 for State of New Jersey 2024 Recycling Tonnage Grant
Resolution No. 2024-05-099	Authorizing Abatement and Lien Issuance
Resolution No. 2024-05-100	Authorizing Disposal of Surplus Equipment – DPW
Resolution No. 2024-05-101	Awarding Contract – Improvements to Colby Ave., Berwick St., and Arnold Ave.
Resolution No. 2024-05-102	Renewing NW Financial Group

On a motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilman Agrawal, Council moved to approve Resolution No. 2024-05-096 through Resolution No. 2024-05-102 - Consent Agenda.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Fritzinger, Patente

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

**BILL LIST**

Resolution No. 2024-05-103                      Approving Bill List

On a motion by Councilman Agrawal, seconded by Councilman Fritzingler, Council moved to approve Resolution No. 2024-05-103 - Approving Bill List.

**Recorded Vote**

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, Fritzingler, Patente

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer

Abstain: DiGraziano

Motion Carried: 4-0

**CERTIFICATION OF FUNDS**

1.      Micro Pave – Sealing of Roads - \$39,059.80
2.      Foley, Inc. – Asphalt Compaction System - \$40,940.00
3.      Borough of Somerville – CFO & Fire Prevention Shared Service - \$ 22,106.40
4.      Bridgewater Resources, Inc. – April Dumping Fees - \$25,106.40
5.      Lincoln Financial – LOSAP Awards - \$17,614.22
6.      Regional Center Partnership – 2024 Contribution - \$10,890.00
7.      DiFrancesco, Bateman et al – Various Legal Services - \$17,649.35
8.      Van Cleef Engineering – Various Engineering Services - \$18,251.00

Mayor Carra asked for a motion to approve the Certification of Funds together.

On a motion by Councilman Patente, seconded by Councilman Fritzingler, Council moved to approve the Certification of Funds - Sealing of Roads, Asphalt Compaction System, CFO & Fire Prevention Shared Service, April Dumping Fees, LOSAP Awards, 2024 Contribution, Various Legal Services, and Various Engineering Services.

**Recorded Vote**

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, Fritzingler, Patente

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer

Abstain: DiGraziano

Motion Carried: 4-0

**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 Carra opened the second Public Comment portion of the meeting for members of the public wishing to speak.

Roger Copt - Mr. Copt brought up concerns regarding Valley Wellness' request to extend their hours of operation. He went on to say that parking is an issue for the current location of Valley Wellens. Mr. Copt stated he witnessed multiple people walking from residential streets and the parking lot of 7-11 to Valley Wellness which is not right. He asked Council to take those concerns into account before the Public Hearing at the next meeting.

Joyce Fritchie - Ms. Fritchie asked Borough Engineer to explain how redevelopment plan is still open for the Raritan Mall. Mr. Brosnan responded explaining that even though Council did not approve the proposed redevelopment plan that does not mean the Raritan Mall site is not considered an area in need of redevelopment. Council can request Mr. Brosnan's office to reconstruct the plan in a different way. Ms. Fritchie the asked Council to clarify about the garbage ordinance, how many containers are allowed? Mayor Carra responded, stating a household is allowed to have up to 150 lbs. of garbage, three 50-gallon bins.

Roger Copt- Mr. Copt asked if the Borough was able to limit the height of a building for Fair Share Housing? Mayor Carra responded stating that any zoning that is put into place can limit the height unless it is stipulated in the agreement with Fair Share Housing.

Neither seeing nor hearing any additional members of the public, the Mayor closed Public comment.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Carra entertained for a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting.

On a motion by Councilman Fritzingler, seconded by Councilman Patente, Council moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting.

#### Recorded Vote:

All in favor

Motion passed: 5-0

Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

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Kimberly Mathewson  
Acting Municipal Clerk

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

Eric M. Colvin  
Borough Administrator

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

May 21, 2024  
Regular Meeting

**Next Regular Council Meeting**

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

6:30 p.m. – Executive Session

7 p.m. – Regular Session