

## MINUTES

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

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2025**  
**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, August 19, 2025.

Mayor Carra announced the Regular Meeting of the Governing Body 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 8, 2025.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Present: Council President Tozzi, Councilman Agrawal, Councilman DiGraziano, Councilman Fritzingler  
Also Present: Borough Administrator Colvin, Acting Borough Clerk Mathewson, Borough Attorney Associate Igor Bykov, and Borough Engineer Joseph Brosnan  
Absent: Councilman Armahizer, Councilman Patente

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

Councilman Agrawal

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Resolution No. 2025-08-117

Entering Executive Session

1. Attorney Client  
Alpine Way, Sewer Billing

On motion by Councilman Fritzingler, seconded by Council President Tozzi, Council moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-08-117.

#### **Recorded Vote**

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Fritzingler

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer, Patente

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 4-0

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

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION ADJOURNMENT**

Council moved to reconvene in Regular Session unanimously.

On motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilman DiGraziano, Council exited Executive Session and resumed Regular Session at 7:03 p.m.

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On motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilman Fritzingler, Council moved to authorize the Borough Attorney to undertake the action discussed in Executive Session relative to Alpine Way.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Tozzi, DiGraziano, Fritzingler

Nay: Agrawal

Absent: Armahizer, Patente

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 3-1

**PROCLAMATION**

Honoring Brad Hendershot Upon Retirement

# Proclamation

## HONORING BRAD HENDERSHOT ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE BOROUGH OF RARITAN

**WHEREAS**, Brad Hendershot was born in Somerville Borough, New Jersey and has lived in New Jersey for 46 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Brad's hobbies include fishing and boating; and

**WHEREAS**, Brad started his career in government as a Laborer for Hunterdon County in 1999 before starting his 13-year career with the Borough of Raritan, where he held the title of Laborer before being promoted to Foreman; and

**WHEREAS**, Brad Hendershot feels that his biggest accomplishment was becoming a Foreman; and

**WHEREAS**, Brad has had many memorable experiences during his time with the Borough and he will never forget all the wonderful people he met along the way; and

**WHEREAS**, Brad Hendershot will retire from the Borough of Raritan on September 1, 2025 and he is looking forward to enjoying his home and property with his wife of 15 years and their two dogs; and

**WHEREAS**, Brad Hendershot expresses his gratitude to the Borough of Raritan, his fellow co-workers and all the people he met along the way, thanking them for their time together; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Nicolas J. Carra, Mayor of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, honor Brad Hendershot for

his hard work, dedication and commitment to the Borough he served for 13 years and wish him a long, healthy and happy retirement.

### **PRESENTATION**

Somerset County Department of Human Services

Lisette Turner, a Mental Health Administrator for the County, and Stephanie Billitz, a Behavioral Health System Navigator for the County, presented Council and the Public with an overview of what the Department of Human Services offers. Within the Department of Human Services, there are 10 divisions: Aging and Disability Services, Community Development, Juvenile Institutional Services, One Stop Career Center, Operations and Planning, Richard Hall Community Health and Wellness Center, Rutgers Cooperative Extension, Veteran Services, Volunteer Services, and Youth Services. Ms. Turner and Ms. Billitz went into brief detail on each of the divisions and what programs and/or assistance they offer. They also mentioned that their Mobile Outreach Van brings information, resources and services directly to communities in need of support throughout Somerset County. On Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, they will be setting up an information table from 12:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Nevius Bridge and encourage anyone who is interested to stop by. All the information presented and discussed tonight is available on the County's website at: <https://www.co.somerst.nj.us> as well as the presentation being accessible from the Borough's website.

Councilman Agrawal stated that this presentation may be beneficial to the Raritan Senior group that meets once a month. Mr. Jim Warner, Vice President of the Raritan Seniors, stated that he has been in touch with the Division of Aging and Disability Services and they are already scheduled to attend the next Senior Meeting in September.

A resident from the audience asked what can be done for the people who ask for money at the intersection of Somerset Street and Route 206? Ms. Billitz stated that the County wouldn't be able to help solve the issue of people standing and asking for money however they can look into providing information that those individuals may not be aware of. She added that unfortunately the programs offered are on a voluntary basis, they cannot force anyone to participate. Discussion ensued about possible options the Borough has regarding the ongoing issue of the individuals who loiter by the intersection of 206 and Somerset Street.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)**

*(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 stated that he would continue with Public Comment and stated that any member of the public wishing to speak can line up at the podium.

Victor Laggini, 250 Weiss Terr: Mr. Laggini asked if there has been a date decided for the next meeting with Senator Steinhardt, to which Mayor Carra stated he has not received anything but will reach out to his office. Mr. Laggini then thanked Council President Tozzi for always being responsive and asked if there was an update regarding the quiet zone? Council President Tozzi stated that he has a meeting in early October to go over all the information and he will be in touch with Mr. Laggini when he has more information. Mr. Laggini added that someone may want to reach out to the Federal Railroad Administration about the quiet zone too. Mr. Laggini continued to express his frustrations with the trains and the diesel fuel fumes.

Adrienne Schwall, 14 Obert Dr: Ms. Schwall asked the Mayor if there has been a decision on how the Borough is going to handle the people begging for money within the Borough to which the Mayor stated that he and the Police Chief have looked into the County's program, CPAC,

however the Chief did not think that was the best option for the Borough. The Mayor then added that he has been in talks with the Somerville Mayor and they are looking into other options that the County has to offer. Discussion continued between the Mayor and Ms. Schwall about what the Borough can do to deter the individuals from standing at the intersection.

Tara (inaudible), 250 Weiss Terr: Tara wanted to bring attention to the homeless that hangout late at night at the Quick Check. She stated that she works nights and used to stop in for something to eat from Quick Check but the individual who hangout there do get aggressive quickly if you ignore them. Tara stated that she wanted to bring it to Council's attention as she wasn't sure if they were aware and was hoping there could be more Police presence. Mayor Carra stated that if anyone feels unsafe or uncomfortable, they should be calling 9-1-1 and advising the Police.

Chris Allen, 11 Granetz Pl: Mr. Allen stated that he has also experienced the people who are panhandling at the intersection of Route 206 and Somerset Street and how it is embarrassing; it's embarrassing to have friends and relatives come to my house and a block away they are harassed for money. He added that this is not a new issue; it's been happening for years, and the people just keep coming back. Mr. Allen then asked Council President Tozzi about the Busky Lane property and how in 2013, Mayor Liptak and the Borough sold it for \$100.00. Mayor Carra stated that he was not involved with the sale of the land and wouldn't be able to offer any insight as it was back in 2013. Mr. Allen then asked about the 'embezzlement' of funds from the Basilone Parade Committee and if there was any update or where he can get the police report. Mayor Carra stated that Mr. Allen can submit an OPRA request for the Police report and that he was advised back in June that the Prosecutor's Office was called but he has no further information.

Jim Foohey, 710 Rhine Blvd: Mr. Foohey announced that it has been ten years since the Borough has been broadcasting their Council meetings. He then added that when he is unable to attend meetings, he usually watches them at home, and the air conditioner is a constant problem for those who are watching as it causes interference with the audio and no one watching can understand what is being said. Mr. Foohey then asked about the Basilone Parade and how the reimbursement plan was going to work instead of the Borough just giving the money upfront. Councilman Agrawal responded stating that from 2023, the parade committee had about \$17,000 left over and they would use that money as needed. He then added that the Committee will be submitting receipts to the Administrator and CFO to get reimbursed. He also stated that the Parade committee needs to work with our administration and provide their financial details and he does not believe they have received anything past the 2023 report. Mr. Foohey then continued to express his frustrations with the issues between the Borough and the Parade Committee and added that if this was a Borough Committee this wouldn't be an issue. Discussion ensued about the restrictions on what public monies can be used for versus a private organization.

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

## MINUTES

1. June 9, 2025 – Special Meeting

Mayor Carra asked for a motion to Approve the June 9, 2025 Minutes.

On a motion by Councilman Fritzingler, seconded by Councilman Agrawal, Council moved to Approve the June 9, 2025 Minutes.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Fritzingler

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer, Patente

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 4-0

2. June 24, 2025 – Special Meeting

Mayor Carra asked for a motion to Approve the June 24, 2025 Minutes.

On a motion by Councilman DiGraziano, seconded by Council President Tozzi, Council moved to Approve the June 24, 2025 Minutes.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Fritzingler

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer, Patente

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 4-0

3. July 15, 2025 – Regular Meeting

Mayor Carra asked for a motion to Approve the July 15, 2025 Minutes.

On a motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilman Fritzingler, Council moved to Approve the July 15, 2025 Minutes.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Fritzingler

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer, Patente

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 4-0

**COMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS**

Councilman Agrawal – Councilman Agrawal reported that for the month of July, the Board of Health collected \$422.24 in fees from marriage license, death certificates, birth certificates, etc. as well as collecting \$1,955.00 in food and beverage fees. He then reported for the Board of Education that school starts September 2<sup>nd</sup> which does include the start of full-day kindergarten at JFK School and Adamsville School. The first home football game is scheduled for September 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. The Councilman then reported that October 10<sup>th</sup> is Mental Health Day and in recognition of this day, the Board of Health and Environmental Commission will be hosting a free yoga session on Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at the Nevuis Bridge. He added that the flyer will be posted on the Borough's website and encouraged all those you are interested in attending to come out and enjoy the free event.

Councilman DiGraziano – Councilman DiGraziano reported for Recreation that the pool is now closed, however the season was a great success especially the Christmas in July event; all the kids enjoyed getting their picture taken with Santa. He added that the Splash Park will remain open a couple weeks longer, depending on the weather. The Councilman then reported that the summer camp programs were both sold out and all the kids had a lot of fun over the summer. He then stated that the tennis and pickle ball courts are complete and look fantastic; adding that if you haven't seen them yet to go take a peek.

Council President Tozzi – Council President Tozzi announced that the Fire Department will be hosting its second annual Food Truck Festival on Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup> from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. located at Washington School Park; there will be about 18 food trucks, beer, wine, music and more. Secondly, Council President Tozzi stated that on Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, there will be a memorial ceremony located at the Thompson Street Fire House from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and welcomed anyone who was able to attend.

Councilman Fritzinger – Councilman Fritzinger stated that Public Works has been doing crack sealing around town as well as re-stripping. Starting around the end of September repaving of Vones Lane, Alpine Way, Normandie Lane, Barbieri Court, Esposito Lane and Roderer Drive area which will be a mill and overlay of two inches. He then reported that the last bulk pick-up was on August 14<sup>th</sup>, and we are still within the 20-25-ton range; added that the next bulk pick-up is September 11<sup>th</sup>. The Historical and Cultural Committee met on the 16<sup>th</sup> reporting their budget as \$3,497.92 and their trust fund is intact with \$1,199.15. He added that their program on the Frelinghuysen contribution to our country and Congress was a great success recording 35-40 people in attendance. Tim Rack will be giving a program on John Basilone to the Somerville Round Table on September 8<sup>th</sup>. He then added that the mural on Mangia Buono is practically done and that there will be a dedication or recognition for the artist and all their hard work. He also included that he and Mayor Carra umpired in the Jack's Kids tournament on July 12<sup>th</sup> added that it was a great time and a lot of money raised for a good cause.

Mayor Carra – Mayor Carra stated that he was going to jump to the Old Business portion of the meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### 1. NJ Transit Update – Sen Steinhardt (NC)

Mayor Carra stated that he did get an e-mail from Senator Steinhardt after the Senator had met with the Environmental Protection Agency. The e-mail was sent to Alexander Dominguez from the EPA explaining the issues with the Raritan Borough Train. The letter mentions that the station dates back to the 1800s and has never been updated or expanded to account for the intensity of 2025. The e-mail goes into further detail of what the residents of Raritan had expressed back in February at the Town Hall meeting. The letter goes on to ask for involvement from the EPA, as NJ Transit has not been helpful and keeps making empty promises. He continued asking for the EPA's help with testing the air or the water around the area and expressed his frustrations that this neighborhood is enduring these terrible conditions with no solution in sight. Council President Tozzi added that in early October they will be having someone from NJ Transit come out for the quiet zone adding that the only thing that has seemed to be altered is the lights on the tower have been dimmer. Discussion ensued amongst Council and members of the Public regarding the status of the NJ Transit issues.

Mayor Carra stated that before we continue with Old Business, he wanted to allow Administrator Colvin to give his report. Administrator Colvin stated that the completion date for the new Municipal Building at 9 West Somerset is looking at a late fall date as there have been delays with the elevator. He then went on to state that the Borough's reevaluation will most likely be put off until next year as the tax maps came back later than expected. Moving on, Mr. Colvin stated that the Borough has launched a mobile payment option for daily and monthly pass holders at the Raritan Train Station. Next he mentioned that the Borough has discussed a bike lane project on Orlando Drive however, due to unanticipated costs this project will most likely be done in 2026. He then reported that Public Works has been doing catch basin repairs in the Vones Lane area and have been doing sign replacement as well. Mr. Colvin continued by stating that Property Maintenance is doing a sidewalk inspection initiative; making sure tripping hazards are eliminated and the sidewalks are safe to walk on. Mayor Carra then asked that Mr. Colvin give a little more information on a resolution tonight regarding the shared service agreement with Somerville for Property Maintenance. Mr. Colvin explained that the resolution states that the position will now be split between Raritan Borough and Somerville Borough and that Somerville will now be picking up half of the cost of the employees including benefits and pension.

Councilman Fritzingler added that he wanted to remind people that when they put out furniture for bulk pick-up, it needs to be wrapped or it won't be picked up. He also added that no one should be putting out hazardous materials, chemicals, tires or anything of that nature. Councilman Fritzingler also added that DPW will be taking leaves and grass clippings until end of October.

2. Basilone Parade (KD)

Councilman DiGraziano stated that the Basilone Parade is coming up on September 21<sup>st</sup>. He then made a motion to allocate the \$25,000 for the Parade Committee.

Councilman Agrawal asked if that was something that could be done with just a motion. He continued to express his frustration with the issue, stating that at a previous meeting the Council approved a motion that the Basilone Parade Committee will work with the Borough Administrator and the CFO to share their budget. The Councilman continued to explain that the Parade Committee has not submitted anything to the Borough and because of that he does not feel it is appropriate to allocate the funds. Discussion amongst Council ensued.

On motion by Councilman DiGraziano, seconded by Councilman Fritzingler, Council moved to approve allocating \$25,000.00 for the Basilone Parade Committee.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Tozzi, DiGraziano, Fritzingler

Nay: Agrawal

Absent: Armahizer, Patente

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 3-1

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Administrator's Report (EC)

2. Bridgewater-Raritan High School – Bonfire Request (EC)

Administrator Colvin stated that he received a request from the Panther Athletic Club and Bridgewater High School to host a bonfire event at the Washington School grounds on October 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. as a part of their Homecoming celebration.

On motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilman DiGraziano, Council moved to approve the bonfire request from the Panther Athletic Club for October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Fritzingler

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer, Patente

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 4-0

3. Columbus/Riverside Area Conditions (UA)

Councilman Agrawal stated that he has walked around the neighborhood of Columbus and Riverside area and he stated that the issue is that the catch basin is not catching the water and he suggested remodifying the channel to ensure that when it rains, the water goes into the catch basins. The second item he wanted to bring up was the traffic now that Columbus is closed. He stated that residents have shared videos of motorists just blowing through the four-way stop signs and that they are concerned that an accident is going to happen. He stated that it has been suggested to consider some type of speed bump especially in the area of Richard and North part of Riverside. He then continued that there are still issues such as yards sinking and the residents were told that it would be fixed however, it still has not been resolved. Councilman Agrawal continued to express the frustrations of some of the resident in the area. Borough Engineer Brosnan responded, stating that the channels, speed bump, and the road conditions will be addressed in Phase III. He also stated that he has a list of all the outstanding items for KM to finish or they will not get paid.

4. CERT Appointments (DT)

Council President Tozzi requested a motion to approve two new CERT members, Genevieve Wietecha and Katherine Bonini, who are fully qualified.

On motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilman DiGraziano, Council moved to approve Genevieve Wietecha and Katherine Bonini being added as new CERT members.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Fritzingler

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer, Patente

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 4-0

**ORDINANCES – SECOND READING & PUBLIC HEARING**

None

**ORDINANCES – INTRODUCTION**

Ordinance No. 2025-14

Amending and Supplementing Chapter 82-Vehicles and Traffic – Specifically Section 82-35 Entitled

August 19, 2025

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“Schedule K: Speed Limits” to establish a 25 Miles Per Hour (MPH) Speed Limit on Orlando Drive

The purpose of this Ordinance is to reduce the speed limit on Orlando Drive to 25 Miles Per Hour

On motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilman Fritzingler, Council moved to Introduce Ordinance No. 2025-14.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Fritzingler

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer, Patente

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 4-0

Ordinance No. 2025-15

Renaming Section 82-82.3 of Chapter 82-Vehicles and Traffic-Presently Entitled “Through Streets; Stop and Yield Intersections; No Right Turns” to “Through Streets; Stop and Yield Intersections; Certain Turns Prohibited,” and Amending and Supplementing same to create paragraph D. Therein to Prohibit Left Turns onto certain Municipal Streets

The purpose of this Ordinance is to prohibit left turns from Fifth and Tillman Streets onto First Avenue

On motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilman Fritzingler, Council moved to Introduce Ordinance No. 2025-15.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Fritzingler

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer, Patente

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 4-0

**CONSENT AGENDA**

*(Resolution No. 2025-08-118 through No. 2025-08-129)*

Resolution No. 2025-08-118

Accepting a Grant of \$3,573.00 and Approving Chapter 159 from Statewide Insurance Fund for General Safety and Risk Management Control Approving Tax Sale Costs – 2025

Resolution No. 2025-08-119

Resolution No. 2025-08-120

Authorizing the Release of Performance, Safety, and Stabilization Bonds – Block 85, Lot 15 & Block 103, Lot 2

Resolution No. 2025-08-121

Authorizing Consulting Services for Borough MS4 Watershed Improvement Plan

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Resolution No. 2025-08-122	Authorizing Engineering Services for NJDOT Municipal Aid Program – Avon Ridge, Brentwood & Tysley
Resolution No. 2025-08-123	Authorizing the Planning Board to Undertake a Preliminary Investigation for the Redevelopment of 11 Fifth Street – Block 54, Lot 1
Resolution No. 2025-08-124	Authorizing Mayor and Clerk to Execute that Certain Funding Agreement with ESPJ Construction Corp. (or its possible successor Urban Renewal Entity) Relative to the Potential Redevelopment of Block 54, Lot 1
Resolution No. 2025-08-125	Clarifying Certain Titles for the NJ Division of Pensions and Benefits – Superintendent of Public Works
Resolution No. 2025-08-126	Clarifying Title – Technical Assistant to the Construction Official – Jenna La Russo
Resolution No. 2025-08-127	Clarifying Certain Titles for the NJ Division of Pensions and Benefits – Finance Clerk
Resolution No. 2025-08-128	Approving Professional Services Contract – Foveonics Documents Scanning
Resolution No. 2025-08-129	Amending Shared Services Agreement – Property Maintenance

On motion by Councilman DiGraziano, seconded by Councilman Fritzingler, Council moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-08-118 through Resolution No. 2025-08-129 – Consent Agenda.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Fritzingler

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer, Patente

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 4-0

**BILL LIST**

Resolution No. 2025-08-130                      Approving Bill List

Councilman Agrwal stated that he wanted to comment on the \$2,900 payment listed for Van Cleef. He stated that he feels there needs to be some accountability on part of Van Cleef because we have lots of issues that are still outstanding.

On motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilman Fritzingler, Council moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-08-130 – Approving Bills List.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Fritzingler

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer, Patente

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 4-0

**CERTIFICATION OF FUNDS**

1. A-Plus Construction, Inc—Final Payment A-Plus Contract—\$14,100.00
2. Ben Shaffer Recreation, Inc—Frelinghuysen T & P Courts—\$258,750.35
3. Bridgewater Resources, Inc—July 2025 Bulk Garbage—\$26,360.63
4. Foveonics Imaging Technologies—Clerk and Construction Scanning—\$16,380.04
5. Gabrielli Truck Sales—2025 Garbage Truck Repairs—\$11,259.82
6. KRS IT Consulting, LLC—August & September IT Services—\$10,479.60
7. McGrath Municipal Equipment—Hot Patch Equipment & Trailer—\$52,949.00
8. Micro Pave Systems, Inc—Crack Seal—\$29,999.76
9. Pharos Enterprises, Inc—Payroll Payment 12—\$110,129.08
10. Power Place—Mowers & Snow Equipment—\$71,816.67

On motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilman DiGraziano, Council moved to Approve the Certification of Funds – Final Payment A-Plus Contract, Frelinghuysen T & P Courts, July 2025 Bulk Garbage, Clerk and Construction Scanning, 2025 Garbage Truck Repairs, August & September IT Services, Hot Patch Equipment & Trailer, Crack Seal, Payroll Payment 12, and Mowers & Snow Equipment.

**Recorded Vote**

Yea: Tozzi, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Fritzingler

Nay: x

Absent: Armahizer, Patente

Abstain: x

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

Joyce Melitsky, 43 Gaston Ave: Ms. Melitsky stated that she has been approached by many residents about putting speed bumps on Gaston Avenue. She added that people speed up and down the road trying to avoid the traffic on First Avenue and it is worth investigating. Mayor Carra stated that he would bring this issue up to the Police Chief to see if they can do a traffic study.

Jim Foohey, 710 Rhine Blvd: Mr. Foohey expressed his frustration with the Council meetings being so long. He then stated that he was approached while he was at JFK Schools by a resident complaining about the Splash Park and how people are there in the park all hours of the night. Mayor Carra stated that this is the first he has heard of this and will look into it.

Sheila Sloben 55 LaGrange St: Ms. Sloben stated that she is following up after her conversation a few meetings ago about the property that sits next to the paper street and the old rescue squad building. Mayor Carra then asked Borough Attorney Wenner if they have to wait until the La Grange project is completed or if it can be done prior as it was a park of the redevelopment. Unfortunately, the Attorney was not brought up to speed on that so he could not comment and the Mayor stated that he was not a part of that as there was a conflict. Discussion ensued amongst Council, the Attorney and Ms. Sloben. The Mayor stated that they would have to look into this further and would get back to Ms. Sloben when they have more information.

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Chris Allen, 11 Granetz Pl: Mr. Allen asked about the pickleball courts and if the Borough funded \$258,000 bill. Mayor Carra stated that it was a capital improvement for the two pickleball courts and the tennis courts and that it was bonded for over a 30-year period. Next, he asked about the Basilone parade and he understands that the parade is important to Raritan but the claims of misappropriation of funds are suspicious and he doesn't agree with Council acting as if nothing happened. He then asked why Council President Tozzi resigned. Council President responded stating that he felt that it was more important to give his vote as a Councilman than as a parade committee member.

John Murphy, 1008 Tysley Pl: Mr. Murphy asked for clarification on resolution 125, authorizing the funding agreement and why there are parenthesis of the company? Mayor Carra stated that the owner wants a construction company to do the redevelopment and you have to have an Urban Renewal, LLC. This is just to make sure the construction company is paying for this until the Urban Renewal entity is created. He also wanted to ask about the letter the Mayor read from Senator Steinhardt. The letter referenced a cancer cluster, is there any validity to that for our neighborhood or is it a hyperbole? The Mayor responded stating that he believes it was used more as an anecdote and to stress the severity of the issues pointed out by the residents in that area.

Jim Werner, 407 Victoria: Mr. Werner stated that there is a street called John Street and the one-way sign needs to be replaced. It will help motorists who are not familiar with the area find their way. Mayor Carra stated he will advise Public Works. Mr. Werner added that the tennis courts and pickleball courts look great.

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

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

On a motion by Councilman Fritzinger, seconded by Councilman DiGraziano, Council moved to Adjourn the Regular Meeting.

#### Recorded Vote:

All in favor

Motion passed: 4-0

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

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Kimberly Mathewson  
Acting Municipal Clerk

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