

MINUTES

BOROUGH OF RARITAN **REGULAR MEETING**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026
6:00 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 Tozzi in the Meeting Room of the Raritan Municipal Building, 9 West Somerset Street, Raritan, NJ 08869 at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 20, 2026.

Council President Tozzi 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 9, 2026.

ROLL CALL

Present: Council President Fritzingler, Councilman Agrawal, Councilman DiGraziano, Councilman Giraldi, Councilman Harwood

Also Present: Borough Administrator Colvin, Acting Borough Clerk Mathewson, Borough Attorney Richard Wenner, and Borough Engineer Brosnan

Absent:

INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE

Councilman Agrawal

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution No. 2026-01-030

Entering Executive Session

1. Personnel
Administration
2. Attorney Client
Affordable Housing

On motion by Council President Fritzingler, seconded by Councilman Agrawal, Council moved to Approve Resolution No. 2026-01-030.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Fritzingler, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Giraldi, Harwood

Nay: x

Absent: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

Council convened in Executive Session at 6:01 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ADJOURNMENT

Council moved to reconvene in Regular Session unanimously.

On motion by Council President Fritzing, seconded by Councilman Agrawal, Council exited Executive Session and resumed Regular Session at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Tozzi stated that Council would approve the meeting minutes to give a few moments for the Police Officers to get ready.

MINUTES

1. December 16, 2025 – Regular Meeting

Mayor Tozzi asked for a motion to Approve the December 16, 2025 Minutes.

On a motion by Council President Fritzing, seconded by Councilman Agrawal, Council moved to Approve the December 16, 2025 Minutes.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Fritzing, Agrawal, DiGraziano,

Nay: x

Absent: x

Abstain: Girdi, Harwood

Motion Carried: 3-0-2

2. January 6, 2026 – Reorganization Meeting

Mayor Tozzi asked for a motion to Approve the January 6, 2026 Minutes.

On a motion by Councilman DiGraziano, seconded by Council President Fritzing, Council moved to Approve the January 6, 2026 Minutes.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Fritzing, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Harwood

Nay: x

Absent: x

Abstain: Girdi

Motion Carried: 4-0-1

RESOLUTION & OATH OF OFFICE

Resolution No. 2026-01-031

Hiring Patrol Officer
Alyson Feliciano

**Borough of Karitan
Oath of Office**

State of New Jersey }

ss.

County of Somerset }

I, ALYSON FELICIANO, 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 Council President Fritzingler, seconded by Councilman Agrawal, Council moved to Approve Resolution No. 2026-01-031.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Fritzingler, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Giraldi, Harwood

Nay: x

Absent: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

PRESENTATION – RECREATION UPDATE

Recreation Director Stephanie Cornelson & Assistant Director Alicia Wiecenski

Ms. Cornelson and Ms. Wiecenski introduced themselves and explained what Raritan Recreation is going to look like. They intend to have programs for all seasons and programs for all ages. They also discussed programs they hope to be able to offer in the future for youths such as instructional basketball, sports clinic, teen self-defense, soccer, as well as a job fair. For seniors they hope to offer a walking club, chair yoga, and pickleball lessons to name a few. They also went into detail about potential grants the Borough can apply to in order to improve our facilities and other amenities. Ms. Cornelson and Ms. Wiecenski thanked Council for allowing them to attend the meeting and are hopeful for the future of Recreation here in Raritan.

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)

Victor Laggini, 250 Weiss Terr: Mr. Laggini asked if there was an update with NJ Transit, voicing his concerns as the trains have been idling more and the health risks to the residents in the area are getting worse.

Michael Patente, 30 Glaser Ave: Mr. Patente asked about the Rules of Order and expressed his disappointment with the way they were written. He continued to explain that this new Municipal Building costs between \$5-7 million dollars with the idea of it being more of a community center, to then limit what committees and boards use the upstairs meeting room is disheartening. He also added that having more meetings such as the Recreation Committee or the Board of Health recorded and then be available to the public would help with transparency. He hoped Council would reconsider.

Kathy Kolvites, 63 Vones Ln: Ms. Kolvites expressed her disagreement with the Rules of Order as they seem to give all the power to the mayor. She continued to express her frustrations with the limitations the rules will have for Council members and fears the rules as written will take away from discussions, debates and involvement from the other members.

Maureen Wilson, 803 Columbus Ave: Ms. Wilson also expressed her frustrations with the restrictions being out on current Council members with the rules. She stressed the need for Raritan to do better with decisions being made.

Roger Copt, 1120 Rt 202: Mr. Copt expressed his concerns relating to Councilman Patente's resignation during the last meeting. He also asked if the restrictions within the Rules of Order violate freedom of speech. He then asked about bills relating to furniture listed on the Certification of Funds and asked what happened to the furniture that was used at the old building. Mayor Tozzi responded stating that some of it was donated to another municipality in need. Mr. Copt then asked what this new building actually cost, to which Mayor Tozzi stated he will get the numbers from our Finance Department and get back to Mr. Copt.

JoAnn Liptak, 2 W. Somerset St: Ms. Liptak voiced her concerns with the current status of Council and expressed her fears for the future. She also reminded Council that their job is to do what is right for the Borough as a whole and do it with respect.

Jim Werner, 407 Victoria St: Mr. Werner stated that he wanted to express his gratitude to Public Works and Director Vince especially as they were able to respond very quickly when the heat in the Train Station went out. He continued by stating that Vince also attended the Seniors meeting recently and explained the new bulk sticker program to the seniors. It was a great presentation.

Jennie Rose, Raritan Resident: Ms. Jennie Rose expressed her frustrations with Council and suggested that they look up what transparency means. She continued to express her frustrations with the limitations now being put on the members of Council with the way the Rules of Order are written.

Sam Timms, 1 LaGrange St: Mr. Timms explained that he moved to the Borough a few years ago and likes Raritan. He continued to stress that decisions need to be made with full understanding of what is being asked; stressing that those decisions made today will affect future generations. He also added that he likes to see some discourse with Council and the public but that we need to work as one for the betterment of the Borough.

Robert Natuk, 63 Vones Ln: Mr. Natuk expressed his frustrations with the restrictions on members of Council. He continued by stating that when he votes for a member of the public to become a Council member, he is trusting that they will be involved in the decision-making

process for the Borough. Mr. Natuk also asked why a change was needed from previous versions. He also stressed that there could be problems ahead.

Lisette, Raritan Resident: Lisette asked about information about the revaluation assessments on the properties in Raritan and expressed concerns about random people asking for access inside your home.

Jeff King, 47 Vones Ln: Mr. King stated that the DPW presentation for the Seniors was great; Vince was able to explain the process. He also suggested that Council should have Vince come to a meeting to do a presentation about the changes with bulk pick-up. Mr. King then suggested the same for the Tax Assessor regarding the revaluation to ensure all residents are aware of what to expect.

Jim Foohey, 710 Rhine Blvd: Mr. Foohey asked about the meetings being broadcast on the cable channel again. Mayor Tozzi responded that they are still looking into how to make that happen. Mr. Foohey then agreed with some of the residents earlier with the restrictions of Council members with the Rules of Order.

Eric Landesberg, 21 Meehan Ave: Ms. Landesberg stated that she is interested in hearing the discussion on the usage of the building and if members of Council will be allowed to use the meeting rooms and conference rooms. She added that she hopes the discussion will be honest and reminded Council of the importance for the elected officials to have a place to meet with any member of the public.

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

COUNCIL COMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Appointments to Recreation Committee
Members – Jake Martinez and Summer Cutler
Alternate – Tori Cesario

Mayor Tozzi asked for a motion to appoint Jake Martinez, Summer Culter, and Tori Cesario to the Recreation Committee.

On a motion by Council President Fritzing, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, Council moved to Appoint Jake Martinez, Summer Culter, and Tori Cesario to the Recreation Committee.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Fritzing, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Giraldi, Harwood

Nay: x

Absent: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

2. Administrator's Update (EC)

Councilman Agrawal asked the Mayor if he could make a comment at this time. The Councilman thanked the Administrator and Acting Clerk for publishing a copy of the agenda and the associated ordinances and resolutions for the public to view prior to this meeting. He then requested that the bills list be included in being made available to the public prior to any meeting.

Mayor Tozzi asked the Borough Attorney if the bills list can be made available, to which Mr. Wenner responded that it could. The Mayor stated moving forward, the bills list will be included with the agenda and related materials on the borough's website. All in favor.

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING & PUBLIC HEARING

None

ORDINANCES – INTRODUCTION

Ordinance No. 2026-01

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 7, Borough Municipal Building, of the Code of the Borough of Raritan

The purpose of this Ordinance is to update the building usage rules and regulations for the Borough Municipal Building

Mayor Tozzi stated that this ordinance will be tabled tonight, as it was decided that further edits need to be made before it can be introduced.

On a motion by Councilman Agrawal, seconded by Council President Fritzinger, Council moved to Table Ordinance 2026-01.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Fritzinger, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Giraldi, Harwood

Nay: x

Absent: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 2026-01-032

Updating Escrow Account – Agway Project

Councilman Agrawal asked for clarification on the pending resolution. Borough Engineer Brosnan responded, stating that this is associated with the redevelopment plan. He also stressed that this is more for accounting purposes as it is an escrow account and there is a redeveloper agreement. Councilman Agrawal confirmed that any redevelopment work that has been done by Van Cleef relating to Agway, has been paid out of this account. Mr. Brosnan confirmed and added that the escrow would be increased to \$20,000.00.

On a motion by Councilman Harwood, seconded by Councilman DiGraziano, Council moved to Approve Resolution No. 2026-01-032 – Updating Escrow Account – Agway Project.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Fritzinger, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Giraldi, Harwood

Nay: x

Absent: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

BILL LIST

Resolution No. 2026-01-033

Approving Bill List

On a motion by Council President Fritzinger, seconded by Councilman Agrawal, Council moved to Approve Resolution No. 2026-01-033 – Approving Bills List.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Fritzinger, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Giraldi, Harwood

Nay: x

Absent: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

CERTIFICATION OF FUNDS

1. Absolute Fire Protection—Repairs to Tower 52 from Accident—\$3,325.06.
2. Absolute Fire Protection—PM on Tower 52—\$5,125.00.
3. Absolute Fire Protection—Annual PMs on Engines—\$8,140.00.
4. Bridgewater Resources—December Dumping Fees—\$21,962.58.
5. Business Furniture, INC—Exemplis Seating 9 West Somerset—\$30,612.76.
6. Business Furniture INC—Miller Knoll Furniture 9 West Somerset—\$124,461.66.
7. Edmunds and Associates INC—2026 Software Maintenance—\$15,132.19.
8. Foveonics Imaging Technologies—Construction Scanning—\$24,005.05.
9. Kimball International Brands—Shelves & Seating 9 West Somerset—\$52,614.00.
10. Millennium Communications—Audio & Visual 9 West Somerset—\$60,433.27.
11. Spatial Data Logic—SDL Services 10/31/25-10/30/26—\$26,900.00.

Mayor Tozzi stated that he would like to pull out Business Furniture, INC—Exemplis Seating 9 West Somerset—\$30,612.76, Business Furniture INC—Miller Knoll Furniture 9 West Somerset—\$124,461.66, and Kimball International Brands—Shelves & Seating 9 West Somerset—\$52,614.00 as the furniture is not complete yet. Mayor Tozzi then asked to also pull Millennium Communications—Audio & Visual 9 West Somerset—\$60,433.27 as there have been multiple issues with the audio/video.

On a motion by Council President Fritzinger, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, Council moved to Approve the Certification of Funds – Excluding Business Furniture, INC—Exemplis Seating 9 West Somerset—\$30,612.76, Business Furniture INC—Miller Knoll Furniture 9 West Somerset—\$124,461.66, and Kimball International Brands—Shelves & Seating 9 West Somerset—\$52,614.00, Millennium Communications—Audio & Visual 9 West Somerset—\$60,433.27.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Fritzingler, Agrawal, DiGraziano, Giraldi, Harwood

Nay: x

Absent: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

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)

Jim Werner, 407 Victoria St: Mr. Werner asked about two of the Certification of Funds, #5 and #9; why are we paying for two sets of seating.

Jeff King, 47 Vones Ln: Mr. King stated that he suggests the furniture get inspected prior to making the payment. He stated that some of the furniture in the downstairs community room is broken or missing parts.

Jim Foohey, 710 Rhine Blvd: Mr. Foohey asked what's included in the \$150,000.00 bill for the furniture to which Administrator Colvin responded stating that includes tables, chairs, filing cabinets, etc.

Michael Patente, 30 Glaser Ave: Mr. Patente asked if anyone can add something to an agenda under new or old business, why does it still have to be approved by the mayor? Mayor Tozzi stated that he did not alter that section of the Rules, he only edited the section on liaison reporting. Mr. Patente then asked why things were refused on old agendas.

Emilie Stander, 977 First Ave: Ms. Stander suggested Council host a Town Hall meeting to allow the numerous residents that have questions or concerns to ask and get information about what is going on within the borough.

Roger Copt, 1120 Rt 202: Mr. Copt asked again if the changes made to the Rules of Order violate the First Amendment of the members of Council. He stressed the importance of the elected officials being able to speak their minds. Mr. Copt then asked if the Borough is in debt for \$26 million dollars? Mayor Tozzi responded that he would get the confirmed number from the CFO. Mr. Copt then continued by asking about the report from the architects on the old municipal building and what the total amount was for the report. Councilman Agrawal stated that the report has been shared. Mr. Copt then asked about a sewer tax and who would be taking over the sewer. Mayor Tozzi responded stating that nothing has been moved forward with a sewer tax at this time.

Jim Wilson, 803 Columbus Ave: Mr. Wilson asked about a comment made at a previous meeting by Councilman Agrawal, he stated that in 2020 the Borough owed \$9.8 million dollars and now the Borough owes \$26 million dollars. Mr. Wilson said he couldn't understand how no one could confirm how much the Borough owes. Mayor Tozzi stated that he did not have the figures in front of him and he will be sitting down with the CFO to review the amounts and will get back to the residents at a following meeting. Discussion ensued about the cost for this building and if the project was kept under the bid threshold. Councilman Agrawal added that he would like to know the total cost for the new Municipal Building including the architects, furniture, technology, etc.

Mr. Wilson then stressed the importance of Council receiving their agenda packets prior to the meetings to be fully informed.

Sam Timms, 1 LaGrange St: Mr. Timms stated that the Borough needs to make sure the Agway project works for all residents of the borough. He also asked what is going to be done with the \$10,000.00 increase in the Agway Escrow funds: looking into water management, traffic management, impact to our schools and emergency services, etc. He also stressed the importance of researching if a PILOT program is the best option for this project. Mr. Timms continued to express the importance of doing our due diligence to be able to be more productive. Lastly, he reminded the members of Council that they were elected of the people, for the people, by the people.

Jennie Rose, Raritan Resident: Ms. Rose stated that she agrees with Mr. Timms and reminded Council that they work for the Borough residents, not the developers. She continued to stress the importance of the decisions being made and to look beyond just the initial project and how changes that are made could affect future projects. Ms. Rose continued referencing the Busky Lane property and raised concerns about the sale of the property for \$100.00 back in 2013. She continued to express her frustrations with the lack of answers and discrepancies in the reports about that property. Ms. Rose then asked about liaison reports to which Administrator Colvin stated that in his e-mail he noted that liaison assignments have not been done yet as Council is not yet full.

Administrator Colvin stated that the debt information is available on the borough's website. He also stated that the governing body has authorized millions of dollars however, some of that can be cancelled as it wasn't used. Councilman Agrawal also added that Council has not approved any money for the Police building yet. He also stressed the importance of Council being fully aware of what the cost from the beginning is, not piecemealing a project together. Discussion ensued amongst Council members.

Eric Landesberg, 21 Meehan Ave: Ms. Landesberg suggested getting a financial evaluation to see what the Borough is working with prior to going out to bid for a multimillion-dollar project.

Jim Foohey, 710 Rhine Blvd: Mr. Foohey commented on lack of liaison assignments and stated that in the past, assignments were issued regardless of seat vacancy. He added that any vacant seat once filled would be assigned what was left.

Councilman Agrawal commented again that the architects plans that he has reviewed are not something the Borough can afford at this time. The Borough needs to be realistic with what we can afford and before making decisions, know what we have to work with. He also added that the Council has not approved any money for the Police Building.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Recorded Vote:

All in favor

Motion passed: 5-0

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Kimberly Mathewson
Acting Municipal Clerk

Date: _____