

This Regular Meeting of the Borough of Raritan Council was called to order by Mayor McMullin at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was held in the Meeting Room of the Raritan Municipal Building, 22 First Street, Raritan, NJ 08869.

Mayor McMullin announced that the meeting was called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Notices of the meeting were sent to *The Courier News* and *The Star Ledger* on January 28, 2016. In addition, notices were posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building, on the Borough website and made available in the Office of the Borough Clerk.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor McMullin, Council President Carra, Councilman Bray, Councilman Foohey, Councilman Giraldi, Councilman Sibilgia
Absent: Councilman McGinley
Also Present: Borough Administrator Jaxel, Borough Attorney Wenner, Borough Engineer Schrek and Borough Clerk Colvin

INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE

Councilman Giraldi led the Invocation and Flag Salute.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution No. 2016-12-177 – Executive Session – Subject Matter: Personnel, Contract Negotiations, Attorney Client Privilege.

On a motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Councilman Bray, Council moved to Approve Resolution No. 2016-12-177.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Bray, Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, Sibilgia
Nay: x
Abstain: x
Motion Carried: 5-0

Council convened in Executive Session at 6:34 p.m.

On a motion by Councilman Bray, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, Council moved to Reconvene in Regular Session.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Bray, Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, Sibilgia
Nay: x
Abstain: x
Motion Carried: 5-0

Council came out of Executive Session at 7:10 p.m. and resumed in Regular Session at 7:12 p.m.

Attorney Wenner asked for a motion to authorize him to take the actions discussed in executive session.

On a motion by Councilman Bray, seconded by Councilman Sibiliala, Council moved to Pass the Motion.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Bray, Carra, Foohey, Giralardi, Sibiliala

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

Mayor McMullin announced he had a plaque made for outgoing Councilman Andrew Sibiliala. The Mayor read the plaque and made the presentation to Councilman Sibiliala.

RESOLUTION & OATH OF OFFICE

Resolution No. 2016-12-178 – Appointing Probationary Patrol Officer – Evan Vacchiano

Mayor McMullin called Mr. Vacchiano to the front of the dais, where the Oath of Office was then taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor McMullin opened this Public Comment portion of the meeting for members of the public wishing to speak.

Seeing no additional hands, Mayor McMullin closed this Public Comment portion of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

November 22, 2016 – Executive Session

November 22, 2016 – Regular Session

On a motion by Council President Carra, seconded by Councilman Bray, Council moved to Approve the Executive and Regular Session Minutes of November 22, 2016.

Recorded Vote:

Yea: Bray, Carra, Foohey, Giralardi, Sibiliala

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

WORK SESSION

1. Engineer's Report

Bell Avenue Improvements (2015 NJDOT Local Aid Grant)

The project design is 95% complete. Scope includes curb/sidewalk repairs, ADA ramping at crosswalks, drainage improvements, base repairs and surface mill/overlay. Final design is proceeding.

Sherman Avenue Improvements (2016 NJDOT Local Aid Grant)

The project design is 95 % complete. It is our intend to combine both the 2015 and 2016 Local Aid projects under a single bid thereby achieving an economy of scale. Final design is proceeding.

Anderson Street Fire House

Bids were received, on 12/16, for renovation and repairs to the Anderson Street Firehouse. Of 7 bids received, the project architect is recommending the project be awarded to Woodward Construction Company in the amount of \$205,440.00 which includes the base bid as well as Alternates 1 & 2.

401 Tillman Street

The demolition of the dwelling is now scheduled to occur during the week of December 25. The start was somewhat delayed due to coordination with the utility companies. The schedule will now will not afford any interference with the school bus stop.

Ortho Drive Pump Station

Design of the new Pump Station is proceeding.

Train Station Parking

At the request of Mayor McMullin we are investigating possibilities to expand commuter parking.

I will provide preliminary sketches at the meeting Tuesday evening.

Sewer Odor at Bell Ave./Cornell Blvd.

The Borough has been issued a Notice of Violation related to extraneous sanitary sewer flow at Bell Ave. and Cornell Blvd. This is an intermittent flow into the storm system. NJDEP is aware that the investigation is continuing.

2. Designation of Director of the Office of Emergency Management (CM)

Mayor McMullin said Ernest Hall will serve as OEM Coordinator. He was appointed at the meeting in November.

3. Liaison for Construction/Property Maintenance/Public & Private Properties (CM)

Mayor McMullin said he would like the liaison in the coming year to address private properties as well as public. No action was taken.

4. Gaston Avenue Brook (AS)

Engineer Schrek said Public Works did some work to the area. The brook is private, but the Borough was investigating ways to improve the area.

Council permitted resident Florence Musa, 20 Gaston Ave., to participate in the conversation from the audience.

Ms. Musa said she received a letter from Bob Bogart, an engineer with VanCleaf, informing her Public Works could trim the property twice a year. Ms. Musa expressed her concerns about the area and upkeep of the brook, including stones, branches and debris.

A conversation between Ms. Musa, Mayor, Council and Engineer Schrek ensued, with a general understanding emerging to discuss this matter again in the new year.

5. Exterior Lighting Grant Status (DJ)

Administrator Jaxel said five buildings were covered under the grant. The Borough was dealing with a company who no longer operates with the program. He will take the steps to work with the new company.

6. Expanding Parking Lot, east of Thompson Street (CM)
Engineer Schrek said there is an opportunity for additional parking spaces for the train station involving Borough and Transit property. Mayor McMullin said asked for a motion to authorize Engineer Schrek to proceed looking into the acquisition.

On a motion by Councilman Sibiliala, seconded by Council President Carra, Council moved to Authorize Engineer Schrek to proceed.

Recorded Vote:

Yea: Bray, Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, Sibiliala

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

A conversation continued about acquiring property around the train station, Attorney Wenner advised Mayor and Council to discuss this matter in Executive Session.

7. Door-to-Door Solicitation – Remodeling Company
On a motion by Councilman Sibiliala, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, Council moved to Permit Power Home Remolding Approved Employees to Solicit.

Recorded Vote:

Yea: Bray, Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, Sibiliala

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING & PUBLIC HEARING

Ordinance No. 2016-17 – An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Approving the Financial Agreement for Tax Exemption of Raritan Redevelopers Urban Renewal, LLC. for the Redevelopment of Block 81, Lots 1, 2, 3, 3.01, 4, 5, 6.01, 6.02, 6.03, 7, 8, 9, 9.01 and 10, in Accordance with the long-term Tax Exemption Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:20-1, et seq.

Mayor McMullin opened the Public Hearing for any members of the public wishing to be heard on Ordinance No. 2016-17. No members of the Public wished to speak.

On motion by Council President Carra, seconded by Councilman Bray, Council moved to Adopt Ordinance No. 2016-17.

Recorded Vote:

Yea: Bray, Carra, Foohey, Giraldi

Nay: Sibiliala

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 4-1

Ordinance No. 2016-18 – An Ordinance of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, Deleting and Replacing Chapter 229 of the Code of the Borough of Raritan Regarding Noise

Mayor McMullin opened the Public Hearing for any members of the public wishing to be heard on Ordinance No. 2016-15. No members of the Public wished to speak.

On motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Council President Carra, Council moved to Adopt Ordinance No. 2016-18.

Recorded Vote:

Yea: Bray, Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, Sibilgia

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution No. 2016-12-179	Authorizing Execution of Snow Plowing Agreement – Library
Resolution No. 2016-12-180	Authorizing Award of Bid – Phase III Rehabilitation to Relief Hose Co. No. 2 Engine House
Resolution No. 2016-12-181	Authorizing 2016 Municipal Budget Appropriation Transfer
Resolution No. 2016-12-182	Authorizing Disposal of Old Radios and Chargers
Resolution No. 2016-12-183	Approving Hazardous Busing Agreement 2016-2017
Resolution No. 2016-12-184	Designating Public Agency Compliance Officer for 2017
Resolution No. 2016-12-185	Refunding Tax Overpayment Via Court Appeal
Resolution No. 2016-12-186	Refunding Unused Railroad Parking
Resolution No. 2016-12-187	Refunding Driveway Opening Permit Fee

On motion by Councilman Sibilgia, seconded by Councilman Bray, Council moved to Approve the Consent Agenda.

Recorded Vote:

Yea: Bray, Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, Sibilgia

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

Resolution No. 2016-12-188

On motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Council President Carra, Council moved to Approve the Bill List in the amount of \$1,677,989.94 for the period November 21, 2016 through December 16, 2016.

Recorded Vote:

Yea: Bray, Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, Sibilgia

Nay: x
Abstain: x
Motion Carried: 5-0

PURCHASE ORDER REQUEST

1. Fire Department – Thermal Imaging Camera – Continental Fire and Safety, Inc. – \$4,160.76

On motion by Councilman Bray, seconded by Councilman Sibia, Council moved to Approve Purchase Order Request No. 1

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Bray, Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, Sibia
Nay: x
Abstain: x
Motion Carried: 5-0

2. Fire Department – Extrication Equipment – FFI Professional Safety Services – \$27,914.83

On motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Councilman Sibia, Council moved to Approve Purchase Order Request No. 2

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Bray, Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, Sibia
Nay: x
Abstain: x
Motion Carried: 5-0

3. Tax & Finance – Software – Edmunds – \$6,766.00

On motion by Councilman Carra, seconded by Councilman Bray, Council moved to Approve Purchase Order Request No. 3

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Bray, Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, Sibia
Nay: x
Abstain: x
Motion Carried: 5-0

4. Administration – End of the Year Asset Inventory – Acclaim Inventory – \$1,600.00

On motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Councilman Sibia, Council moved to Approve Purchase Order Request No. 4

Recorded Vote:

Aye: Bray, Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, Sibia
Nay: x
Abstain: x
Motion Carried: 5-0

OLD BUSINESS

None

COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

Councilman Sibilía – Did not have anything to report.

Councilman Foohey – Said he enjoyed serving with Councilman Sibilía and also knew his father well. The Councilman then discussed a charity in town called Michael’s Miracles that will be hosting a charity night in February.

Council President Carra – Vehicles need to be off the road when there is significant snow fall. The Council President also wished Councilman Sibilía the best in the future.

Councilman Bray – Recreation signups are happening. The planning board will meet next week. He is also on a steering committee with the school district. Thanked Councilman Sibilía and said he is sad to see him go.

Councilman Giraldi – The Police Department would like to thank Duke Farms for a recent, generous donation. The Department is now offering a program to assist elderly in the community. The Basilone Parade Committee will not have a concert this year, instead other events in conjunction with the Parade. Thanked Councilman Sibilía for his service.

Mayor McMullin – Thanked Councilman Sibilía and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor McMullin opened this Public Comment portion of the meeting for members of the public wishing to speak.

Someone from audience asked about 413 Raritan Avenue status. Attorney Wenner and Mayor McMullin said conversations are continuing and will have an update at the January 10, 2017 meeting. Marie Vale, First Avenue: Concerned about potholes on First Avenue. Mayor McMullin said Public Works will be notified. Also, First Avenue is a County road and no one sanded or treated it last week.

ADJOURNMENT

Resolution No. 2016-12-189 – Executive Session – Acquisition of Real Property

On a motion by Councilman Sibilía, seconded by Councilman Foohey, Council moved to Approve Resolution No. 2016-12-189.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Bray, Carra, Foohey, Giraldi, Sibilía

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

Council convened in Executive Session at 8:08 p.m.

On a motion by Councilman Sibilias, seconded by Councilman Foohey, Council moved to Reconvene in Regular Session.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Bray, Carra, Foohey, Giraldis, Sibilias

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Motion Carried: 5-0

Council resumed in Regular Session at 8:20 p.m.

On a motion by Councilman Sibilias, seconded by Councilman Bray, Council moved to Adjourn the Regular Meeting.

Recorded Vote

All in Favor

Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Eric M. Colvin
Borough Clerk

Approved: _____