

This Regular Meeting of the Borough of Raritan Governing Body was called to order by Mayor Charles McMullin in the Meeting Room of the Raritan Municipal Building, 22 First Street, Raritan, NJ 08869 at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 13, 2018.

The Mayor announced this Regular Meeting was called pursuant to applicable portions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Adequate Notice was communicated to *The Courier News* and *The Star Ledger* on January 2, 2018, 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, Councilman Bray, Councilman Carra, Councilman Giraldi, Councilman McGinley, Councilman Orozco, Council President Tozzi  
Also Present: Borough Attorney Rizzo, Borough Administrator Jaxel, Borough Clerk Colvin, Borough Engineer Schrek  
Absent: x

**INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE**

Councilman Tozzi

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Resolution No. 2018-03-054

Executive Session

1. Personnel  
Fire Prevention, Recreation
2. Contract Negotiations  
Library Lease

On a motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilman Bray, Council moved to Approve Resolution No. 2018-03-054.

Recorded Vote

Yea: Bray, Carra, Giraldi, McGinley, Orozco, Tozzi  
Nay: x  
Abstain: x  
Motion Carried: 6-0

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

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

Recorded Vote

Yea: Bray, Carra, Giraldi, McGinley, Orozco, Tozzi  
Nay: x  
Abstain: x  
Motion Carried: 6-0

Council exited Executive Session and resumed Regular Session at 7:08 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

*(In accordance with Section 29-1 of the Code of the Borough of Raritan, there shall be a five-minute limit per speaker)*

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

Seeing and hearing no one, the Mayor closed the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. February 27, 2018 – Executive Session
2. February 27, 2018 – Regular Session
3. March 6, 2018 – Special Budget Meeting

On a motion by Council President Tozzi, seconded by Councilman Giraldi, Council moved to Approve the Executive and Regular Minutes of February 27, 2018 and the Special Budget Meeting of March 6, 2018.

**Recorded Vote**

Yea: Bray, Carra, Giraldi, McGinley, Orozco, Tozzi

Nay: x

Abstain:

Motion Carried: 6-0

**WORK SESSION**

**1. Engineer's Report (SS)**

Engineer Schrek delivered the following, prepared report:

**Ortho Drive Pump Station**

Project work is progressing. Wet wells and gravity line have been installed. New pumps are scheduled for installation this week. We lost several days of work due to the recent winter storms.

**NJTPA/NJDOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)**

We are awaiting engineering guidelines to enable an RFP for engineering services or the establishment of an engineering services pool as was provided for past TAP projects. It is noted that, under federal rule, the design firm cannot be the same firm providing construction inspection/administration.

**Orlando Drive, Phase 3**

Bid documents are complete. County is reviewing prior to submission to NJDOT. We have been working closely with the County to finalize the Green Acres diversion. A public hearing scheduled for this Thursday at the County Administration Building.

**East Ridge Development/Quick Chek**

Site work is progressing.

**LabCorp**

We recently had a preconstruction meeting for the start of the initial phase of this project. Work will commence subject to building permits.

**Block 81**

Compliance plans and documents have been reviewed. A preconstruction meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

**Anderson Street Fire House**

Coordinating with architect to define scope and projected costs.

**Richard Street Area Sanitary Sewer**

Bid documents have been released for cleaning and video inspection of area sewer mains. This will include the forcemain from the Rt.28 PS to the Elizabeth Street gravity discharge. Bids will be opened on March 22 with the anticipation of contract award at the Council meeting on March 24.

**2. Neighborhood Watch (DJ)**

Administrator Jaxel said the Police Department would like to start a Neighborhood Watch program.

Councilman Giraldi said the Police would like for Council to give their stamp of approval before launching the program. No member of Council expressed an objection.

**3. Environmental Commission Secretary (EC)**

Clerk Colvin said a motion would be needed to pay the EC secretary retro to the beginning of the year, she has been serving in that capacity since January.

On a motion by Councilman McGinley, seconded by Councilman Bray, Council moved to Approve payment of the EC Secretary stipend, retroactive to January 1, 2018.

**Recorded Vote**

Yea: Bray, Carra, Giraldi, McGinley, Orozco, Tozzi

Nay: x

Abstain:

Motion Carried: 6-0

**4. Bridgewater Baseball / Dynasty Softball (ZB)**

Councilman Bray said he was approached by the president of Bridgewater baseball who asked what Raritan is doing with its fields, adding they are partnered with Dynasty. If Raritan were to allow the groups to use the fields, our Public Works would not have to do any more than they currently do to maintain the fields, the Councilman said. Councilman Bray said he believes it would be a good look for Raritan to have the fields improved and used, adding Raritan activities would take precedent over the outside groups and Raritan organizations and businesses could also benefit.

Councilman Giraldi said he thinks it is a good idea because the fields are not currently being used and it would add events for the town. The Councilman said the Borough can work to drive business to town from these events.

Councilman Orozco said he likes the idea and asked whether the group would be open to our Little League players selling water to raise money.

Councilman Tozzi suggested the Events Committee could also be involved.

Councilman Bray said the organizers are willing to come to the next meeting to have a discussion with Mayor and Council.

The Mayor said the up and coming sports are soccer and lacrosse and also cricket, which has been mentioned to him by members of nearby corporations.

Councilman Orozco said baseball is still a popular sport, but agreed the Borough should also be looking into other sports.

Councilman Giraldi said there is plenty of space and time to allow for the fields to have multiple uses, adding he wants to bring people into town for the businesses.

Mayor McMullin asked which businesses people would use.

Councilman Bray said Randazzo's ran out of food the last time the event took place at the Washington School fields.

Engineer Schrek cautioned that the fields are on a hill and may need to be level for certain activities.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Resolution No. 2018-03-055

Authorizing Tax Sale Lien Redemption

Resolution No. 2018-03-056

Refunding Tax Overpayment

Resolution No. 2018-03-057

Authorizing 2017 Recycling Tonnage Grant Application

Resolution No. 2018-03-058

Authorizing Houston-Galveston Cooperative Purchasing Contract

\* Resolution No. 2018-03-059

Appointing Fire Prevention Official and Inspector

\* Resolution No. 2018-03-059 was added to the Consent Agenda during the meeting.

On motion by Councilman Giraldi, seconded by Councilman Carra, Council moved to Approve the Consent Agenda.

### **Recorded Vote:**

Yea: Bray, Carra, Giraldi, McGinley, Orozco, Tozzi

Nay: x

Abstain: x

Motion Passed: 6-0

### **BILL LIST**

None

### **PURCHASE ORDER REQUESTS**

None

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS**

Councilman Orozco – The Councilman said Zumbo will be held in the JFK gymnasium moving forward.

Councilman Carra – The Councilman asked Administrator Jaxel and Clerk Colvin about the wiring for the camera. Administrator Jaxel said there are three options and suggested running the wires along the floor from the back closet. Clerk Colvin suggested having the wires run through the ceiling. The third option would be to drill through the floor, Administrator Jaxel said. There was a brief discussion about which way to go, with Council deciding to have the County run the wires from the back closet above the ceiling tiles.

The Councilman said he spoke with the Court Administrator today, who said an alternate public defender would be needed, especially considering new State standards.

Councilman McGinley – The Councilman said interviews were conducted and a candidate was selected for the Public Works opening, pending successful completion of drug and background checks.

Council President Tozzi – The Council President said the “I Love Raritan Contest” was a big success. The Easter Egg Hunt will happen next Saturday, March 24.

Councilman Bray – The Councilman said the Sports Committee has been working on the pools. The Borough is still in need of a CPO. The Councilman said he believes the Sports Committee may have found a company.

Councilman Giraldi – The Councilman said the Basilone Committee will meet Thursday and the Environmental Commission will meet March 28.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

Marie Vale, First Avenue – Ms. Vale said she wanted to thank the council members responsible for the town calendar. Councilman Bray also thanked resident Bruce Doorley.

Adele Goetsch, Nevius Street – Ms. Goetsch said the roads are plowed well, but residents are not shoveling their sidewalks. Residents have to walk in the road because of this.

Administrator Jaxel said the Borough sent out many summonses for sidewalk shoveling after the last storm.

Ms. Goetsch said many downed cable wires are hanging around town, what are happening with them now?

Administrator Jaxel said he believes it is the cable company’s responsibility. Councilman McGinley said he has seen the wires hanging and, in one case, the Sheriff’s Office tied the cables, adding he also believes the cable company would need to come out. Councilman Orozco said he also has seen the downed wires.

Mayor McMullin said it was a one-time event and the cable companies and Verizon are working on it. The Mayor said he believes the fines for moving cars and sidewalks are not discouraging residents, adding the Borough should look into the amount of the fines.

Ms. Goetsch said she believes the hanging wires and snow covered sidewalks are a safety issues.

Councilman Giraldi said the Public Safety Committee would look into the parking and sidewalk ordinances before the next meeting.

Seeing and hearing no additional members of the Public, the Mayor closed this Public Comment portion of the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Recorded Vote

All in Favor

Regular Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

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Eric M. Colvin, RMC, CMR  
Borough Clerk

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