

**BOROUGH OF RAMSEY
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, January 22, 2020**

Mayor Dillon called the meeting to order at 7:30pm and asked Officer Warnet to lead the flag salute. Mayor Dillon read the Open Public Meetings Act notice.

I. ROLL CALL -

Present: Mayor Dillon, Councilmembers Gutwetter, Jones (7:38pm), Kilman, Verdone, Weber and Woods

Also Present: Borough Clerk Bendian, Borough Administrator Vozech and Borough Attorney Scandariato

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 12-11-19 Regular, 01-02-20 Sine Die, 01-02-20 Regular Motion by Councilwoman Woods, seconded by Councilman Weber
Councilwoman Woods abstained from the 12-11-19 and 01-02-20 Sine Die minutes. All in favor. Carried.

III. COMMUNICATIONS -

Motion by Councilman Kilman, seconded by Councilman Verdone. All in favor. Carried.

1. George Bumiller, Ramsey Resident
letter dated January 2, 2020, regarding the videotaping of borough meetings
2. Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority, 30 Wyckoff, Avenue, Waldwick, NJ
letter dated January 14, 2020, enclosing the schedule of service charges for each community
3. Melissa Oratio, Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority, 30 Wyckoff Avenue, Waldwick, NJ
letter dated January 15, 2020, enclosing minutes from December 10, 2019 meeting

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Anyone wishing to address the governing body please step up to the microphone and give your name (spelling the last name) and address as a courtesy to all present. Please speak in an audible tone and address your comments to the Chair. There will be a five-minute time limit per speaker, unless reduced because of the volume of business on the agenda. Please note, public comment is your time. Out of respect and fairness to all present, there will be no interruptions or questions answered during your time. No time shall be ceded to anyone else and no time shall be saved for later use. Any responses may be given during the governing body's comments later in the meeting, or as directed by the Chair. The Borough Clerk is the official time keeper and will hold up a sign when you have 30 seconds remaining.

George Bumiller, Ramsey, NJ

Spoke about and submitted a letter regarding the videotaping of borough meetings asking for residents to be part of the process.

Lisa Kundriat, Ramsey, NJ

Followed up on the traffic on and in the area of Arch Street and inquired about the noise ordinance on weekends after hearing landscaping from the Board of Education Property. Mayor Dillon replied that she had contacted the chief of police regarding Arch Street and asked them to look into it and would also address the landscaping before hours with Dr. Murphy.

Chance Parker, Ramsey, NJ

Commented on the grant application for bike and pedestrian pathway in the borough and inquired as to why they chose the location on E. Crescent Ave. Expressed his concern about the soil erosion and sediment control plan at the senior center construction site. Followed up on his comments about the replacement lighting that Rockland Electric is doing. Asked about the policy regarding the adjournment after all borough meetings. Borough Administrator Vozeh replied about the soil explaining that it was referred to the engineering firm and they provided action items to the contractor. Councilman Verdone responded about the walkability study. Mayor Dillon said she would follow up with her contact at Rockland Electric.

Not seeing anyone else wishing to be heard, Mayor Dillon closed public comment.

V. ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES

Motion by Councilman Kilman, seconded by Councilman Verdone

ORDINANCE 01-2020 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 34-4 OF CHAPTER 34 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AND MORE PARTICULARLY SUBSECTION 34-4.26 THEREOF ENTITLED FENCES

BE IT RESOLVED THAT AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED: An Ordinance amending Section 34-4 of Chapter 34 of the Code of the Borough of Ramsey, Bergen County, New Jersey and more particularly Subsection 34-4.26 thereof entitled Fences, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage and adoption at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council to be held on the 22nd day of January, 2020 at 7:30pm prevailing time or as soon after as the matter can be reached in the Municipal Building in said Borough and;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be and she hereby is, directed to cause a copy of the title of said ordinance to be published in an official newspaper of the Borough in the manner provided by law together with notice of the date of introduction and adoption of said ordinance.

Councilman Kilman explained that this amendment adds clarifying language.

Mayor Dillon opened the public hearing for Ordinance 01-2020.

With no one wishing to be heard, Mayor Dillon closed the public hearing on Ordinance 01-2020.

ROLL CALL:

YAY: Gutwetter, Jones, Kilman, Verdone, Weber, Woods

V. ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES (cont'd)

ORDINANCE 02-2020 - AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUISITION OF EQUIPMENT FOR VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SENIOR CENTER AND SITE WORK PROJECT IN THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AND TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$235,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF

BE IT RESOLVED THAT AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED: An ordinance to authorize capital improvements for the purpose of acquisition of equipment for various departments and improvements to the senior center and site work project in the Borough of Ramsey, Bergen County, New Jersey and to appropriate the sum of \$235,000 to pay the cost thereof, that said ordinance be further considered for final passage and adoption at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council to be held on the 22nd day of January, 2020 at 7:30pm prevailing time or as soon after as the matter can be reached in the Municipal Building in said Borough and;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be and she hereby is, directed to cause a copy of the title of said ordinance to be published in an official newspaper of the Borough in the manner provided by law together with notice of the date of introduction and adoption of said ordinance.

Councilman Gutwetter listed the items included in the ordinance. This ordinance does not create new borrowing or debt, only allocation of previously budgeted funds.

Rescue Squad: \$42,000 for Hurst equipment, SCBA cylinders, replacement radios and life line rescue ropes,

Ramsey Ambulance: \$18,000 LUCAS Machine

Borough Hall: \$75,000 for replacement of borough servers and related equipment
\$100,000 for senior center and sitework project (for potential change orders)

This is a funding mechanism. It does not approve any additional spending. If the funds are not utilized for the project they may be further reallocated.

Mayor Dillon opened the public hearing for Ordinance 02-2020

With no one wishing to be heard, Mayor Dillon closed the public hearing on 02-2020.

VI. APPOINTMENTS – None

Mayor Dillon asked for a motion to go out of the regular order of business in order to hear the Borough Administrator's report.

Motion by Councilman Weber, seconded by Councilman Verdone

ROLL CALL:

YAY: Gutwetter, Jones, Kilman, Verdone, Weber, Woods

Borough Administrator Vozech reported on the senior center and site work project, various resolutions and ordinances on the agenda, the 2020 municipal budget and the proposed bond ordinance for the Board of Public Works well activation and treatment project.

Motion to go back into the regular order of business by Councilman Weber, seconded by Councilman Verdone.

ROLL CALL:

YAY: Gutwetter, Jones, Kilman, Verdone, Weber, Woods

VII. CONSENT RESOLUTION

Motion by Councilman Gutwetter, seconded by Councilman Jones

BE IT RESOLVED that the following resolutions herewith listed having been considered by the governing body of the Borough of Ramsey be and are hereby passed and approved:

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| 034-2020 | Resolution: | payment of vouchers |
| 035-2020 | Resolution: | ratifying the actions of the governing body for payroll number one |
| 036-2020 | Resolution: | authorizing the Bond Anticipation Notes in the amount of \$7,941,300 consisting of \$7,791,300 general BANS and \$150,000 water-sewer utility BANS, both issues dated January 10, 2020 and payable January 8, 2021, as "QUALIFIED TAX-EXEMPT OBLIGATIONS" pursuant to Section 265(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. |
| 037-2020 | Resolution: | authorizing change order number 1 for the community center furniture with Arena 3D Holdings Inc./Dancker LLC, 291 Evans Way, Somerville, New Jersey in the amount of \$972.43 for additional costs of revised finishes and frame color selection for furniture at the Community/Senior Center Project |
| 038-2020 | Resolution: | authorizing appropriation reserve transfer number one |
| 039-2020 | Resolution: | authorizing the Borough of Ramsey through the Ramsey Police Department to participate in the Defense Logistics Agency, Law Enforcement Support Office 1033 Program to enable the Ramsey Police Department to request and acquire excess Department of Defense Equipment |
| 040-2020 | Resolution: | authorizing a one-time payment to the Pool Manager for additional work related to the 2019 pool construction project in an amount of \$9,000 |
| 041-2020 | Resolution: | authorizing purchase of two solar power "Your Speed" signs from All Traffic Solutions Inc. of Herndon, VA under NJ Contract 17-Fleet-00776, in a total amount of \$9,215.20 for installation on Airmount Ave. |

VII. CONSENT RESOLUTION (cont'd)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following applications and/or recommendations hereby be approved:

A. SPECIAL PERMITS:

Ramsey Area Garden Club is requesting permission to hold their annual plant sale at the Ramsey Train Station on Saturday, May 9, 2020, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. They will include the sale of jewelry and crafts. They are in the process of applying to NJ Transit for permission.

B. BLOCK PARTY REQUESTS:

ROLL CALL:

YAY: Gutwetter, Jones, Kilman, Verdone, Weber, Woods

VIII. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS - None

IX. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION – Councilman Michael Gutwetter

Reiterated that the capital ordinance passed earlier tonight is only a funding mechanism, allocating funds already budgeted for the specific purpose in the ordinance

Reported that the municipal budget planning is underway and a presentation will be at the February 12th work session.

Ramsey Library held their reorganization meeting with all officers and the director has 2020 programming well under way.

The Recreation Commission is planning the winter and spring activities. The Spring Egg Hunt is tentatively scheduled for April 4th. The 50th anniversary for the Home Run Derby is June 20th. Summer Camp set to begin July 6th.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY – Councilman Harry Weber

Reported on the Environmental Commission – RHS Caroline Coletti continues with her composting project. The Green Team is looking for new members and discussed the plastic bag ordinance that has been passed in other towns.

RIFE – Had a fun event with the Challengers at Humdingers.

Municipal Alliance is working on a vaping event on February 19th at the High School cafeteria.

Thanked the council for passing the ordinance which included lifesaving equipment for Rescue Squad and Ambulance Corp.

C. BUILDING, PLANNING & ZONING – Councilman Joseph Verdone

Planning Board - On January 21st approved 12 waivers all office spaces.

There was one public hearing for 24 Grant Street for a Site Plan/Variance for the continued use of a single family home with the addition of a commercial use in the rear of the site for a landscaper contractor's yard. The property is located in the B-3 Highway Commercial District. There is another hearing scheduled for March 17, 2020.

Ramsey Seniors/Senior Center - The next scheduled event is a Technology Class on Computer Security at the Senior Center to be held on February 4th.

The BP&Z Committee is finalizing the first draft of the Ramsey Community/Senior Center Rules and Regulations.

C. BUILDING, PLANNING & ZONING – Councilman Joseph Verdone (cont'd)

VFW Post 12148 - Meeting held on Wednesday, January 8th with about 20 veterans in attendance, several veterans from Mahwah and Allendale. Past Commander Anthony Bailey gave a presentation entitlement benefits through the Veterans Administration. Franklin Lakes VFW Post may be in process of closing and some members are considering joining the Ramsey Post. A surprise birthday party was held for Bob Brown WWII Veteran who turned 90 years old.

Ramsey Responds - On January 20th, Martin L. King, Jr. Day K-12 students joined Ramsey residents to support the work of Ramsey Responds at the Ramsey Library and watched Martin L. King deliver his five most famous speeches. They kicked-off a Food and Toiletry Drive benefiting Ramsey families in need. Collection boxes for the drive will be at ShopRite and the Ramsey Library until February 1.

D. UTILITIES, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Councilman Peter Kilman
Zoning Board had their reorganization meeting with Angela Stollo being reelected as Chairwoman.

Shade Tree had their reorganization meeting with Joe Melso being reelected as Chairman.

The Board of Public Works meeting will be on January 30th this month.

Councilman Kilman went into great detail about the Complete Streets application consideration for the East Crescent location.

E. PUBLIC & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS – Councilman William Jones
Apologized for being late, he was at a Chamber of Commerce Event.

Reported that the Farmers' Market Committee is requesting to extend the outdoor market season to April and May and is being reviewed.

The Independence Day Celebration potential date is July 2nd.

Commented on the question about what goes on after any meeting adjournments explaining that it is just idle conversations.

Update on video broadcasting of Mayor and Council meetings – Explained that the borough is getting quotes from various vendors after researching how other towns stream and/or videotape. Trying to explore all options to best meet the demands of the residents. Also have to consider the participants (volunteers and employees) of all boards and commissions willingness to be videotaped. This will stay an open item on the agenda until a resolution is reached.

- F. HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES – Councilwoman Jane Woods
Reported that the Board of Health met in January and had their reorganization. Tami Azouri was sworn in as the new President and Jeff Nemeth as Vice President. They are planning dates for upcoming CPR classes.

Board of Education – Had their reorganization meeting earlier this month confirming Laura Behrmann as the President.

Reported on her attendance at the NJ League of Municipalities on newly elected officials training earlier in the month as well as a seminar on assisting with the census for 2020.

G. MAYOR DEIRDRE DILLON

Attended a training on the 2020 census sponsored by the State of New Jersey. Aid received from the Federal government is based on the census. As a result of the 2010 census, NJ lost a congressional seat; therefore the Mayor will be encouraging the community to participate in the 2020 Census.

The Northwest Bergen County Mayor's Association meeting was hosted in Ramsey earlier this month. New Mayors from Glen Rock and Wyckoff were introduced. This group will be focusing on the census. Bergen County received a grant from the Federal Government to help with the census. They would also like to work with the County on deer control.

- H. BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR – Bruce Vozeh – No further report

- I. BOROUGH ATTORNEY – Peter A. Scandariato, Esq. – No report

- J. BOROUGH CLERK – Meredith Bendian - No report

- X. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES - None

- XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

- XII. NEW BUSINESS - None

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Verdone, seconded by Councilman Jones. All in favor. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:31pm.

Meredith Bendian, RMC
Borough Clerk