

BOROUGH OF RAMSEY
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
Wednesday, February 28, 2018

Council President Kilman read the following statement:

Please take a moment to ensure that your cell phones and other electronic devices have been placed on silent setting.

Also note that Section 2-80 of the Code of the Borough of Ramsey establishes procedures for still photography, videotaping and audiotaping of public meetings. In accordance with the Code, audiotaping of this meeting is permitted. Videotaping of this meeting requires prior notice be submitted to the Borough Clerk.

Hard copies of items on tonight's agenda of the regular Mayor and Council meeting are available for public review in the binder located on the table as you enter the Council Chambers.

If there is something that you would like to submit to the governing body, please do not approach the dais, you may hand your item to the police officer in the room.

Council President Kilman opened the meeting at 7:30pm and read the Open Public Meetings Notice.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Mayor Dillon, Councilmembers Gutwetter, Jachzel, Jones, Kilman, Verdone and Weber

ALSO PRESENT: Borough Clerk Bendian, Borough Administrator Vozeh and Borough Attorney Scandariato

MAYOR'S REMARKS – MAYOR DEIRDRE DILLON

Mayor Dillon invited Chief Gurney and Lieutenant Lyman to discuss safety in the schools.

We received a \$218,000 municipal aid grant from NJ Department of Transportation for Island Road.

The Deer Management program is March 1st in Allendale.

Several residents reached out and asked the Mayor to sign the Mayors Against Illegal Guns Statement of Principles. It was signed yesterday and submitted. It will be posted on the website.

Stigma Free Ramsey was featured in the Downtown Ramsey Magazine.

Administrator Vozeh, Chief Gurney and OEM Coordinator Venturini are meeting with NJ DOT on March 15th. They have been videotaping and filming and would like to discuss some improvements.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REMARKS – COUNCILMAN PETER KILMAN

No report

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION – COUNCILWOMAN VANESSA JACHZEL

The budget will be introduced tonight. The increase is 1.68%.

PUBLIC SAFETY – COUNCILMAN HARRY WEBER

No report

BUILDING, PLANNING AND ZONING – COUNCILMAN JOSEPH VERDONE

We will continue to table Ordinance 03-2018 to give the Planning Board a chance to review it and give recommendations.

UTILITIES, BUILDING & GROUNDS – COUNCILMAN PETER KILMAN

Recently there was an inquiry about an ordinance regarding protection of our water wellheads. The borough reached out to the Board of Public Works to have them investigate other municipalities that had ordinances and go to the NJ DEP to find out exactly what is required. We are finding out that most municipalities do not have ordinances simply because the requirements and regulations defined by the NJ DEP are very stringent and we need to comply with those. The Board of Public Works will research and come back with a recommendation to the governing body.

PUBLIC & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS – COUNCILMAN WILLIAM J. JONES

We have started to receive submissions for the Spring Edition of the Ramsey Journal.

There was a meeting with Mr. Ralston, the Chamber of Commerce liaison to discuss ways to help the Chamber reach out to new businesses.

The Pool Commission will be receiving quotes for the snack stand season for 2018.

HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES – COUNCILMAN MICHAEL GUTWETTER

At the last Board of Education meeting they discussed school safety.

The board passed a resolution to support Governor Murphy's call to end the epidemic of gun violence that plagues too many of our communities.

BOROUGH ATTORNEY - PETER A. SCANDARIATO

No report

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR – BRUCE VOZEH

Solid waste and recycling bid were received yesterday. It is for a five year contract. The prices are up from the previous contract. Most of the increase is on the recycling end due to the decrease in the market value for the materials. We will award two contracts tonight to Suburban Disposal for a five year term.

At the Board of Public Works meeting they discussed increasing the water and sewer rates by approximately 1.7%. They continue with their infrastructure investment including bringing the Spring Street well back in service and proactively replacing undersized water mains. It will require the governing body to pass a resolution and an ordinance.

There is a resolution on tonight's agenda to enter into a grant agreement with Bergen County for the handicapped accessible access for the inside doors.

CAP Bank ordinance is on for introduction tonight. It allows for flexibility in budgeting.

We are in active negotiations with all five unions with no firm proposal to bring to the governing body.

BOROUGH CLERK -MEREDITH BENDIAN

No report

PUBLIC COMMENT

Anyone wishing to address the governing body should, when recognized, step up to the microphone and give his or her name (spelling the last name) and address. Please speak in an audible tone for the record 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. No one, other than the person having the floor, will be permitted to enter into any discussion without recognition by the Chair.

Susan Lindstrom, 82 DeBaun Ave. Ramsey

Spoke on behalf of honey bee keepers and asked Ramsey to oppose the NJ Department of Agriculture's proposed beekeeper regulations. President Frank Mortimer of the North East NJ Bee Keepers and Vice President John Matarese were present in order to answer any questions. Mayor Dillon agreed to pass a resolution at the next meeting.

Don Habas, 148 Deer Trail North, Ramsey

Discussed the contamination of the Bergen County Gun range and new trap system and spoke about Ramsey looking to get involved. Mayor Dillon said that we would speak with the County.

Jason Farrar, 40 Abby Court, Ramsey

Discussed the participation at the Board of Education meeting discussion about school safety and asked if there will be any state or federal funds to increase security at schools. Mayor Dillon said we will have our grant writers, Bruno Associates look into it.

Debra Sahler, 34 Oak Ridge Road, Ramsey

Discussed the participation at the Board of Education meeting and noted that regarding the well head protection ordinance the report by Princeton Hydro report the recommendation was that for the community dependent on groundwater the borough should enact a groundwater wellhead protection ordinance and deepen the regulations.

Jennifer Lessieu, 19 Lancaster Court, Ramsey

Inquired about an update of the NJ DEP and senior center property. Administrator Vozech said there was an application for a letter of interpretation delineating the wetlands and we are awaiting a response on that.

With no one else wishing to be heard, Council President Kilman closed public comment.

Motion to adjourn work session by Councilwoman Jachzel, seconded by Councilman Weber. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:17pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Meredith Bendian

Meredith Bendian, RMC

Borough Clerk