

**BOROUGH OF RAMSEY**  
**MAYOR AND COUNCIL**  
**WORK SESSION MINUTES**  
Wednesday, March 13, 2019

Councilwoman Jachzel called the meeting to order at 7:34pm and asked School Board Trustee Burns to lead the flag salute. Councilwoman Jachzel read the Open Public Meetings Act notice.

I. ROLL CALL -

Present: Mayor Dillon, Councilmembers Gutwetter, Jachzel, Kilman, Verdone and Weber

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

Absent: Councilman Jones

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – None

III. COMMUNICATIONS - None

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

Inquired about the cyber security presentation that is listed on the Mayor's agenda and asked the borough to post it on the borough website.

A Braggin, Ramsey, NJ

Discussed his disapproval of the new meeting format, council liaison reports, 83 Grant Street contamination and remediation.

With no one else wishing to be heard, Councilwoman Jachzel closed public comment.

V. ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES - None

VI. APPOINTMENTS - None

VII. CONSENT RESOLUTION

Motion by Councilwoman Jachzel, seconded by Councilman Gutwetter

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:

- |          |             |   |
|----------|-------------|---|
| 063-2019 | Resolution: | payment of vouchers   |
| 064-2019 | Resolution: | ratifying the actions of the governing body for payroll number five   |
| 065-2019 | Resolution: | amending the 2019 temporary budget  |
| 066-2019 | Resolution: | tax court judgment on Block 4401 Lot 2 in the amount of \$17,977.50   |
| 067-2019 | Resolution: | tax court judgment on Block 4301.01 Lot 17 in the total amount of \$11,872.50 for 2017/2018   |
| 068-2019 | Resolution: | amending tax judgment for an additional refund balance to be issued in the amount of \$360.00 for Block 1201 Lot 3.01 for a total 2018 judgment of \$1,514.90 |

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

A. SPECIAL PERMITS:

B. BLOCK PARTY REQUESTS:

ROLL CALL:

YAY: Gutwetter, Jachzel, Kilman, Verdone, Weber

VIII. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

## IX. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

### A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION – Councilwoman Vanessa Jachzel

Reported that the budget public hearing is March 27<sup>th</sup>, not having heard any word back from the State of New Jersey, who are reviewing the budget. If something does come up we will have to reschedule the hearing. The budget brochure is being printed and will be mailed out to all homes.

Clarified her comments on the budget from the last meeting to reflect that the municipal tax impact to the average household is actually \$47 a year and \$3.93 a month.

Discussed contract negotiations with the Police Chief and Captain for 2018-2019 and non-union employee salaries for 2019 and will likely have to change the salary range ordinance and will introduce at an upcoming meeting.

### B. PUBLIC SAFETY – Councilman Harry Weber

The committee met with Ramsey Rescue to discuss their fleet and will be downsizing from three vehicles to two. There is a great offer from the Teaneck Fire Department for a heavy duty used rescue truck. It has been inspected and will get a further examination from the manufacturer. The cost is about half the cost of a newly manufactured truck. The total between the purchase and the refurbishment will be about \$380,000.

Municipal Alliance upcoming events are on vaping, meet the police at the Farmer's Market and the Torch Run.

Environmental Commission had Girl Scout troop 5835 at their last meeting. The annual cleanup day is April 27<sup>th</sup>. On April 28<sup>th</sup> there is a Styrofoam collection in Oakland. There are also collection bins in town collecting thin plastics.

RIFE – Many events coming up. They just had a karaoke night and the Bounce out the Stigma for the Challenger kids. Upcoming events in March a night at Humdingers in Paramus and in April there will be a karaoke and an art class, June will be the gala event and some summer events like a BBQ and a Boulders baseball game are planned. A RIFE participant is a certified financial planner and will be offering his services.

C. BUILDING, PLANNING & ZONING – Councilman Joseph Verdone

The Planning Board meeting on March 5, was a continuation of testimony from Baseline Associates they responded to and updated soil and water movement plans. They are proposing a major sub-division at 425 Island Road that will consist of sixteen single family homes.

The next Recreation Commission meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 18.

Ramsey Seniors/Senior Center

The seniors will once again be stuffing 3,000 Plastic Eggs with candy kisses for Ramsey's Annual Spring Egg Hunt.

Bocce ball starts Monday April 8 and Pickleball starts Tuesday, April 9.

At the VFW Post 12148 meeting on March 6 there were about 20 members in attendance. A new Member from Franklin Lakes is 98 years old and is a World War II veteran. He was a Colonel and Flying Tigers fighter pilot. Our senior member, Dutch Halik at 92 is no longer the oldest member. There was also a special guest, retired Colonel Rick Jackson from the Allendale VFW Post.

The next Design Review Board meeting is Tuesday, March 26.

Thanked Joan Waring and the Board of Health for hosting "Sewers – Ramsey's Underground at the Ramsey Public Library. Mike Skorupa, Water Superintendent gave an outstanding slide presentation tracing the development of sewers from Roman times to the present. It was very effectively supplemented with many samples of equipment, tools, and products used by the Department of Public Works. It was well attended and I hope they will do more of these presentations.

D. UTILITIES, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Councilman Peter Kilman

The next Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting is Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>.

The Board of Public Works meeting is Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup> and will be discussing well restoration, treatment project for a very comprehensive new system that will be put in place.

E. PUBLIC & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS – Councilman William Jones

Councilwoman Jachzel reminded everyone that the Ramsey Journal submissions are due Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.

F. HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES – Councilman Michael Gutwetter

The Board of Education had a recent training in the area of non-college bound learning.

The school budget will be presented in early May. May 1<sup>st</sup> there will be a walk and talk for Stigma Free. Paarc Tests have been released and Ramsey's results will be posted on Dr. Thumm's website. The schools are expecting to see a 10.8% increase in state aid for 2019-2020 school year. March 6<sup>th</sup> there was a presentation on social media for middle

school students and addressed areas of privacy and safety concerns. The NJ Department of Education has made recent amendments to the high school graduation requirements but all Ramsey seniors are on target to graduate.

Board of Health will have an autism lecture on March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm at the library as well as two upcoming evening CPR/AED classes at borough hall on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

G. MAYOR DEIRDRE DILLON

On March 9<sup>th</sup> the Mayor along with Borough Administrator Vozech and Police Chief Gurney attended a presentation that was given to the Northwest Bergen County Mayor's Association by Connell Foley about cyber security. It was very informative and eye opening.

The Mayor met with the acting County Administrator, Freeholder Amoroso and others to discuss the Bergen County Police Academy Firing Range and ways to do sound remediation. They requested a decibel level reading and look into ways to remediate. They cannot afford to enclose it due to the price tag associated with it. In addition, those who use the range do not want it enclosed because they need to practice in all weather conditions.

Regarding the 83 Grant Street property the borough does not have the jurisdiction to order remediation or removal of storage tanks, it is the NJ Department of Environmental Protection.

H. BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR – Bruce Vozech

The Board of Public Works reviewed the water and sewer rates for 2019 and voted to approve an increase of approximately 1.85% for both water and sewer. There will be an ordinance introduction and a resolution at the next meeting.

I.

The 2019 Open Space Grant applications are out with letters of intent due next week. The borough is looking to submit a project to resurface the tennis courts at East Oak Street with a price tag of about \$75,000. It is a matching program so it would cost the borough half after reimbursement.

The 2019 Municipal Road Resurfacing Program is underway after reviewing the engineer's list and ratings. The borough will invest about \$725,000 to \$800,000 into the program and will be bidding the project next month.

The Building Department is asking for modifications to our code to reflect current practice delineated in the Uniform Construction Code regarding plan review fees. It needs to be delineated in our code specifically and there are no fee changes. We will introduce at the March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Main Street Streetscape Phase Two bids are due Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. Once the bids are open they will be reviewed by the project engineer and then sent to NJ DOT for their review along with the federal review and compliance. There is a bond ordinance in place with a grant of \$630,000.

Borough Clerk Bendian has been working closely with the county to facilitate their approval on changing the polling locations starting with the June Primary. A final decision will be made at the beginning of May to determine if Districts 3 and 5 are in Hubbard or the new community center.

The bond ordinance for \$1.5 million will be introduced at the March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. It will include the Island Road/Ave. project, road resurfacing and a DPW dump truck with a plow and salter.

Councilman Weber has discussed Ramsey Rescue's purchase of a Rescue truck from the Township of Teaneck to replace one of its heavy rescue response vehicles past its useful life. The cost from Teaneck would be \$125,000 with refurbishments of about \$260,000. An equivalent new truck would cost about twice that. We will introduce a capital improvement ordinance for the purchase from Teaneck at the March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The Senior/Community Center Pool House project work continues. If the pool house is not ready for the pool opening contingency plans are being put in place to be able to open the pool on time. Dresdner Robin is finalizing all of the plans and schedules needed for submission for the new senior center.

The Board of Health is looking to add annual license fees to the Smoke Shop Ordinance as a tool to have these stores consider they want to sell vaping products. Martha Sobanko, our health officer has recommended the fees after reviewing other town's fees. The Board of Health arrived at a proposed fee of \$750.

To add to Councilwoman Jachzel's update regarding the 2019 budget, all documents are on our website.

We introduced an ordinance for the NJ DOT Sanitary Sewer Easement on Arrow Road. The public hearing will be on the March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

J. BOROUGH ATTORNEY – Peter A. Scandariato, Esq.

Discussed a proposed ordinance to permit charitable organizations to use the right of way for solicitation. This ordinance will establish rules and regulations for the safety of the solicitor and the traveling public. It is for review for introduction at a future meeting.

Bergen County has sent the borough a letter asking for permission to conduct spraying for mosquito control and will come back with a recommendation at a future meeting.

K. 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 Weber. All in favor.  
Carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:21pm.

Meredith Bendian  
Meredith Bendian, RMC  
Borough Clerk