

BOROUGH OF RAMSEY
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
Wednesday, March 14, 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 7:31pm and read the Open Public Meetings Notice.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Mayor Dillon, Councilmembers Gutwetter, Jachzel (7:38), Jones, Kilman, Verdone and Weber

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

Mayor Dillon asked for a motion to go into executive session to discuss litigation and contract negotiations. Motion by Councilman Weber, seconded by Councilman Jones. All in favor. Carried.

Back into regular work session at 8:06pm.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Dillon, Councilpersons Gutwetter, Jachzel, Jones, Kilman, Verdone, Weber

MAYOR DEIRDRE DILLON

The borough is hoping to start curbside pickup by next week. DPW is still dealing with clean up and concern of another Nor'easter next week.

Borough officials will be a meeting tomorrow with the US Department of Transportation Volpe Center regarding the Main Street railroad crossing.

A letter on behalf of the Northwest Bergen Mayor's Association will be sent to the Board of Public Utilities, Orange and Rockland and PSE&G asking that they hold a public meeting in this area for the public to discuss their frustrations with the utility's response from the storm.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REMARKS – COUNCILMAN PETER KILMAN

Read a statement from Orange and Rockland and discussed the policies and guidelines of Orange and Rockland regarding storm damage.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION – COUNCILWOMAN VANESSA JACHZEL

The budget newsletter will be going out shortly.

PUBLIC SAFETY – COUNCILMAN HARRY WEBER

Thanked the emergency services for all of their work through the storm and reported on the number of calls that police, fire, OEM and Rescue answered.

BUILDING, PLANNING AND ZONING – COUNCILMAN JOSEPH VERDONE

No report

UTILITIES, BUILDING & GROUNDS – COUNCILMAN PETER KILMAN

No report

PUBLIC & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS – COUNCILMAN WILLIAM J. JONES

Reported on the upcoming spring issue of the Ramsey Journal and the Independence Day celebration on July 7th.

HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES – COUNCILMAN MICHAEL GUTWETTER

Discussed today's peaceful show of support at the Ramsey High School for the victims of Parkland, Florida.

The Board of Health will have a speaker on honeybees and beekeeping on Thursday, March 22nd at the Ramsey Library.

BOROUGH ATTORNEY - PETER A. SCANDARIATO

No report

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR – BRUCE VOZEH

Discussed the Board of Public Works 2018 rate increases for the water and sewer. Sewer rates by resolution and the water rates by ordinance. The proposed increase is between 1.72% and 1.80%.

Explained that he and the Borough Clerk would be researching alternate polling locations that are not in schools.

Thanked the DPW, Police, employees, borough hall staff for their help during the storm; Especially the volunteers who went above and beyond.

Executive Session – Litigation – Contract Negotiations

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.

George Bumiller, 39 Lakeview Terrace, Ramsey

Announced that he will be making an overhead presentation at the regular meeting public comment.

Mike and Joanne Palumbo, 263 N. Central Avenue, Ramsey

Discussed the possible legalization of marijuana in New Jersey and are asking for the borough to prohibit the sale. Councilman Verdone explained that we are introducing an ordinance tonight.

James Dolan, 463 Island Road, Ramsey

Discussed the speed on Island Road and mentioned the 2004 study.

Braggin AB, Ramsey

Discussed the school safety presentation of Chief Gurney and Lieutenant Lyman, the BPW rate increase and the responsibility of the council liaison to boards and commissions.

James Sander, 211 Cypress Court, Ramsey

Discussed the maintenance fees at Timber Valley for low income residents. Mayor Dillon replied.

With no other business to come before the governing body a motion to adjourn by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilwoman Jachzel. All in favor. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:47pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Meredith Bendian

Meredith Bendian, RMC

Borough Clerk