

**BOROUGH OF RAMSEY
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday April 24, 2019**

Council President Jones called the meeting to order at 7:30pm and asked Officer McWilliams to lead the flag salute. Council President Jones read the Open Public Meetings Act notice.

I. ROLL CALL -

Present: Councilmembers Gutwetter, Jachzel, Jones, Verdone and Weber

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

Absent: Mayor Dillon and Councilman Kilman

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – WS 02-13-19, 03-27-19

Motion by Councilman Weber, seconded by Councilman Gutwetter
All in favor. Carried.

III. COMMUNICATIONS -

Motion by Councilman Gutwetter, seconded by Councilman Weber. All in favor. Carried.

1. Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti, Commissioner, State of NJ, Department of Transportation, Trenton, NJ 08625
letter dated March 25, 2019, informing the borough of the \$222,000 funding they have received for the Elbert Street and Myrtle Avenue Projects
2. Bonnie Watson Coleman and Betty Young, Event Coordinators, Shiloh Baptist Church, Trenton, NJ 08618
letter dated March 26, 2019, inviting the Mayor to the celebration service on May 3, 2019 in celebration of Women's Emphasis Season
3. Anne O'Loughlin, Chairperson, Woman's Club Heirloom Tomato and Plant Sale
letter dated April 11, 2019, requesting permission for the annual sale on Saturday, May 18, 2019
4. Dorothy Unrath, 34 Grove Street, Ramsey, NJ
letter dated April 3, 2019, commending the Ramsey DPW for their clean up of leaves, snow and ice
5. Robert Baxer, Eagle Scout Coordinator, Troop 31
letter dated April 14, 2019, inviting the governing body to honor Nicholas James Diverio on his Eagle Court of Honor on Sunday, June 23, 2019

III. COMMUNICATIONS (cont'd)

6. Matt Latham, Director, Ramsey Free Public Library, 30 Wyckoff Avenue, Ramsey letter date April 16, 2019, requesting permission to have a petting zoo at their Harvest Festival on Saturday, September 21, 2019 from 2-4pm
7. Melissa Oratio, Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority, 30 Wyckoff Avenue, Waldwick, NJ letter dated April 17, 2019, enclosing minutes from the March 19, 2019 meeting

ROLL CALL:

YAY: Gutwetter, Jachzel, Jones, Verdone, Weber

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.

AB Braggin, Ramsey

Discussed his disapproval of the new meeting format and the need for pension reform.

Not seeing anyone else wishing to be heard, Council President Jones closed public comment.

V. ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE 06-2019 - BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF A NEW AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLE, INCLUDING ORIGINAL APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT, IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$1,500,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS

Motion by Councilwoman Jachzel, seconded by Councilman Jones

BE IT RESOLVED THAT AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED Bond Ordinance to authorize the making of various public improvements and the acquisition of a new automotive vehicle, including original apparatus and equipment, in, by and for the Borough of Ramsey in the County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, to appropriate the sum of \$1,500,000 to pay the cost thereof, to make a down payment, to authorize the issuance of bonds to finance such appropriation and to provide for the issuance of bond anticipation notes in anticipation for the issuance of such bonds, final reading by title and that said ordinance be adopted by as an ordinance of the Borough of Ramsey

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.

Councilwoman Jachzel explained that this ordinance covers funding for the Island Road/Avenue resurfacing project, the new DPW dump truck and 2019 road resurfacing program.

Council President Jones opened the public hearing for Ordinance 06-2019.

A.B. Braggin, Ramsey, NJ

Asked why the borough is bonding for road resurfacing Councilwoman Jachzel explained that it was due to the reduced surplus and increased debt repayment on the bonds..

With no one else wishing to be heard, Council President Jones closed the public hearing on Ordinance 06-2019.

ROLL CALL:

YAY: Gutwetter, Jachzel, Jones, Verdone, Weber

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

ORDINANCE 07-2019- ACQUISITION OF RESCUE SQUAD VEHICLE FROM THE TOWNSHIP OF TEANECK AND EQUIPMENT FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT IN THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AND TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$150,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF

Motion by Councilwoman Jachzel, seconded by Councilman Jones

BE IT RESOLVED THAT AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED An Ordinance for the Acquisition of Rescue Squad Vehicle from the Township of Teaneck and equipment for the Police Department in the Borough of Ramsey, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey and to appropriate the sum of \$150,000 to pay the cost thereof, final reading by title and that said ordinance be adopted by as an ordinance of the Borough of Ramsey

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.

Councilwoman Jachzel explained that this ordinance will cover the purchase of a used 2006 heavy duty response vehicle for the Rescue Squad to be refurbished and the remaining for the police department to upgrade their audio and video systems for interrogation.

Council President Jones opened the public hearing for Ordinance 07-2019.

With no one wishing to be heard, Council President Jones closed the public hearing on Ordinance 07-2019.

ROLL CALL:

YAY: Gutwetter, Jachzel, Jones, Verdona, Weber

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

ORDINANCE 08-2019 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 13 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AND MORE SPECIFICALLY SECTION 13-1.2 THEREOF ENTITLED FEE SCHEDULES

Motion by Councilman Verdone, seconded by Councilman Gutwetter

BE IT RESOLVED THAT AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED An Ordinance amending Chapter 13 of the code of the Borough of Ramsey, Bergen County, New Jersey and more specifically Section 13-1.2 thereof entitled Fee Schedules, final reading by title and that said ordinance be adopted by as an ordinance of the Borough of Ramsey

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 Verdone explained that this ordinance amends the code to modify it to be in compliance with the Uniform Construction Code. This is merely a language modification, not a new fee or any change to current policy.

Council President Jones opened the public hearing for Ordinance 08-2019.

With no one wishing to be heard, Council President Jones closed the public hearing on Ordinance 08-2019.

ROLL CALL:

YAY: Gutwetter, Jachzel, Jones, Verdone, Weber

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

ORDINANCE 09-2019 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 4 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY SO AS TO ESTABLISH SECTION 4-15 ENTITLED PERMITTING CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS TO SOLICIT CONTRIBUTIONS FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES IN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY

Motion by Councilman Verdone, seconded by Councilman Gutwetter

BE IT RESOLVED THAT AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED An Ordinance amending Chapter 4 of the Code of the Borough of Ramsey, Bergen County, New Jersey so as to establish Section 4-15 entitled Permitting Charitable Organizations to Solicit Contributions for Charitable Purposes in the Right-Of-Way, final reading by title and that said ordinance be adopted by as an ordinance of the Borough of Ramsey

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 Verdone explained that this ordinance sets parameters for charitable organizations that ask to solicit contributions in the right of ways of roads and highways.

Council President Jones opened the public hearing for Ordinance 09-2019.

AB Braggin, Ramsey, NJ
Requested that the ordinance be tabled.

With no one else wishing to be heard, Council President Jones closed the public hearing on Ordinance 09-2019.

ROLL CALL:

YAY: Gutwetter, Jachzel, Jones, Verdone, Weber

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

ORDINANCE 10-2019 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER X OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, AND MORE SPECIFICALLY SECTION 10-23, SUBSECTION 10-23.6 ENTITLED COMPENSATION RANGES

Motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilwoman Jachzel

BE IT RESOLVED THAT AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED An Ordinance amending Chapter X of the Code of the Borough of Ramsey, Bergen County, New Jersey and more specifically Section 10-23, Subsection 10-23.6 entitled Compensation Ranges, final reading by title and that said ordinance be adopted by as an ordinance of the Borough of Ramsey

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 Jones explained that this ordinance is for salary compensations establishing the minimum and maximum ranges for non-union personnel.

Council President Jones opened the public hearing for Ordinance 10-2019.

AB Braggin, Ramsey, NJ

Requested prior minimums and maximums in order to see the increases and if the increases are dictated by state mandates. Council President Jones replied.

With no one else wishing to be heard, Council President Jones closed the public hearing on Ordinance 10-2019.

ROLL CALL:

YAY: Gutwetter, Jachzel, Jones, Verdone, Weber

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

ORDINANCE 11-2019 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 19 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AND MORE SPECIFICALLY SUBSECTION 19-2.1 THEREOF ENTITLED FEES FOR WATER USAGE

Motion by Councilman Weber, seconded by Councilman Gutwetter

BE IT RESOLVED THAT AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED An Ordinance amending Chapter 19 of the Code of the Borough of Ramsey, Bergen County, New Jersey and more specifically Subsection 19-2.1 thereof entitled Fees For Water Usage, final reading by title and that said ordinance be adopted by as an ordinance of the Borough of Ramsey

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 Weber explained that this ordinance authorizes a rate increase of 1.86% as recommended by the Board of Public Works to offset capital investments of water treatment systems and bringing additional wells back into service.

Council President Jones opened the public hearing for Ordinance 11-2019.

With no one wishing to be heard, Council President Jones closed the public hearing on Ordinance 11-2019.

ROLL CALL:

YAY: Gutwetter, Jachzel, Jones, Verdone, Weber

VI. APPOINTMENTS

Council President Jones made the following appointments

Enmanuel Lugo Abreu, Ramsey Rescue Squad

Ethan Adams, Ramsey Rescue Squad, Explorer Member

VII. CONSENT RESOLUTION

Motion by Councilwoman Jachzel, 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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|----------|-------------|---|
| 089-2019 | Resolution: | payment of vouchers |
| 090-2019 | Resolution: | ratifying the actions of the governing body for payroll number eight |
| 091-2019 | Resolution: | proclaiming April as Autism Awareness month in the Borough of Ramsey |
| 092-2019 | Resolution: | authorizing a mutual aid agreement between the Ramsey Fire Department and the Suffern, NY Fire Department |
| 093-2019 | Resolution: | authorizing the disposal of obsolete equipment at the library |
| 094-2019 | Resolution: | awarding contract to Mike Fitzpatrick Contractors, Oak Ridge, NJ in the amount of \$2,523,456 for the Northwest Bergen Shared Services Cooperative road resurfacing in Allendale, Glen Rock, Ho-Ho-Kus, Midland Park, Ramsey, Saddle River and Waldwick |
| 095-2019 | Resolution: | awarding contract to Mike Fitzpatrick Contractors, Oak Ridge, NJ in the amount of \$393,861.60 for Island Road and Island Ave Improvement Project |
| 096-2019 | Resolution: | approving and authorizing the Mayor to execute employment contracts with the Police Chief and Captain for 2018-2020 |
| 097-2019 | Resolution: | authorizing the release of escrow in the amount of \$300.00 to Paul and Kirsten Rostkowski as recommended by the Zoning Board of Adjustment |
| 098-2019 | Resolution: | confirming the appointment of Enmanuel Lugo Abreu to the Ramsey Rescue Squad |
| 099-2019 | Resolution: | confirming the appointment of Ethan Adams to the Ramsey Rescue Squad as an Explorer Member |

VII. CONSENT RESOLUTION (cont'd)

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

A. SPECIAL PERMITS:

ALS Association is requesting permission to hang a banner at the RHS tennis courts from May 5-June 2, 2019 advertising their annual walk to defeat ALS on June 2, 2019

Ramsey Area Garden Club is requesting to hold their annual plant sale on Saturday, May 11, 2019 between the hours of 9:00 am – 2:00 pm at the Ramsey Train Station. They would like to place signs at the RHS tennis courts, Franklin Tpk., Lake St., E. Oak St., Wyckoff Ave. and Main St. triangle.

Wurth USA Inc. is requesting permission to host a bbq/car show at their office, 93 Grant Street on Friday, September 13th from 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

B. BLOCK PARTY REQUESTS:

Melissa and John Macri are requesting permission to hold a block party on Balfour Lane on Saturday, June 22, 2019 between the hours of 2:00 pm – 8:00 pm

ROLL CALL:

YAY: Gutwetter, Jachzel, Jones, Verdone, Weber

VIII. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

IX. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

- A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION – Councilwoman Vanessa Jachzel
Reported that new contracts were approved for the Police Chief and Captain which included the elimination of sick leave compensation and a significant reduction of sick time. The Finance Committee is discussing raises for seven non-union members and will make a recommendation at the next meeting.

Thanked the Environmental Commission for organizing Ramsey's Clean Up day.

Announced that the library has a new website and thanked Director Matt Latham and Assistant Director Kathy Elwell for their work on it.

Congratulated Troop 31 Scout Nicholas Deviero on his upcoming Eagle Court of Honor.

Congratulated the two new Rescue appointees.

- B. PUBLIC SAFETY – Councilman Harry Weber

Thanked the Environmental Commission for coordinating the Clean Up day.

Congratulated Enmanual and Ethan for joining the Rescue Squad.

RIFE Art Night is this Saturday, April 27th at the High School and the Challenger Softball season starts Saturday at Finch Park.

Municipal Alliance is hosting a Vaping presentation at borough hall in council chambers. They will also be at the Farmers' Market on June 9th distributing information.

- C. BUILDING, PLANNING & ZONING – Councilman Joseph Verdone

Reported on the last Planning Board meeting - The Ramsey Board of Education Office relocation on Franklin Turnpike was reviewed but the plans for the interior of BOE Administrative Building were not discussed. The BOE is scheduled for the Planning Board meeting on May 7th.

The Baseline Associates application continuation was moved to the Planning Board meeting on May 21 to review the major development of sixteen homes on Island Road.

Brothers BBQ Restaurant was approved and will occupy the old Macaroni Grill on Route 17 North.

Tawara Mart a Japanese Food store will occupy the Frame Shop space which is next to the Tawara Japanese Restaurant at 53 West Main Street.

Recreation Commission

This year marks the 40th Anniversary of the Home Run Derby. Recreation Commissioner Bill Patterson is working on a way to recognize and celebrate the 40th Anniversary.

C. BUILDING, PLANNING & ZONING – Councilman Joseph Verdone

Movie in the Park is scheduled for Friday, June 21st.

The Men's over 50 and Women's over 23 Softball programs are underway.

Adult Soccer starts Saturday, April 27 and Adult Softball starts Sunday, April 28.

Design Review Board - The Design Review Board reviewed five signage applications. at the last meeting. Wendy's on Route 17 North is getting a complete facelift.

A new coffee, bakery, and ice cream shop called American Bulldog Coffee Roasters will be moving into the space the Bike Shop once occupied at 4 Spruce Street.

Ramsey Seniors/Senior Center

Upcoming events include, free tech class "It's in the Cloud" on May 7 and trip to New York City to see Broadway Show "Kiss Me Kate" on May 15th.

VFW Post 12148

Poppy sales will begin on May 1 and run throughout May at various locations in Ramsey

D. UTILITIES, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Councilman Peter Kilman

In Councilman Kilman's absence Council President Jones reported on the 83 Grant Street property with DEP issues. Crew Engineers spoke with NJ DEP and a \$25,000 fine has been issued to the owner for the remediation of the site by NJDEP and also implemented direct oversight effective immediately. There was also discussion on the former shooting range on N. Central Avenue and look at cleaning that site up. There is no lead in the water supply.

E. PUBLIC & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS – Councilman William Jones

The RBSA parade is Saturday, April 27th at 9am. The Knights of Columbus Canning Event for special needs children is April 26th – April 28th.

At the most recent Pool Commission meeting it was discussed that the pool will open on Memorial Day weekend. There are contingency plans in place for the pool house if it is not ready. The early bird registration deadline has been extended to May 15th and they are looking to extend the season

Thanked tonight's appointees for agreeing to serve.

Addressed the public comment about low salary people in the pension system getting higher paying jobs to pad their pension prior to retirement with government appointments.

- F. HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES – Councilman Michael Gutwetter Board of Health had an autism lecture at the library on March 28th.
Dr. Al Tartini gave a lecture on ticks.
There are two CPR/AED classes on April 25th at borough hall.
Stigma Free Walk and Talk a thon on May 1st at the Ramsey High School

Board of Education is hosting a career day for sophomores on April 26th at the high school.
A Ramsey high school course “Design Thinking is a human centered approach to problem solving allowing students to put theory into practice.

Dater School fifth grade presented their profile project with a TED Talk demonstrating their capacity in Communication, Collaboration, Creativity and Critical Thinking.

Security camera installations are under way at Dater, Hubbard and Tisdale Schools.

There is a parent academy tonight entitled “Why Are So Many of Our Children Suffering from Anxiety”.

The Board of Education accepted bids for the relocation of the board office and maintenance building project. The accepted low bid came in at around \$1.6 million dollars.

- G. MAYOR DEIRDRE DILLON

In Mayor Dillon’s absence Council President Jones reported that on April 28th from 8am to 12:30pm there will be a black hawk military helicopter landing at the Police and Fire Academy for a training event.

- H. BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR – Bruce Vozeh

Reported on the communication from NJDOT informing of the grant received in the amount of \$222,000 on Elbert and Myrtle Streets to offset a portion of that project. A bid package is being prepared.

Under the consent resolution we are rejecting the bids for the Main Street Streetscape project being it is substantially above the engineers estimate and will rebid it.

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

- J. BOROUGH CLERK – Meredith Bendian No Comment

X. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES - None

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

XII. NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Councilwoman Jachzel, seconded by Councilman Jones

102-2019 Resolution: authorizing the Borough to enter into a Subsidiary Contract with Mike Fitzpatrick Contractors, Oak Ridge, NJ for the resurfacing of Borough streets in an amount of \$814,778.81 under the terms and conditions of the Master Contract entered into with the Northwest Bergen Shared Services Cooperative under Borough of Ramsey Resolution No. 094-2019

Councilwoman Jachzel explained that this award is for Ramsey's annual road resurfacing Project.

ROLL CALL:

YAY: Gutwetter, Jachzel, Jones, Verdone, Weber

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Councilwoman Jachzel, seconded by Councilman Weber. All in favor. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

Meredith Bendian, RMC
Borough Clerk