

BOROUGH OF RAMSEY
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
Wednesday, May 13, 2020

Due to COVID19 this meeting is being conducted telephonically. The Dial-In Number is 425-436-6365 and the Access Code is 213563# The notice was published in the Bergen Record on Wednesday, April 15th and posted on the borough website.

Council President Jones called the meeting to order at 7:30pm and led the flag salute. Council President Jones read the Open Public Meetings Act notice. It was published in the Bergen Record, on the borough bulletin board and the Borough website that this meeting was telephonic only, along with the call-in information. Notices were also posted on the front and rear doors at borough hall.

I. ROLL CALL -

Present: Mayor Dillon (via phone), Councilmembers Gutwetter (via phone), Jones, Kilman (via phone), Verdone (via phone), Weber and Woods (via phone)

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

Council President Jones asked for a moment of silence to honor Jack Roche, former Board of Public Works member and involved in many organizations in the community.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 04-22-2020, Special Meeting 05-01-2020
Motion by Councilman Weber, seconded by Councilman Verdone. Carried.

III. COMMUNICATIONS -

Motion by Councilman Kilman, seconded by Councilwoman Woods. Carried.

1. George Bumiller, Ramsey Resident
fax sent May 8, 2020, regarding remote meetings

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, 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 state when you have 30 seconds remaining.

George Bumiller, Ramsey, NJ

Requested that the public be told the various ways to call into a meeting.

Derek Barbara, Ramsey, NJ

Requested the status on the 5G ordinance. Council President Jones explained there was no ordinance being introduced tonight. There would only be a report from Councilman Kilman.

Council President Jones asked two additional times for anyone wishing to be heard, explaining to press *6 in order to unmute. With no one else speaking up, Council President Jones closed public comment.

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

VI. APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Dillon made the following appointments

Douglas Emmett, Board of Public Works (filling unexpired term of A. Haggard)

Ed Jost, Pool Commission, Regular Member (filling unexpired term of C. Haskell)

Council President Jones asked for a motion to go out of order for Administrator Vozech to give his report. Motion by Councilman Weber seconded by Councilman Jones.

ROLL CALL:

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

Administrator Vozech's Report

Resolutions 092 and 093 – 2021 Municipal Aid Project Submission and authorizing Capital Alternatives to prepare the grant. The borough will be seeking additional funds for the Prospect St, Canterbury and Mechanic Street lot Project. Looking to perform the work in 2021

Resolution 096 approves the total of four change orders to APS Contracting on the senior center and site work project.

Resolution 097 and 098 are for the road resurfacing program. One as the lead agency for Northwest Bergen Shared Services group total amount of contract of \$1,769,971.91 for six towns and the second for \$615,568.94 to Crossroads Pavement for the Ramsey portion of streets.

Senior Center and Site Work Update -

The interior of the senior center is almost complete. The site work is also finishing up. The final piece of the site work will be the filtration basin which will be completed after the landscaping and other site work.

Board of Public Works Well Reactivation and Treatment Project Update – The installation at Arrow Road and Martis Wells are near completion with work started at E. Oak Street.

Main St. Streetscape Project – Work continues over the last two weeks.

Property Tax Due Date May 1 – The borough has no authority to change the due date although Governor Murphy issued Executive Order 130 which provides the option for towns to extend the grace period for payments until June 1st, which the Ramsey Governing Body did. We have collected approximately 82% of taxes billed. Any property tax delinquencies after June 1st, the interest will go back to May 1st, which is the due date in accordance with state law.

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:

- | | | |
|----------|-------------|---|
| 090-2020 | Resolution: | payment of vouchers |
| 091-2020 | Resolution: | ratifying the actions for the governing body for payroll number nine |
| 092-2020 | Resolution: | authorizing an application to the Commissioner of Transportation for aid under the New Jersey Department of Transportation Municipal Aid Program 2021 for the Prospect Street, Mechanic Street Park & Ride and Canterbury Drive project |
| 093-2020 | Resolution: | Approval to submit a grant application and execute a grant agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for additional funding for the Prospect Street, Mechanic Street Park & Ride and Canterbury Drive project. |
| 094-2020 | Resolution: | proclaiming the month of May as Mental Health Awareness month in the Borough of Ramsey |
| 095-2020 | Resolution: | authorizing a tax redemption for Block 4810 Lot 1 in the amount of \$90,553.87 |
| 096-2020 | Resolution: | approving change orders #4, #7, #8 and #9 to APS Contracting, Inc. for the Senior Center and Site Work project. Change orders are for #4 stump removal for \$1,211.79 for pipe excavation, change order #7 stump removal for parking lot area for \$9,518.63, change order #8 removal of unsuitable soil and replacement material for building foundation of \$66,555.02 and change order #9 for install gutters and downspouts at Community Center building for \$4,032.00 |
| 097-2020 | Resolution: | awarding contract to Crossroads Pavement Maintenance LLC, Pompton Plains, NJ in the amount of \$1,769,971.91 for the Northwest Bergen Shared Services Cooperative road resurfacing in Glen Rock, Ho-Ho-Kus, Midland Park, Ramsey, Saddle River and Waldwick |

VII. CONSENT RESOLUTION (cont'd)

- 098-2020 Resolution: authorizing the Borough to enter into a Subsidiary Contract with Crossroads Pavement Maintenance LLC, Pompton Plains, NJ for the resurfacing of Borough streets in an amount of \$613,568.94 under the terms and conditions of the Master Contract entered into with the Northwest Bergen Shared Services Cooperative under Borough of Ramsey Resolution No. 097-2020
- 099-2020 Resolution: confirming the appointment of Douglas Emmett to the Board of Public Works, filling the unexpired term of Amy Haggard
- 100-2020 Resolution: confirming the appointment of Ed Jost to the Pool Commission, filling the unexpired term of Chris Haskell

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, Jones, Kilman, Verdone, Weber, Woods

VIII. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS - None

IX. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION – Councilman Michael Gutwetter

The Ramsey Library remains closed but Director Latham and his staff has a plan in place for when they are allowed to reopen. In the meantime the library continues to operate virtual programs.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY – Councilman Harry Weber

The Environmental Commission continues to work towards the Sustainable Jersey.

Thanked Mr. Emmett and Mr. Jost for stepping up to serve our committees.

Thanked Mayor Dillon for her time and the messages sent to the public.

C. BUILDING, PLANNING & ZONING – Councilman Joseph Verdone

Due to the Coronavirus epidemic all Planning Board meetings have been canceled.

However, the next Planning Board meeting is scheduled for May 19; it will be a Telephone Conference Call. We will be approving waivers, minutes, bills, and a resolution.

Some time ago the Zoning Board of Adjustment asked the Building, Planning, and Zoning Committee to consider increasing the escrow fees for technical reviews that may be required due to the scope of the application. The proposal is to increase Residential Applications escrow fees from \$600 to \$1200 and Non-Residential Applications escrow fees \$1000 to \$3000. The escrow fees have not increased in several years and the proposed increases are in line with other towns in the county and with many towns we are the lowest and will remain so. The residential increase will eliminate the stress on the homeowner having to pay additional escrow prior to their hearing. A review of the non-residential applications indicates that we are on the low side. This increase brings us more in line with other towns. The Committee unanimously requests that we prepare an ordinance for the increases.

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic the Senior Center is closed until further notice.

The Monthly Ramsey Senior Center Newsletter has been re-designed by Stephanie Farrar, the Ramsey Senior Coordinator. The May Newsletter was sent out to over 400 seniors by email. The entire issue focuses on COVID-19 Resources and Virtual Class Information.

Ramsey Seniors are doing extremely well with Zoom Virtual Classes. Including Zumba, Yoga, Meditation, Bones Exercise, Arthritis and Balance classes. Stephanie continues developing and refining available resources that will help our Senior Community manage during this crisis.

The President and Trustees of the Senior Center continue to reach out to the members of the Senior Center and there are no major health issues, lack of food, or other issues identified.

VFW Post 12148 - John Rigg, Post Commander and Deputy Post Commander Anthony Bailey continue to reach out to all the VFW Members and checking on them. The Memorial Day Parade has been canceled. The VFW is working on a modified social distancing acceptable Ceremony to be held at Veterans' Park.

Ramsey Responds is currently serving over 110 families - approximately 500 individuals in town. They organized a food bank with St. Paul's Church where they are accepting donations of non-perishable food and toiletries every Tuesday from 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. This program is working very well thanks to the caring Ramsey residents. The food and toiletries are then distributed by volunteers each week to families in need in our community.

They are also working with B&G Bagels, Giovanna's, IHOP, 101 Pub and other restaurants to pick up and deliver meals that the eateries have generously donated to Ramsey Responds for families in need.

Ramsey Responds continues to pay to help people in need with rent, mortgage, utilities, food, medical, and other critical expenses. They are working closely with the schools and the counselors to make sure that the needs of their students and their families are met. It is anticipated that the needs will continue to grow as the fall-out from the coronavirus continues to wreak havoc on people's finances and their businesses.

Donations can be sent to: Ramsey Responds
P.O. Box 724
Ramsey, New Jersey 07446

Extend sincere congratulations to Douglas Emmett and Ed Jost for volunteering their services on the Board of Public Works and Pool Commission.

D. UTILITIES, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Councilman Peter Kilman
5G Ordinance Update- Report Attached

E. PUBLIC & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS – Councilman William Jones
Welcomed Ed Jost and Douglas Emmett to their respective boards and commissions.
Thanked Chris Haskell for his time on the Pool Commission.

Pool Commission – Met via Zoom. They have discussed moving forward with the season but are waiting to hear from the Governor's Office.
Quotes were accepted for the snack stand with the high quote (revenue to the pool) to Pete and Mary

Ramsey Farmers' Market – Farmers' Markets are allowed to be open. Our Director, Nancy Boone has come up with a comprehensive plan taken from best practices to open safely and function in June with their outdoor market.

The leadership shown by Gary Bach and Nancy Boone during these times has really made us all feel that we will have the best success that we can in the "new normal".

I continue to hold out hope but as the days go by it doesn't seem likely the borough will be able to safely hold our Independence Day Celebration as scheduled this year.

Thanked all of the employees and volunteers for continuing to work through these unprecedented times. Thanked the Mayor for her firm guidance, leadership and comforting messages keeping everyone informed.

- F. HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES – Councilwoman Jane Woods
Board of Health will be held May 14th via teleconference and will cover the most recent information from the CDC and the State. They continue to get businesses and events prepared for reopening, when it is allowed.

Design Review Board has reviewed and approved six applications.

At the April Board of Education meeting they received compliments about the virtual learning and the \$70.1 million budget was adopted, a 2.75 percent increase from last year. Ramsey Strong continues to raise money for first responders with over \$70,000 of donations. The state assessments are canceled but the AP testing will occur at home. Dr. Murphy hosted a virtual event on mental health called “Let’s Talk Mental Health” on the Youtube channel.

Thanked Ed Jost and Douglas Emmett for serving.

- G. MAYOR DEIRDRE DILLON
Thanked Doug Emmett and Ed Jost for volunteering.

Reminded everyone that the parks are open for passive recreation. Tennis and pickle ball courts on E. Oak are open for single matches only, with family members.

As per Governor Murphy’s Executive Order 142 allows non-essential construction as of May 18th and curbside pick from non-essential businesses with certain restrictions. The Board of Health has contacted those businesses.

- H. BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR – Bruce Vozeh
Report detailed earlier in the meeting.
- I. BOROUGH ATTORNEY – Peter A. Scandariato, Esq.
Reported that the meeting notice and procedure is compliant and in fact exceed the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Law.
- 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 Weber, seconded by Councilman Gutwetter. All in favor.
Meeting adjourned at 8:24pm.

Meredith Bendian, RMC
Borough Clerk

May 13, 2020

Councilman Peter Kilman's 5G Report at the May 13, 2020 Council Work Session.

(My May 13, 2020 5G report comments are drawn from various articles about 5G and conversations with 5G IT and BioTech professionals. My report does not purport to claim personal expertise on this subject, but reflects the thoughts, opinions, and expertise of others. At the end of day, with today's search engines and volumes of information available to anyone, it is easy enough to do your own due diligence and draw your own conclusions. If 5G interests you, I would highly recommend you do your own investigation.)

- Councilman Kilman

What is 5G?

5G is the 5th generation of mobile networks, a significant evolution of today's 4G LTE (Long-term evolution) networks. **5G** has been designed to meet the very large growth in data and connectivity of today's modern society with its billions of connected devices, and to support tomorrow's innovations.

How Does 5G Work?

Like other cellular networks, **5G** networks use a system of cell sites that divide their territory into sectors and send encoded data through radio waves. Each cell site must be connected to a network backbone, be it a wired or wireless backhaul connection (i.e., getting data from the Core or central source network to the edges of the network). As I understand it, 5G will initially operate in conjunction with existing 4G networks before evolving to

fully standalone networks in subsequent releases and coverage expansions over the years ahead.

In addition to delivering faster connections and greater capacity, 5G features high-speed response times referred to as latency.

Latency is the time taken for devices to respond to each other over the wireless network.

- 3G networks had a typical response time of 100 milliseconds
- 4G is around 30 milliseconds and
- 5G will be as low as 1 millisecond. This is virtually instantaneous enabling a new generation of applications, services and business opportunities.

There are three major categories of use for 5G:

1. **Massive machine to machine communications** – also called the Internet of Things (IoT) that involves connecting billions of devices without human intervention at a scale not seen before. This has the potential to revolutionize modern industrial processes and applications.
2. **Ultra-reliable low latency communications** – these are mission critical including real-time control of devices, industrial robotics, vehicle-to-vehicle communications and safety systems, autonomous driving and safer transport networks. Low latency communications can support remote medical care,

procedures, and treatment.

- 3. Enhanced mobile broadband** – provides significantly faster data speeds and greater capacity keeping the world connected. New applications will include fixed wireless internet access for homes, outdoor broadcast applications without the need for broadcast vans, and greater connectivity for people on the move.

For communities, the promise of the 5G connection of billions of devices will enable smart cities, smart schools and smart homes, smart and safer vehicles, enhance health care and education, and provide a safer and more efficient place to live.

For businesses and industry, 5G and IoT will provide a wealth of data allowing them to gain insights into their operations like never before. Businesses will operate and make key decisions driven by data, innovate in agriculture, in medicine, in manufacturing, and in communications that promote new and emerging technologies. This will open up the way for cost savings, better customer experiences, better standard of life, and long term growth.

What's different about 5G?

5G uses higher frequency waves than earlier mobile networks, allowing more devices to have access to the internet at the same time and at faster speeds.

These waves travel shorter distances through urban spaces, so 5G networks require new base stations or transmitter masts – more than previous technologies - positioned closer to ground level.

But because there are more transmitters, each one can run at lower power levels than previous 4G technology, which means that the level of radiation exposure from 5G antennas will be lower.

Is 5G dangerous?

Although 5G may improve our day-to-day lives, some consumers and scientists have voiced concern about potential health hazards. Many of these concerns are over 5G's use of the higher energy millimeter-wave radiation.

Here we need to make an important distinction. There's often confusion between **ionizing** and **non-ionizing** radiation because the term radiation is used for both.

Kenneth Foster, a researcher and professor of bioengineering at Pennsylvania State University who has studied the health effects of radio waves for nearly 50 years, has stated: "All light is radiation because it is simply energy moving through space. It is ionizing radiation that is dangerous because it can break chemical bonds."

Ionizing radiation is the reason we wear sunscreen outside because short-wavelength ultraviolet light from the sky has enough energy to knock electrons from their atoms, damaging skin cells and DNA. Millimeter waves, on the other hand as used by 5G, are non-ionizing because they have longer wavelengths and not enough energy to damage cells directly."

The only established hazard of non-ionizing radiation is too much heating. At high exposure levels, radio

frequency (RF) energy can indeed be hazardous, producing burns or other thermal damage, but these exposures are typically incurred only in occupational settings near secured high-powered radio frequency transmitters. To that end, the maximum radio frequency level that someone in the community could be exposed to from 5G (or any other type signals in general community areas) is so small that no temperature rise has been observed to date.

Dr. David Robert Grimes a physicist and cancer researcher at Oxford University states: "The radio non-ionizing wave band, used for mobile phone networks, lacks sufficient energy to break apart DNA and cause cellular damage."

The fact is higher up the electromagnetic spectrum – well beyond those frequencies used by mobile phones – there are clear health risks from extended exposure."

There are strict advisory limits for exposure to even higher energy radiation levels such as medical x-rays and gamma rays, which can both lead to damaging effects within the human body."

Dr. Grimes continues: "People are understandably concerned over whether they [radiofrequencies] might elevate their risk of cancer, but it's crucial to note that radio waves are significantly less energetic than even the visible light we experience every day."

There is no reputable evidence," he says "that mobile phones or wireless networks have caused us health problems."

A recent study in Denmark, published in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, analyzed the records of more than 358,000 mobile phone subscribers with brain tumor incidence data from the Danish Cancer Registry. The "analysis found no association between radio waves and cell phone use and the incidence of tumors benign or malignant, even among people who had been cell phone subscribers for 13 or more years."

In the UK, the British government has stated that "while a small increase in overall exposure to radio waves is possible when 5G is added to the existing network, the overall exposure is expected to remain low."

The frequency range of the 5G signals being introduced is within the non-ionizing band of the electromagnetic spectrum and well below those considered harmful by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP), which has considered the exposure that 5G will produce in great depth.

The World Health Organization also says electromagnetic frequency exposures can possibly be cancerous, but they emphasize that radiofrequency (RF) set below the limits recommended in the ICNIRP guidelines do not appear to have any known consequence on health.

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) with the Federal Communications Committee (FCC) summarized that "we have not found sufficient evidence that there are adverse health effects in humans caused by exposures at or under the current radiofrequency energy exposure limits."

In support of the FDA's position, the National Cancer Institute notes that it does not see increasing numbers of brain tumors in the general population. The Institute stated: "Given that humans have been exposed to radiofrequency energy for decades, if there was a direct correlation to our health, we should have seen the impact already. So far, we have not."

And lastly, and it's important to note, that while there is no federally developed national standard for safe levels of exposure to radiofrequency energy, many federal agencies have addressed this important issue. In addition to the Federal Communications Commission, federal health and safety agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) have been actively involved in monitoring and investigating issues related to RF exposure. For example, the FDA has issued guidelines for safe RF emission levels from microwave ovens, and it continues to monitor exposure issues related to the use of certain RF devices such as cellular telephones.

Federal, state and local government agencies and other organizations have generally relied on RF exposure standards developed by expert non-government organizations such as the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP). Since 1996, the FCC has required that all wireless communications in the United States meet its minimum

guidelines for safe human exposure to radiofrequency (RF) energy.

Under Chairman Agit Pai, the FCC is pursuing comprehensive research and a strategy to Facilitate America's advancement in 5G Technology. The Chairman's strategy includes three key components: (1) pushing more spectrum into the marketplace; (2) updating infrastructure policy; and (3) modernizing outdated regulations.

In Closing, I now refer to the FORBES Magazine article published on November 1st, 2019 titled "The Science of Why 5G Is (Almost) Certainly Safe For Humans." History has shown that with each new generation of wireless technology that comes out, a new wave of anxiety and fearful health claims emerge. And they always come with the same arguments:

- Humans have never been exposed to this much type of radiation before
- Or scientists have not adequately demonstrated that the proposed new infrastructure won't be harmful to humans
- Or that WHO has already declared radio-frequency to be possibly cancerous
- and therefore, we should declare a moratorium on radiation technology until its safety has been established.

Since my focus has been on 5G today, Forbes states that the best safety measure that technicians can take is to simply have a small exclusion zone around the 5G radio towers that emit the most powerful signals for this type

of radiation. So long as the exclusion zone is about 10 meters in all directions, any person outside of the zone will undoubtedly be safe.

It goes on to say that there are lots of real hazards out there in the world, but 5G – much like vaccines, fluoridated drinking water, microwave ovens, and the vapor trails left by airplanes – are not among them. Current science is clearly on the side of wireless, but we must always be cautious and assume nothing.

Arguments must be based on logic and fact, not emotion. In the search for truth, society should rely on the full suite of scientific evidence, because we can always learn something.

When we do, all of us can reap the benefits of a safe, connected world.

And that concludes my report. Thank you for your attention.