

**BOROUGH OF RAMSEY  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, May 27, 2020**

Due to COVID19 this meeting is being conducted telephonically. The Dial-In Number is (425)436-6365 and the Access Code is 213563# Notice was published in the Bergen Record on May 7<sup>th</sup> and posted on the borough website.

Mayor Dillon called the meeting to order at 7:31pm and asked Councilman Weber to lead the flag salute. Mayor Dillon 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, Councilmembers Gutwetter (via phone), Jones (via phone), Kilman (via phone), Verdone (via phone), Weber and Woods (via phone)

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

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – WS 05-13-2020**

Motion by Councilwoman Woods, seconded by Councilman Verdone. All in favor. Carried.

**III. COMMUNICATIONS -**

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

1. George Bumiller, Ramsey, NJ  
fax dated May 19, 2020, regarding the 5G Ordinance report from Councilman Kilman
2. Melissa Oratio, Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority, 30 Wyckoff Avenue,  
Waldwick, NJ  
letter dated May 5, 2020, enclosing minutes from the March 17, 2020 meeting
3. Melissa Oratio, Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority, 30 Wyckoff Avenue,  
Waldwick, NJ  
letter dated May 21, 2020, enclosing minutes from the April 21, 2020 meeting

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 timekeeper.

Mayor Dillon directed anyone wishing to be heard to press \*6 to unmute.

Chance Parker, Park Ave., Ramsey, NJ

Discussed his disappointment that the meetings are being held telephonically and inquired about the lighting that is used at the pool and asked the location of the Crystal Spring Lake Dam.

Mayor Dillon asked two additional times for anyone else wishing to be heard to press \*6 to unmute.

With no one else wishing to be heard, Mayor Dillon closed public comment.

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

VI. APPOINTMENTS - None

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:

- |          |             |  |
|----------|-------------|--|
| 101-2020 | Resolution: | payment of vouchers  |
| 102-2020 | Resolution: | ratifying the actions of the governing body for payroll number ten   |
| 103-2020 | Resolution: | authorizing the cancellation of a certificate of sale for delinquent water and sewer on Block 3701, Lot 4, Qualifier C0304 |
| 104-2020 | Resolution: | authorizing the refund for the overpayment of taxes to Block 3506 Lot 2 in the amount of \$2,608.74                        |
| 105-2020 | Resolution: | authorizing the refund for the overpayment of taxes to Block 4704 Lot 15 in the amount of \$9,598.12                       |

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 Library is awaiting guidance from the Governor’s office about reopening but continues to keep the library interactive with the community with remote programs.

Recreation Commission - Basketball camp and volleyball clinics were cancelled as well as the Spring Egg Hunt, lacrosse clinics and adult soccer. The softball league is on hold. The homerun derby has been cancelled. Finch Summer Camp is on hold until we get more guidance from the Governor’s Office.

- B. PUBLIC SAFETY – Councilman Harry Weber  
Next week the Public Safety Committee will be conducting Sergeant interviews.

- C. BUILDING, PLANNING & ZONING – Councilman Joseph Verdone  
Planning Board – Held its first telephone conference call meeting on May 19. The Board approved minutes, 2 waivers and Pep Boys Resolution.

The Planning Board Meeting scheduled for June 2nd has been cancelled. There are no applications ready for review.

Ramsey Seniors/Senior Center are still doing Zoom Virtual Classes

The President and Trustees of the Senior Center continue to reach out to the members of the Senior Center. No major health, lack of food, or other issues have been identified.

VFW Post 12148

The VFW was very proud to have held a very successful modified social distancing acceptable Memorial Day Ceremony at Veteran’s Park.

John Rigg, Post Commander and Deputy Post Commander Anthony Bailey and all the Post Members asked that I thank the Mayor and Council for their support in the execution of this year’s unique Memorial Day Ceremony. Also a very special thanks to Borough Administrator Vozeh for his overall direction and help videotaping the event and posting it on the Borough Website.

Ramsey Responds is currently serving over 110 families - approximately 500 individuals in town. They continue to help people in need with meals, food, rent, mortgage, utilities, medical, and other critical expenses.

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

D. UTILITIES, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Councilman Peter Kilman  
Board of Public Works and Zoning Board met by teleconference.

A number of projects are on track in the borough and Mr. Vozech will elaborate on the key areas to avoid redundancy.

E. PUBLIC & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS – Councilman William Jones  
The Outdoor Farmer's Market will open next weekend with an abundance of rules and regulations for social distancing, etc., Nancy Boone and her team have done a great deal of work to get it started

Ramsey Pool Commission – Awaiting final guidelines from the governor's office. Pool Manager Bach and his staff are ready to open.

Council President Jones and the Mayor have been in touch with the Chamber of Commerce regarding providing small business survival through the CARES act and are also discussing the reopening of outdoor dining, safely. Urged people to please continue to support local businesses.

F. HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES – Councilwoman Jane Woods  
Board of Health - Discussed pool opening and Farmers Market opening with social distancing measures in place.

Legislation to limit vaccines exemption was sent to the NJ Senate President with support by the Board of Health. They have not been contacted about the COVID-19 mobile testing unit. The state plans to ramp up contact tracing.

There have been no restaurant inspections due to COVID-19. Marriage license applications have started up again as of May 1<sup>st</sup>. Healthy Bones program has become virtual and had forty people attend. The Board of Health website page has been updated with seasonal information.

Board of Education. – Dr. Murphy was awarded communicator of the year in the State of New Jersey. It was also announced that the state will allow live graduations and are looking to do it the first week of July. Dater PTO Ramsey Strong is winding down their effort after collecting \$110,000 in donations. They held a Board of Ed students and staff recognition highlighting the year's accomplishments and those retiring.

G. MAYOR DEIRDRE DILLON

Thanked Anthony Bailey and John Rigg and the VFW for organizing the Memorial Day Service as well as Administrator Vozech, the DPW and the emergency services. A special thank you to Ramsey High School Graduate, Julia Tokish for singing the National Anthem and playing Taps.

A request has been sent to the county for them to send their COVID-19 mobile testing unit to Ramsey for testing at the Woodlands as well as for those who do not have transportation to other testing sites throughout the county. The Rite Aid in Waldwick and the New Bridge Medical Center in Paramus are testing sites.

H. BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR – Bruce Vozeh

Reported that there is an introduction of a capital improvement ordinance for the Crystal Spring Lake Dam which is in the Ramsey Country Club. The borough is responsible for two thirds and the club is responsible for one third. The borough will utilize money that was set aside from a previously authorized ordinance. The borough is also introducing this ordinance tonight for the remainder of the project funding.

The Senior Center Sitework Project is winding down with the final landscaping and work on the filtration basin. The interior of the senior center is almost complete.

Board of Public Works – Well Reactivation and treatment project continues on the installation of the water treatment units. Arrow Road and Martis are almost complete and back in service. Work has started at the E. Oak St. well site. That is the next installation.

Main Street streetscape project continues Northside from Spruce Street up to Island Road and then will move back down to Spruce starting the southside work.

Governor Murphy Executive Order 130 has allowed town to extend the grace period providing the residents until June 1<sup>st</sup> to pay the property tax due May 1<sup>st</sup>. If delinquencies exist after June 1<sup>st</sup>, they will start accruing interest charges back to due date of May 1<sup>st</sup>. The borough is currently at approximately an 85% collection rate.

The borough took bids for a one year borrowing for a bond anticipation note. Low bid was TD Securities with the net interest rate at 0.79%.

I. BOROUGH ATTORNEY – Peter A. Scandariato, Esq. – No comment

J. BOROUGH CLERK – Meredith Bendian

Reported that the Primary Election has been changed from June 2<sup>nd</sup> to July 7<sup>th</sup> as per Governor Murphy's Executive Order 120.

X. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE 06-2020 - AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF REHABILITATION PROJECT FOR THE CRYSTAL SPRING LAKE DAM IN THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AND TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$100,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF

Motion by Councilman Gutwetter, seconded by Councilman Jones

BE IT RESOLVED that an ordinance entitled An Ordinance to authorize capital improvements for the purpose of rehabilitation project for the Crystal Spring Lake Dam in the Borough of Ramsey, Bergen County, New Jersey, to appropriate the sum of \$100,000.00 to pay the cost thereof, passed the first reading by title, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage and adoption at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council to be held on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020 at 7:30pm prevailing time or as soon after as the matter can be reached in the Municipal Building in said Borough and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be and she hereby is, instructed to publish in an official newspaper of the Borough in the manner provided by law, a copy of said ordinance together with notice of introduction thereof and notice when the same will be considered for final passage and adoption.

ROLL CALL:

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

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

XII. NEW BUSINESS - None

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Weber, seconded by Councilman Jones. All in favor. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

Meredith Bendian, RMC  
Borough Clerk