

**BOROUGH OF RAMSEY
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, June 26, 2019**

Mayor Dillon called the meeting to order at 7:32pm and asked Fire Chief Krehel to lead the flag salute. Mayor Dillon read the Open Public Meetings Act notice.

I. ROLL CALL -

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

Also Present: Borough Clerk Bendian and Borough Attorney Scandariato

Absent: Councilman Weber and Administrator Vozech

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – WS 05-08-19, 05-22-19

Motion to approve the minutes by Councilman Verdone, seconded by Councilman Gutwetter. Councilman Verdone abstained from May 8, 2019 and Councilman Jones abstained from May 22, 2019. All in favor. Carried.

Councilwoman Jachzel entered the meeting at 7:35pm.

III. COMMUNICATIONS -

Motion to accept and file by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Verdone. All in favor. Carried.

1. Melissa Oratio, Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority, 30 Wyckoff Avenue, Waldwick, NJ
letter dated May 23, 2019, enclosing minutes from the April 16, 2019 meeting
2. James Rotundo, Executive Director, Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority, 30 Wyckoff Avenue, Waldwick, NJ
letter dated June 3, 2019, regarding the sewer connection fee
3. William Rubel, 2 Donna Court, Ramsey, NJ
letter dated June 14, 2019, regarding increasing no name pick up trucks performing yard work
4. Melissa Oratio, Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority, 30 Wyckoff Avenue, Waldwick, NJ
letter dated June 19, 2019, enclosing meeting minutes from May 21, 2019
5. Ramsey Public Education Foundation
card received June 24, 2019, thanking the governing body for supporting the 6th Annual Sprint For Our Schools 5K and Family Fun Run

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.

Antoinette Piccirella, 36 Tulip Street, Ramsey

Discussed a notice she received from the borough about sump pump discharge from her property and asked for clarification as to who owns the clogged pipes. Mayor Dillon reported that she would follow up with DPW Superintendent and the Asst. Superintendent for Water.

Chance Parker, 11 Park Place, Ramsey

Spoke about the governing body speaking about him after he had left the prior meeting and was no longer present. Mr. Parker asked for clarification about the OPMA laws requiring giving a name at any meeting attended. Discussed the manpower of the DPW at the pool, complete streets and safe routes to schools, the gun range at Campgaw and the abandoned Ramsey firing range.

Braggin, AB, Ramsey

Believes that the governing body is the proper entity to notify Mahwah of the toxic site of 83 Grant Street as they are affected, discussed that borough officials enforce all Planning Board and Zoning Board stipulations to ensure compliance, the delay of the pool house project and how Mahwah conducts their town council meetings, compensation for elected officials and the upcoming public hearing on Ordinance 13-2019.

George Bumiller, Ramsey

Discussed information not being available to the public in order to hold a public hearing on an ordinance and asked that the public hearing on Ordinance 13-2019 be suspended until the information is made available.

Jonathan Krehel, Chief of the Ramsey Fire Department

Thanked the governing body for their support over the years and especially with the new apparatus and presented them with a picture of the apparatus.

Not seeing anyone else wishing to speak, Mayor Dillon closed public comment.

V. ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE 12-2019 - BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE RESURFACING OF PORTIONS OF ELBERT STREET AND MYRTLE AVENUE IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$555,000 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 Gutwetter.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED a Bond Ordinance to authorize the Resurfacing of portions of Elbert Street and Myrtle Avenue, in, by and for the Borough of Ramsey, in the County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, to appropriate the sum of \$555,000 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, 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 is a bond ordinance for resurfacing for Elbert and Myrtle with a grant that will cover almost half of the amount.

Mayor Dillon opened the public hearing for Ordinance 12-2019.

A.B. Braggin, Ramsey, NJ

Inquired about the source of the grant and why this project was not included in the borough resurfacing paving project. Councilwoman Jachzel replied. Mr. Braggin brought up prior issues on Elbert Street.

Chance Parker, 11 Park Place, Ramsey

Asked if sidewalks would be included in this project, or traffic flow enhancements, bike paths or safety enhancements. Councilwoman Jachzel replied that it is simply a repaving project.

With no one else wishing to be heard, Mayor Dillon closed the public hearing on Ordinance 12-2019.

ROLL CALL:

YAY: Gutwetter, Jachzel, Jones, Kilman, Verdona

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

ORDINANCE 13-2019 - BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE REPLACEMENT OF ARSENIC TREATMENT SYSTEMS AT VARIOUS PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY FACILITIES BY AND FOR THE WATER-SEWER UTILITY OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$6,525,000 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 Councilman Kilman, seconded by Councilman Verdone

BE IT RESOLVED that an ordinance entitled A Bond Ordinance to authorize the Replacement of Arsenic Treatment Systems at Various Public Water Supply Facilities by and for the Water-Sewer Utility of the Borough of Ramsey, in the County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, to appropriate the sum of \$555,000 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, 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 Kilman explained that the design system is the most effective solution and the NJ Department of Environmental Protection has approved the design and water treatment system and issued the borough a permit. The arsenic removal system is an effective method approved by the EPA and NJDEP. In addition the project will reduce annual operating costs and increase the water supply source.

Mayor Dillon opened the public hearing on Ordinance 13-2019.

Braggin, Ramsey, NJ

Asked for the ordinance to be tabled in order to obtain more specific information before the ordinance is passed.

Chance Parker, 11 Park Place, Ramsey

Voiced his opinion against the ordinance.

George Bumiller, Ramsey, NJ

Asked what other municipalities use the system that is proposed in the ordinance. Mayor Dillon replied.

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

With no one else wishing to be heard, Mayor Dillon closed the public hearing on Ordinance 13-2019.

ROLL CALL:

YAY: Gutwetter, Jachzel, Jones, Kilman, Verdone

VI. APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Dillon made the following appointments

Benjamin Perrin, Ramsey Fire Department

Hannah Griffin, Ramsey Rescue

Karen Gomez, Ramsey Rescue, 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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|----------|-------------|--|
| 123-2019 | Resolution: | payment of vouchers |
| 124-2019 | Resolution: | ratifying the actions of the governing body for payroll number twelve |
| 125-2019 | Resolution: | confirming the appointment of Benjamin Perrin to the Ramsey Volunteer Fire Department as a regular member |
| 126-2019 | Resolution: | authorizing the tax court judgment on Block 4401 Lot 9 in the amount of \$7,191.00 |
| 127-2019 | Resolution: | Approving change order #7 for M.B.T. Contracting LLC in the amount of \$18,607.33 for additional work based on modified electrical utility pole location and incremental distance for trenching, conduit and materials and rejecting change order number 6 |
| 128-2019 | Resolution: | approving Danielle Monaghan as full-time employee working with Health, Tax Assessment and Building Departments and serving as registrar of vital statistics effective July 1, 2019 at a salary of \$41,000 |
| 129-2019 | Resolution: | renewing the 2019-2020 liquor licenses |
| 130-2019 | Resolution: | renewing the 2019-2020 liquor license for Ramsey Liquor, LLC #0248-36-011-004, with conditions |
| 131-2019 | Resolution: | authorizing Capital Alternatives Corporation to prepare, assemble, and submit the necessary documentation on behalf of the Borough of Ramsey for Prospect Street, Mechanic Street Park & Ride and Canterbury Drive project |
| 132-2019 | Resolution: | authorizing a tax court judgment on Block 4809 Lot 1 in the amount of \$8,444.63 |
| 133-2019 | Resolution: | authorizing a tax redemption for Block 4806 lot 12 in the amount of \$1,400.00 |
| 134-2019 | Resolution: | authorizing a tax redemption for Block 3211 Lot 30 in the amount of \$1,500.00 |

VII. CONSENT RESOLUTION (cont'd)

- 135-2019 Resolution: confirming the appointment of Hannah Griffin as a member of the Ramsey Rescue Squad
- 136-2019 Resolution: confirming the appointment of Karen Gomez to the Ramsey Rescue Squad as an Explorer Member
- 137-2019 Resolution: authorizing the release of escrow to Anthony and Phyllis Laganella for Block 1901 Lot 8 in the amount of \$125.55, as recommended by the Board of Adjustment on June 19, 2019

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

A. SPECIAL PERMITS:

B. BLOCK PARTY REQUESTS:

Alex Stecyna is requesting permission to have a block party on Shuart Lane on Thursday, July 4, 2019 from 12:00 noon to 10:00 pm

Diana Tanga and Iris Sailer of Indian Valley Rd. are requesting permission to have a block party on Indian Valley Rd. to Clearwater on Saturday, July 20, 2019 from 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Mayor Dillon asked if there were any comments specifically on resolutions 129-2019 and 130-2019. With no one wishing to be heard, Mayor Dillon asked for a roll call.

ROLL CALL:

YAY: Gutwetter, Jachzel, Jones, Kilman, Weber

VIII. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

IX. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

- A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION – Councilwoman Vanessa Jachzel
Thanked the new appointees for volunteering.

Reported that Finance and Administration along with public and governmental relations are developing uniform procedures for groups or entities seeking to hold an event on borough property with an eye towards public safety, with all departments and employees involved in event logistics, including code officials, health inspectors, police, fire, ambulance, OEM, DPW, fire enforcement, fire inspection, notice to the public and weather monitoring.

Expressed her feeling about the Township of Mahwah’s meetings being labeled as a “gold standard”, in light of a councilperson making vulgar gestures at a past meeting and recent pay raises to the mayor and council that were given by themselves.

- B. PUBLIC SAFETY – Councilman Harry Weber

Councilman Jones reported in Councilman Weber’s absence.

The Fire Department’s wetdown went very well and congratulated and welcomed the new appointees.

Saturday is the RIFE gala at the high school. The Challenger championship game was cancelled and looking to reschedule it during the Independence Day events.

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

Planning Board -An application for a Minor Subdivision “Maywood Grove Two”, located at 213 Grove Street that will consist of two single family dwellings. The application was approved subject to the applicant providing supporting documentation that some old AT&T lines buried on the property have been deemed environmental safe.

Aldi a Specialty Food Market along with Pet Goods will occupy the space that previously occupied Sports Authority in the Ramsey Square Shopping Center.

Recreation Commission -Camp registrations ended on June 14. Just fewer than 400 campers will be participating in the 2019 Finch Park Summer Camp.

Participation in this year’s Home Run Derby was light. The Home Run Derby began nationwide in 1971. The Philadelphia Phillies are planning to do something to celebrate 50 year anniversary, Ramsey will also be observing 50 year anniversary.

The movie in the park was cancelled due to rain.

C. BUILDING, PLANNING & ZONING- Councilman Joseph Verdone (cont'd)

Design Review Board - The Design Review Board reviewed and approved two sign applications Favale's Trattoria and Tawara Mart both located at the West Main and North Central strip mall.

Ramsey Seniors/Senior Center - Over one hundred seniors are already signed up and looking forward to the Annual Senior Citizen Gala Dinner and Dance on Saturday, June 29, at the Ramsey High School.

Upcoming event: Sign up on July 15th for a trip to Broadway Show "Tootsie" on August 14th at Borough Hall.

VFW Post 12148 - On June 15th the VFW participated in Allendale's VFW Post's annual Flag Retirement Burning Ceremony at Crestwood Lake in Allendale. With about twenty to twenty-five disabled veterans from the Paramus Veterans Home. VFW post members from Allendale, Ramsey and Waldwick hosted and served a barbeque lunch for the Paramus veterans and all VFW members participated in the near record number burning of retired flags taking almost six hours to complete.

Last night was the 2019 Ramsey High School Graduation. In 1944, Ramsey's VFW member George (Dutch) Halik enlisted in the US Navy before finishing high school. At last night's graduation Dutch was recognized for his service and was given an honorary diploma after seventy-five years. The presentation and standing ovation was a great tribute to a great veteran.

Ramsey's July 4th Celebration will be held on Saturday, July 6th. Starting at noon the Swing for Heroes Softball Game will feature Ramsey Emergency Services volunteers against Non-Profit Groups volunteers in a friendly competition.

Prior to, during, and after the game VFW will sell hamburgers, hot dogs, BBQ ribs, pulled pork, sodas, and waters. Greater Ramsey UNICO will also be selling 50/50 raffle tickets.

During the evening program, the Greater Ramsey UNICO and VFW Members will circulate among the crowd selling 50/50 tickets.

The drawing of the winning ticket will take place just prior to the Fireworks Display. 50% of proceeds will go to the winning ticket and 50% will be donated by Greater Ramsey UNICO to the VFW Post.

Thanked the Ramsey Fire Department for recognizing the Mayor and Council and for a very successful wet down.

D. UTILITIES, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Councilman Peter Kilman

Congratulated the new appointees.

Apologized to Ms. Piccirella about not replying directly to her but only to Mr. Skorupa.

At the Zoning Board meeting they approved a couple of variances.

Reported that Chairman Melso of the Shade Tree Commission takes his responsibility very seriously and makes sure that everything in town is in order. The Shade Tree Commission held a poster contest for elementary school students and there were twelve winners from St. Paul's School, Hubbard School and Tisdale School.

E. PUBLIC & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS – Councilman William Jones

Everything is in place for the Independence Day Celebration on July 6th.

The Farmers Market is going strong as they have been outside for the last few weeks.

Commented on the high school graduation and how nice it was to see the appreciation with Dutch Halik as well as the speech of Vanessa DiPinto about her experience with Ramsey being Stigma free and thanked her for her courage.

The pool house project is still ongoing with the finishing of the kitchen and the reception area. The work of the DPW is work that was not part of the contract. The pavilion is almost finished. There are daily meetings regarding the construction.

Councilman Jones discussed that the bond ordinance for the funding of the well project has been discussed over the past six months at council meetings and Board of Public Works meeting with Mr. Vozeh giving a detailed report. It is important to have the new system in place as the State DEP will be enforcing stricter standards to protect the NJ water and addressed the stipends that the Ramsey governing body receive.

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

Board of Health – At the June meeting they discussed their involvement at Ramsey Day.

Board of Education – At the 111th high school graduation the highlight was awarding Dutch Halik with an honorary degree. As of July 1st the high school will be closed and all administrative, athletic and guidance will be at Dater School. A contract was awarded for a little over \$1.2 million for the stem lab and science renovation project. Work continues on the high school track and field. The high school was awarded the NJSIAA sportsmanship banner for zero student athletic disqualifications or ejections. All Profile of a Graduate projects were completed.

G. MAYOR DEIRDRE DILLON

Thanked the Fire Department for their presentation and the wonderful event at the dedication and Pastor Linderman's words.

Thanked the new appointees.

Asked everyone to be on the lookout for the postcard regarding the annual water quality report in their mailboxes.

Reported on the sign up for the Library summer reading program. The dinosaur event was a huge hit.

Congratulated all of the Ramsey high school graduates including Dutch Halek and Hailey Jones and was very touched by the words of Vanessa DiPinto, enforcing that Stigma Free is working.

H. BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR – Bruce Vozeh - Absent

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

J. BOROUGH CLERK – Meredith Bendian - No comment

X. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

XII. NEW BUSINESS

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilwoman Jachzel. All in favor.
Meeting adjourned at 8:47pm.

Meredith Bendian

Meredith Bendian, RMC

Borough Clerk