

BOROUGH OF RAMSEY
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Council President Jones called the meeting to order at 8:00pm and asked Board of Education Trustee Caputo to lead the flag salute. Council President Jones read the Open Public Meetings Act notice.

I. ROLL CALL -

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

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

Absent: Mayor Dillon

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – None

III. COMMUNICATIONS - None

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.

George Bumiller, Ramsey, NJ

Discussed restoring the faith and trust to the community and his suggestions to the governing body.

Anthony Socci, 358 Elbert St, Ramsey, NJ

Thanked the governing body for paving Elbert Street and requested that the nixel alerts go out the night before instead of early in the morning in order to have more notice.

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

VI. APPOINTMENTS- None

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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| 165-2019 | Resolution: | payment of vouchers |
| 166-2019 | Resolution: | ratifying the actions of the governing body for payroll number 18 |
| 167-2019 | Resolution: | authorizing the borough to apply for and obtain a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approximately \$20,000.00 to carry out a project to provide recreational activities related to the arts, sports and education for individuals with disabilities |
| 168-2019 | Resolution: | authorizing the award of Professional Engineering Services Contract, Remington & Vernick Engineers (RVE), One Harmon Plaza, Suite 210 Secaucus, New Jersey, for the preparation of emergency management mapping Ramsey |

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, Jachzel, Jones, Kilman, Verdone, Weber

VIII. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

IX. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

- A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION – Councilwoman Vanessa Jachzel
Library Board – Discussed the programming at the Library with the Director Matt Latham organizing better attended programs. The trial initiative of eliminating fines for late fees and will be continued to extend.

Commented on Ramsey Day and the tremendous job done by all and it was a successful day.

Thanked the Pool Commission and Commissioner Kathleen Hewitt and Manager Gary Bach for their efforts on the luau.

Reflected on what a beautiful 9/11 ceremony that was held earlier that evening. Thanked all of those who put that together. It is important that we remember all those that were lost.

- B. PUBLIC SAFETY – Councilman Harry Weber
Echoed Councilwoman Jachzel's comments on the 9/11 Ceremony and Ramsey Day, thanking everyone who helped with both events.

Municipal Alliance – Will be at all Back to School Nights for dissemination of information.

RIFE – Challenger soccer season starts this week at Dater School.

Environmental Commissions – Reminder about the Hazardous Waste collection Saturday, September 14 at Campgaw.

- C. BUILDING, PLANNING & ZONING – Councilman Joseph Verdone
Planning Board - Bank of America on Main Street proposed to upgrade existing lighting and the ATM security lighting for the site. The application was rescheduled to a later date. Bank of America addressed these questions, reducing the overall lighting plan to meet the Borough Engineer's concerns meeting Borough codes and standards. The application was approved.

Commercial Realty Enterprises representing Aldi Specialty Food Market and Pet Goods sought variance for signage and restriping of the rear parking area to accommodate two loading areas. Application was approved.

Recreation Commission

The 42nd Annual Jack McKeown Memorial Ramsey Run is Saturday, September 14 at the Ramsey Municipal Pool, starting at 8:00AM.

The next Recreation Commission major event will be the Halloween Parade/Costume Contest on October 26th.

Design Review Board - Design Review Board did not meet in August

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

Ramsey Seniors/Senior Center

Today, the Annual Senior Picnic at the new Pavilion at the Pool was held. Over 100 seniors attended. A tour of new pool facilities and the soon to be opened new Senior Community Center Building was offered.

New Jersey Senior Olympics at Woodbridge, New Jersey, was held on September 6 through 8. Winners will be recognized at a future Mayor and Council meeting.

VFW Post 12148 - The VFW Post had a very successful Ramsey Day with sales of various veteran related merchandise.

At its last meeting Greater Ramsey UNICO presented The VFW Post with a check for \$1500.00 half of the proceeds from the July 4th 50/50 raffle.

D. UTILITIES, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Councilman Peter Kilman

Echoed Councilwoman Jachzel's comments on Ramsey Day and thanked everyone involved.

Reported that the BPW, Zoning Board of Adjustment and Shade Tree all have meetings next week.

Commented on what a difficult day 9/11 is, offering thoughts and prayers to all those who were lost and their families along with first responders who are suffering.

E. PUBLIC & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS – Councilman William Jones

Reported on what a successful day Ramsey Day was. Thanking everyone responsible for a successful and safe day. Expanding the participation with the Chamber of Commerce.

Pool Commission – The Hawaiian Luau was a great success. Mentioned the extended days after the season were well attended. Thanked all of the commissioners, Gary Bach, Pool Manager and all the staff for making it a successful season under some adverse conditions.

Senior Picnic – Thanked Roger Knauss and Stephanie Farrar for their hard work on a great day. Some seniors were offered a sneak peak of the community center.

Ramsey Journal – Final touches are being worked on and hoping to have it in mailboxes the first week of October.

Volunteer Awards Night – Will be on October 23, with letter being sent out for all of the nominees.

- F. HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES – Councilman Michael Gutwetter
Board of Health - Had a successful Ramsey Day
Holding a wellness fair on October 15th at the senior center
Working on their article for the Ramsey Journal

Board of Education

Reported that there is no entrance to the high school on Prospect Street by the gym and are asking people not to make left turns out of the parking lot.

On October 2nd there will be a Parent Academy sponsored by Municipal Alliance featuring Sports Injuries and pain management.

The K-12 curriculum was worked on this summer by teachers.

All facility improvements are on target at all of the schools.

Echoed the earlier sentiments by Councilpeople on the 9/11 Memorial Services and Ramsey Day.

- G. MAYOR DEIRDRE DILLON
Absent

- H. BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR – Bruce Vozeh

2019 Road Resurfacing Update – The annual program is completed. In total, Ramsey has invested approximately \$1.75 million for 2019 of which \$605,000 will be reimbursed through the grants representing about a 34% offset in total to taxpayers.

Community/Senior Center Pool House Project Update –

Pool House - was completed over the summer with a few final items that were decided to be held until after the pool season.

Community Center – was completed over the last couple of weeks with some interior work needing to be done as well as some clean up outside.

Senior Center – The public bid is out for the dedicated senior center addition and site work. The bids are due Thursday, October 3rd and would hope to award the contract at the October 9th meeting.

Rescue Squad Vehicle Refurbishment – There was a two-step process of replacing a heavy duty Rescue Squad vehicle. A used vehicle was purchased from Teaneck for \$125,000 and will now be refurbished and the total cost will be \$440,000 which is about half the cost of a new purchase.

Polling Locations – Two voting districts still remain in Hubbard School. The county came to inspect the new community center and we are awaiting approval in order to move these districts out of Hubbard for the November election.

H. BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR – Bruce Vozech (cont'd)

Resolutions –

Authorizing the submission to apply for NJDCA Recreation Opportunities for Individuals with Disabilities grant. The borough utilizes this grant to offset costs related to the Challenger Programs.

Remington & Vernick Engineering performed mapping for the Office of Emergency and is looking to submit the map for a NJ League of Municipalities Award and needed a formal resolution for submission.

9/11 Ceremony – Thanked Borough Clerk Bendian for her help organizing the ceremony.

Ramsey Day – Thanked all who participated and those who help to make it happen.

Addressed the snow removal in the pool parking lot in the winter. The borough is in compliance with the NJ DEP guidelines with the snow removal. The pool site has been reviewed and approved by the NJ DEP as a debris site for storms.

I. BOROUGH ATTORNEY – Peter A. Scandariato, Esq.

J. BOROUGH CLERK – Meredith Bendian

X. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES - None

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

XII. NEW BUSINESS

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Verdone, seconded by Councilwoman Jachzel. All in favor. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:41pm.

Meredith Bendian, RMC
Borough Clerk