

**BOROUGH OF RAMSEY
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, September 28, 2022**

This meeting is also being conducted telephonically. The dial-in number is (425)436-6365 With access code 213563#. The meeting may also be viewed on Ramsey YouTube Channel.

Mayor Dillon called the meeting to order at 7:33pm, asked OEM Coordinator Venturini to lead the flag salute and read the Open Public Meetings Act notice.

I. ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Dillon, Councilpersons Cusick, Gutwetter, Kilman, Poppe, Weber and Woods

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

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – WS 09-14-22

Motion to receive and file the minutes by Councilman Weber, seconded by Councilwoman Poppe. All in favor. Carried.

III. COMMUNICATIONS -

Motion to receive and file the communications by Councilwoman Woods, seconded by Councilman Kilman. All in favor. Carried.

1. Deacon Tom Flanagan, St. Paul R.C. Church, 193 Wyckoff Ave, Ramsey letter dated September 13, 2022, requesting permission to lead a Eucharistic procession from 1:00pm to 2:00pm along the sidewalk of Wyckoff Ave to the Ramsey Post Office
2. Alison Gordon, Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority, 30 Wyckoff Ave., Waldwick, NJ 07463 e-mail dated September 16, 2022, attaching the agendas for the September 20, 2022 Work Session and Regular Meetings

Mayor Dillon asked for a motion to go out of the regular order of business in order to swear in the already appointed OEM members. Motion by Councilman Kilman, seconded by Councilwoman Cusick. All in favor. Carried.

Mayor Dillon swore in the OEM members.

Motion to return to the regular order of business by Councilman Kilman, seconded by Councilwoman Cusick. All in favor. Carried.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Anyone wishing to address the governing body please give your name (spelling the last name) and address as a courtesy. 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.

Mayor Dillon opened public comment. With no one wishing to be heard in council chambers or on the telephone, 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 Councilwoman Cusick

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:

- 193-2022 Resolution: payment of vouchers
- 194-2022 Resolution: ratifying the actions of the governing body for payroll number nineteen
- 195-2022 Resolution: authorizing the tax redemption for Block 5303 Lot 1, Qualifier C0018 in the amount of \$1,559.42
- 196-2022 Resolution: awarding the contract to AA Berms, LLC as the lowest responsible bidder for Main Street Streetscape Phase I repairs in an amount not to exceed \$143,920
- 197-2022 Resolution: designating temporary overnight parking spaces for Ramsey residents in the Borough Parking lots at Erie Plaza, Mechanic Street and North Central Avenue

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

A. SPECIAL PERMITS:

St. Paul's RC Church is requesting permission to lead a Eucharistic Procession from the church to the Ramsey Post Office on Sunday, November 20, 2022, 1:00pm – 2:00pm.

B. BLOCK PARTY REQUESTS:

S. Bensky of Dogwood Terrace is requesting permission to have a block party on Saturday, Oct. 15, 2022, 3:00pm – 10:00pm

Roll Call:

YAY: Cusick, Gutwetter, Kilman, Poppe, Weber, Woods

VIII. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS - None

IX. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

- A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION – Councilman Michael Gutwetter
Library Board – The Harvest Festival had over three-hundred fifty attendees. The library thanks the Ramsey Fire Department and Ambulance for allowing them to use their vehicles for a “touch the truck” event. The Holiday Boo Bash is on October 21st and 22nd. The Friends of the Ramsey Library will be running the Fall used book and jewelry sale between October 13-16, with proceeds supporting the library summer events.

Recreation Commission – The Ramsey Run ended up with one hundred-forty runners who participated. Thanked emergency services for their assistance. Fall Soccer is underway and basketball and wrestling to begin shortly. The Halloween parade is on October 29th.

Thanked the Mayor and Council along with the Chamber of Commerce, Borough Administrator Vozech and emergency services for a successful Taste of Ramsey event.

- B. PUBLIC SAFETY – Councilman Peter Kilman
Congratulated the OEM members who were sworn in.

VFW Post 12148 Report – Members proudly marched in the Ramsey Day Parade and had a successful day selling merchandise. Several members also attended the 9/11 Memorial Service.

On September 19th the Greater Ramsey UNICO presented the VFW with a check for \$1,200 from the Independence Day raffle.

Upcoming in October the VFW plans to serve hotdogs, chips and soda to the youngsters practicing sports at Finch Park.

- C. BUILDING, PLANNING & ZONING – Councilwoman Jane Woods
Congratulated the OEM members and thanked Cub Scout Pack 306 for visiting. Thanked the Chamber of Commerce, Councilwoman Poppe, Administrator Vozech and the DPW for everything they did for the Taste of Ramsey. It was a great event and will be even bigger next year.

Design Review Board – Approved six applications at their last meeting.

Zoning Board of Adjustment – Two applications were heard at the last meeting. Thanked new member Mr. Giancaspro, Chairwoman Strollo, MaryAnn Lupo and Engineer David Hals for his thoughtful analysis.

- D. UTILITIES, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Councilwoman Judy Cusick
Reported that the Taste of Ramsey was a fabulous and delicious event.

Congratulated new OEM members Michael Herbst, Ted Birgler, and Kelly Sylvester.

Planning Board – At the September 20th meeting one site plan waiver was approved. The Chick-fil-A application was heard during this meeting and the hearing will be continued to November 1st.

Shade Tree Commission - Commission members are working with a registered consulting arborist/tree expert to maintain their accreditation. Please note that there is information on the Borough's website regarding the Shade Tree Commission.

Ramsey Board of Public Works - The Borough has reached an agreement with the BPW and Teamsters Local 11 for the water/sewer employees. The contract term is for 4 years.

The Water Department will be flushing hydrants overnight September 26th and 27th. The crews will be out and about on our roadways.

- E. PUBLIC & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS – Councilwoman Sara Poppe
Taste of Ramsey – Started working on this with the Chamber of Commerce earlier this year and is so thrilled it was a success. The data from the Chamber stated that for the 2022 event throughout a three-hour window, six hundred to seven hundred fifty attended.

Municipal Alliance – Will be at the Farmers' Market on October 2nd. There will be an upcoming comedy show with Matt Belis to bring awareness to mental health.

- F. HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES – Councilman Harry Weber
Environmental Commission – Thanked Jim Trouf for another successful shredding day.

RIFE – Thanked Lisa Argenio, Glen Popolo, Humberto and all who made Art night a success. The big Halloween party is on Friday, October 28th.

Thanked Cub Scout Pack 306 for visiting borough hall.

Congratulated Councilwoman Poppe and Administrator Vozech on a successful Taste of Ramsey.

Ramsey Responds – The annual coat drive is October 8th at the Senior/Community Center.

Congratulated Kelly, Mike and Ted for officially joining OEM.

G. MAYOR DEIRDRE DILLON

Taste of Ramsey was a fabulous event. Great job to the Chamber of Commerce and Councilwoman Poppe, Administrator Vozeh, DPW and everyone who volunteered to make it a great event.

Thanked and congratulated Ted, Mike and Kelly for being sworn into OEM.

Thanked Cub Scout Pack 306 for coming in to learn about local government.

Reminded everyone that Shoprite is hosting a movie night at Finch Park, Friday, September 30th. They are showing Hocus Pocus 2.

H. BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR – Bruce Vozeh

Resolutions 196 – Awarding contract to AA Berms, LLC for Main Street Streetscape Phase I repairs – The borough went out to bid for repairs to the Main Street Streetscape which was completed a number of years ago in the first phase of Main Street improvements from North Central intersection to Spruce. This work had to be separated from the Phase II improvements from Spruce to Island due to conditions under the federal grant we received. That grant covered the majority of the cost of the project but the scope of work could not include any of the repair work to the previous phase. The borough opened public bids on September 21st and three bids were received with AA Berms, LLC providing the lowest bid of \$163,595. AA Berms was the contractor who satisfactorily performed the Phase II work and is the lowest, responsible bidder. Boswell Engineering, the design and construction inspection engineer on the project along with Jack D’Agostaro Borough Engineer and QPA have reviewed the bids and recommend approval to AA Berms. Borough Attorney Scandariato has reviewed bids from legal perspective and concurs with recommendation to award to AA Berms.

Resolution 197 – Designating Temporary overnight parking spaces for Ramsey residents in the Borough Parking Lots at Erie Plaza, Mechanic Street and North Central. – A subcommittee of the Governing Body in conjunction with commuter parking fees had also discussed overnight parking as Councilwoman Woods has mentioned at meetings previously. Ramsey’s ordinances prohibit overnight street parking. We have on the agenda tonight a resolution to create designated temporary overnight parking spaces in the three commuter lots around Main St Train Station (Erie Plaza, Mechanic Street and North Central). This would be set up as a temporary pilot program to gauge utilization and review the issue further to see what, if any, ordinance changes the Governing Body would consider for implementation.

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

J. BOROUGH CLERK – Meredith Bendian

Announced that the Borough Clerk’s office would remain open until 9:00pm on Tuesday, October 18th for voter registration.

X. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

XII. NEW BUSINESS

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Councilwoman Woods, seconded by Councilman Weber. All in favor.
Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:59pm.

Meredith Bendian, RMC
Borough Clerk