

MINUTES
Regular Council Meeting
Council Chambers
Monday, February 8, 2016
8:00pm

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Council President Bromberg called the meeting to order at 8:00 pm in the Council Chambers located at 406 Rivervale Road, River Vale, New Jersey 07675.

SALUTE TO FLAG

Council President Bromberg asked all in attendance to rise and join him in a Salute to the Flag.

SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT

Council President Bromberg read the Sunshine Statement into the record, as follows:

"In accordance with the provisions set forth in the Open Public Meetings Law, notification of this meeting has been sent to all officially appointed Township newspapers and notice is posted at the Municipal Office."

ROLL CALL

Councilman Ben-Yishay, Councilman Donovan, Councilman Criscuolo, Councilwoman Sieg and Council President Bromberg were present.

Also present: Mayor Glen Jasionowski, Business Administrator Gennaro Rotella, Township Attorney Silvana Raso, Township Engineer Christopher Statile and Township Clerk, Karen Campanelli.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Jasionowski first gave an update on the Police Building Needs Assessment Survey. The process has begun and the company performing the survey should be done in a few weeks. The Mayor also reported that over the past few weeks there has been a lot of activity for our EMS. He thanked the Police, Fire, Ambulance and our partners at Hackensack University North on their recent response to both a fire in Old Tappan during which one of our fire fighters was injured and a very serious car accident. In both circumstances all parties are doing well thanks to the quick actions of everyone involved.

The Mayor lastly commented on the budget. The Mayor and Gennaro will be meeting with the Auditor this Friday and they should have the budget ready after the weekend to then give to the Council.

Council Comments

There were no Council comments this evenings. The Council President also thanked our Emergency Service personnel for doing such a great job.

Administrator’s Report

Mr. Rotella commented on Resolution 2016-61 regarding the budget transfer. He explained that the funds are being moved to a reserve account for accumulated absences and this measure is instrumental for the 2016 budget process.

Engineer’s Report

Mr. Statile reported that DOMUS Corp will be closing out and setting up final inspections for the last two weeks of February. The Rivervale Road project is moving along and the hard date to finish is May 1st. He added that the project is currently at Andy Green’s driveway. Mr. Statile also reported that he and Gennaro met with United Water regarding the water main replacement on Rivervale Road from Old Tappan Road to Piermont. The work should take approximately a week and Mr. Statile would like to coordinate with the current construction project.

Mr. Statile next reported that he has submitted a NJDOT Discretionary Aid application in the amount of \$300,000 for new sidewalks in and around Roberge School. The areas included are Westwood Avenue East of the Four Corners intersection, portions of Rivervale Road below Tiffany Avenue and the sidewalks opposite the school. Mr. Statile concluded that the Township is participating in the paving Cooperative this year and he will begin preparing the specifications for all the Towns participating in the Cooperative.

1st Hearing of the Public

Motion by Councilman Criscuolo; second by Councilman Donovan to open the meeting to the public.

Craig Plescia—785 Westwood Avenue- Mr. Plescia expressed his interest in becoming a member of either the Planning or Zoning Boards.

Council President Bromberg responded that there are a couple of open positions on both Boards. He explained that they are trying to find the best position for each candidate and that Mr. Plescia is still in strong consideration. The Mayor thanked Mr. Plescia for his interest and added that he is hoping to have the spots filled by the next meeting.

Erik Ruchdeschel -745 Tiffany Avenue—Mr. Ruchdeschel is seeking clarification a new ordinance regarding boats and driveways. He explained that he owns a small fishing boat that he uses often and he doesn’t have a proper place to store the boat. Mr. Ruchdeschel further explained that he doesn’t have a way to store the boat behind the front line of his home. He had also installed a new driveway to satisfy a previous complaint; and immediately thereafter this new ordinance was passed.

Mr. Ruchdeschel repeated that he is looking for clarification or advice as to how to make this work.

The Mayor responded that since he's been in office the number one complaint he has had are boats parked in the front yard. In order to address the complaints; they looked at how other Towns handle boat storage and then decided to draft an ordinance. The Mayor added that they put a law in place that would limit boats to the back yard and to be stored in a way that it was not visible to your neighbors nor impact them in any way. He continued that the boat can be stored in the side yard but there has to be bushes between the boat and the neighbor's yard.

Council President Bromberg added that there is a mechanism in place if you have a legitimate hardship with your property which allows you to apply for a variance. Mr. Ruchdeschel noted that in his situation he would have to spend several thousand dollars to remove several large shade trees, remove Belgian block curbing and fencing.

Councilman Donovan responded that there is a small application fee for a variance. He also explained that they did try very hard to give people a mechanism through which they could go to the Zoning Board, explain their situation and request relief. He added that the Zoning Board would then have the discretion to grant the request. Councilman Donovan also suggested speaking to the Construction code official for guidance and advice regarding his particular situation.

Jim Hanna -381 Sunset—Mr. Hanna recalled that several years ago he came before the Governing Body and requested that the driveway on the north side of the firehouse be named Albert Kraus Jr. Way. Mr. Hanna was under the impression that it was being looked into and that all were in agreement. He would like to revisit this request.

Mayor Jasionowski agreed the idea fell through the cracks and he thanked Mr. Hanna for bringing it back to their attention.

Mr. Hanna also recalled that approximately 10 years ago he presented the sheet that Assemblyman Holdrum had signed 111 years ago for the coldest recorded temperature in the State of New Jersey. Mr. Hanna added that it was supposed to be displayed and he questioned its whereabouts.

The Mayor also mentioned that he would like to organize a naming committee to address some of the requests they have had.

There being no further questions or comments motion by Councilman Criscuolo; second by Councilwoman Sieg to close the meeting to the public.

Mayor Jasionowski reported that last week a Judge granted the Township an extension on the immunity from Builder's Remedy lawsuits. He explained that this measure protects the Township from a builders remedy suit until June at which time the Township can apply for another extension.

RESOLUTIONS

Motion by Councilman Ben-Yishay; seconded by Councilman Criscuolo to approve Resolutions #2016-58 through 70 as a Consent Agenda as follows:

Resolution #2016-58

RESOLUTION APPROVING MINUTES JANUARY 1, 2016 REORGANIZATION MEETING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the minutes of the January 1, 2016 Reorganization Meeting of the Township Council are hereby approved.

Resolution #2016-59

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT PROFESSIONAL SERVICES APPOINTMENTS

WHEREAS, on January 21, 2016 the Zoning Board held their Annual Reorganization meeting; and

WHEREAS, at this meeting the Zoning Board by Resolution appointed their Board Engineer and Attorney as follows:

- **Elliot Sachs, Boswell Engineering—Zoning Board Engineer**
- **Brian Giblin, Esq., Giblin & Giblin—Zoning Board Attorney**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of River Vale confirms the Zoning Board appointments for a term of one (1) year ending on December 31, 2016.

Resolution #2016-60

RESOLUTION OPPOSING SUEZ/UNITED WATER'S RATE TAX INCREASE

WHEREAS, Suez Water New Jersey (United Water) has filed a petition for approval of a rate increase to the Board of Public Utilities (BPU); and

WHEREAS, the requested rate increase proposes a 33% rate increase in the fixed monthly service charge and a 17% in consumption charges; and

WHEREAS, the SUEZ Water Company Utility Notice seeks to increase their revenue by 13.51% and increase rates by 18.05% per customer; and

WHEREAS, the Township of River Vale, and all municipalities in the State are restricted to a 2% Annual CAP within the budget and utilities fall within the State mandated CAP; and

WHEREAS, any increase beyond 2% has a very negative effect of municipal budgets; and

WHEREAS, every increase of over 2% comes at a direct cost to municipal budgets reducing available funds in the balance of the budget; and

WHEREAS, utility costs cannot be bid or negotiated, any increase must be incorporated into the budget, regardless of available funds; and

WHEREAS, homeowners and businesses report annual wage increases of less than 2% annually, State, County, Municipal and School budgets are stressed to a point of breaking.

NOW THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED, that SUEZ Water New Jersey not be granted this exorbitant increase, be mandated instead to provide service within the budget parameters mandated by the State on all government agencies within the State with any future rate increases in a timely and appropriate manner consistent with State mandate for public budgets, and only be approved so any increase can be placed within the budget in a timely manner; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township of River Vale strongly opposes the 18.05% rate hike that Suez Water New Jersey is currently requesting and urges the BPU if there is any increase that it be slowly and incrementally placed to reflect the 2% CAP imposed by the State on all government agencies, to be keenly aware that rate increases have the chilling effect of causing the State of New Jersey to continue to hold the lead as one of the most taxed States in the Union; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Christie, our State Legislators, all Bergen County municipalities, the Board of Public Utilities, and The Honorable Evelyn J. Marose.

Resolution #2016-61

RESOLUTION
(TRANSFERS)

WHEREAS, there exists a need to make transfers in the 2015 Budget Appropriations, and there exists balances from which to make said transfers,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the Chief Financial Officer hereby be authorized to make the following transfers to the 2015 Budget Appropriations.

Inside CAP:

To:

Administration - OE	\$ 2,700.00
Accumulated Absences	<u>\$ 61,000.00</u>

Total **\$ 63,700.00**

Inside CAP:

From:

Administration - SW	\$ 5,000.00
Township Clerk - OE	\$ 1,000.00
Tax Assessor - OE	\$ 1,000.00
Law - OE	\$ 7,500.00
Engineering - OE	\$ 1,000.00
Zoning Board - SW	\$ 1,000.00
Code Enforcement - SW	\$ 2,000.00
Workers Compensation	\$ 5,000.00
Group Health Insurance	\$ 8,000.00

Patrol – SW	\$ 5,000.00
Streets & Roads – SW	\$ 5,000.00
Garage – SW	\$ 5,000.00
Solid Waste & Recycling	\$ 10,200.00
Social Security	\$ 5,000.00
Municipal Court – SW	\$ 2,000.00
Total	\$ 63,700.00

Resolution #2016-62

RESOLUTION
(Release of Builders Escrow)

WHEREAS, the following residents had posted escrow as requested by the Township Engineer; and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer has determined that said projects are complete and therefore the escrow can be released.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the Escrow Deposits be released.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the Treasurer is hereby directed to issue a municipal checks payable as follows:

“Johnny Sit”	“Vincent Lanza”
<u>Mailing Address:</u>	<u>Mailing Address:</u>
380 Cedar Lane River Vale, NJ 07675	620 Fairway Terrace River Vale, NJ 07675
\$ 320.00	\$ 36.00
S-13-56-858-449	S-13-56-858-488

Resolution #2016-63

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF GRANT APPLICATION AND TO EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NJDOT FOR THE 2016 DISCRETIONARY AID ROBERGE SCHOOL REGIONAL SAFETY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Council of the Township of River Vale formally approves the grant application for the above stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Council and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as LAIF-River Vale Township-00090 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of Township of River Vale.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Township Council and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of Township of River Vale and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

Resolution #2016-64

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING GOVERNOR’S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE
FISCAL GRANT CYCLE JULY 2014—JUNE 2019**

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of River Vale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Council further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Council has applied for funding to the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Bergen.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of River Vale County of Bergen, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Township Council does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the River Vale Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2017 in the amount of:

DEDR	\$ 9876.00
Cash Match	\$ 2469.00
In-Kind	\$ 7407.00

2. The Borough Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

Resolution #2016-65

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RAFFLE LICENSE FOR FAMILY PROMISE

BE IT RESOLVED that the following license to conduct an off premises 50/50 is issued to:

NAME: Family Promise of Bergen County
100 Dayton Street
Ridgewood, NJ 07450

LOCATION OF RAFFLE: Edgewood Country Club
449 Rivervale Road
River Vale, NJ 07675

DATE OF RAFFLE: June 9, 2016 (9:00pm)

I.D. #: 490-4-33633

RAFFLE LICENSE: RL 455

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said license shall be issued subject to all rules and regulations of the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission of the State of New Jersey.

Resolution #2016-66

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RAFFLE LICENSE FOR HARRINGTON PARK HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

BE IT RESOLVED that the following license to conduct a Casino Night is issued to:

NAME: HSA Harrington Park
191 Harriot Avenue
Harrington Park, NJ 07640

LOCATION OF RAFFLE: Florentine Gardens
97 Rivervale Road
River Vale, NJ 07675

DATE OF RAFFLE: April 28, 2016 (7:00pm to 11:00pm)

I.D. #: 198-5-30223

RAFFLE LICENSE: RL 456

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said license shall be issued subject to all rules and regulations of the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission of the State of New Jersey.

Resolution #2016-67

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RAFFLE LICENSE FOR HARRINGTON PARK HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

BE IT RESOLVED that the following license to conduct a Basket Raffle is issued to:

NAME: HSA Harrington Park
191 Harriot Avenue
Harrington Park, NJ 07640

LOCATION OF RAFFLE: Florentine Gardens
97 Rivervale Road
River Vale, NJ 07675

DATE OF RAFFLE: April 28, 2016 (7:00pm to 11:00pm)

I.D. #: 198-5-30223

RAFFLE LICENSE: RL 457

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said license shall be issued subject to all rules and regulations of the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission of the State of New Jersey.

Resolution #2016-68

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RAFFLE LICENSE FOR HARRINGTON PARK HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

BE IT RESOLVED that the following license to conduct an on-premises 50/50 raffle is issued to:

NAME: HSA Harrington Park
191 Harriot Avenue
Harrington Park, NJ 07640

LOCATION OF RAFFLE: Florentine Gardens
97 Rivervale Road
River Vale, NJ 07675

DATE OF RAFFLE: April 28, 2016 (7:00pm to 11:00pm)

I.D. #: 198-5-30223

RAFFLE LICENSE: RL 458

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said license shall be issued subject to all rules and regulations of the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission of the State of New Jersey.

Resolution #2016-69

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RAFFLE LICENSE FOR PASKACK JR. WOMENS CLUB

BE IT RESOLVED that the following license to conduct an on-premises 50/50 raffle is issued to:

NAME: Paskack Jr. Womens Club
PO Box 373
Park Ridge, NJ 07656

LOCATION OF RAFFLE: River Vale Community Center
628 Rivervale Road
River Vale, NJ 07675

DATE OF RAFFLE: March 12, 2016 (7:30am to 4:30pm)

I.D. #: 374-8-25390

RAFFLE LICENSE: RL 459

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said license shall be issued subject to all rules and regulations of the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission of the State of New Jersey.

Resolution #2016-70

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RAFFLE LICENSE FOR PASKACK JR. WOMENS CLUB

BE IT RESOLVED that the following license to conduct a Tricky Tray is issued to:

NAME: Paskack Jr. Womens Club
PO Box 373
Park Ridge, NJ 07656

LOCATION OF RAFFLE: River Vale Community Center
628 Rivervale Road
River Vale, NJ 07675

DATE OF RAFFLE: March 12, 2016 (7:30am to 4:30pm)

I.D. #: 374-8-25390

RAFFLE LICENSE: RL 460

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said license shall be issued subject to all rules and regulations of the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission of the State of New Jersey.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Ben-Yishay, Councilman Donovan, Councilman Criscuolo, Councilwoman Sieg and Council President Bromberg voted yes.

There were no Ordinances for 1st Reading or 2nd Reading this evening.

2nd Hearing of the Public

Motion by Councilman Ben-Yishay; second by Councilman Criscuolo to open the meeting to the public.

There being no questions or comments motion by Councilman Criscuolo; second by Councilman Ben-Yishay to close the meeting to the public.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilman Donovan; seconded by Councilwoman Sieg to adjourn the meeting at 8:45pm.

ATTEST:
Karen Campanelli
Township Clerk

Council President
Mark Bromberg