

MINUTES
Regular Council Meeting
Council Chambers
Monday, March 14, 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, Councilwoman Sieg and Council President Bromberg were present. Councilman Criscuolo was absent.

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 gave an update on the recent Budget meetings. The Mayor commended the Council on their diligence reviewing the budget prior to the start of the meetings. He was very pleased with the process and the positive changes made by the Council with the support of the Administration. The Mayor reported an increase of \$119.00 on the average assessed home; which is less than the Township's 10 year average and down from an initial \$300.00 increase per home. Mayor Jasionowski added that there was no cut of employees or services. He explained the reason he had such a clean budget to present to the Council was because of the hard work of CFO, Gennaro Rotella, the Town hall staff and the Auditors. Mayor Jasionowski concluded that he looking forward to the public hearing and adoption of the budget.

Council Comments

Councilman Ben-Yishay had no comments this evening.

Councilman Donovan reiterated the Mayor's comments. This is his 2nd budget and the entire process went very well. Councilman Donovan thanked the Mayor and in particular Gennaro for all of his hard work.

Councilwoman Sieg had no comments this evening.

Council President Bromberg also commented that the budget presented was polished and the meetings were very straight forward. He added that the Department heads requests were very reasonable which in turn made the Council's job much easier.

Erik Gunderson, Superintendent Pascack Valley Regional High School District

Mr. Gunderson explained the reason for his visit this evening. There is an initiative by the Board of Education to encourage keeping the lines of communication open between the Regional High School district, the K-8 BOE's as well as the municipal governments of those K-8 districts. Mr. Gunderson feels this is a great idea and noted that it was former Mayor, Joe Blundo who has placed the focus on this initiative. Mr. Gunderson would like to update the Mayor and Council on what's going on in the district and answer any questions.

Mr. Gunderson briefly stated that he has been with the district for 21 years. He started off as a Physics teacher, then moved to different administrative positions and is currently in his 5th year as Superintendent. He also takes a great deal of pride in the district even though he doesn't live in the community. Mr. Gunderson added that both Pascack Valley and Hills are very special and have a great deal to offer. He stressed that over time they have taken away the rivalry between the two high schools and now more than ever they are two high schools dealing with situations as one district.

He added that this has resulted in very good press in television, radio, newspapers and national journals highlighting not only technology but other creative initiatives they've embarked upon.

He then recited the Vision Statement of the Regional High School District. Mr. Gunderson believes the district is all about creating a culture based on innovation, inquiry and individuality. He also believes they lead by example and as an administrative team with the BOE they are always curious about what they can do better for their student and to offer more choices.

Mr. Gunderson reviewed the Pascack Schedule and Pascack Period which is one of the initiatives that give students choices about how to spend their free time. He also proudly reported that 98% of their students go on to post-secondary education. Mr. Gunderson next gave a brief overview of a recent assessment modification of eliminating marking periods and instead having a running record. They have received valuable feedback from both students and parents regarding this initiative and are considering setting up a semester system for next year.

Mr. Gunderson continued that some of the projects they've embarked upon have provided the district with some meaningful recognition. The New Jersey Department of Education has included PVRHS in a group of schools called Innovate NJ. He explained that this program involves a group of schools that consult with other districts to provide guidance and instruction on how to run their school differently and more progressively. Mr. Gunderson also reported that PVRHS has been recognized by the Federal Government and participates in the League of Innovated Schools program. He explained that this program includes approximately 50 schools throughout the

Country and allows School Superintendents to tour schools within the program. These school visits explore unique and individual leaning techniques other schools practice.

He next commented on how much he appreciates the incredible support the PVRHS district receives from all (4) municipalities as well as the K-8 districts. Mr. Gunderson meets periodically with the Superintendents and local Boards of Education to update one another and discuss how they can collaborate and work together. Mr. Gunderson noted what a pleasure it is to work with Rory McCourt, River Vale's Superintendent.

Mr. Gunderson next gave a review of the Virtual School Day initiative. He referred to the Virtual School Day as an exciting experiment that took place two years ago. A Virtual Day was planned 36 hours in advance when they knew a big snow storm was coming. Mr. Gunderson noted that they did receive verbal enthusiasm from the New Jersey Department of Education. Mr. Gunderson reported that it was a successful day and the students were engaged on-line from their home during the storm. Ultimately, however, State statute prevented that day from being counted as a regular school day because the Statute states that the facility must be open. Mr. Gunderson further reported that this year they continued this experiment and scheduled (2) Virtual Days. They cleared the days with the Department of Education and verified that the teachers were in and the buildings would open. Therefore, the Virtual days would counted and approved as a day of school. Mr. Gunderson added that they were able to determine the effectiveness of the virtual days through analysis of the lesson plans and surveys from students, teachers and parents.

Mr. Gunderson concluded his report announcing that Spring Sports are in full swing, DECA a business and entrepreneur program was launched this year and the competition season is starting for the always successful Robotics Team. Additionally, the PV Theater is presenting "Urinetown," this Thursday, Friday and Saturday and Mr. Gunderson encouraged all to attend the show.

Mayor Jasionowski offered to help publicize any events the High School is hosting through the electronic message board and website. The Mayor also extended any help the Township can offer to better support Pascack Valley. Mr. Gunderson commented how much he appreciates the support the Township already gives the district and the Board is committed to remaining a regionalized high school district. Mr. Gunderson would like to come back next year and keep the dialogue open.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Rotella thanked the Mayor and Council for their kind word regarding the budget. He also announced the Town Hall is now accepting credit cards at the counter. Mr. Rotella reported on a program sponsored by Bergen County Clerk John Hogan office called "Around the County." He explained that this a satellite office that will visit your Town and provide various services such as passport applications and renewals and notary applications. Tentatively, they are scheduled to visit River Vale on June 14, 15 and 16 from 10:00 to 2:00pm in the Council Chambers.

Engineer's Report

Mr. Statile reported that he waiting on the Towns participating in the Cooperative to provide their quantities for the 2016 Road Program. Mr. Statile added that they will probably award a contract in late April for the Road Program. He next reported that the Rivervale Road Stability project is

moving along very well. And the plans for the Ambulance Corp will be ready to go out to bid shortly. Mr. Statile concluded with a brief update on pending grant applications.

Mayor Jasionowski announced that Bergen Catholic is holding a Texas Holdem' fundraiser this Saturday at 5:00 at the high school for anyone that would like to attend.

1st Hearing of the Public

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

Bob Fortsch—511 Bernita Drive – Mr. Fortsch revisited an issue he has spoken about previously; the bank erosion at Holdrum Creek. He explained that ever since the Peterson property was developed the bank erosion has gotten worse. He further explained that over the years he has had visits from (2) engineers and nothing has been done. Mr. Fortsch feels there are environmental issues, property value issues and safety concerns.

Mr. Fortsch invited the Mayor and Council to visit his property and see the problem. Mayor Jasionowski asked Chris Statile to inspect Mr. Fortsch's property.

There being no further questions or comments motion by Councilman Donovan; seconded by Councilman Ben-Yishay to close the meeting to the public.

RESOLUTIONS

Motion by Councilman Ben-Yishay; seconded by Councilwoman Sieg to approve Resolutions #2016-84 through 94 as a Consent Agenda as follows:

Resolution #2016-84

RESOLUTION APPROVING MINUTES FEBRUARY 22, 2016 REGULAR MEETING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the minutes of the February 22, 2016 Regular Meeting of the Township Council are hereby approved.

Resolution #2016-85

R E S O L U T I O N

Approve the LOSAP Qualifiers for the Year 2015 for the Fire Department and Ambulance Corps

WHEREAS, the Volunteer Fire Department and Ambulance Corps have notified the Chief Financial Officer of the LOSAP Qualifiers for the year 2015 in writing; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council must approve the certified list of qualifiers after review and backup information has been provided; and

WHEREAS, the Plan Administrator is satisfied that the substantiated information has been provided.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council hereby approve the following as qualifiers for LOSAP for the year 2015:

River Vale Volunteer Fire Department:

Alves, J.	Cannata, Steve	Centinaro, M	Curl, W
Goodell, Gregory Sr.	Goodell, Gregg Jr.	Goodell, Kellie	Hanna, James
Herburger, Richard	Hoiem, Ronald	Koons, Michael	Krause, Michael
Lentino, Frank Luther, Richard		Marcellari, Michael	Marsh, Gerard
Martin, Eric	Miles, James	Manke, Ron	Pavone, Richard
Plescia, Glenn	Scott, Len	Shine, Thomas	Tarna, C
Tobin, John	Van Saders, T	Velthaus, Matthew	Velthaus, Stephen
Wayne, Peter			

River Vale Volunteer Ambulance Corps:

Gibson, Linda	Leighton, Marjess	Miles, Anne T.	O'Donnell, Ilene
O'Donnell, John	Schleier, Curt	Skiba, Victor	Vasconcellos, Lynne
Velthaus, Andrea	Wise, Joan		

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the list as certified has been posted by both departments and that there have not been any appeals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$48,090.90 Lincoln Financial for Investment on behalf of the individuals listed above.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Clerk forwards a copy of this resolution to the River Vale Volunteer Fire Department and Ambulance Corps, the Chief Financial Officer and Lincoln Financial.

***Note:** 39 members @1,233.10 = 48,090.90

Resolution #2016-86

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RAFFLE LICENSE FOR THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN

BE IT RESOLVED that the following license to conduct an off Premises Merchandise raffle is issued to:

NAME: National Council of Jewish Women
75 South Washington Avenue
Bergenfield, NJ 07621

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

DATE OF RAFFLE: June 7, 2016 (11:00am – 3:00pm)

I.D. #: 32-4-35447

RAFFLE LICENSE: RL 465

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 #2016-87

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN GIS DATA EXCHANGE AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF BERGEN

WHEREAS, the Township of River Vale wishes to enter into an agreement with the County of Bergen to exchange Geographical Information System Data (GIS); and

WHEREAS, the exchanging and sharing GIS Data between the Township and County is in the best interest of the residents of River Vale for both mutual aid purposes and for the public safety for all.

NOW THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of River Vale that the Mayor is hereby authorized to sign the GIS Date Exchange Agreement with the County of Bergen.

Resolution #2016-88

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 Deposit be released.

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

“Raymond Losito”

Mailing Address:
707 Handweg Drive
River Vale, NJ 07675

Bl 206 Lt 6
\$ 115.00

“Rosemary Loonie”

Mailing Address:
663 Russel Snow Drive
River Vale, NJ 07675

Bl 801 Lt20
\$ 135.00

Resolution #2016-89

**RESOLUTION
STATE TAX APPEAL
REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENTS**

WHEREAS, the following property owners where rendered a State Tax Appeal decisions for a reduced assessment for 2014 as follows:

551 Elizabeth Avenue
Bl 1709 Lt 5

409 Rivervale Road
Bl 1301 Lt 23

Refund Amt.: \$463.49

Refund Amt.: \$772.48

And

WHEREAS, the property owners are requesting a refund for overpayment of their taxes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale, that the Treasurer is hereby authorized to issue municipal checks payable as follows:

“David Witherspoon-Trust Account”

Mailing Address:
10 Hill Street
Suite 20Y
Newark, NJ 07102

Resolution #2016-90

**ENDORSEMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT GRANT APPLICATION FOR
2016-2017 SENIOR CITIZEN ACTIVITIES**

WHEREAS, a Bergen County Community Development grant of \$ 5,000 has been proposed by Township of River Vale for Senior Citizen Activities in the municipality of the Township of River Vale, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the State of Interlocal Services Act, Community Development funds may not be spent in a municipality without authorization by the Governing Body, and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid project is in best interest of the people of the Township of River Vale, and

WHEREAS, this resolution does not obligate the financial resources of the municipality and is intended solely to expedite expenditure of aforesaid CD funds.

NOW, THEREFOR, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the Township of River Vale hereby confirms endorsement of the aforesaid project, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Director of the Bergen County Community Development Program so that implementation of the aforesaid project may be expedited.

Resolution #2016-91

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE COUNCIL BY-LAWS

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the By Laws of the Township Council as amended, are hereby adopted for the year 2016.

Resolution #2016-92

RESOLUTION

(Private Duty Escrow Refund)

WHEREAS, the following vendor posted escrow as requested by the Police Department to secure officers for a project in the Township of River Vale; and

WHEREAS, said project is complete and there is no pending work with this vendor therefore the balance of the escrow may be released.

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the Treasurer is hereby authorized to issue a municipal check for \$ 4,000.00 as follows:

Payable to:

“Miller Pipeline, LLC”

Mailing Address:

378 Whitehead Avenue
South River, New Jersey 08882

\$ 4,000.00

Resolution #2016-93

RESOLUTION
(TEMPORARY EMERGENCY)

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-19 provides that where contracts, commitments or payments are to be made prior to final adoption of the 2016 Budget, temporary appropriations should be made for the purposes and amounts required in the manner and time provided.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body that the following additional temporary appropriations be made and a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Chief Financial Officer for his records:

APPROPRIATIONS	SALARY & WAGES	OTHER EXPENSE
General Administration	\$23,000.00	\$20,875.00
Mayor & Council	\$11,000.00	\$ 450.00
Township Clerk	\$19,800.00	\$5,500.00
Financial Administration	\$45,400.00	\$500.00
Tax Revenue Administration	\$13,100.00	\$800.00
Tax Assessment	\$6,000.00	\$ 1,200.00
Department of Law	\$700.00	\$27,200.00
Engineering Services		\$11,250.00
Planning Board	\$2,300.00	\$6,100.00
Zoning Board		\$800.00
Uniform Construction Code	\$42,200.00	\$2,750.00
Insurance - Liabilities		\$91,100.00
Insurance - Health		\$365,000.00
Insurance - Dental		\$7,000.00
Insurance - Unemployment		\$4,800.00
Police Department	\$754,800.00	\$23,700.00
Office of Emergency Management	\$1,900.00	\$600.00
Fire Department		\$11,000.00
Fire Prevention Bureau	\$3,500.00	\$46,250.00
Prosecutor's Office	\$2,300.00	
Director's Office DPW	\$25,000.00	\$5,200.00
Public Works Department	\$206,200.00	\$17,750.00
Snow and Ice Removal	\$34,300.00	\$104,750.00
Vehicle Maintenance	\$9,700.00	\$9,850.00
Recycling		\$76,200.00
Buildings & Grounds		\$36,500.00

Health & Human Services	\$3,650.00	
Social Services	\$1,650.00	
Recreation	\$1,650.00	
Dept of Social and Cultural Affairs	\$1,900.00	\$4,600.00
Library Contribution		\$158,600.00
Utilities		\$40,950.00
Street Lights		\$16,750.00
Telephone Charges		\$14,000.00
Gasoline		\$24,300.00
Solid Waste Disposal		\$189,000.00
Statutory Expenses – F.I.C.A.		\$91,250.00
Deferred Compensation Retirement Plan		\$150.00
Municipal Recycling Assistance		\$5,400.00
Municipal Court	\$18,400.00	\$2,200.00
Public Defender		\$1,000.00
Interlocal County of Bergen Dog Warden		\$ 6,520.00
Interlocal County of Bergen Health Services		\$ 18,325.00
Mental Health Services		\$ 2,500.00
Mandated Safety Programs		\$ 1,400.00
Bond Principal		\$100,000.00
Interlocal Montvale DPW		\$524,500.00
Interlocal Teterboro Tax Collection		\$2,500.00
	\$1,228,450.00	\$2,081,070.00

Resolution #2016-94

RESOLUTION
(EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION)
(GOLF COURSE UTILITY OPERATING)

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 provides that where contracts, commitments or payments are to be made prior to final adoption of the 2016 Budget, emergency temporary appropriations should be made for the purposes and amounts required in the manner and time provided.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body that the following emergency temporary appropriations be made and a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Chief Financial Officer for his records:

Other Expenses	\$ 796,746.00
Total	\$ 796,746.00

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

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

2nd Hearing of the Public

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

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

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilman Ben-Yishay; seconded by Councilwoman Sieg to adjourn the meeting at 8:50pm.

ATTEST:
Karen Campanelli
Township Clerk

Council President
Mark Bromberg