

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
**Monday, February 11, 2019**  
**7:00pm**

**CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

Council President Bromberg called the meeting to order at 7:00pm 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 and Council President Bromberg were present. Councilwoman Sieg was absent.

**Also present:** Mayor Glen Jasionowski, Township Attorney Michael Caulfield, Business Administrator/CFO Gennaro Rotella, Township Engineer Chris Statile, Township Clerk Karen Campanelli and Judge Vincent Galasso.

**Mayor's Comments**

The Mayor announced that he is very excited to swear in Sean Scheidle as River Vale's next Police Chief. During the past several years the Mayor has had the pleasure of working with Sean as both a Lieutenant and Capitan. Mayor Jasionowski added that Sean has been instrumental with revamping the Police Department's hiring and promotional process. The Mayor further commented that Sean's actions speak louder than any words and the amount of work he has done with ex-Bill Giordano and the other officers has set the Police Department up for a very successful future. Mayor Jasionowski reported that they have hired 10 new officers in the past year and a half; which is an amazing feat and could not have been done without all the hard work and dedication of Sean and the rest of the Department. Mayor Jasionowski wished Sean tremendous luck, his support and the support of the dais through his entire tenure as Chief.

**Council Comments**

Councilman Ben-Yishay echoed the comments of the Mayor and welcomed all to a very special night; especially Sean's family. Councilman Ben-Yishay added that they are both very proud and lucky to have Sean step up to be our Chief.

Councilman Donovan welcomed all and offered his congratulations to Sean and commented that he is looking forward to the years ahead of them.

Councilman Criscuolo also offered his congratulations. Councilman Criscuolo thanked Sean and his family for his service. He added that we recognize and appreciate the commitment not only the Police Officer is making but the commitment their family makes as well. Councilman Criscuolo is looking forward to working with Sean and certain he will continue the great tradition of the previous Police Chiefs.

Council President Bromberg reported that River Vale has been ranked the Safest Town two years in a row under two different Police Chiefs. He announced that everyone on the dais is very happy and has the utmost confidence that Sean is going to do a phenomenal job.

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**Oath of Office**  
***Police Chief Sean Scheidle***

The Mayor asked Sean's wife Cheryl, his son Matthew, his daughter Katie and his father Ronnie to come up; Cheryl will be holding the Bible. Judge Galasso administered the Oath of Office to Chief Sean Scheidle.

Chief Scheidle thanked everyone for coming this evening; most of all Mayor Jasionowski, all the Councilmembers and Administrator Rotella. Chief Scheidle appreciates the support and confidence they have in him and he really appreciates the opportunity to serve as Chief. He also thanked Chief Giordano for his support and he wished him the best of luck in his retirement. Chief Scheidle reported that over the past two years the Department has gone through a lot of change and growth and he feels they have built an outstanding team of officers. The Chief explained that every officer has stepped up to the plate and done a fantastic job which he appreciates. He added that moving forward they will continue to do the best possible job for the residents of River Vale.

Chief Scheidle thanked his wife Cheryl, his children and his son Cody who is not here because he is on deployment. He appreciates all their support especially during the times when the job took priority over the family. Chief Scheidle also thanked his parents and friends for all of their support.

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Council President called for a brief recess at 7:13pm and called the meeting back to order at 7:21pm.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**Business Administrator's Report**

Mr. Rotella had no report this evening.

**Township Engineer's Report**

Mr. Statile reported that they are working on the Road Resurfacing Program, Sidewalk project, the Miniature Golf Course and updating the Tax Maps. He reported that the Open Space Grant Applications will be approved at the first meeting of March of the Board of Freeholders. Mr. Statile further reported that the 2019 NJDOT grant application awards will be announced in March or April for the next fiscal year.

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**1st Hearing of the Public**

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

Patricia J. Collins—381 Southview Road—Dr. Collins is speaking on behalf of her mother who lives at 381 Southview Road. Ms. Collins expressed her concerns about ordinance 61-42 which prohibits the feeding of all wildlife on public and private property. She explained that she does understand that the ordinance was put in place to prevent the feeding of deer; however it also prohibits the feeding of wild birds. Dr. Collins reviewed the many benefits of backyard bird feeding and watching. She explained that bird feeding is both a hobby and passion of many people who draw great enjoyment from it. Dr. Collins further explained that one of the major benefits of bird feeding is the enjoyment and happiness one derives when providing for a creature. She detailed that seeing and hearing the colorful birds during the drab winter months can improve the moods of many people and is an important activity for seniors and people with mobility impairments.

Dr. Collins added that another benefit the birds provide is that they eat insects which is a very natural and organic form of pest control. She also noted that bird feeding is very helpful to the birds themselves because they are small, energetic and require a high calorie intake during the harsh winter months. Dr. Collins further detailed that with proper bird feeding and using proper bird feeders it can be a beautiful co-existence between the wildlife and citizens.

Dr. Collins would like the Council to consider excluding the wild birds from the ordinance with provisions that it must be done in appropriate way by using the right food and feeders; which are raised above the ground so as to not have an issue with other wildlife.

Mayor Jasionowski commented that this issue was brought up when they were drafting the ordinance. He recalled that their intent was certain wildlife such as turkeys and deer. The Mayor explained that they were advised by legal counsel that it is too difficult to name all the animals that you can or cannot feed. He added

that unfortunately, there are a fair amount of people using bird feeders in an illegal fashion to feed turkeys which then attract the deer. The Mayor explained that they put the language in however; it is only enforced by complaint. He further explained that even then it is at the Police Officer's discretion to determine if it's being done safely or it is a public nuisance and whether or not to write a ticket. The Mayor recommends speaking to Silvana about changing the ordinance because it makes it difficult for the Police Department to enforce the deer and turkey problems. The Mayor stressed that it was not their intent to ban the feeding of small birds.

Council President Bromberg recalled the discussions and ramifications however; if it is done in an appropriate manner that was not causing a nuisance, was not reported they were not looking to go out and enforce. He echoed the Mayor's comments that the issue was the deer because people were egregiously feeding the deer and it became necessary for them to pass an ordinance.

Richard Tax – 630 Montview Place—Mr. Tax commented on two problems; the deer problem and the health problem. He commented that the deer are going to mostly be hunted on the Golf Course which he feels won't solve his problem on Montview Place. Mr. Tax also feels the health problem supersedes the deer problem and he is afraid a child might get Lyme disease. He believes we need to get rid of the deer throughout River Vale and not just specific areas.

Council President Bromberg clarified that there will not be hunting permitted in peoples yards or on private property. He stated that if this solution is looked at; the purpose is not to eradicate the deer or specific deer in the Township but rather to reduce the population.

Councilman Donovan clarified that they have not yet made a decision. He explained that they are trying to take in all the information from people who are deemed to be experts and come up with a plan that makes the most sense for the majority of us. Councilman Donovan referred to Dr. Collins comments and that they did discuss the breadth of that particular ordinance. He added that this is a reminder that perhaps this needs to be looked again, and perhaps there's a way to make the legal language work and still gives us an ordinance that does what it's supposed to do and doesn't make good people feel like they're law breakers. Councilman Donovan referred to Mr. Tax's comments explaining that whatever the Council and Administration decides to do it will be well thought out and looked at. Councilman Donovan reminded everyone that they have not come to a decision on this issue.

Mayor Jasionowski concurred with Councilman Donovan's comments. The Administration has not made a decision and any decision they do make would need to be approved by the State. The Mayor stressed that the State has not nor will they ever approve 100% elimination of the deer. Mayor Jasionowski further commented that it could possibly extended past the Golf Courses to the wetlands as an option. He added that the State is confident that if you bait; the deer will travel if there is an abundance of food available. The Mayor further explained that whether they go lethal or non-lethal there will still be deer in River Vale.

There being no further questions or comments from the public. Motion by Councilman Criscuolo; second by Councilman Donovan to close the meeting to the public.

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**RESOLUTIONS**

Motion by Councilman Criscuolo; seconded by Councilman Donovan to approve Resolutions 2019-85 through 2019-95 as a Consent Agenda as follows:

**Resolution #2019-85**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING MINUTES JANUARY 28, 2019 COUNCIL MEETING**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the minutes of the January 28, 2019 Council meeting of the Township Council are hereby approved.

**Resolution #2019-86**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RAFFLE LICENSE FOR THE COCCIA FOUNDATION (OFF PREMISES 50/50)**

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

NAME: Coccia Foundation  
23 Leswing Avenue

Saddle Brook, NJ 07663

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

DATE OF RAFFLE: June 24, 2019 (4:00pm to 6:00pm)

I.D. #: 441-4-36087

RAFFLE LICENSE: RL 559

**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 #2019-87**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RAFFLE LICENSE FOR THE SELZER SCHOOL PTO (ON PREMISES 50/50)**

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

NAME: PTO Selzer School  
435 Prospect Avenue  
Dumont, NJ 07628

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

DATE OF RAFFLE: April 10, 2019 (6:00pm to 11:00pm)

I.D. #: 109-5-37089

RAFFLE LICENSE: RL 560

**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 #2019-88**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RAFFLE LICENSE FOR THE SELZER SCHOOL PTO (TRICKY TRAY)**

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

NAME: PTO Selzer School  
435 Prospect Avenue  
Dumont, NJ 07628

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

DATE OF RAFFLE: April 10, 2019 (6:00pm to 11:00pm)

I.D. #: 109-5-37089

RAFFLE LICENSE: RL 561

**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 #2019-89**  
**RESOLUTION**

**REFUND TAX OVERPAYMENT**

**WHEREAS**, a tax overpayment was received for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2018 and the property owner has requested a refund of said overpayment.

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

787 Winding Way  
River Vale, NJ 07675  
(Block 503, Lot 2)

**Payable to:**  
Daniel Lee  
240 East 39<sup>th</sup> Street  
Apt. 17E  
New York NY 10016

**Refund amount \$ 3,377.19**

**Resolution #2019-90**

**RESOLUTION**  
**REFUND OF ADDED ASSESSMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the following property owner appealed their added assessment and were granted and adjustment for the years listed below; and

**WHEREAS**, the property owner is 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 a municipal check payable as follows:

**2017**  
Block 305, Lot 11  
659 Blue Hill Road  
**Refund \$ 2,283.98**

**2018**  
Block 305, Lot 11  
659 Blue Hill Road  
**Refund \$ 2,317.95**

**Check payable to:**  
Alexander Pellegrini  
659 Blue Hill Road  
River Vale, NJ 07675  
**Refund Total \$ 4,601.93**

**Resolution #2019-91**

**RESOLUTION**  
**TAX LIEN REDEMPTION RECORDING FEE**

**WHEREAS**, the property located at 701 Tiffany Avenue (Block 2104, Lot 18) was redeemed and the lien holder is requesting a refund of the recording fee for Certificate No. 18-00006.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the Treasurer is hereby by authorized to issue a municipal check in the amount of \$ 22.00 payable as follows:

**Payable to:**  
"Clemente Enterprises, LLC"

P.O. Box 141  
Wyckoff, NJ 07481

**Refund Amount: \$22.00**

**Resolution #2019-92**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ENFORCEMENT OF THE PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Council of the Township of River Vale that the Business Administrator is hereby authorized to obtain estimates for landscaping maintenance at the following property which has been deemed a hazardous condition:

- **619 Cleveland Avenue (Block 1715, Lot6)  
Watch Us Grow Landscape Design, LLC - \$950.00**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, upon the completion of the work the costs be forwarded to the Tax Collector in order for a lien for said work can be attached to the above mentioned property.

**Resolution #2019-93**

**RESOLUTION CONFIRMING APPOINTMENT TO THE RIVER VALE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**WHEREAS**, at the January 31, 2019 meeting of the Board of Officers of the River Vale Volunteer Fire Department approved the appointment of the following individual a member of the Fire Department:

- **Brendan H. Falconer - Probationary member**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Council of the Township of River Vale hereby confirms the appointment of Brendan H. Falconer as a Probationary member of the River Vale Volunteer Fire Department.

**Resolution #2019-94**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE LOSAP QUALIFIERS FOR THE RIVER VALE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND AMBULANCE COPRS FOR THE YEAR 2018**

**WHEREAS**, the Volunteer Fire Department and Ambulance Corps have notified the Chief Financial Officer of the LOSAP Qualifiers for the year 2018 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 2018:

**River Vale Volunteer Fire Department:**

- |                      |                  |                    |                      |
|----------------------|------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Affrunti, Michael    | Cannata, Steve   | Centinaro, Michael | Delmage, Christopher |
| Goodell, Gregory Sr. | Goodell, Kellie  | Hanna, James       | Herburger, Richard   |
| Koons, Michael       | Lentino, Frank   | Manke, Ron         | Marcellari, Michael  |
| Marotta, Francesco   | Marsh, Gerard    | Martin, Eric       | Miles, James         |
| Pavone, Richard      | Phillips, George | Scott, Len         | Shine, Thomas Sr.    |
| Tarna, Charles       | Tobin, John      | Van Saders, T      | Velthaus, Matthew    |
| Stephen, Velthaus    | Voorhis, Matthew | Wayne, Peter       |                      |

**River Vale Volunteer Ambulance Corps:**

|                  |                     |                   |                   |
|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Cavagnet, Bob    | Gibson, Linda       | Leighton, Marjess | Miles, Nancy A    |
| O'Donnell, Ilene | O'Donnell, John     | Schleier, Curt    | Sheby, Josh       |
| Skiba, Victor    | Vasconcellos, Lynne | Velthaus, Andrea  | Velthaus, Stephen |
| Wise, Joan       |                     |                   |                   |

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the list as certified have 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, Ambulance Corps, the Chief Financial Officer and Lincoln Financial.

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

**Resolution #2019-95**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RAFFLE LICENSE FOR HEROES & COOL KIDS, INC.  
(OFF PREMISES 50/50)**

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

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| NAME:               | Brunan Inc. BDA Heroes & Cool Kids Inc.<br>311 Lindbergh Avenue<br>Closter, New Jersey 07624 |
| LOCATION OF RAFFLE: | Edgewood Country Club<br>449 Rivervale Road<br>River Vale, NJ 07675                          |
| DATE OF RAFFLE:     | May 20, 2019 (8:00am – 8:00pm)   |
| I.D. #:             | 89-5-40407   |
| RAFFLE LICENSE:     | RL 562   |

**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 and Council President Bromberg voted yes. Councilwoman Sieg was absent.

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There were no Ordinances for 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading this evening.

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Hearing of the Public**

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

Patricia J. Collins—381 Southview Road—Dr. Collins commented on the discretion of the Police Officer and that when she spoke to an officer they interpreted the ordinance clearly as being all wildlife and you are not allowed to feed the birds even with a bird appropriate feeder. Dr. Collins added that this has been very dramatic and making her mother very sad; they are also considering putting up a fence.

The Mayor commented that this is the first incident where they received a complaint and the Officer deemed it deserved a ticket and he stands behind his Officer's decision. He added that they will look at the ordinance however; the Mayor stressed that this was not something the Police were looking for it stemmed from a resident complaint.

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

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**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Councilman Criscuolo; second by Councilman Donovan to adjourn the meeting at 7:45pm.

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ATTEST:  
Karen Campanelli, Township Clerk

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Council President  
Mark Bromberg

