

MINUTES
Regular Council Meeting
Council Chambers
Monday, February 13, 2017
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: Township Attorney Silvana Raso, Township Planner, Caroline Reiter and Township Clerk, Karen Campanelli.

Business Administrator, Gennaro Rotella arrived at the meeting at 8:05pm.

Council Comments

Council members Ben-Yishay, Donovan and Sieg had no comments this evening.

Councilman Criscuolo recognized and commended the DPW for doing a great job during the recent snow storm.

Council President Bromberg echoed Councilman Criscuolo's comments regarding the DPW efforts clearing the roads in the aftermath of the recent snow storm.

Mayor Jasionowski arrived at the meeting at 8:08pm

Mayor's Comments

The Mayor apologized for being late. He was in a meeting with Montvale's Administration regarding the DPW Shared Services Agreement. The Mayor also echoed the comments regarding the great job the Pascack Valley DPW is doing. He added that he had no complaints regarding the storm on Thursday. Mayor Jasionowski comments that the DPW did a good job once they went out; however he was not happy about how long it took to get out. He further explained that they are addressing this issue which was not on the DPW but rather a communication issue.

Mayor Jasionowski next reported that the administration is near completion of the 2017 budget and they will be turning it over to the Council later this week. The Mayor was pleased to report that they were able to keep the increase under \$90 per household. He added that there will be no decrease in service. The Mayor is looking for to working with the Council on the budget process.

Presentation

Hills Valley Coalition

Gale Mangold and Pam Martorana introduced themselves as co-chairs of the Hills Valley Coalition. Ms. Mangold gave a brief overview of the Hills Valley Coalition. She explained that they are community based organization forming a four (4) Town alliance with Hillsdale, Woodcliff Lake, River Vale and Montvale to form one coalition which helps maximize their workforce resources. The HVC is a grassroots program that has been in existence for the past 18 years.

Ms. Martorana explained their mission which is to education the community at large and to promote a stigma free mental health community by providing a safe and substance free environment for our teens. This in turns helps reduce at risk teen behavior and support a healthy lifestyle. Ms. Martorana added that this is accomplished by addressing the at risk behavior, promoting activities and family life that is healthy through a community effort. She further explained that the efforts come from not just the schools but from faith based organizations, law enforcement and community leaders. As a group they share the opinions and work out the details to come up with a plan. Ms. Mangold also reported that they are a model program and other communities have mirrored their program to help form their own coalition.

Ms. Mangold further explained that their goals are to reduce the incidence of underage drinking, substance abuse and other high risk teen behaviors. The HVC focus is primarily at the high school and middle school level. Their purpose is to unify the municipal governments, law enforcement and schools to provide not just prevention but resource options available in the community.

Ms. Martorana reported that they attain their goals with constant contact and communication with families through meetings, newsletters, email blasts and spring event programs. Ms. Mangold explained that the Governor has allocated that each municipality receives approximately \$9,500 yearly to be used to apply for grant funding. She further explained that each Town has a liaison that writes the grant applications and the coalition helps coordinate the programs and utilize the funding.

Ms. Martorana gave an over view of this year's Spring program; Kevin Jabot will be speaking about the myths regarding marijuana. This program will help educate and inform families on the dangers of marijuana. During HVC programs the students participate by volunteering for the evening; distributing programs and escorting attendees. There is also a book signing and a mental health resource fair with various groups; such as AA, gamblers anonymous and law enforcement.

Gale Mangold commented that law enforcement is a huge component of the Hills Valley Coalition. In particular, River Vale's John DeVoe is a favorite. The HVC has a special appreciation for their officers who attend all of their meetings and are fully invested in their program. Ms. Mangold remarked that the Junior Police Academy is an incredible event and an amazing effort on behalf of John DeVoe. She further added that another major Coalition initiative was the Drop Off Box; River Vale was the first to have a Drop Off Box with the help of John DeVoe.

Ms. Mangold reported on their Stigma Free Campaign which is a new initiative of the Coalition. Their goal is to educate the community on the meaning of stigma free mental health. The Coalition wants to de-stigmatize reaching out for assistance; by having confidants in the schools who can also refer you to members in the community for help.

Pam Martorana reported on the Coalition's Safe Home initiative. Through this initiative they have created a directory of families that have taken a good faith pledge to provide a safe environment and to not provide drugs or alcohol to children in their home.

Ms. Mangold reviewed the role of the co-Coordinators and their goals for 2017. She also stressed their need which is to continue their work. Ms. Mangold stated that River Vale has been in a lead Town and Gennaro has been particularly helpful. They would also like to have one person from each Town designated to help and act as a liaison. Ms. Mangold expressed how grateful she is for their support and how much they appreciate their partnership with River Vale.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Rotella asked that you pardon our appearance while the Council Chambers are under construction. He explained that the Council Chambers is in the process of having the wood work re-done, painting and carpeting improvements.

Mr. Rotella commented on resolution #2017-80 which is a lease purchase of equipment for the Golf Course. He explained that instead of bonding and incurring new debt he is opting for paying over a five (5) year lease period. The Business Administrator next reviewed resolution #2017-86 approving the Interlocal Services Agreement with Harrington Park to share the Court Administrator. He added that Katie the new Court Administrator is excellent and the timing worked out well with Harrington Park who had been looking for a Court Administrator. Mr. Rotella further added that there is a financial benefit to the agreement as well.

Engineer's Report

Mr. Statile gave a brief update on both the DOT and Safe Routes to School grant applications; at this time he has not heard from the State. He next reported that the Township's grant application for pond aerators has been selected to present to the Bergen County Open Space Committee. Mr. Rotella added that he received a report from Robert Abbatomarco and the County does have the money to fund this project.

Councilman Donovan had questioned the status of the Safe Route to School grant. Mr. Statile responded that he has had no word on the project.

1st Hearing of the Public

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

Bob Fortsch—511 Bernita Drive—Mr. Fortsch commented that of the many reasons he enjoys attending the meetings it is the opportunity he has to talk with Chief Hanna. He added that the Volunteer Fire Department was on his block twice last week which is much appreciated.

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

RESOLUTIONS

Motion by Councilman Donovan; seconded by Councilwoman Sieg to approve Resolution #2017-76 as follows:

Resolution #2017-76

RESOLUTION APPROVING MINUTES JANUARY 1, 2017 REORGANIZATION MEETING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the minutes of the January 1, 2017 Reorganization Meeting of the Township Council are hereby approved.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Motion by Councilman Criscuolo; seconded by Councilman Donovan to approve Resolution #2017-77 as follows:

Resolution #2017-77

RESOLUTION APPROVING MINUTES JANUARY 23, 2017 REGULAR MEETING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the minutes of the January 23, 2017 Regular Meeting of the Township Council are hereby approved.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Motion by Councilman Ben-Yishay; seconded by Councilman Donovan to approve Resolutions #2017-78 through 2017-88 as a Consent Agenda as follows:

Resolution #2017-78

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF JUNIOR MEMBER OF RIVER VALE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Board of Officers of the River Vale Volunteer Fire Department are recommending the appointment of the following individual as a Junior member of the River Vale Volunteer Fire Department:

James V. Berlamino

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the appointment James V. Berlamino is hereby confirmed.

Resolution #2017-79

ENDORSEMENT OF 2017 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ADA COMPLIANT IMPROVEMENTS - AMBULANCE CORPS RESTROOMS

WHEREAS, a Bergen County Community Development grant of \$80,000 has been proposed by the Township of River Vale for ADA compliant improvements to the Ambulance Corps restrooms in the Township of River Vale and;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the State 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 the 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 the aforesaid CD funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, 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 #2017-80

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE MASTER EQUIPMENT LEASE/PURCHASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN SUSQUEHANNA COMMERCIAL FINANCE, INC. (LESSOR) AND THE TOWNSHIP OF RIVER VALE (LESSEE)

WHEREAS, the Township of River Vale has the need on a timely basis to purchase the following equipment for the River Vale Country Club:

- **One (1) Jacobsen Eclipse 322 Mower**
- **One (1) Jacobsen AR-522 Fine Cut Rotary Mower**

WHEREAS, the Township of River Vale intends to enter into a Lease/Purchase Agreement with Susquehanna Commercial Finance, Inc., 2 County View Road, Suite 300, Malvern, Pennsylvania 19355 for the purchase of the above equipment.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of River Vale authorizes the Mayor to sign the Master Equipment Lease/Purchase Agreement with Susquehanna Commercial Finance, Inc.

Resolution #2017-81

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 to remove brush and debris at the following properties which have been deemed as hazardous conditions:

- 158 Doretta Street (2206.01, 5)
- 114 Rivervale Road (2104, 9)
- 526 Brook Avenue (1301, 47)

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 to be attached to the above mentioned properties.

Resolution #2017-82

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RAFFLE LICENSE FOR HEROES & COOL KIDS

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

NAME: Heroes & Cool Kids Inc.
311 Lindbergh Avenue
Closter, NJ 07624

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

DATE OF RAFFLE: June 19, 2017

I.D. #: 89-5-40407

RAFFLE LICENSE: RL 490

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 #2017-83

RESOLUTION

**STATE TAX APPEAL
REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENTS**

WHEREAS, the property owner of 520 Forest Court (BL 908, Lt 28) was rendered a State Tax Appeal decision for a reduced assessment for the following years;

2016 Refund \$ 3,978.38

2017 Refund \$ 994.60

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:

“Attorney Trust Account Shapiro, Croland, Reiser, Apfel & Dilorio, LLP”

Mail to:
Gregory S. Tabakman, Esq.
411 Hackensack Avenue
Hackensack, NJ 07601

\$ 4,972.98

Resolution #2017-84

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES APPOINTMENTS TO THE PLANNING BOARD

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2017 the Planning Board held their Annual Reorganization meeting; and

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

- **Marc Leibman, Esq., Kaufman, Semeraro & Leibman, LLP—Planning Board Attorney**
- **Christopher P. Statile, Statile Associates PA—Planning Board Engineer**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of River Vale confirms the Planning Board appointments for a term of one (1) year ending on December 31, 2017.

Resolution #2017-85

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT PROFESSIONAL SERVICES APPOINTMENTS

WHEREAS, on January 19, 2017 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 T. Giblin, Esq., Giblin & Gannaio—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, 2017.

Resolution #2017-86

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE BOROUGH OF HARRINGTON PARK (COURT ADMINISTRATOR)

WHEREAS, the Uniformed Shared Services and Consolidation Act N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq. authorizes public entities to enter into a contract with each other to share services which the entities are empowered to provide or receive within their own jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the Uniformed Shared Services and Consolidation Act promotes the broad use of shared services as a method to reduce local expenses funded by property taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Harrington Park currently has a need for a Court Administrator within their municipality; and

WHEREAS, the parties desire to enter into a shared services agreement whereby the Court Administrator for the Township of River Vale shall serve in this capacity for the Borough of Harrington Park pursuant to the Interlocal Services Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the terms and conditions of this agreement have been review and approved by the Township Attorney; and

WHEREAS, the term of the Interlocal Services Agreement shall be for three years from February 1, 2017 through December 31, 2019.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the Mayor is hereby authorized to sign the Interlocal Services Agreement with the Borough of Harrington Park.

Resolution #2017-87

RESOLUTION
REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENTS

WHEREAS, a tax overpayment has been received for the 1st quarter of 2017 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:

Block 1801, Lot 14
666 Westwood Avenue
River Vale, NJ
\$820.57

Issue check to:
Valley National C/O Prop. Mgt
1720 Route 23 North
Wayne, NJ 07470

Resolution #2017-88

RESOLUTION
STATE TAX APPEAL
REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENTS

WHEREAS, the property owner of 666 Westwood Avenue (BL 1801, Lt 14) was rendered a State Tax Appeal decision for a reduced assessment for the following years;

2015 Refund \$ 2,014.58

2016 Refund \$ 3,282.29

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:

“Lasser Hochman LLC Trust Account”

Mail to:
75 Eisenhower Parkway, Suite 120

Roseland, NJ 07068-1694

\$ 5,296.87

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

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

2nd Hearing of the Public

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

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

ATTEST:
Karen Campanelli
Township Clerk

Council President
Mark Bromberg