

MINUTES
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, July 8, 2019
8:00pm

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Council President Bromberg called the meeting to order at 8:23pm 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, Councilwoman Criscuolo, Councilwoman Sieg and Council President Bromberg were present. Councilman Donovan was absent.

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

Mayor's Comments

The Mayor thanked everyone that helped with the Town employee picnic. This is the second year for the picnic, they had a great turnout and the Golf Course did a great job with the food. The Mayor next thanked Gennaro, the Town hall staff and professionals. They have been working at a fevered pace the past several months because of everything they are trying to accomplish and he greatly appreciates all their efforts.

Mayor Jasionowski personally thanked the River Vale Police Department who came out to help his son who had a serious car accident. The accident wasn't in Town but the Police Department was still there for him and his family.

Council Comments

There were no Council comments this evening.

Business Administrators Report

Mr. Rotella announced that the Township will be holding their 2nd Annual Shredding Event this Saturday at Mark Lane. He next reviewed the resolution on this evening's agenda approving the annual audit. Mr. Rotella thanked the entire Town hall staff; including the Golf Course for a clean audit adding that it really is a team effort.

Township Engineer's Report

Mr. Statile reported that PSE&G is continuing work on upgrading gas service in the northeast portion of the community. He explained that they will continue working throughout the summer; up to November 1st of this year. Mr. Statile added that PSE&G plans to continue this project next year on the south end of Town.

He next reported that the Road Program is complete and all that remains to be done is the line striping. Mr. Statile expects the contractor for the Roberge School SRTS sidewalk project to be starting in 2 weeks; he would like to get this project done this summer before school starts in September. Mr. Statile is preparing the bid specifications for the new press box at the Mark Lane complex. It is his understanding that the sports associations will be compensating the Township for this project.

Mr. Statile reported that the Joint Planning Board has approved the 225 Townhomes at the Edgewood Country Club and the next step is the developer’s agreement.

Council President Bromberg commented that D & L did a nice, seamless job on the paving.

Mayor Jasionowski commended Chris Statile for his work on the Edgewood application and that he did a great job protecting the interests of the Township.

1st Hearing of the Public

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

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

RESOLUTIONS

Motion by Councilman Ben-Yishay; second by Councilman Criscuolo to approve Resolution #2019-204 through #2019-212 as a Consent Agenda as follows:

Resolution #2019-204

RESOLUTION APPROVING MINUTES JUNE 10, 2019 REGULAR MEETING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the minutes of the June 10, 2019 Regular meeting of the Township Council are hereby approved.

Resolution #2019-205

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2018 AUDIT

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-4 requires the governing body of every local unit to have made an annual audit of its books, accounts and financial transactions; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Report of Audit for the year 2018 has been filed by a Registered Municipal Accountant with the Township Clerk as per the requirements of N.J.S.A 40A:5-6, and a copy has been received by each member of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey is authorized to prescribe reports pertaining to the local fiscal affairs, as per R. S. 52:27BB-34; and

WHEREAS, the Local Finance Board has promulgated a regulation requiring that the governing body of each municipality shall by resolution certify to the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey that all members of the governing body have reviewed, as a minimum, the sections of the annual audit entitled:

General Comments
Recommendations

and

WHEREAS, the members of the governing body have personally reviewed as a minimum the Annual Report of Audit, and specifically the sections of the Annual Audit entitled:

General Comments
Recommendations

as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, such resolution of certification shall be adopted by the governing body no later than forty-five days after the receipt of the annual audit, as per the regulations of the Local Finance Board; and

WHEREAS, all members of the governing body have received and have familiarized themselves with, at least, the minimum requirements of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey, as stated aforesaid and have subscribed to the affidavit, as provided by the Local Finance Board; and

WHEREAS, failure to comply with the promulgations of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey may subject the members of the local governing body to the penalty provisions of R.S. 52:27BB-52 - to wit:

R.S. 52:27BB-52 - "A local officer or member of a local governing body who, after a date fixed for compliance, fails or refuses to obey an order of the director (Director of Local Government Services), under the provisions of this Article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction may be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, in addition shall forfeit his office."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the governing body of the Township of River Vale hereby states that it has complied with the promulgation of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey dated July 30, 1968 and does hereby submit a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to said Board to show evidence of said compliance.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE
COPY OF THE RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE
TOWNSHIP COUNCIL AT THEIR REGULAR
MEETING HELD ON JULY 8, 2019**

Resolution #2019-206

REFUND

(Camp Have Some Fun Registration Fee)

WHEREAS, the following resident has requested a refund of their Camp Have Some Fun registration fee; and

WHEREAS, the Treasurer has certified the availability of funds in the Recreation Account.

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

Payable to:
Joyce Schreiber
216 Keenan Court
River Vale, NJ 07675

Refund Amount: \$ 375.00

Resolution #2019-207

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RAFFLE LICENSE FOR NORTH JERSEY FRIENDSHIP HOUSE (OFF PREMISES 50/50)

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

NAME: North Jersey Friendship House, Inc.
125 Atlantic Street
Hackensack, NJ 07601

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

DATE OF RAFFLE: September 23, 2019 (8:00pm)

I.D. #: 180-4-26880

RAFFLE LICENSE: RL 576

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 #2019-208

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RAFFLE LICENSE FOR NORTH JERSEY FRIENDSHIP HOUSE (TRICKY TRAY)

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

NAME:	North Jersey Friendship House, Inc. 125 Atlantic Street Hackensack, NJ 07601
LOCATION OF RAFFLE:	Florentine Gardens 97 Rivervale Road River Vale, NJ 07675
DATE OF RAFFLE:	September 23, 2019 (8:00pm)
I.D. #:	180-4-26880
RAFFLE LICENSE:	RL 577

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 #2019-209

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NOT TO EXCEED LIMITATIONS FOR CHRISTOPHER STATILE FOR THE 2019 ROAD PROGRAM & NJDOT ROLLING HILL DRIVE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

WHEREAS, on June 17, 2019 the Township Engineer, Christopher P. Statile, P.A. submitted a proposal for the preparation of bid specifications and the provision of full time inspection and monitoring services of the 2019 Road Program & NJDOT Rolling Hill Drive Improvements project as follows;

- **Project Design and Construction Monitoring Services: \$26,000.00**

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds in the Capital Account.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that not to exceed limitations are hereby approved and established in the amount of \$ 26,000.00 for the engineering firm of Christopher P. Statile, P.A.

Resolution #2019-210

RESOLUTION AWARDING CONTRACT TO EAW SECURITY

WHEREAS, on June 13, 2019 EAW Security, P.O. Box 543, Plymouth Meeting, Pennsylvania submitted a proposal for the installation of security camera systems at the following locations:

Mark Lane Field/Field House:	\$ 32,865.79
<u>DPW Building:</u>	<u>\$ 9,402.87</u>
TOTAL	\$ 42,268.66

and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds in the Capital Account.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the Business Administrator is hereby authorized to execute a contract on behalf of the Township with EAW Security.

Resolution #2019-211

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING APPOINTMENT TO THE RIVER VALE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, at the June 27, 2019 meeting of the Board of Officers of the River Vale Volunteer Fire Department approved the appointment of the following individual as a member of the Fire Department:

- **Derek James Blankenbush, Jr. – Probationary member**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of River Vale hereby confirms the appointment of above mentioned as a member of the River Vale Volunteer Fire Department.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded the Chief of the River Vale Volunteer Fire Department.

Resolution #2019-212

RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE LONG BALL GOLF MAMAGEMENT CONTRACT

WHEREAS, on June 27, 2016 the Township of River awarded a contract to Long Ball Golf Management LLC (LBGM) to operate and manage the River Vale Country Club; and

WHEREAS, the term of said contract was for three (3) with an option to renew for (2) 1- year extensions upon the approval of the Mayor and Council; and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Mayor and Business Administrator that it is in the best interest of the Township to extend and modify the contract with Long Ball Golf Management, LLC.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of River Vale hereby confirms the extension of the Long Ball Golf Management contract for a term of (1) one year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to sign a modified agreement with Long Ball Golf Management, LLC.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Long Ball Golf Management, LLC.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

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

2nd Hearing of the Public

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

John Greco—Mr. Greco stated that he has been a resident of River Vale for fourteen years. He also announced that he will be running for a position with the River Vale Board of Education.

Eric Frise—Upper Saddle River – Mr. Frise stated that he is a recent Mayoral candidate in Upper Saddle River. He stated that the deer massacre in Saddle River has caused a lot of disharmony in both Saddle River and Upper Saddle River. Mr. Frise is a Plaintiff in a lawsuit against Saddle River and he fears if they press ahead it may result in another lawsuit against River Vale. He commented that it would not be him but other organizations such as the Animal Protection League. Mr. Frise also commented that when the deer are hunted their reproductive rate increases and that the deer understand they are being hunted and will run into other Towns. He added that these are all things to consider if you do decide to go ahead with the hunt. Mr. Frise also offered his help and gave his email and contact information.

Joan Postolakis—22 Homestead, Hillsdale—Ms. Postolakis urged that they press the pause button to allow time to enlist the community of River Vale to help do it humanely. She suggesting the local public school to help build awareness and have the students write letters to the papers and government officials. Ms. Postolakis added that you will be teaching valuable lessons about kindness and sharing our planet with important animal friends. She further stated that in 2017 legislation at the Federal level gave a thumbs up to sterilization methods and suggested that they work together to change legislation at the State level.

Nick Cucci—Harrington Park—Questioned which State agencies are not allowing the use of non-lethal methods with regard to thinning the herd.

Mayor Jasionowski responded that Fish & Wildlife are the legal authority.

Mr. Cucci stated that the DFW must by law provide fishing and hunting opportunities and the way they raise their money is through the sale of fishing and gaming licenses. He added that they also might not be the most objective organization to tell you not to use non-lethal methods.

Andrea Hedrych—387 Cumberland St.—Englewood—urged all to be kind to animals and she is sad to hear that once again the Mayors of Bergen County are considering a deer hunt. Ms. Hedrych explained that this is an inhumane approach to a problem we've essentially created. She added that it's been proven that hunting and killing the deer result in the deer becoming more prolific reproducers. Ms. Hedrych suggested a way to avoid deer/car collisions would be to drive the legal speed limit. She added that with regard to Lymn disease; squirrels, raccoons, chipmunks and mice all carry the tick that spreads Lymn disease. Ms. Hedrych added that the Division of Fish & Wildlife is a hunting organization and are supported by the NRA.

Virginia Ferencevych—215 Oak Avenue—moved to River Vale in 1984 to raise her family in a suburban environment. Ms. Ferencevych has seen an increase in deer; however, other than eating her tulips they don't bother her and she has changed what she plants. She is a nurse and does not believe in bow hunting because you could only injure the deer and not kill it resulting in a long torturous death. She added that sterilization is the way to go.

Mark Nagelhout—Animal Protection League, Park Ridge—stated they will never stop fighting the fight and he is frustrated that they are only listening to one side. Mr. Nagelhout added that Fish & Game are only experts at lying to promote their own agenda and they don't care about resolving our conflicts. He offered their help and explained that they are experts in compassionate ways to co-exist through non-lethal conflict management techniques. Mr. Nagelhout suggested tick tubs, better electronic signage, deer resistant plants and fencing around new plants. He added that we don't need Fish & Wildlife in Bergen County and that they don't care about our problems. Mr. Nagelhout further commented that the Saddle River plan was never designed to reduce the deer population long term but rather a yearly trophy hunt for the United Bow Hunters of New Jersey.

Daria Medea—444 Central Avenue—Ms. Medea has been a resident for 41 years. She agrees with the other people who have spoken that they have to find a better way. Ms. Medea also commented that in 1992 she had Lymn disease and at that time she never saw any deer. Therefore, you can get Lymn disease without deer.

Patricia Vadin—725 Rivervale Road—Ms. Vadin practices psychotherapy in her home which faces that River Vale Country Club. She commented that for years both she and her patients have seen the deer walk through her yard. Ms. Vadin explained that her patients are vulnerable people and is concerned if they witness an injured or dying deer in or around her property. She added that this sets poor quality of life examples and it is also a very poor business model for herself as well. Ms. Vadin chose to live in River Vale because it was touted the safest Town in Bergen County and had a strong sense of preservation; both historical and natural. Ms. Vadin added that she is opposed to the hunt.

Kim Nagelhout—Park Ridge—commented that the Township of River Vale along with any other town in Bergen County should not allow the Division of Fish & Wildlife to dictate what is good for us or what they will allow with regard to the deer. She urged that we learn ways to co-exist with these peaceful and beautiful creatures. Ms. Nagelhout added that there are costs associated with a deer hunt. In Saddle River, there was police time and overtime as well as unexpected expenses. She explained that as the human population has increased in the Pascack Valley area so have conflicts with humans and wildlife. And developments have pushed deer into residential settings. Ms. Nagelhout commented that the United Bow Hunters of New Jersey conducted the hunt in Saddle River and that even professionals make mistakes. She commented that some of the deer were found wounded, suffering or never found. This program will put the safety of the residents in jeopardy and attract poachers to the area.

Ms. Nagelhout added that they are caring neighbors who want to help and work with them.

Sophia Cucci—152 Martha Road, Harrington Park—commented about the deforestation occurring on Rivervale Road. She doesn't believe it's fair to move forward with this inhumane process when they are still making decisions about deforestation that is causing the widespread deer issue.

Charles Nadler—288 Highland Avenue, Woodridge—commented that he believes they are compassionate people. Mr. Nadler questioned who would foot the bill for non-lethal methods and what the cost would be.

Council President Bromberg responded that they have discussed this; however, it is not an option by law.

Emily Buchert—31 Orchard Avenue, Emerson—commented that she believes the deer should live and that she didn't come here because her Mom made her but because she wanted to. Ms. Buchert is representing all the kids, tweens and teens who believe in the same things she does but are sometimes afraid to speak. Ms. Buchert commented that she did research that didn't have a bias either way because she's seen and heard a lot of facts that have been biased. She also researched bow hunting and didn't like what she read and found the photos of the hunters posing with the dead animals very disturbing. Ms. Buchert commented that she doesn't feel we live in a Country that is a true democracy. She explained that if we did and the majority of your residents don't want the cull then they would win this fight against it. Mr. Buchert commented that the Council has failed to try. She further commented that having this bow hunt will add further stress into their lives that they don't need.

Ms. Buchert asked the Council hold off on the bow hunt until they can all work together to effectively change the laws in New Jersey to include non-lethal methods.

Erin Vollers—16 Aster Lane—Ms. Vollers is a sophomore at Pascack Valley High School. She has never been to a Council meeting and is here tonight to talk about the deer hunt. Ms. Vollers commented that many people in Town don't know about the deer hunt or that the hunt is going to be at the Golf Course; possibly near their homes. She is also very concerned and her heart will break if she sees a deer with an arrow in it. Ms. Vollers feels that there are more humane ways to deal with this situation such as sterilization. She explained that she is a Girl Scout going for her Gold Award and would like to work on this issue to find a better way. Ms. Vollers feels we should talk more about this issue and get the community involved. She also feels that the kids in her school and the Middle School all love the deer and would all want to help.

Donna Dolbi—181 Glanz Avenue, Northvale—commented that violence against animals leads to violence against humans and this is not what she wants her daughter to learn or believe is acceptable. Ms. Dolbi is trying; as both an educator and parent, to teach our children empathy, compassion and kindness. She added that they are also trying to teach what is right and not to follow the crowd. Ms. Dolbi would like to see everyone work together to find a solution to this problem that doesn't involve killing a herd of animals. She further believes that the community can help raise awareness about this issue and raise money to humanely deal with this topic.

Lisa Boulanger—811 Loretta Drive—Ms. Boulanger commented that she wanted to set the record straight with regard to Lymn disease. She checked the CDC website and from 2017 to 2018 Lymn diseased in Bergen County has decreased 24% and in 2016 decreased 21%.

Bill Medea—544 Central Avenue—Mr. Media is a 41 year resident and previous BOE member. He questioned if a decision has made to cull the deer.

Council President Bromberg responded that they are planning on moving forward.

Ms. Medea commented that a lot of people; including himself, are not aware of this issue. He is also aware and knows that it's difficult to get the word out because people are busy with their own lives. Mr. Medea feels this is a very sensitive issue and suggested putting it on hold to allow more people the opportunity to voice their opinions.

Sara Yuppa—15 Homestead Avenue, Hillsdale—Ms. Yuppa commented that it is our responsible to take care of the planet and all that reside on it. She explained that for centuries human beings have taken supposed problems that impeded our growth and destroyed whatever is in our way. Ms. Yuppa urged the Council to be the bigger person, take alternative actions and keep Fish & Wildlife out of Bergen County.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilman Criscuolo; second by Councilman Ben-Yishay to adjourn the meeting at 9:20pm.

ATTEST:
Karen Campanelli, Township Clerk

Council President
Mark Bromberg

