

MINUTES
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, February 27, 2023
Council Chambers 7:30pm

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Council President Criscuolo called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

SALUTE TO FLAG

Council President Criscuolo asked all in attendance to join him in a Salute to the Flag.

SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT

Council President Criscuolo 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 Tolomeo, Councilwoman Sieg and Council President Criscuolo were present. Councilmen Ben-Yishay and Donovan were absent.

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

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Bromberg had no comments this evening.

Council Comments

Councilmembers Tolomeo and Sieg had no comments this evening.

Council President Criscuolo had no comments at this time.

Business Administrator Report

Mr. Rotella commented on Resolution 2023-84 for Settembrino Architects. He explained that after the drawings for the new Public Safety Complex were submitted to the State, a meeting was held with the Police Department, Dart Computer, and Goosetown, it was determined that the basement would have to be re-designed to accommodate additional IT equipment.

He next reported on Resolution #88, appointing the Director and Assistant Director of Social and Cultural Affairs. Mr. Rotella explained that Rachel Gallet has been serving as the Director since the middle of last year. Also, in the same resolution we are appointing an Assistant Director, Mr. Rotella met her, thinks she's going to be great, and she is very connected to the community. Additionally, she has children that attend both Woodside and Holdrum Schools.

Township Engineer Report

Mr. Statile reported that the 2022 Road Program is complete. Mr. Rotella added that they're continuing to repair damage from Hurricane Ida at the golf course, which includes the bridge and several other areas. The Township received approximately \$169,000 from FEMA for the repairs.

Mr. Statile continued that he has been working on a presentation to the Watershed Management Board for the DPW property acquisition. Mr. Rotella added that he feels confident about the presentation as it is within the Watershed Moratorium Act, and he will keep everyone updated.

Mr. Statile reported that Nela Carpentry completed the Ranges Fieldhouse renovation, and the project came out well. This project was fully funded with a CDBG grant.

Mr. Rotella reported that the Township has applied for a grant for improvements to Pasch Park. He added that the Township has cleared away a lot of the debris, and the park is surprisingly large. Mr. Rotella stated that their goal is to put in sidewalks from Beck to the Park and have an ADA ramp installed as well. Mr. Rotella feels this is beautiful park and a hidden gem.

Councilman Tolomeo commented that the turf at Mark Lane is approximately 12 years old, and at some point the turf will need to be replaced. He added that the field gets a lot of use which is terrific. Gennaro agreed, adding that Rich Campanelli maintains the field which has helped extend the life expectancy of the field. Gennaro further reported that the field has approximately 2 to 3 more years before turf needs to be replaced.

1st Hearing of the Public

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

John Telesca—607 Poplar Road—commented that because of the bridge reconstruction the traffic on Poplar has been very busy, and there has been a lot of speeding, despite there being 25pmh speed limit signs posted. Mr. Telesca has lived in Town since 1995. He has called the Police Department and asked for a speed sign, the Police responded that there is already one on the block. Mr. Telesca would like another speed sign further up on Poplar.

He also reported that (2) of his Christmas decorations were stolen, he feels this is due to the added traffic on the block. Mr. Telesca is also concerned there could be an accident and asked for assistance with this problem. He also called the County who informed him the project is expected to take 7 to 9 months and Poplar Road is not their responsibility.

Council President Criscuolo questioned if Poplar was a County road, Mr. Statile responded that it is not.

Councilwoman Sieg apologized that someone stole Mr. Telesca's personal property. And unfortunately, due to the construction you're going to have more traffic.

Mr. Rotella added that the Police Department has been actively monitoring Poplar Road and they're aware of the speeding due to the detour. Council President Criscuolo suggested using one of the temporary electronic signs.

There being no further questions or comments from the public. Motion by Councilwoman Sieg; second by Councilman Tolomeo to close the hearing of the public.

RESOLUTIONS

Motion by Councilman Tolomeo; second by Councilwoman Sieg to approve Resolutions #2023-83 through #2023-89 as a Consent Agenda as follows:

Resolution #2023-83

RESOLUTION APPROVING MINUTES FEBRUARY 13, 2023, COUNCIL MEETING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the minutes of the February 13, 2023, Council meeting of the Township Council are hereby approved.

Resolution #2023-84

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NOT TO EXCEED LIMITATIONS FOR SETTEMBRINO ARCHITECTS (NEW PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX IT/SECURITY INFRASTRUCTURE REVISIONS)

WHEREAS, on February 15, 2023, the Township Architect, Kevin M. Settembrino of Settembrino Architects submitted a proposal for proposed revisions to the IT/Security Infrastructure plan for the new Public Safety Complex in the amount of;

\$ 25,000.00

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 \$ 25,000.00 for Settembrino Architects.

Resolution #2023-85

RESOLUTION

(Escrow Refund)

WHEREAS, the owner of 656 Woodside Avenue (Block 304, Lot 1) had posted escrow for a permit-by-rule letter issued by the Township Engineer as part of their fence permit application; and

WHEREAS, both the Township Engineer and Construction Code Official have inspected said project and deemed the project complete, therefore the escrow balance may be released.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the remaining 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 a municipal check as follows:

Payable to:

“Carol Springsteen”

Mailing Address:

656 Woodside Avenue

River Vale, New Jersey 07675

Refund Amount: \$ 300.00

Resolution #2023-86

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE
VOLUNTEER TUITION CREDIT PROGRAM (P.L. 1998, c. 145)**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Township of River Vale in the County of Bergen, deem it appropriate to enhance the recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters and emergency medical volunteers in the Township of River Vale; and,

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has enacted P.L. 1998 c. 145 which permits municipal governments to allow their firefighting and emergency medical volunteers to take advantage of the Volunteer Tuition Credit Program at no cost to the municipal government.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale in the County of Bergen that the Volunteer Tuition Credit Program as set forth in P.L. 1998, c. 145 is hereby adopted for the volunteer firefighters and medical volunteers in the Township of River Vale.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Clerk is hereby delegated the responsibility to administer the program and is authorized to enter into all agreements and to maintain files of all documents as may be required under the P.L. 1998, c. 145, a copy of which is hereby made part of this resolution.

Resolution #2023-87

RESOLUTION

(TRANSFERS)

WHEREAS, there exists a need to make transfers in the 2022 Budget Appropriations Reserves, 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 2022 Budget Appropriations Reserves.

Inside CAP:

From:

Solid Waste & Recycling OE \$ 3,000.00

Total \$ 3,000.00

Inside CAP:

To:

Old Tappan Fuel OE \$ 3,000.00

Total \$ 3,000.00

Resolution #2023-88

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF THE SOCIAL & CULTURAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the appointments of

Rachel Galatt

as the Director for the Department of Social & Cultural Affairs; and

Amy E. Salib

as the Assistant Director for the Department of Social & Cultural Affairs are hereby confirmed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the terms of Director and Assistant Director shall run concurrent with the Mayor's term and expire on December 31, 2026.

Resolution #2023-89

PAYMENT OF BILLS

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale

that the Business Administrator is hereby authorized to pay the following claims:

CURRENT ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	422,180.47
RESERVE CURRENT ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	209,385.16
GOLF COURSE UTILITY OPERATING ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	70,292.36
RESERVE GOLF COURSE UTILITY OPERATING ACCT claims in the amount of:	\$	6,841.43
UNEMPLOYMENT TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		
ANIMAL TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		
PAYROLL AGENCY ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		

RECREATION TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	1,229.00
PRIVATE DUTY TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	69,632.09
SNOW TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	23,390.00
HOUSING TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		
JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		
GOLF COURSE UTILITY CAPITAL ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	52,997.50
OPEN SPACE TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		
CAPITAL ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	353,880.16
PLANNING BOARD TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	1,515.00
SPECIAL TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	7,047.50
ZONING BOARD TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		
TOTAL CLAIMS TO BE PAID	\$	1,218,390.67

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the following claims

have been paid by the Business Administrator prior to the Bill List Resolution in the following amounts:

CURRENT ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	4,824,234.99
RESERVE CURRENT ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	26,023.65
GOLF COURSE UTILITY OPERATING ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	341,253.59
RESERVE GOLF COURSE UTILITY OPERATING ACCT claims in the amount of:	\$	11,044.00
ACCUMULATED ABSENCES TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		
ANIMAL TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		
SNOW REMOVAL TRUST claims in the amount of:		
RECREATION TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	1,836.50
PAYROLL AGENCY TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	1,964.66
PRIVATE DUTY TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		
TAX SALE REDEMPTION TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		
TAX SALE PREMIUM TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		
UNEMPLOYMENT TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	381.59
UCC CODE ENF TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		
UTILITY CAPITAL ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	8,124.00
CAPITAL ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		
BOND TRUST claims in the amount of:		
SPECIAL TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	390.00
ZONING BOARD TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		
TOTAL CLAIMS PAID	\$	5,215,252.98
<i>TOTAL BILL LIST RESOLUTION</i>	\$	6,433,643.65

MANUAL DISBURSEMENTS

BILL LIST FOR February 27, 2023

1/30/202	Transfer		
3	Payroll	\$	375,232.65
2/15/202	Transfer		
3	Payroll	\$	345,567.38
TOTAL STATUTORY ACCOUNT DISTRIBUTIONS			\$ 720,800.03

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Ordinances for 1st Reading

ORDINANCE #410-2023

Motion to Introduce: Councilwoman Sieg

Seconded: Councilman Tolomeo

Council Discussion

Councilwoman Sieg questioned the status of the Pickleball Courts and can the system be in place by April. Mr. Rotella responded yes there is a plan in place, he has ordered 200 key fobs as part of the new system. Currently the courts are used on the honor system. He explained that there won't be a fee for River Vale residents to play but there will be a one-time fee for the key fob. Mr. Rotella further explained that in the ordinance there will be fees to replace lost key fobs and to purchase additional fobs for family members. He continued that there will be an annual fee for non-residents to play.

Council President Criscuolo asked if the fob could be turned off if the annual fee is not paid. Mr. Rotella responded yes because the system is digital.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RIVER VALE, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 166 OF THE CODE ENTITLED "PARKS AND RECREATION" ARTICLE II "RECREATION FACILITIES"

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the Chapter 166 of the Code is hereby amended as follows:

§ 166-6. Use of facilities.

- A. A permit from the Department of ~~Athletics~~ Recreation shall be required for use of all facilities except tennis courts, basketball courts, and walking paths. Applicants must have the permit in their possession at the facility during use. The permit application shall be on a form established by the Department of ~~Athletics~~ Recreation. Prior registration with the Department of Recreation is required to access the pickleball courts.
- B. The use of basketball courts and tennis courts is hereby restricted to the residents of the Township and their guests and to programs sanctioned by the Township. The use of pickleball courts is permitted by residents and nonresidents and to organized programs sanctioned by the Township only.
- C. Township-sponsored programs and groups have priority use of all facilities. Thereafter, permits shall be issued on a first come first-granted basis.
- D. Each organization that wishes to use any recreational facility must provide the Township Business Administrator with a certificate of insurance and sign a hold- harmless form provided by the Township. The certificate of insurance must show evidence of \$1,000,000 general liability coverage, and the Township must be named as an additional insured. Township-sponsored groups are exempt from this requirement.
- E. The Director of ~~Athletics~~ Recreation shall have the discretion to reasonably schedule seasons and

events.

F. Fees for the use of any recreational facilities will be determined in accordance with

§ 166-7 105-5 (Fees).

REMOVE SECTION 166-7. Fees Part A

~~§ 166-7. Fees.~~¹ ~~[Added 5-23-2002 by Ord. No. 0-10-02; amended 3-14-2005 by Ord. No. 101-2005; 3-13-2006 by Ord. No. 145-2006; 3-28-2011 by Ord. No. 247-2011; 5-11-2015 by Ord. No. 300-2015]~~

A. Summer program. Fees for the summer program shall be as follows:

- (1) Swimming: \$20 per child.
- (2) Camp Have Some Fun (There will be a multi-child discount for Camp Have Some Fun campers.):
 - (a) Monday to Friday: \$260 per camper.
 - (b) Monday, Wednesday, and Friday only: \$230 per camper.
 - (c) Tuesday and Thursday only: \$200 per camper.

§ 166-7. **Recreation facilities.** Subject to the exclusions provided in Subsection B(5) and 6 B(10), fees for the use of recreational facilities shall be as follows:

- (1) Per time slot for field use by a resident team or resident corporation: ~~\$75~~ \$100.
- (2) Per time slot for field use by a nonresident team or nonresident corporation: ~~\$150~~ \$200.
- (3) Per use for the Community/Senior Center by a nonresident organization: \$50.
- (4) Pickleball court use for River Vale residents: \$25 one-time registration fee per family. Each additional key fob per family: \$10.
- (5) Pickleball court use per person, per calendar year, for nonresidents: \$50.
- (6) Pickleball court key fob replacement, residents & nonresidents: \$10.
- (7) Definitions. As used herein the following terms will have the meanings set forth below:
 - NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION — Any organization that is not organized or and does not exist for the purpose of making a profit and which does not pay its coaches or directors a fee or salary.
 - NONRESIDENT CORPORATION — Any company that does not own or lease ~~commercial~~ property within the Township of River Vale.
 - NONRESIDENT TEAM — Any athletic team that does not have at least 75% of its roster filled with River Vale residents.
 - NONRESIDENT ORGANIZATION — Any nonprofit organization or group that does not have at least 75% of its members as River Vale residents.
 - RESIDENT CORPORATION — Any company that owns or leases ~~commercial~~ property within the Township of River Vale.
 - RESIDENT TEAM — Any athletic team comprised of at least 75% of its roster with River Vale residents.
 - TIME SLOT — An uninterrupted two-hour time period, or any part thereof, that a field is being used by an approved team.
- (8) Any field use requiring use of lights will require an additional fee of 10% of the total applicable fee.
- (9) There will be no credit provided for any unused field time slots.

(10) Notwithstanding the foregoing, any athletic team that is part of the following organizations shall be excluded from the provisions hereof:

- ~~(a) –River Vale All Star Basketball (RVAB);~~
- (a) River Vale Basketball Association (RVBA);
- (b) River Vale Rascals Preschool Soccer;
- (c) River Vale T-Ball;
- (d) River Vale Baseball/Softball (RVBSA);
- (e) River Vale Junior Football and Cheerleading (RVJFA);
- (f) River Vale Youth Soccer Association (RVYSA);
- (g) Pascack Valley Youth Soccer;
- (h) Pascack Valley Junior Wrestling;
- (i) Pascack Lacrosse;
- (j) River Vale Board of Education;
- (k) Pascack Valley High School.

(11) Also, notwithstanding the foregoing, any athletic team comprised of at least 75% of its roster with River Vale residents and which operates as a nonprofit organization shall be excluded from the provisions hereof.

(12) Fees for special events (including charity events, tournaments, fundraisers, etc.) will be determined at the discretion of the Department of Athletics-Recreation on an event-by-event basis.

(13) Any person (including any team, corporation, or other organization) found in violation of the provisions hereof will be subject to a fine not to exceed twice the amount of fees that would have otherwise been imposed upon such person pursuant to the provisions of this section. In addition to any fines imposed hereof, violations of this section may result in the loss of future field use privilege.

This Ordinance shall take effect following adoption and approval in a time and manner prescribed by law.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

ORDINANCE #411-2023

Motion to Introduce: Councilwoman Sieg

Seconded: Councilman Tolomeo

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RIVER VALE, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 105 OF THE CODE ENTITLED "FEES"

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the Chapter 105 of the Code is hereby amended as follows:

§105-5. Fee Schedule.

B. Recreation

<u>Camp</u>	<u>Fee (per camper)</u>
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Camp Have Some Fun		<u>2023</u>
Monday to Friday	\$415	\$430
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday only	\$370	\$380
Tuesday and Thursday only	\$325	\$330
Camp Have Some Fun Late Fee		\$25
Kindergarten Camp	\$315	\$320
Safety Town	\$115	\$200

§ 105-8. Golf Course Daily Rates.

A. Monday through Thursday

	<u>Public</u>	<u>Resident</u>
Midday (7:30am to 2:59pm)	\$60 to \$95	\$40 to \$70 \$75

§ 105-9. Membership Fees.

	<u>Public</u>	<u>Resident</u>
Cart fee	\$28 \$30	\$28 \$30

This Ordinance shall take effect following adoption and approval in a time and manner prescribed by law.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

There were no Ordinances for 2nd Reading and Public Hearing

2nd Hearing of the Public

Motion by Councilwoman Sieg, second by Councilman Tolomeo to open the meeting to the public.

There being no questions or comments from the public. Motion by Councilwoman Sieg, second by Councilman Tolomeo to close the hearing of the public.

RESOLUTION

Resolution #2023-90

Motion by Councilwoman Sieg; second by Councilman Tolomeo to approve Resolution #2023-90 as follows:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNCIL TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION

BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 *et seq.* the Township Council of the Township of River Vale will now convene into Closed Session to discuss Litigation matters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon adjourning from Closed Session action may be taken.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Motion by Councilman Tolomeo, second by Councilwoman Sieg to adjourn from Closed Session.

RESOLUTION

Resolution #2023-91

Motion by Councilwoman Sieg; second by Councilman Tolomeo to approve Resolution #2023-91 as follows:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN

RELEASE AND SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH RON MANKE

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the Mayor is hereby authorized to sign the Release and Settlement Agreement with Ron Manke.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilman Tolomeo; second by Councilwoman Sieg to adjourn the meeting at 8:31pm.

Council President Paul Criscuolo

ATTEST:

Karen Campanelli, Township Clerk

