

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE
BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER
HELD December 16, 2013**

PRESENT: Mayor Raia, Council President Mastriano, Council Members: Boardman, DeCrosta, Kurpis, Toomey, Walencyk, Borough Clerk Macari, Administrator Cuccia, Attorney Russell Huntington

ABSENT:

PRESIDING: Mayor Raia called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.; Borough Clerk Macari read the following statement:

PUBLIC NOTICE: "Notice of this meeting in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act Chapter 231 of the laws of 1975, has been given by posting a notice of the scheduled dates of all regular meetings of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Saddle River on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and in the office of the Borough Clerk and by emailing a notice thereof to the Ridgewood Newspapers and The Record on December 20, 2012, the Borough website and also via E-Notify.

NOTIFICATION OF FIRE EXITS

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AWARDS AND CEREMONIES

WORK SESSION:

MAYOR RAI:

Northwest Bergen Mayor's Meeting: Mayor Raia stated that the group did not have a meeting but attended a holiday party and continued to discuss working together in order to implement shared services and save taxpayer dollars.

N.J. League of Municipalities Conference: Mayor Raia stated that he found this conference to be very informative and enjoyed moderating one of the sessions as well.

ADMINISTRATOR CUCCIA:

Engineering Update: At this time Mr. Spence gave the engineering update as follows:

- The Lower Cross Bridge plaque has been installed and the project is now complete
- The Ackerman Road project is complete and the road will be resurfaced in spring 2014
- The Rindlaub Field House design is underway
- The 2014 road resurfacing program will take place in the spring of 2014, with the list generated by the Borough
- A list of capital improvements will be generated for 2014 shortly
- The Streetscape project will be done in phases and include East Saddle River Road and East Allendale Road, with improvements being made to the lighting and sidewalks

Public Safety Update: Police Chief McWilliams reminded residents to make their homes looked lived in as the surrounding towns are still experiencing break-ins.

Transfer Resolution: Administrator Cuccia stated that this resolution will be part of the Consent Agenda.

At this time, Borough Planner Richard Preiss gave an overview of the Tree Preservation Ordinance; a Power Point presentation was utilized to compare the original ordinance (1993-2012) the current ordinance (2012-2013) and the proposed ordinance. The Mayor and Council discussed the proposed ordinance and were in agreement that it will provide more clear and concise requirements for residents to abide by.

Annual Report from Frank Covelli, Risk Manager, Professional Insurance Associates:

At this time, Frank Covelli reviewed the Annual Report for 2013 in detail regarding the property and casualty and related insurance coverages provided by the Municipality's membership in the MEL & JIF. The Mayor and Council were in receipt of this report.

Correction to Ordinance No. 13-881-C: Administrator Cuccia reviewed the proposed zoning revision in Ordinance 13-881-C. Section 210.47 in the existing ordinance references public buildings and will reference churches in the proposed amended ordinance. Additionally, Administrator Cuccia explained other changes in this ordinance in detail at this time. Mayor Raia commended the Ordinance Review Committee for their diligent work with amending ordinances where necessary.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Council Member Toomey stated that Ordinance Review Committee has worked to make the necessary amendments to 13-881-C and 13-884-C and these were reviewed at a Special Meeting of the Planning Board on December 10, 2013; both were found to be consistent with the Master Plan. He further stated that in January, the Committee will continue to work on and amend additional parts of Chapter 210, Zoning, as necessary.

Council President Mastriano stated that the Tree Lighting took place on December 6, 2013 and, despite the inclement weather, the event was successful. She further stated that the Wandell Board of Education will meet on December 17, 2013 to address whether Wandell students will continue to attend middle school at Smith School in Ramsey or explore other options.

BOROUGH ATTORNEY:

MUNICIPAL CLERK: Municipal Clerk Macari stated that the Reorganization Meeting will take place on January 1, 2014 at 11:00am and all are invited to attend.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE(S) There were none.

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE(S):

ORDINANCE NO. 13-881-C

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CERTAIN PORTIONS OF CHAPTER 210
THE ZONING CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER**

Resolution Offered by Council Member Toomey

Seconded by Council Member Walencyk

Motion to Open to the Public Offered by Council Member Mastriano

Seconded by Council Member Kurpis

Voice Vote: All Ayes

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Eric Jensen, 131 Mill Road stated that he feels that this is one of the most important ordinances in the Borough and he has several problems with the contents. He further stated that he was surprised that this is on the agenda after finding changes between the first reading and this version. He would like to have this ordinance withdrawn at this time.

Mr. Jensen introduced Steven Lydon, Professional Planner, Burgis Associates, Westwood, NJ at this time. Mr. Lydon stated that he feels it is in the best interest to withdraw this ordinance; the Planning reviewed this ordinance at a special meeting on December 10, 2013; the notice published did not include the date of the hearing, making that hearing null and void.

A motion to withdraw this Ordinance was offered by Council Member Toomey.

ORDINANCE NO. 13-884-C

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CERTAIN PORTIONS OF CHAPTER 202 TREES OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER

Resolution Offered by Council Member Toomey

Seconded by Council Member Boardman

Motion to Open to the Public Offered by Council President Mastriano

Seconded by Council Member Kurpis

Voice Vote: All Ayes

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Corinne Kerner, 229 West Saddle River Road stated that this ordinance was also addressed and approved at the special meeting of the Planning Board on December 10, 2013. The Mayor and Council confirmed that this was the case and the motion was withdrawn.

Motion to Close to the Public Offered by Council President Mastriano

Seconded by Council Member Kurpis

Voice Vote: All Ayes

A motion to withdraw this ordinance was offered by Council Member Toomey

Seconded by Council Member Boardman

Voice Vote: All Ayes

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Resolution # 125-13 Offered Council Member Walencyk

Seconded by Council Member DeCrosta

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Unanimous

RESOLUTIONS

All matters listed hereunder are considered routine in nature and will be enacted in one motion. Any Council Member may request that an item be removed for separate consideration. Considering approval of minutes, a yes vote will indicate a vote in favor of approval of the minutes of each meeting at which the Council Member was present and abstention with respect to the minutes of meetings at which such Council Member was not present.

Resolution Offered by Council President Mastriano
Seconded by Council Member Walenczyk

Explanation of Consent Agenda Items

At this time, Administrator Cuccia briefly explained the resolutions on the Consent Agenda.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

Roll Call Vote: AYES, Unanimous

- A. Approval of Minutes:** Regular Meeting of November 18, 2013
- B. Resolutions:**

- R# 126-13 Transfers**
- R# 127-13 Extension of the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse grant term until June 30, 2014**
- R# 128-13 Cancellation of taxes due to incorrect added assessment Blk 1606 Lot 7**
- R# 129-13 Refund of taxes as listed in the resolution**
- R# 130-13 Valley Hospital Agreement**
- R# 131-13 Overpayment to Investors Bank; paid Saddle River in error**
- R# 132-13 Overpayment of taxes – Blk.1901 Lot 45 & Blk. 1702 Lot 32.02**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Board of Health: There was no report at this time.

Const. & Zoning Enforcemt. Council Member Boardman gave the report for November 2013.

Environmental Committee: There was no report at this time.

Fire Report: Council Member Walenczyk gave the report for November 2013.

Police Report: Council Member Walenczyk gave the report for November 2013.

Finance Report: Council Member Walenczyk gave the report for November 2013.

Landmarks Committee: There was no report at this time.

Public Works: Council President Mastriano gave the report for November 2013.

Parks and Recreation: There was no report at this time.

Planning Board: Council Member Walencyk gave the report for December 2013.

Zoning Board: Council Member Toomey gave the report for November 2013.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Marilyn Goldfisher, 124 West Saddle River Road stated that there is a jam of debris in the Saddle River adjacent to the hardware store. She further stated that the water flow will be greatly impeded if this is not cleaned up. Ms. Goldfisher stated that the "Skate At Your Own Risk" sign is not sufficient and skating should be prohibited completely.

Henry Senger, 69 West Saddle River Road thanked Council President Mastriano and Council Member Boardman for their service on the Council.

Patty Nazzaro, Westwind Court thanked Council President Mastriano and Council Boardman for all their hard work and commitment to the Borough of Saddle River.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Council Member Boardman thanked the Mayor and Council for afforded him the opportunity to serve as a member of the Council and stated that it was a very rewarding experience.

Council Member Kurpis asked about the Police Department overtime figures and Chief McWilliams stated that two officers were added and an additional officer is will begin training shortly, which will reduce the current overtime hours. Additionally, the overtime hours reflect the Police Department's increased activity with the burglaries. Council President Mastriano thanked the Mayor and Council and the staff for affording her the opportunity to serve the Borough of Saddle River.

Mayor Raia thanked those that participated in the League of Municipalities Conference. Additionally, Mayor Raia stated that he is proud to have served with both Council President Mastriano and Council Member Boardman and wished them all the best in the future.

RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSION

At this time, a resolution was read to go into Closed Session.

Resolution # 133-13 Offered by Council President Mastriano
Second by Council Member Boardman
Roll Call Vote: AYES: Unanimous

At 10:00pm the Mayor and Council resumed the regular meeting.

Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Agreement between the Borough of Saddle River and Captian Cosgriff

Resolution #134-13 Offered by Council President Mastriano
Seconded by Kurpis
Roll Call Vote: AYES, Unanimous

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn was made and seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Elena Macari
Borough Clerk

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