

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE
BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER
HELD MARCH 18, 2013**

PRESENT: Mayor Raia, Council President Mastriano, Council Members: Boardman, Kurpis, Mutter, Toomey, Walenczyk, 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

ADMINISTRATOR CUCCIA:

2013 Budget Hearing: Administrator Cuccia stated that there will be a Public Hearing prior to the adoption of the 2013 municipal budget. He further stated that there is no tax increase. Additionally, he addressed the water allocation from United Water, which is in the process of being adjusted.

Police Department Annual Report: Administrator Cuccia asked Chief McWilliams to address any questions regarding the 2012 Annual Report. He addressed the increase in stolen vehicles and urged the public not to leave keys or key fobs in the car. Mayor Raia suggested reminding residents about this issue in the next newsletter.

Environmental Commission Annual Report: Administrator Cuccia stated that the Mayor and Council are in receipt of this report for their review.

Zoning Board of Adjustment Annual Report: Administrator Cuccia stated that the Mayor and Council are in receipt of this report for their review.

Engineering Update:

- The Lower Cross Road Bridge repair should be completed by May 2013 and is being funded by the County.
- The Saddle River Grand town home development will be ongoing into 2014; CO's have started to be issued.
- The Saddle River Museum stabilization project will commence shortly and will take approximately two months.
- Recommended capital improvements for 2013 include road reconstruction on the bottom portion of Ackerman Road which could include running an additional water line, the road re-surfacing program, improvements to the Vargish Pump Station and tax map updates.
- The road re-surfacing program will be underway shortly, starting with an evaluation of which roads are in greatest need of re-surfacing and then putting the project out to bid.

Ordinance 13-876-M Road Improvements: Administrator Cuccia stated that the Mayor and Council are in receipt of this ordinance, in the amount of \$125,000; it will be introduced later in the meeting.

Ordinance 13-877-M Ackerman Road Improvements: Administrator Cuccia stated that the Mayor and Council are in receipt of this ordinance, in the amount of \$550,000; it will be introduced later in the meeting.

Josephine's Garden Fund Raiser: Administrator Cuccia explained that the Rispoli family would like to hold this fund raiser in Rindlaub Park in memory of their daughter.

Crown Castle/T-Mobile: Administrator Cuccia stated that Crown Castle, a management company, has taken over the cell tower site.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Council President Mastriano stated that the Municipal Building Renovation Sub-Committee met on March 13, 2013 and reviewed the initial plan, generated by Gus Morpurgo. She explained this plan in detail at this time. She further stated that the committee decided to reach out to a neighboring municipality that recently underwent a municipal building renovation to obtain feedback regarding the process. The meeting is held monthly at 8:00am in the Municipal Building, is open to the public, and the date is available prior to the meeting on the Borough website.

Council Member Boardman stated that the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting me on March 13, 2013 and addressed grants to be utilized for field house improvements. He further stated that field usage applications have been approved for the spring 2013 season and a removable pitching mound was approved and will be purchased by the Ho-Ho-Kus/Saddle River sports association.

Mayor Raia complimented the Council on their hard work from 2008 to date in procuring grant monies totaling \$1,931,705.

Council Member Mutter stated that AT&T has contacted the Borough to relocate a cellular antenna from the cupola by the post office to the tower on the police department property. The cell tower committee intends to meet with AT&T to address this issue and this meeting will be open to the public. Additional studies will be performed to insure that all of the safety protocol continues to be in effect and all results will be posted on the Borough website when completed.

MUNICIPAL CLERK:

Municipal Clerk Macari stated that petitions are due at the Borough Hall on April 1, 2013 by 4:00pm.

BOROUGH ATTORNEY:

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE(S):

ORDINANCE NO. 13-875-M

AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED INDEX CAP RATE FOR THE YEAR 2013

Resolution # 39-13 Offered by Council President Mastriano
Seconded by Council Member Walencyk
Roll Call Vote: AYES, Unanimous

INTRODUCTION OF THE 2013 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Resolution #40-13 Offered by Council Member Walencyk
Seconded by Council Member Boardman
Roll Call Vote: AYES, Unanimous

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE(S): There were none.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Resolution # 41-13 Offered Council Member Walencyk
Seconded by Council Member Kurpis
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 Toomey**

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 1/21/13

B. Resolutions:

R# 42-13 Soil Movement – Blk. 1301 Lot 29 - Iwasaki
R# 43-13 Refund due to reduced assessment – Blk. 1502 Lot 36
R# 44-13 Self Examination of the Budget

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Board of Health: Council Member Mutter gave the report for January 2013.

Const. & Zoning Enforcement. Council Member Boardman gave the report for January 2013.

Environmental Committee: Council Member Kurpis gave the report for January 2013.

Fire Report: Council Member Walencyk gave the report for January 2013.

Police Report: Council Member Mutter gave the report for January 2013.

Finance Report: Council Member Walencyk gave the report for January 2013.

Landmarks Committee: Council Member gave the report for January 2013.

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

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

Planning Board: Council President Walencyk gave the report for February 2013.

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

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Paul Schulstad, 20 Eckert Farm Road asked about the size of the police force in the Borough and Mayor Raia stated that there are currently 16 officers and there are no plans to make any changes at this time.

Mr. Schulstad asked about any involvement by the prior administration regarding the renovation of the Municipal Building and Mayor Raia stated that it was discussed but that no professionals were retained. He further asked if any of the members of the Ad Hoc Committee, including Mayor Raia had a prior relationship with SNS Architects, the architect retained to work on the municipal building renovation. Mayor Raia stated that Raia Properties had retained SNS in the past but he had no input when they were retained by the Borough.

Mayor Raia encouraged Mr. Schulstad to join a Board, Commission or the Governing Body so he would obtain an understanding of how municipal government operates.

Corrine Kerner, 229 West Saddle River Road asked about the document inventory and if there were any other documents generated by the Ad Hoc Committee that may be available. She further stated that the

most recent documents uploaded to the website were not available when she made an OPRA request. Administrator Cuccia stated that Borough Clerk Macari is the responsible official for OPRA requests and she asked both the Ad Hoc Committee as well as the professionals for all information related to this project. Mrs. Kerner asked if an index of all information would be constructed and Council President stated that all of the information was on the website; Mrs. Kerner disagreed. Borough Attorney Huntington reviewed OPRA law, stating that the process mandates making public records available promptly and where those records may be scattered beyond the reach of the records custodian, it is incumbent upon that custodian to reach out to the necessary parties to obtain requested records. He stated that Ms. Macari has complied with all requests for information to date.

Mayor Raia stated that there were several presentations by the Committee and the architects and it is now the job of the sub-committee to evaluate all of the information and make a recommendation to the Mayor and Council; there is no pre-determined direction at this point regarding this project

Marilyn Goldfisher, 124 West Saddle River Road asked who owns the boom behind the Saddle River Inn. Administrator Cuccia stated that the Borough owns the boom. She further stated that there is still a large amount of debris which blocks the river and floods her property and she encouraged the Mayor and Council to consider a different boom.

Borough Engineer Spence stated that the boom presently in place is similar to the prior boom. He further stated that he would see if any further maintenance is required.

CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC:

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the regular meeting of the Mayor and Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Elena Macari
Borough Clerk

F/Nwwp/f/min/M&C02-2013