

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE
BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER
HELD APRIL 21, 2008**

PRESENT: Mayor Raia, Council President Burke, Council Members FitzPatrick, Mastriano, Murray, Re, 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:

"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 faxing notice thereof to the Ridgewood Newspapers and The Record on January 2, 2007.

NOTIFICATION OF FIRE EXITS

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

AWARDS AND CERMONIES: Mayor Raia presented Barbara Lewis and Louise Simon, members of the Planning Board and Zoning Board respectively, with plaques for their years of dedicated service upon their recent retirement.

WORK SESSION

Mayor Raia

Improvements to the Municipal Building: Mayor Raia stated that the Municipal Building is very short on space and has had several meeting with Architect Gus Morpurgo to see if he could come up with an appropriate solution. He distributed information regarding some proposed ideas and costs to the Council and asked that they review it.

Parks and Recreation Commission: Mayor Raia stated that he would like to appoint Mr. Stuart Hinchin to the committee and requested that a resolution reflecting this appointment be passed at the next Mayor and Council meeting on May 19, 2008.

Mayor's Conference: Mayor Raia stated that he attended the Mayor's Conference on April 10, 2008, which addressed several topics. One of the meetings he attended was regarding small communities vs. larger communities and the efficiency with which both are run. He further stated that he feels that Saddle River is run extremely efficiently with shared services and purchasing. A COAH presentation was also part of the conference and he explained this in detail to the Council. An ethics presentation was made by Mr. Bill FitzPatrick which was also very informative.

ADMINISTRATOR CUCCIA

14 Denison Drive Blk. 1502 Lot 36 , Dan Funsch request regarding vacation of an existing drainage easement and creation of a new drainage easement:

Borough Engineer Martin Spence explained this issue to the Mayor and Council, using the site plan to show detail. Mr. Funsch, the home owner, needs to have this easement vacated so that he may proceed with the demolition of the existing home. The easement was to be vacated by the prior homeowner but that did not occur, for reasons that are unclear. It was agreed that this easement would be vacated.

Authorization to enter into an Interlocal Services Agreement with the County of Bergen:

Martin Spence explained that the Borough of Saddle River has been petitioning the County for additional drainage on East Saddle River Road as well as a permanent culvert. The Borough would do the design and administration of the project and the County would provide the funding. It will take approximately a year and a half as it will require DEP approval. This will be part of the Consent Agenda.

14 Warewoods Road – Request to Vacate an Easement: Martin Spence explained that the home owner contacted the Borough requesting that this easement be vacated as it was not needed on the property and a resolution reflecting this will be part of the Consent Agenda.

Safety Awards: Administrator Cuccia stated that the Borough of Saddle River had the best safety record among the towns in the Joint Insurance Fund.

LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Council): Administrator Cuccia stated that a meeting must be set up with this committee and suggested that perhaps some time in the late afternoon could be convenient.

Saddle River Water Utility: Martin Spence updated the Mayor and Council on the water main issue, referencing a memo on this topic distributed on April 15, 2008.

Burning Hollow Water Main: Administrator Cuccia stated that letters went out to residents in Burning Hollow on April 1, 2008 explaining that the water main construction would take approximately three months, there would be no interruption in water service and the project would include the installation of fire hydrants.

Tax Collector Opposing Senate Bill 1455: Administrator Cuccia stated that this bill calls for a referendum to consolidate the municipal tax assessor, tax collector, health services and animal control services, giving municipalities no option. He urged the Mayor and Council to oppose this and a resolution reflecting this will be part of the Consent Agenda.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Council Member Mastriano stated that she would like to put together an advisory committee addressing Green initiatives in the Borough. She further stated that she is using a resolution from another municipality as a guideline and she intends to draft a resolution for the Borough of Saddle River with Administrator Cuccia. She further stated that she has a Green exhibit planned for Saddle River night as well.

Council Member Mastriano stated that when the Parks and Recreation Commission last met they discussed the proposed band shell for Rindlaub Park. The Borough currently has a grant for this band shell and Council Member Mastriano stated that she has hopes that the students at Wandell can get use out of it as well. Mayor Raia stated that he feels it is important to establish the need for this band shell and encouraged Council Member Mastriano to query other town organizations to determine if they would have a need for it.

Council Member FitzPatrick stated that the Memorial Day Committee is planning for the ceremony for May 26, 2008. She further stated that they are currently looking for a speaker.

Council Member FitzPatrick stated that the Downtown Preservation Committee is meeting on April 22, 2008 and will hopefully be able to present something to the Mayor and Council at the next meeting.

Council President Burke discussed the need for a Borough Historian, which we currently do not have. He further stated that he believes that Mr. John May would be a good candidate and he referred to a memo which included Mr. May's resume. Additionally, there is a need for a museum curator and Council President Burke stated that he believes that Mr. Jon Kurpis would be a good candidate for that as well.

Council Member Re inquired about changing the vendor of the mandatory health physicals for firefighters from Hackensack University Medical Center to the Valley Hospital and asked Administrator Cuccia to explain the status of this. Administrator Cuccia stated that he met with the Valley Hospital and they are revising the quote for the services that we require.

Council Member Mutter stated that he is in receipt of the Monthly DPW Report for March from Director of Operations, Bruce Mautz and gave the Mayor and Council a brief run down on what was accomplished.

Council Member Murray asked about Harry Carter's recommendation regarding the ISO rating survey. Administrator Cuccia asked Fire Chief Brian Yates to discuss this, which he did in detail.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES: Clerk to read the title of:

ORDINANCE 08-815-M

BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE UPGRADING OF THE POLICE COMMUNICATIONS DESK AND THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY FOR THE USE OF THE POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$550,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

Resolution #55-08 Offered by Council Member Burke
Seconded by Council Member Murray
Roll Call Vote: AYES, Unanimous

ORDINANCE 08-816-C

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 113, ENTITLED "FIRE PREVENTION" IN THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER NEW JERSEY

Resolution #56-08 Offered by Council Member Re
Seconded by Council Member Murray
Roll Call Vote: AYES, Unanimous

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE(S): There were none.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Resolution # 57-08 Offered by Council President Murray
Seconded by Council Member Mutter
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 by Council Member Burke
Seconded by Council Member Re
Roll Call Vote: AYES, Unanimous

At this time, Administrator Cuccia explained Resolution # 68-08, GDL 2008, per Council Member FitzPatrick's request.

Explanation of Consent Agenda Items

A. *Approval of Minutes: March 17, 2008*

B. **Resolutions:**

- R#58-08 Soil Movement – Rogers Blk. 2102 Lot 5
- R#59-08 Interlocal Health Services Agreement – Hack.
- R#60-08 Agreement for Culvert Replacement
- R#61-08 GDL2008 Enforcement and Educ. Grant
- R#62-08 Canceling lien 07-003 on Blk. 1603 Lot 2
- R#63-08 Resignation of Jane Innocenti
- R#64-08 Author. Raffle – Knights of Columbus
- R#65-08 Tax Collector's Opposition to Senate Bill 1455
- R#66-08 Request to vacate and create a new easement – 14 Denison Dr.
- R#67-08 Request for to vacate an easement – 14 Warewoods Rd.

Open to the Public for Consent Agenda Items Only:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Report: Council Member Murray gave the financial report for the month of March.

Fire Report: Council Member Re gave the report for March of 2008 and stated that this report is on file with the Borough Clerk. Fire Chief Yates gave specific details.

Police Report: Council President Burke stated that the report is on file with the Borough Clerk for March 2008. He further stated that Police Officers Nunn and Psota assisted the Allendale Police Department with an incident and commended them for their actions.

Construction & Zoning Enforcement: Council President Burke gave the report for March 2008.

Public Works: Council Member Mutter gave the report earlier in the meeting for March 2008.

Board of Health: Council Member Mutter stated that there was no report for March 2008.

Planning Board: Council President Burke gave the report for February 2008.

Zoning Board: Council Member FitzPatrick gave the reports for March and April 2008.

Parks and Recreation: Council Member Mastriano stated that there was no meeting.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Mr. Michael Toomey, 52 Westerly Road commended the Mayor and Council for the most recent newsletter and stated that it was an improvement over newsletters in the past. In addition, he discussed the library situation and asked if we are planning to continue to pursue the possibility of obtaining library privileges at neighboring towns. Mayor Raia suggested that Administrator Cuccia address this issue. He explained that it would cost over \$600,000 per year, per State regulations, plus an additional fee per applicant for the residents of the Borough of Saddle River to have privileges at a neighboring library. He further explained that there was significant research done on this issue and believes that the system is antiquated but is hopeful that the State government will address and update it in the future.

UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS:

At this time, Mayor Raia appointed Mr. John May as the Borough Historian and Mr. Jon Kurpis as the Museum Curator. The Council approved these appointments unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSION

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

Resolution # 68-08 was offered by Council Member FitzPatrick
Seconded by Council Member Re
Roll Call Vote: AYES: Unanimous

A motion to adjourn the Closed Session and return to the Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council was made and seconded.

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/MINMCapril