

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE  
HELD DECEMBER 15, 2014**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Raia, Council President Toomey, Council Members: DeCrosta, Kerner, Kurpis, Walenczyk, Acting Borough Administrator Shenkler, Borough Clerk Macari, Borough Attorney Huntington

**ABSENT:** Council Member Gray

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**PRESIDING:** Mayor Raia called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 23, 2013, the Borough website and also via E-Notify. Time change sent on September 20, 2014.

**NOTIFICATION OF FIRE EXITS**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**AWARDS AND CEREMONIES:** Mayor Raia presented Council Member Jerry DeCrosta and Council President Toomey service plaques and commended them for their diligent efforts throughout their terms on the Borough Council.

Police Chief McWilliams read a letter of commendation regarding the apprehension of a group of burglars working in both New York and New Jersey. Captain Jason Cosgriff, Detective Sargent Tim Gerity and Detective Ed Riedel worked tirelessly with many other police forces to finally capture and arrest these dangerous criminals. Mayor Raia presented apprehension awards to Cosgriff, Gerity and Riedel and once again commended for their efforts.

**WORK SESSION:**

**MAYOR RAI:**

**Re-Paving of Boroline Road:** Mayor Raia stated that he has spoken with the DOT and we will be receiving the funding to proceed with the re-paving of Boroline Road. He further stated that the Transportation Trust Fund is in need of restructuring in order to provide the monies necessary for road and bridge repairs.

**Legislative Day:** Mayor Raia stated that he will be attending Legislative Day with many other mayor's from throughout the state on February 4, 2015 in Trenton.

**COAH Committee:** Mayor Raia stated that there are new regulations for COAH and we must be prepared with a plan in order to remain compliant. In January, he would like to appoint Council Member Kerner and Council Member elect Jensen to be members of this committee.

**League of Municipalities:** Mayor Raia stated that the conference was, once again, extremely informative and he was pleased that members from both the Council and Planning Board were in attendance.

**Wildlife Management Committee:** Mayor Raia stated that he is going to appoint a Wildlife Management Committee to include Council Member elect Schulstad, Council Member DeCrosta, Environmental Chairman Bob LaViano, Zoning Board Member Patty Nazzaro and residents Dr. Carpenter and Sue Fremont. Council Member DeCrosta will chair this committee, which will be responsible for evaluating all deer management options.

### **ADMINISTRATOR SHENKLER:**

**PEG Bandwith/Utility Company:** Administrator Shenkler stated that PEG Bandwith has submitted a proposal for the installation of fiberoptic cables through the Borough of Saddle River, from the existing tower on East Allendale Road and the Route 17 interchange to the Woodcliff Lake border on County Road and on to the Garden State Parkway. Mr. John Mancuso from PEG Bandwith explained this in detail; Mayor Raia stated that more information would be necessary regarding this issue and he would like to further consider this at the January 19, 2015 meeting of the Mayor and Council.

### **ENGINEERING UPDATE:**

At this time Borough Engineer Martin Spence gave the following update:

Mr. Spence outlined a budget analysis of the road paving project throughout the Borough, explaining that there are 42 miles of roadway in Saddle River, with about 27 that are Borough owned. The lifecycle of road paving is approximately 15 years and, in order to stay on this cycle, the cost is approximately \$248,000 annually at \$26.00 per linear foot of roadway. A map of these roadways was addressed at this time with those roadways that have not been paved in over 10 years identified and deemed a priority. He also stated that roadways where water lines have recently installed, should not be considered for paving in the near future.

- The Streetscape Project Phase II is in the design phase and the solicitation of bids will go out shortly and should be ready for review at the Mayor and Council meeting on January 19, 2015.
- The water line installation program is ongoing, with lines being installed on Charlden Drive and extending onto Twin Brooks Road.
- The replacement of the DPW salt shed, the installation of a generator at the Safety Complex and the expansion of the DPW offices will be addressed in 2015 and specs are being worked on at this time.
- The Rindlaub restroom replacement project has been designed and a block grant has been submitted with the base bid being approximately \$53,000.

**Closed Circuit TV/Security Cameras at Wandell School:** Acting Administrator Shenkler stated that bids went out to three vendors for the purchase of these cameras, with the lowest bid being under the threshold of \$36,000. The installation contract will be done separately and all were in agreement that this project should move forward as soon as possible in 2015.

### **BOROUGH CLERK MACARI**

Borough Clerk Macari stated that a Special School Election will be held on January 27, 2015 with the hours of voting from 2:00pm to 9:00pm. The installation of a new HVAC system in the amount of \$3,097,091 is slated to be voted on. Mayor Raia stated that he feels that this amount is extremely high, based on the square footage and this matter should be continue to be addressed in order to keep taxes

low in Saddle River. It was decided that this would be addressed during the public session.

Borough Clerk Macari stated that a new beauty salon in the Colonial Shopping Center is seeking permission to put up a temporary sign and Mayor Raia suggested that she be allowed to do so for 30 days and it will be re-evaluated at that time.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS**

Council Member Walencyk explained the Transfer Resolution in the Consent Agenda in the amount of \$57,000.

Council Member DeCrosta stated that he will further address the Deer Management Issue during the public session.

Council Member Kurpis discussed Board of Health issues, highlighting a health screening and the flu shot program made available to Saddle River residents. The deer issue was also discussed by the Board of Health. The Fire Department report was given at this time, highlighting the problem with false alarms.

Council Member Kerner stated that there is an error in the Grasanti Planning Board resolution and explained the error in detail at this time. She further stated that she would like to address the inclusion of fire suppression systems in Planning Board resolutions moving forward.

Council President Toomey stated that the Tree Lighting and Winter Festival held on December 5, 2014 was a success, despite the inclement weather. He further stated that the Ordinance Review Committee will reconvene in 2015 and will have an opportunity to address three important issues; cell towers, alternative energy and dormitories on church or school property. These complex issues are either missing entirely or lacking in substance in the current code. Council Member Kurpis asked for a synopsis to be presented in writing so that these issues can be further addressed.

Council President Toomey stated that the appointment of Administrator Les Shenkler is official, with all appropriate agreements fully executed.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE(S)** There were none.

**ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE(S)**: There were none.

### **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Council Member Walencyk requested that a bill be removed from the Bill List at this time.

**Resolution # 171-14** Offered by 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 Toomey  
Seconded by Council Member Kurpis

A resolution for the purchase of security cameras was added to the Consent Agenda at this time.

Council Member Kerner requested that the resolution authorizing the Execution of the Contract between Local 108 and the Borough be removed from the Consent Agenda and voted on separately.

### **Explanation of Consent Agenda Items**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:** No one wished to be heard  
**Roll Call Vote:** AYES, Unanimous

- A. Approval of Minutes:** Regular Meeting: 11/17/14
- B. Resolutions:**

- R# 172-14 Authorization for Soil movement application Blk 1201 Lot 18**
- R# 173-14 Authorization for Soil movement application Blk 1702 Lot 37**
- R# 174-14 Authorization for Soil movement application Blk 1701 Lot 35.01**
- R# 175-14 Authorization for Soil movement application Blk 1303 Lot 8**
- R# 176-14 Refund of taxes due to Civil Action Judgement Blk 1901/45 and 1702/32.02**
- R# 177-14 Appropriation Transfers**
- R# 178-14 Permanent Appointment of Police Officer Daniel Strasser**

### **Resolution for the Authorization to Execute Contract between Local 108 and the Borough**

**Resolution # 179-14** Offered by Council President Toomey  
Seconded by Council Member Walenczyk

Council Member Kerner asked that, if this resolution is approved, she would like the Finance Committee to review the salary calculations. Administrator Shenkler gave a brief overview of the changes including medical benefit contributions and a 2% salary increase.

Council Member Kerner asked if the salary schedules in Exhibit A were carefully reviewed and she was advised that CFO Mike Mariniello had reviewed them. Mayor Raia suggested that the Council adopt this resolution and if there are any further changes, it can be addressed at the January 1-9, 2015 meeting of the Mayor and Council.

Motion to Open to the Public Offered by Council Member Walenczyk  
Seconded by Council Member Kurpis  
Voice Vote: All AYES

### **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

Paul Schulstad, 20 Eckert Farm Road stated that some of the confusion could be avoided if contracts and important documents could be made available in advance for review in 2015.

Motion to Close to the Public Offered by Council Member Walenczyk  
Seconded by Council Member Kurpis  
Voice Vote: ALL AYES  
Roll Call Vote: AYES, Unanimous

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Board of Health:** Council Member Kurpis gave the report for November 2014.

**Const. & Zoning Enforcemt.** Council President Toomey gave the report for November 2014.

**Environmental Committee:** Council Member DeCrosta gave the report for November 2014.

**Fire Report:** Council Member Kurpis gave the report for November 2014.

**Police Report:** Council Member Walencyk gave the report for November 2014.

**EMS Report:** Council Member Kerner gave the report for November 2014.

**Finance Report:** No report at this time.

**Landmarks Committee:** No report at this time.

**Public Works:** Council Member DeCrosta gave the report for November 2014.

**Parks and Recreation:** No report at this time.

**Planning Board:** Council Member Kerner gave the report for December 2014.

**Zoning Board:** Council Member Toomey gave the report for November 2014.

## **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

Henry Senger 69 West Saddle River Road thanked Council Member DeCrosta and Council President Toomey for their service in the Borough of Saddle River as their terms are concluding.

Mr. Senger read a letter from the interim Superintendent of Wandell School regarding the need to replace the HVAC system. A Special Election will be held on January 27, 2015 to vote on this issue in a bond referendum, which will cost approximately \$1,800,000 after additional state funding. The system is extremely antiquated and Mr. Senger stressed the importance of this for the health, safety and welfare of the Wandell students. Mayor Raia stated that he was unaware that this project was moving forward and would have liked the opportunity to have greater input in an effort to reduce costs.

Paul Schulstad, 20 Eckert Farm Road stated that he feels that the improvements to the HVAC system at Wandell School will positively effect home values in Saddle River.

Marilyn Goldfisher, 124 West Saddle River Road thanked Council President Toomey for his services over the years. She further stated that she feels that the appointment of part time Borough Administrator, Les Shenkler should have been further considered and other applicants interviewed. She further stated that she did not feel that the public had an adequate opportunity to voice their opinion on this appointment.

Edward Holiat, 85 East Saddle River Road asked about the permitting process and the insurance liability involved in an organized bow hunt, should the borough decide to address the deer management issue in this fashion.

Patty Nazzaro, 3 Westwind Court thanked Council Member DeCrosta and Council President Toomey for all their hard work during their terms. She addressed the HVAC system at Wandell School and asked if three bids were necessary as the estimate for the proposed work is extremely high. She welcomed Les Shenkler and wished a Happy Holiday to all.

Council Member Kurpis stated the he would like to see the public exercise increased civility in the new year, with communication in public meetings. Mayor Raia reminded the public that, prior to the Council entering Executive Session, the public is always made aware that the Mayor and Council may or may not reconvene in public session to conduct further business.

Council Member Kerner asked if the Council Representative for the Board of Education has been determined so they may start evaluating the HVAC system. Mayor Raia stated that these appointments will be made at the Reorganization Meeting on January 1, 2015.

Council President Toomey explained how the Personnel Committee arrived at the appointment of Borough Administrator Shenkler. He further stated that Jersey Professional Management (JPM) was retained and Mr. Shenkler began working for the Borough through this firm. Resumes were received for this position; these applicants were not deemed to be a good fit. The Borough was also in need of a CFO and JPM was once again retained and Michael Mariniello was appointed as a part time CFO.

Mayor Raia stated that these two professionals bring a wealth of knowledge to the Borough and have many years of experience in the public sector.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Council President Toomey thanked everyone who participated in the Tree Lighting Ceremony.

Council Member Walencyk thanked both Council Member DeCrosta and Council President Toomey for their diligent work over the years as Council Members.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn was made and seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Elena Macari  
Borough Clerk

/Nwwp/min/M&C12-2014