

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE  
BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER  
HELD APRIL 21, 2014**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Raia, Council President Toomey, Council Members: DeCrosta, Gray, Kerner, Kurpis, Walenczyk, Deputy Borough Clerk Convertini, Administrator Cuccia, Attorney Russell Huntington

**ABSENT:**

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**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 23, 2013, the Borough website and also via E-Notify.

**NOTIFICATION OF FIRE EXITS**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**AWARDS AND CEREMONIES:** At this time, Mayor Raia declared, Sunday, April 27, 2014 "Jerry Salvi Day" in the Borough of Saddle River and presented Jerry Salvi, owner of the Men's Salon in the Colonial Shopping Center for 50 years, with a Proclamation.

**WORK SESSION:**

**MAYOR RAI:**

**ADMINISTRATOR CUCCIA**

**Engineering Update:** Borough Engineer Martin Spence gave the engineering report as follows:

- **Water Line Expansion Proposal:** Mr. Spence addressed how this effects the allocated water demand as well as permitting requirements for this project. The Mayor and Council were in receipt of a report outlining this information.
- **Rindlaub Pavilion Project:** The bid has been awarded for this project and work should commence in the beginning of May and completed within six weeks.
- **Rindlaub Park Parking Lot Expansion:** This project is in the final stages and should be completed within two weeks.
- **Ackerman Road Paving:** The roadway is being milled and paved this week.
- **Streetscape Project:** Bids were received for this project and they were rejected as they exceeded the maximum cost of the project. This project will be re-bid.
- **Annual Road Re-surfacing Project:** This project will take place in June and July.
- **Rindlaub Park Pavilion Restrooms:** Council Member Gray stated that this project will cost approximately \$45,000 with an additional \$5000 for incidentals. He further stated that he is recommending this project as many residents deem this a priority. All were in agreement that this project would move forward, being funded by a separate capitol ordinance.

**Health Officer:** Administrator Cuccia stated that Saddle River has an agreement with the City of Hackensack for a Health Officer and the position is currently vacant, making the Borough non-compliant. He further stated that the Borough of Saddle River should consider either using County services or enter a shared services agreement with Elmwood Park.

**Police Radio Systems:** Police Chief Tim McWilliams stated that, due to a lack of maintenance on the copper lines, there are currently problems with the police radio systems. He further stated that he would like the Mayor and Council to intervene and coordinate with other towns in order to rectify this problem quickly, as it is a public safety issue.

**Vacation of Right of Way – 15 & 19 North Church Road:** Borough Engineer Spence explained this issue in detail at this time; Ordinance 14-895-C will be introduced at this meeting, reflecting this vacation.

**Follow Up on Garbage Dumpsters:** Administrator Cuccia stated that the Borough Health Department sent letters to all businesses utilizing dumpsters to remind them that they must be kept closed at all times and not over filled, resulting in debris on Borough roadways. Mayor Raia suggested that a follow-up inspection be conducted within two weeks.

**Request for DPW Summer Help:** Administrator Cuccia stated that each summer, a seasonal employee is hired in order to help maintain Borough property; all were in agreement.

**Request for P/T Building Department Employee:** Administrator Cuccia stated that Building Department is currently operating with only one administrative employee and closes at 2:00pm in order for necessary paperwork to be completed. He further stated that the department is requesting a part time clerk to work 20 hours in order to keep the department open until 4:00pm. All were in agreement.

**BMJIF Lost Days Report:** Administrator Cuccia stated that the Borough of Saddle River had no workers compensation days, due to a diligent safety program.

**Request for Ordinance from Board of Health:** The Board of Health has requested that an ordinance be adopted prohibiting tattoo parlors in the Borough and Administrator Cuccia asked the Mayor and Council to consider this for introduction at the meeting of May 19, 2014.

**Autism Bike Event- May 4, 2014:** Administrator Cuccia stated that the Go the Distance For Autism Bike Event will be coming through Saddle River on May 4, 2014 and has requested permission to utilize the Police Department parking lot for portable toilets for race participants.

**Joint Meeting with Allendale regarding paving Boroline Road:** Borough Engineer Spence stated that grant monies are available and he will be pursuing the opportunity to procuring monies for this project and partner with Allendale accordingly.

**Bond Ordinances for Introduction:** Administrator Cuccia outlined the following ordinances for introduction:

- **Ordinance No. 14-892-M – Public Improvements**
- **Ordinance No. 14-893-M – 2014 Water Line Installation Program**
- **Ordinance No. 14-894-M – Acquisition of Real Property Blk. 1607 Lot 1**

**COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Council Member Kurpis gave the report from the Landmarks Commission meeting of March 26, 2014. The need for a Borough Historian was discussed and a motion was made to nominate Jonathan Kurpis as the Borough Historian at their meeting. Mayor Raia stated that he wanted to consider this issue further.

Council Member Kerner stated that the Finance Committee has not met as discussed and Council Member Walenczyk stated that they have not been meeting as the Borough is operating on a temporary budget until the budget is adopted. Once the 2014 budget is adopted, the Finance Committee will meet monthly. Council Member Kerner reiterated that she feels that the budget is too large and a zero based budget should be the objective. Mayor Raia suggested that, once the budget is adopted, the Finance Committee should work together to insure that all finance matters are conducted in the best interest of the tax payers.

Mayor Raia stated that he is extremely disheartened that Administrator Cuccia has resigned and will be leaving the Borough of Saddle River on May 2, 2014.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE(S)** Clerk to read title(s) of:

**ORDINANCE NO. 14-892-M**

**BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$600,000 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 #59-14** Offered by Council Member DeCrosta  
Seconded by Council President Toomey  
Roll Call Vote: AYES, Unanimous

**ORDINANCE NO. 14-893-M**

**BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE UNDERTAKING OF THE 2014 WATER LINE INSTALLATION PROGRAM IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$500,000 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 #60-14** Offered by Council Member DeCrosta  
Seconded by Council Member Gray  
Roll Call Vote: AYES, Unanimous

**ORDINANCE NO. 14-894-M**

**BOND ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE AN ADDITIONAL SUM OF \$550,000 FOR THE ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.**

**Resolution#61-14** Offered by Council President Toomey  
Seconded by Council Member Kurpis  
Roll Call Vote: AYES: DeCrosta, Gray, Kurpis, Toomey, Walenczyk  
ABSTAIN: Kerner

**ORDINANCE NO. 14-895-C**

**AN ORDINANCE FOR THE VACATION OF LANDS**

**Resolution #62-14** Offered by Council President Toomey  
Seconded by Council Member Kurpis  
Roll Call Vote: AYES, Unanimous

**ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE(S):**

**ORDINANCE NO. 14-891-C**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CERTAIN PORTIONS OF CHAPTER 9 ENTITLED CLAIMS OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER**

**Resolution #63-14** Offered by Council Member Walenczyk  
Seconded by Council Member Kerner

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

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

Patty Nazzaro, 3 Westwind Court asked if this ordinance would impact the Municipal Alliance's ability to receive monies from the Borough. Administrator Cuccia stated that this ordinance deals with the reviewing of bills by Council Members prior to the regular Mayor and Council meetings.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 14-890-M**

**CALENDAR YEAR 2014 – AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE  
MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH  
A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)**

**Resolution #64-14** Offered by Council Member Walenczyk  
Seconded by Council President Toomey

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

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

Eric Jensen, 131 Mill Road asked about the cap bank and Administrator Cuccia explained this in detail at this time.

Motion to Close to the Public Offered by Council Member Walenczyk  
Seconded by Council President Toomey  
Voice Vote: All AYES

**Roll Call Vote:** AYES, Unanimous

**PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2014 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

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

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

Eric Jensen, 131 Mill Road asked about entries in the reserved column of the 2014 budget and Administrator Cuccia explained this in detail at this time.

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

**ADOPTION OF THE 2014 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

**Resolution #65-14** Offered by Council Member Walenczyk  
Seconded by Council Member Kurpis

**Roll Call Vote:** AYES: DeCrosta, Gray, Kurpis, Toomey, Walenczyk  
NAYES: Kerner

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

**Resolution # 66-14** Offered by Council Member Walenczyk

Seconded by Council Member Gray

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 Walenczyk

**Explanation of Consent Agenda Items**

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

Council Member Kerner asked that the approval of the minutes from the meeting held on March 17, 2014 be removed from the Consent Agenda.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:** No one wished to be heard

**Roll Call Vote:** AYES, Unanimous

**A. Resolutions:**

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>R# 67-14</b> | <b>Recycling and Tonnage Grant Application</b>                  |
| <b>R# 68-14</b> | <b>Tax Identification Statement</b>                             |
| <b>R# 69-14</b> | <b>Authorizing Mayor to execute agreement with United Water</b> |
| <b>R# 70-14</b> | <b>Rejection of Bids for Downtown Streetscape</b>               |

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

**Const. & Zoning Enforcemt.** There was no report at this time.

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

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

**Police Report:** Council Member Walenczyk gave the report for March 2014.

**Finance Report:** There was no report at this time.

**Landmarks Committee:** Council Member Kurpis gave the report for March 2014.

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

**Parks and Recreation:** Council Member Gray gave the report for March 2014.

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

**Zoning Board:** Council President Toomey gave the reports for March and April 2014.

Police Chief McWilliams commended the Saddle River Police Department for apprehending a suspect, a dangerous known gang member, in an attempted carjacking incident.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

Joe Ingrassia, 29 North Church Road stated that he is managing the Community Garden, which will be planted on the Marker property and distributed a planting map for the Mayor and Council to review. He explained the map and its' location, stated that the website is up and running and they will be seeking volunteers to work on the garden shortly.

Fred Moss, 37 Chestnut Ridge Road stated that he wants to obtain clarification on the ordinance pertaining to permitting dogs in Rindlaub Park. There is a discrepancy with the Borough Ordinances and the signs in Rindlaub regarding dogs and Council Member Gray stated that he would address this with the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Patty Nazzaro, 3 Westwind Park stated that she did not feel that dogs should be permitted to be in Rindlaub Park off leash; they were strictly to be kept on leash and on the walkway.

Marilyn Goldfisher, 124 West Saddle River Road asked about the street sweeping program in the Borough and Council Member DeCrosta stated that the town has been scheduled to begin this project on April 28, 2014. She further commented about overflowing dumpsters on commercial property within the Borough and asked about replacing the boom in the Saddle River. She asked about the deer management program in Saddle River.

Bob LaViano, 59 Woodcliff Lake Road stated that as the Chairman of the Environmental Commission and a resident for over 30 years, he is very concerned about roadside appearance throughout the Borough. He further stated that Rindlaub Park is in need of larger trash and recycling receptacles as trash is overflowing. He addressed the deer issue in Saddle River and stated that it has grown at an alarming rate and it is time to evaluate solutions. He also addressed invasive plantings, particularly those that impede sight lines along roadways.

Eric Jensen, 131 Mill Road asked about the purpose of the reserve budget; Administrator Cuccia explained this in detail at this time.

Patty Nazzaro, 3 Westwind Court read a letter commending Administrator Cuccia for his 20+ years of service and dedication to the Borough of Saddle River.

Chief McWilliams, Saddle River Police Department, stated that Administrator Cuccia was always a supporter of the Police Department and wished him well in his future endeavors.

Henry Senger, President of Wandell School Board, thanked Administrator Cuccia for all his efforts with the Wandell School and wished him well.

Mayor Raia stated that former Saddle Mayor Charlie Wilde passed away and he would address this in the upcoming spring newsletter.

Mayor Raia stated that the Borough Board of Health Representative will inspect dumpsters throughout the Borough more frequently to insure owners are compliant.

Borough Engineer Spence addressed the boom in the Saddle River and stated that it is on private property and the owner is in receipt of the necessary specifications. The owner has advised the Borough that they do not have money in their budget to make any modifications to the boom at this time.

Attorney Huntington stated that he did not feel that the Borough had any leverage with this issue as it is private property.

Borough Engineer Spence stated that the utility pole located in the storm drain is being evaluated by the County.

Mayor Raia acknowledged the deer issue and stated that the remedies are difficult to administer. He suggested that the Environmental Commission seek assistance from the County.

Council Member Kurpis stated that he feels that the Borough needs to address the debris issue in the pond in Barnstable Court as it is in the middle of the Borough's historic district. He further addressed the deer issue in town and stated that he is in favor of culling the herd but the Mayor and Council needs to get feedback from residents.

#### **UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS:**

Council Member Kerner stated that she would like to address Council Members obtaining Borough email addresses. She further stated that the Borough By-Laws need to be consistent with both the Zoning and Planning Board By-Laws. Mayor Raia stated that the Council meetings follow Robert's Rules and the Planning and Zoning Board don't necessarily have to follow this protocol.

Council Member Kerner requested permission to have a box placed in the Borough Hall for the Girl Scout's town wide card collection.

Council Member Walencyk thanked Administrator Cuccia for his dedication and hard work for 20+ years in the Borough of Saddle River and wished him all well in his future endeavors.

#### **RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSION**

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

**Resolution # 71-14** Offered by Council President Toomey  
Second by Council Member Kurpis  
Roll Call Vote: AYES: Unanimous

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

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Elena Macari  
Borough Clerk

