

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE  
BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER  
HELD FEBRUARY 9, 2009**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Raia, Council President Burke, Council Members, Mastriano, Mutter, Re, Toomey, Borough Clerk Macari, Administrator Cuccia, & Borough Attorney Russell Huntington

**ABSENT:** Council Member Murray

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**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 mailing a notice thereof to the Ridgewood Newspapers and The Record on December 10, 2008.

**NOTIFICATION OF FIRE EXITS**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**AWARDS AND CEREMONIES:** At this time, Mayor Raia presented former Planning Board Chairman Joe Pera and former Zoning Board of Adjustment Chairman Jim FitzPatrick with a plaque and commended them for their years of service and dedication to the Borough of Saddle River. Mr. FitzPatrick stressed the importance of preserving the integrity of the Borough and encouraged the Mayor and Council to review current ordinances carefully to insure this.

**WORK SESSION:**

**MAYOR RAI A**

**Municipal Building Study Committee:** Mayor Raia asked Council President Burke to discuss the meeting which took place on January 29, 2009. Council President Burke stated that five prospective architects were given 30 minutes each to give a presentation and outline their prior municipal experience as well as what they thought would be some appropriate renovation ideas for the municipal building in Saddle River. Another meeting is scheduled with the intention of narrowing it down to two architects. Mayor Raia stated that the committee needs to look at all aspects of this prospective project and decide if this is an appropriate time to embark on it.

**Stop Signs:** Mayor Raia stated that he has gotten several requests from residents to investigate the intersection of Chestnut Ridge Road and Woodcliff Lake Road as it is very dangerous. Chief McWilliams has conducted a safety study and it has been suggested that the Borough attempt to have the County make it a four way stop as there have been numerous accidents there. He further stated that he intends to discuss this with the County.

## **ADMINISTRATOR CUCCIA**

2009 Budget: Administrator Cuccia stated that he has spoken with the Division of Local Government Services regarding the question of pensions. This will be discussed on February 23, 2009 as Governor Corzine has proposed a deferral but it is not definite at this time. He further stated that the budget is scheduled to be introduced in March.

Old Woods Road: Administrator Cuccia asked Borough Engineer Spence to discuss this issue. Mr. Spence stated that he prepared a memo, dated February 4, 2009, regarding the grant monies that the NJDOT has provided the Borough for two successive years. This is a non-matching grant in the amount of approximately \$500,000 and he explained this in detail to the Mayor and Council. These monies are specifically for the reconstruction of Old Woods Road and the design is pending. Further action on this issue will take place with Mayor and Council approval in the form of an introductory bond ordinance. Council Member Mutter asked Mr. Spence if the water line extension was going to be included in the construction of Old Woods and he stated that it was. The preliminary budget for this water line is approximately \$300,000, which will be obtained through a separate grant. The Mayor and Council was in agreement that this project should move forward.

Brainard Property: Administrator Cuccia stated that the Borough has closed on this property and the ordinance reflects both the purchase and the demolition of the existing structure. The Mayor and Council were in agreement regarding getting quotes for the demolition.

Salt Usage: Administrator Cuccia stated that the Mayor and Council were in receipt of a summary of salt usage over the past several years, and outlined changes that have occurred. Based upon the year and the weather conditions, the volume of salt has stayed fairly constant but this year the County is not distributing an adequate allotment at competitive prices. Mayor Raia suggested that neighboring municipalities be contacted to see if they are experiencing similar issues with the County.

New Jersey Sustainable Energy: Administrator Cuccia stated that Council Member Mastriano has been working with the Green Committee on this issue and additionally, he attended a meeting in conjunction with the League of Municipalities on this issue. When bidding on energy and gas in the State, it is beneficial to establish a purchasing group to help reduce costs. An energy audit will be conducted and a nominal fee would be charged to join this group. Mayor Raia suggested that the Borough continue to pursue this approach.

Wyckoff Initiatives: Administrator Cuccia stated that the Mayor and Council were in receipt of two resolutions from Wyckoff. The first is regarding the reduction of the annual appropriation for municipalities with a free public library, which the Borough of Saddle River does not have. Mayor Raia stated that he would like to support the Township of Wyckoff on this initiative by resolution. Next, the Township of Wyckoff is requesting that the current 6% commission paid to the Municipal Risk Manager be reduced in these tough economic times.

**COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Council Member Mastriano stated that the Green Committee met in January and gave an overview of issues that were addressed, including how municipalities work to accomplish their Green initiative goals and conducting an energy audit. Mayor Raia asked how a municipality is able to achieve "sustainable" status and Council Member Mastriano stated that it works on a point system and for each green initiative you integrate into your municipality, you accumulate a certain number of points.

Council Member Mutter stated that the Board of Health is going to make a recommendation to the Mayor and Council to implement an amended nuisance code.

**ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE(S):**

**ORDINANCE NO. 09-824-M**

**BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE 2009 ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$100,000 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.**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** No one from the public wished to be heard.

**Resolution #30-09** Offered by Council President Burke  
Seconded by Council Member Re  
Roll Call: AYES, Unanimous

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

There were none.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS** There were no bills at this time.

**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 President Burke  
Seconded by Council Member Mutter  
Roll Call Vote: AYES, Unanimous

*Explanation of Consent Agenda Items*

**A. Approval of Minutes:** 1/2/09 & 1/19/09

**B. Resolution(s)**

- R# 31-09 Approval of Designated Tow Companies**
- R# 32-09 Authorization to execute Deed of Brook Easement between Daniel Funsch and the Borough of Saddle River**
- R# 33-09 Authorization for Valley Health System Agreement**
- R# 34-09 Authorization Interlocal Health Services Agreement With City of Hackensack**
- R# 35-09 Cancellation of Property Taxes (as listed).**
- R# 36-09 Supporting Mayor's Wellness Campaign**
- R# 37-09 West Bergen Mental Health Student Assistant Program**

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

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

**Fire Report:** Council Member Re gave the report for January 2009 and stated that it was on file with the Borough Clerk.

**Police Report:** Council President Burke gave the report for January 2009 as well as highlights from the Police Department's Annual Report.

**Public Works:** Council Member Mutter gave the report for January 2009.

**Parks and Recreation:** The committee is scheduled to meet on February 11, 2009.

**Board of Health:** Council Member Mutter gave highlights of the meeting.

**Construction & Zoning Enforcement:** Council President Burke gave the report for January 2009.

**Zoning Board:** Council Member Toomey gave the report for January 2009.

**Planning Board:** Council President Burke gave the report for February 2009.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** No one from the public wished to be heard.

**RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSION**

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

**Resolution # 38-09** was offered by Council Member Re  
Seconded by Council Member Mastriano  
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