

**BOROUGH OF RAMSEY**  
**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

July 25, 2007

Mayor Botta called the regular meeting of the Mayor and Council to order. Council President led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor read the Open Public Meetings Law notice.

**I. ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Botta, Councilmembers Dillon, Heller, Jones, Nalbandian, Siemsen, Vozeh, Borough Administrator Nicholas Saros, Borough Attorney Peter Scandariato, and Borough Clerk Meredith Bendian.

Absent: None

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Dillon , seconded by Jones, to approve the minutes of 6/27/07 as submitted. Carried.

**III. COMMUNICATIONS -**

Motion by Heller, seconded by Siemsen, to receive and file the following Communications. Carried.

1. Madeline Thumudo, Secretary, Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority, 30 Wyckoff Avenue, Waldwick, NJ 07463  
letter dated July 12, 2007, copy of the minutes of the NBCUA June 6, 2007 meeting.
2. Madeline Thumudo, Secretary, Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority, 30 Wyckoff Avenue, Waldwick, NJ 07463  
letter dated July 12, 2007, concerning a proposed sewer extension permit and/or connection at Airmount Commons Townhomes.
3. Scott Olson, 15 Island Park Avenue, Ramsey, NJ  
letter dated July 24, 2007, requesting permission to place a container on his property for 4 to 5 months during his renovation.

**IV. APPOINTMENTS - None**

V. CONSENT RESOLUTION

Introduced by Vozeh, seconded by Nalbandian

BE IT RESOLVED that the following resolutions herewith listed having been considered by the governing body of the Borough of Ramsey be and are hereby passed and approved:

- a. Resolution: Payment of vouchers
- b. Resolution: Authorizing the private sale of the Borough's bonds for the Arsenic Treatment System pursuant to the Program and determines certain matters in connection therewith.
- c. Resolution: Authorizing the execution by the Borough of the loan agreements and the escrow agreement required by the Program for the Arsenic Treatment Bond Ordinance.
- d. Resolution: Appointing Douglas Rennie as representative to participate on the Community Development Regional Committee and Harry Smith as the alternate representative.
- e. Resolution: Appointing Carter Corrison, Jr. as special counsel to the Borough of Ramsey and the Board of Public Works in a special matter.
- f. Resolution: Establishing the National Incident Management System as the Borough's standard for incident management.
- g. Resolution: Refund of over-payment of taxes for Block 3701-5.2, Lot CO160, 160 Evergreen Road in the amount of \$1,394.00.
- h. Resolution: Appropriating funds for the Carriage Barn Preservation Project for the Ramsey Historical Association.
- i. Resolution: Authorizing the award of a contract for engineering and landscape architectural design services for Finch Park – Phase II Plan (basketball project).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following applications and/or recommendations hereby be approved:

A. SPECIAL PERMITS:

Interstate Shopping Center is requesting permission to have their annual sidewalk sale on Thursday, July 26<sup>th</sup> – Saturday, July 28, 2007 between the hours of 10:00 am and 8:00 pm.

Friends of the Adornos is requesting permission to hold their annual outdoor fair on Sunday, October 7, 2007 between the hours of 10:00 am and 6:00 pm (raindate Oct. 14, 2007)

B. BLOCK PARTY REQUESTS:

John and Pat McKeon of Ronald Court are requesting permission to have a block party on Saturday, August 18, 2007 between the hours of 2:00 pm and 9:00 pm.

AYES: Dillon, Heller, Jones, Nalbandian, Siemsen, Vozech      NAYS: None

VI. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION -Councilman Bruce Vozech

We will be introducing a capital ordinance later in the meeting.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY – Council President Arthur M. Nalbandian

I would like to recognize the fine job that the Fine Arts Council did with the Sgt. Pepper's concert last Friday at the high school. Everyone deserves a lot of credit. I would like to recognize the Ramsey graduates from the EMT First Responder courses at the Bergen County Public Safety Institute and thank them for their effort and service to the town.

C. BUILDING & ZONING – Councilman Andrew Siemsen

No comments.

D. UTILITIES, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Councilman Jeffrey C. Heller

No comments.

E. PUBLIC & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS – Councilman William Jones

Tonight is the Celtic Spring Ban concert at the high school, sponsored by the Fine Arts Council. We have a guest tonight, Christopher Bailey, who is working towards his Merit Badge.

F. HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES – Councilwoman Deirdre A. Dillon

No comments.

G. MAYOR CHRISTOPHER C. BOTTA

My thanks to Ron Kase and the members of the Historical Association who came to give the presentation about moving the historic barn. I look forward to that

being a continuing part of Ramsey's heritage. We received a grant for reconstruction of the tennis courts in the amount of \$75,000. The State has indicated that our contribution for pension costs for 2008 will jump approximately \$350,000 from \$750,000 to \$1.1 million. That is before we even spend a dime in 2008 in our local municipality.

H. BOROUGH ATTORNEY – Peter A. Scandariato, Esq. No comments.

I. BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR – Nicholas C. Saros No comments.

J. BOROUGH CLERK – Meredith Bendian No comments.

## VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

James Keeney, 655 Richmond Court, spoke about dual-office holding. In Holmdel and Middletown, they passed ordinances to forbid the members of the town committee from holding a county, state or federal office while serving as an elected official of their local municipality. I think it would be a good idea for Ramsey to do likewise. Mayor stated that the idea would be referred to the Finance and Administration Committee and see if it is something that we would want to do. Mr. Keeney stated that it was a good idea to put the money up for the Historical Society. It is a disgrace what the State is doing with regard to the State Pension Fund. It is a legislators' problem.

James Dolan, 463 Island Road, stated that we have been waiting for 4 years for improvements to the bicycle path at the northern end, at the Interstate Shopping Center. There is no stop sign or crosswalk. We are still waiting for the restriping of Island Road. Mr. Dolan spoke about the lines on Island Road and the narrow width of Island Road. Council President Nalbandian stated that there is a disparity in the width of the road because there is parking permitted along the northbound side primarily for the units at Regency Park. The fog line was supposed to be out further from the curb so as to reduce traffic speeds. Mr. Dolan stated that the people are being forced to park on the sidewalk because the parking area is not indicated. Mr. Dolan also spoke about the orange cones at Finch Park, and the truck traffic on Island Road. Is there a piece of paper that shows that we cannot issue summons for driving 80,000 lb. dump trucks and tractor trailers going to Interstate Shopping Center? Mayor stated that we would contact Traffic Officer Jeff Kimmel and the Borough Attorney for clarification.

Not seeing anyone else who wished to speak, Mayor closed the public comment.

VIII. ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES

Ordinance No. 22-2007- An Ordinance amending and supplementing Ordinance 35-2006 entitled an ordinance to authorize the reconstruction, drainage, curbs and paving of Brookfield Lane in the Borough of Ramsey to appropriate the sum of \$185,000.00 to pay the cost thereof so as to include the reconstruction of sewer line and pump station and to increase the appropriated sum for said project to \$300,000.00 to pay the cost thereof.

Resolution by Heller, seconded by Vozeh

BE IT RESOLVED that an ordinance entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING ORDINANCE NO. 35-2006 ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE RECONSTRUCTION, DRAINAGE, CURBS AND PAVING OF BROOKFIELD LANE IN THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, COUNTY OF BERGEN, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AND TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$185,000.00 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF SO AS TO INCLUDE THE RECONSTRUCTION OF SEWER LINE AND PUMP STATION AND TO INCREASE THE APPROPRIATE SUM FOR SAID PROJECT TO \$300,000.00 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF having been brought up for public hearing and all persons interested having been given an opportunity to be heard, pass final reading by title, and that said ordinance be adopted as an ordinance of the Borough of Ramsey, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be, and she hereby is, directed to cause a copy of the title of said ordinance to be published in an official newspaper of the Borough in the manner provided by law, together with a notice of the date of introduction and adoption of said ordinance.

Councilman Heller stated that we are opening the street to make some drainage repairs and make some improvement on the sewer line. Not seeing anyone else who wished to speak, Mayor closed the public hearing for ordinance no. 22-2007.

AYES: Dillon, Heller, Jones, Nalbandian, Siemsen, Vozeh      NAYS: None

IX. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Ordinance No. 23-2007 An Ordinance amending Chapter XXXI entitled Land Use Procedures Section 31-1 Planning Board Subsection 31-1.9 Applications: Procedure for filing, fees for variances within jurisdiction of Planning Board; Borough Engineer's Review of all applications g. plat specifications.

Ord. 23-2007

Resolution by Siemsen, seconded by Jones

BE IT RESOLVED that an ordinance entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AND MORE PARTICULARLY CHAPTER XXXI THEREOF ENTITLED LAND USE PROCEDURES SECTION 31-1 PLANNING BOARD SUBSECTION 31-1.9 APPLICATIONS; PROCEDURE FOR FILING; FEES FOR VARIANCES WITHIN JURISDICTION OF PLANNING BOARD; BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REVIEW OF ALL APPLICATIONS g. PLAT SPECIFICATIONS pass the first reading by title, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage and adoption at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council to be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2007, at 8:45 p.m. prevailing time or as soon after as the matter can be reached, at the Municipal Building in said Borough, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be, and she hereby is, instructed to publish in an official newspaper of the Borough in the manner provided by law, a copy of said ordinance together with notice of introduction thereof and notice when the same will be considered for final passage and adoption.

AYES: Dillon, Heller, Jones, Nalbandian, Siemsen, Vozech      NAYS: None

Ordinance No. 24-2007 An Ordinance to authorize the acquisition, refurbishment, repair, replacement and supply of equipment, materials, and facilities for the capital needs of various borough departments in the amount of \$360,000.00.

Resolution by Vozech, seconded by Heller

BE IT RESOLVED that an ordinance entitled: AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE ACQUISITION, REFURBISHMENT, REPAIR, REPLACEMENT AND SUPPLY OF EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS, AND FACILITIES FOR THE CAPITAL NEEDS OF VARIOUS BOROUGH DEPARTMENTS AND TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$360,000.00 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, IN THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, COUNTY OF BERGEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY pass the first reading by title, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage and adoption at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council to be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2007, at 8:45 p.m. prevailing time or as soon after as the matter can be reached, at the Municipal Building in said Borough, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be, and she hereby is, instructed to publish in an official newspaper of the Borough in the manner provided by law, a copy of said ordinance together with notice of introduction thereof and notice when the same will be considered for final passage and adoption.

AYES: Dillon, Heller, Jones, Nalbandian, Siemsen, Vozech      NAYS: None

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

XI. NEW BUSINESS None

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Heller, seconded by Jones, to adjourn the meeting to conduct a hearing for the Rand Motel Liquor License matter. Carried.

Meredith Bendian  
Borough Clerk

/ad