

BOROUGH OF RAMSEY
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 9, 2008

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. Mayor announced that members of Cub Scouts Den #2, Pack 175, were in attendance and would assist with the meeting.

I. ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

Motion by Nalbandian, seconded by Dillon, to approve the minutes of December 26, 2007, as submitted. Carried. (Councilman Vozech abstained, since he was not at the 12/26/07 meeting).

III. COMMUNICATIONS -

Motion by Vozech, seconded by Jones, to receive and file the following Communications. Carried.

1. [Anne Milgram, Attorney General, State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety, Trenton, NJ 08625-0080](#) letter dated December 13, 2007, congratulating the Ramsey Police Department for its participation in Cops in Shops 2006-2007 Fall Initiative including a check for \$2,000.00.
2. [Bergen County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund](#) letter received January 4, 2008, inviting the Mayor and Council to the 2008 Reorganization Meeting.
3. [Michael Russo, Director, Div. of Local Aid and Economic Development, State of NJ, Department of Transportation, PO Box 600, Trenton, NJ 08625](#) letter dated December 28, 2007, informing the borough that they did not receive the Municipal Aid Grant for the Main Street crosswalk.
4. [Kris Kolluri, Commissioner, State of New Jersey, Department of Transportation, PO Box 601, Trenton, NJ 08625](#) letter dated January 4, 2008, informing the borough that they will be receiving funding from the New Jersey Department of Transportation Fiscal Year 2008 Municipal Aid Program for Woodland Avenue in the amount of \$150,000.00.

5. [Gail Lawson, 247 Airmount Avenue, Ramsey, NJ](#)
letter dated December 17, 2007, submitting her resignation from the Ramsey Police Department.
6. [Patrolman Matthew Mistretta, Ramsey Police Department](#)
letter dated December 23, 2007, retiring from the Ramsey Police Department, effective March 1, 2008.
7. [Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority, 30 Wyckoff Ave., Waldwick, NJ](#)
letter dated December 19, 2007, informing the Borough of the resolution that was passed to adjust the sewer connection fees for 2008.

IV. APPOINTMENTS –

Mayor Botta appointed Robert Sweeney to the Recreation Commission.

V. CONSENT RESOLUTION

Introduced by Siemsen, seconded by Vozech

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:

- | | | |
|----------|-------------|--|
| 028-2008 | Resolution: | Payment of vouchers |
| 029-2008 | Resolution: | Transfer Resolution #1 |
| 030-2008 | Resolution: | Awarding Recyclable Materials Collection Service
contract to Suburban Disposal Inc. |
| 031-2008 | Resolution: | Awarding Solid Waste Collection and Disposal
Service contract to Suburban Disposal Inc. |
| 032-2008 | Resolution: | Accepting the resignation of Gail Lawson from the
Ramsey Police Department effective December 17, 2007. |
| 033-2008 | Resolution: | Accepting the retirement of Patrolman Matthew
Mistretta of the Ramsey Police Department as of March 1,
2008 |
| 034-2008 | Resolution: | Awarding the auto parts contract to Ramapo Auto Parts |
| 035-2008 | Resolution: | Authorizing the appointment of CMX for professional
engineering studies of various building throughout the
Borough |

036-2008 Resolution: [Authorizing an agreement between Zozzaro Brothers and the Borough for the Marketing of Recycling Materials](#)

037-2008 Resolution: [Authorizing an easement agreement between Robert Jennee as grantor and the Borough of Ramsey](#)

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

A. SPECIAL PERMITS:

[Brady's At the Station, 5-7 Main Street, Ramsey, requesting permission for a one day catering permit from the State of NJ Alcohol Beverage Control for a fundraiser for the Friends of Kathie, at Adorno Fathers, Saturday, January 26, 2008 from 6:00pm until 11:00pm.](#)

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

VI. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION -Councilman Andrew Siemsen

This is our first night at paperless meetings and I would like to recognize that former Council President Nalbandian initiated this idea for the Borough and I would like to thank him for that idea. I believe this is real progress for the Borough and it is good for the environment. I would like to thank Meredith for her part in getting this together. She really implemented it and I think she has done a great job. I look forward to a productive year ahead.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY – Councilman William Jones

My thanks to the Scouts for coming in tonight. I wish Patrolman Mistretta well in his retirement and my thanks to Mr. Sweeney for electing to serve on the Recreation Commission. I have met with the Fine Arts Council, Environmental Commission, Fire Department, and also O.E.M. The Fine Arts Council has set the dates for the summer concert series, starting with the 4th of July and every Thursday thereafter. Open Mic night is starting up again on the 4th Saturday at Border's at 7:00 p.m. I look forward to having an exciting year.

C. BUILDING & ZONING – Councilman Arthur M. Nalbandian

I too would like to thank the Cub Scouts for coming in tonight, as well as their parents and leaders. It is always a lot of fun when they join us. I too would like to wish Matt Mistretta well in his retirement. The real credit for the paperless meetings goes to Meredith for actually implementing it and getting it done. It is only going to get better and we will be saving a lot of trees, and hopefully cost-savings to the Borough as well.

D. UTILITIES, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Councilwoman Deirdre A. Dillon

I would like to echo Councilman Siemsen's comments on going paperless, as well as looking forward to having a great year in the town as it celebrates its Centennial. The town is accepting leaves at the Borough garage and we are continuing the curb-side leaf pick-up through the end of the month, weather permitting. We will be taking a very comprehensive look at the Borough's facilities; the current state as well as the short-term and long-term capital needs. Kathy Wilde, Ambulance Corps member, is suffering from leukemia and the Beefsteak Dinner is a fund-raiser to help offset some of her medical bills.

E. PUBLIC & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS – Council President Bruce Vozeh

I would like to welcome Councilwoman Jachzel to her first meeting. I look forward to working with her. My thanks to the Emergency Services for inviting us to their swearing in ceremony on Saturday. I would like to thank the Scouts for coming in tonight and to Bob Sweeney for volunteering for the Recreation Commission. I would echo Councilman Siemsen's comments on the paperless project. My thanks to Councilman Nalbandian and Meredith Bendian for implementing this project.

F. HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES – Councilwoman Vanessa Jachzel

My thanks to Meredith for her hard work in getting the paperless set up. My thanks to the Cub Scouts for coming out tonight and thanks to Bob Sweeney for volunteering to serve on the Recreation Commission. My thanks also to Patrolman Mistretta for his years of service. I wish him well in his retirement. I would like to reiterate that I am looking forward to a great year working with everyone here. The Ramsey Board of Education Advisory Committee on Student Tolerance and Anti-Bullying is going to be presenting their findings at the Smith School cafeteria on Tuesday, January 22, 2008, immediately following the 7:30 Board of Education meeting. This represents the culmination of many months of hard work. It should be very comprehensive and informative and I recommend that anyone with children in the school system attend. On Sunday, January 13, there will be a blood drive at the Rescue Squad building from 11:00 to 3:00. The Jr. Women's Club will be baking for this event. There will be collection of aluminum cans for burned children on January 26 and 27 at the Rescue Squad. It is sponsored by the High School DECA Club. The Centennial Committee has been working very hard for the events and details will be forthcoming. The first major event will be the March 10th historical 100th anniversary Council Meeting.

G. MAYOR CHRISTOPHER C. BOTTA

Congratulations to Councilwoman Jachzel on her first meeting. I would like to thank Patrolman Matthew Mistretta for his years of service and accept his resignation. We have also received \$150,000 grant from the State for the reconstruction of Woodland Avenue and improvements. This was started as a two-phase project; phase I was completed last year and this year we will move forward on the completion of Phase II. This will include drainage improvements, as well as curbs and sidewalks. The improvements at North Franklin Turnpike and Route 17 North will be paid completely by the developer of the Bear's Cove development and it will improve the Franklin Turnpike ramp on the exit from Rt. 17 North .

H. BOROUGH ATTORNEY – Peter A. Scandariato, Esq.

I. BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR – Nicholas C. Saros
Kudos to Meredith for a job well done.

J. BOROUGH CLERK – Meredith Bendian
Thank you, everyone.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

VIII. ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION OF
ORDINANCES - None

IX. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES - None

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

XI. NEW BUSINESS None

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Nalbandian, seconded by Jones, to adjourn the meeting. Carried.

Meredith Bendian
Borough Clerk

/ad