

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

April 25, 2007

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

**I. ROLL CALL**

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

Absent: Councilman Heller (due to business trip)

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Siemsen, seconded by Vozech, to approve the minutes of March 14, 2007, as submitted. Carried. (Councilman Jones abstained).

Mayor Botta stated that the minutes of March 28, 2007, are still being reviewed and will be acted upon at the next meeting.

**III. COMMUNICATIONS -**

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

1. Madeline Thumudo, Admin. Asst., Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority, 30 Wyckoff Avenue, Waldwick, NJ 07463 letter dated April 17, 2007, regarding the sewer connection fees for the first quarter of 2007.
2. Bill Bundenthal, Vice President, Mfg. Operations & Facility Engineering, Glatt Air Techniques, Inc., 20 Spear Road, Ramsey letter dated April 19, 2007, regarding an Open House event on September 19, 2007 for their renovated Pharmaceutical Division.

**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 Mandatory Source Separation/NJDEP Recycling Tonnage
- c. Resolution: Application to the Local Finance Board for review and approval of Bond Ordinance 15-2007 regarding the construction of arsenic treatment systems
- d. Resolution: Proclaiming May 1, 2007 as KEEP KIDS ALIVE DRIVE 25 DAY in the Borough of Ramsey
- e. Resolution: Authorizing the Mayor and Borough Clerk to execute an abandonment of Sanitary Sewer Easement between Homer Banzon and Janet, his wife, and Barry Hardy to the Borough of Ramsey
- f. Resolution: Authorizing the Mayor to execute the Bergen County Utilities Authority Agreement for solid waste management
- g. Resolution: Designating June 5, 2007 Walk at Work Day in the Borough of Ramsey
- h. Resolution: Proclaiming April 28-May 6, 2007 as National Safe Kids Week in the Borough of Ramsey

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

A. SPECIAL PERMITS:

Woman's Club of Ramsey is requesting permission to hang 2 signs at Lake Street and Franklin Turnpike on May 19, 2007 to advertise their heirloom tomato sale.

Grace Baptist Church is requesting permission to place an easel on the sidewalk from April 22, 2007 – May 5, 2007.

JB Fireplaces is requesting permission to hold a barbecue cooking demonstration on Saturday, April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19 and June 2, 2007 between the hours of 10:00 am and 3:30 pm.

Glatt Air Techniques, Inc. is requesting permission to erect 2 tents for their Open House on Wednesday, September 19, 2007.

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

VI. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

- A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION -Councilman Bruce Vozech  
The budget hearing is scheduled for May 9. The budget brochure will be going out to all residents. Congratulations to the Ramsey Baseball and Softball Associations on their opening day parade. My thanks to the members of the Water Department, Police, Emergency Management, and everyone who worked to help our town during the storm on Sunday. There was a lot of flooding and I thank them for their hard work.
- B. PUBLIC SAFETY – Council President Arthur M. Nalbandian  
I too would like to thank and congratulate the police and other emergency services, and borough employees for a great job during the nor'easter which we had on Sunday/Monday. I especially would like to acknowledge Chief Gurney's recommendation that we meet and plan for the anticipated inclement weather.  
Chief Gurney deserves special recognition for his great job of leading and being pro-active in the area of public safety. I would like to remind everyone to be conscious and mindful of the children in and around town. Drive carefully and be conscious of the risk of preventable injuries, such as biking and swimming. I too would like to thank the Ramsey Baseball Association for a great parade.
- C. BUILDING & ZONING – Councilman Andrew Siemsen  
No comments.
- D. UTILITIES, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Councilman Jeffrey C. Heller  
Not at this meeting.
- E. PUBLIC & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS – Councilman William Jones  
I would like to remind everyone that April 28 is Ramsey Clean-Up day, sponsored by the Environmental Commission and Rescue Squad. Everyone is invited to help out. Open Mic night will be held at Border's at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday.

On May 6, Daniel Sroczynski will be receiving his Eagle Scout award at 3:30 at the Masonic Lodge. May 18<sup>th</sup> will be the Shield Awards at the Knights of Columbus.

- F. HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES – Councilwoman Deirdre A. Dillon  
My thanks to Mike Adams, O.E.M. Director, and the members of the police, fire, and rescue, ambulance, D.P.W. for all their efforts during the recent nor'easter.

Congratulations to the Ramsey Baseball Association on a great parade and ceremony. Senior men's bocce is going on at the pool. June 10 is the grand re-opening of the senior citizens center at Finch Park, from 12 to 4:00. We are designating June 5<sup>th</sup> as Walk at Work Day and we hope to get all employers including the municipal government and the Board of Education involved in this initiative to highlight the benefits of walking. I would like to thank Joan Waring and the Board of Health for bringing this to my attention and hopefully it will be a success in town.

- G. MAYOR CHRISTOPHER C. BOTTA

The Ramsey Streetscape project has been awarded the Merit Award for Outstanding Concrete project of 2006 by the American Concrete Institute. There will be a ceremony in May and we will be receiving an award from the American Concrete Institute. It is a very nice comment on the hard work that we put into the project.

- H. BOROUGH ATTORNEY – Peter A. Scandariato, Esq. No comments.  
I. BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR – Nicholas C. Saros No comments.  
J. BOROUGH CLERK – Meredith Bendian No comments.

## VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Doug Rennie, 30 Rose Avenue, expressed his concern about the fee charged by the Sewer Authority to hook up to the sewer system. We had a representative for many years and I have not heard of replacement for Julie O'Brien. The County Executive appoints that person and gets approval from the Freeholders. Considering that Ramsey and Mahwah fund about one-half of the entire Sewer Authority, I think it is significant that we have a representative.

I just got fired after 18 years as Treasurer and my successor received a \$2,000 raise. We have operated the sewer authority with an Executive Director for many years; you may recall that Emil Porfido was the first one and he did a good job. When the Republicans took over, they got rid of Emil and brought in a Republican. They have now a new Executive Director and two more assistants for this director. The only time I ever saw them was at the Christmas party. They are now building an office building and we all

paying for it. I don't think anyone in Ramsey follows what is going on and it is a significant amount of money.

In addition to that, now we are going to give them additional money. I am concerned about who the representative is going to be and where the money is going.

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

IX. ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES

13-2007 Ordinance accepting the Right Of Way Dedication for Williams Drive Extension (Tabled)

Resolution by Vozech, seconded by Siemsen

BE IT RESOLVED that an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE RIGHT OF WAY DEDICATION FOR WILLIAMS DRIVE EXTENSION 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.

Not seeing anyone who wished to speak, Mayor closed the public hearing for ord. 13-2007.

Motion by Vozech, seconded by Siemsen, to table this ordinance until a future meeting. Mayor stated that a few additional items need to be configured before the actual acceptance of the right of way dedication is made.

ROLL CALL VOTE TO TABLE ORD. 13-2007

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

14-2007 Ordinance entitled Fire Prevention and Protection  
Resolution by Nalbandian, 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 SPECIFICALLY CHAPTER XIV THEREOF ENTITLED FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION 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.

Not seeing anyone who wished to speak on ord. 14-2007, Mayor closed the public hearing.

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

X. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

15-2007 Bond Ordinance- Construction of Arsenic Treatment System  
Introduced by Jones, seconded by Dillon

BE IT RESOLVED that an ordinance entitled: BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE CONSTRUCTION OF ARSENIC TREATMENT SYSTEMS AT VARIOUS PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY FACILITIES IN, BY AND FOR THE WATER-SEWER UTILITY OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$1,923,000.00 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, 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 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 9<sup>th</sup> day of May, 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, Jones, Nalbandian, Siemsen, Vozech      NAYS: None      ABSENT;  
Heller

16-2007 Ordinance authorizing the Borough Engineer to review all applications for site approvals and sub subdivision approvals

Introduced by Siemsen, seconded by Dillon

BE IT RESOLVED that an ordinance entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER XXXI OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY AND MORE PARTICULARLY SUBSECTION G OF SECTION 31-1.9 THEREOF ENTITLED APPLICATIONS; PROCEDURE FOR FILING; FEES FOR VARIANCES WITHIN JURISDICTION OF PLANNING BOARD; BOROUGH ENGINEER REVIEW OF ALL APPLICATIONS 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 9<sup>th</sup> day of May, 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 a notice of introduction thereof and notice when the same will be considered for final passage and adoption.

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

Councilman Siemsen stated that this ordinance will require certification by the Zoning Officer that there are no violations of the zoning code on the property, before the application is deemed complete and can be heard by the respective board.

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

XII. NEW BUSINESS None

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Nalbandian, seconded by Jones, to go into executive work session. Carried.

Meredith Bendian  
Borough Clerk

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