

BOROUGH OF RAMSEY
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
May 28, 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. Members of Girl Scouts Troop 935 were in attendance and assisted in the beginning of the meeting.

I. ROLL CALL

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

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – None

III. COMMUNICATIONS -

Motion by Vozeh, seconded by Nalbandian, to receive and file the following Communications. Carried.

1. [Robert Connell, 118 Snyder Avenue, Ramsey, NJ 07446](#)
letter dated May 15, 2008, recommending Thomas Larsen for position as Patrolman on the Ramsey Police Department
2. [Richard S. Lio, Principal, Ramsey High School, 256 E. Main Street, Ramsey, NJ](#), letter dated May 8, 2008 inviting the Mayor and Council to the Ramsey High School Graduation on Friday, June 20, 2008 at 7:00 pm.
3. [Michael B Kates, Friendship House, 125 Atlantic Street, Hackensack, NJ](#)
letter received May 27, 2008, reminding the Mayor and Council of the third Annual Friendship House Wellness Walk on Sunday, September 21, 2008.
4. [Scott Tireman, 190 Pine Street, Ramsey, NJ 07446](#)
letter received May 28, 2008, recommending Tom Larson for position as patrolman on the Ramsey Police Department
5. [Robert Genetelli, Superintendent of Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority, 30 Wyckoff Avenue, Waldwick, NJ 07463](#)
Letter dated May 28, 2008, informing of the flow meter calibration.

IV. APPOINTMENTS –
Mayor made the following appointments:

Marianne Kaplan, Centennial Committee
Keith Kaplan, Centennial Committee

V. CONSENT RESOLUTION
Introduced by Siemsen , seconded by Vozeh

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:

- 114-2008 Resolution: [Payment of Vouchers](#)
- 115-2008 Resolution: Authorizing Cliffhanger Productions as agent to Asia'h Epperson in an amount not to exceed of \$7,000.00 for Ramsey Day Performance
- 116-2008 Resolution: [Authorizing the person to person transfer of liquor license # 0248-33-003-004 130 E. Main Street to K & A Services](#)
- 117- 2008 Resolution: Awarding the engineering proposal for the Borough Hall boiler replacement to Branson Associates, Inc. for a price not to exceed \$8,000.00

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

A. SPECIAL PERMITS:

[NYSC is requesting permission to erect 3 20x20 tents for their summer camp](#) program, from June 16th – August 29, 2008.

[Bicycle Touring Club of North Jersey – Ramapo Rally is requesting permission](#) to ride through the borough on Sunday, August 17, 2008 between the hours of 7:00 am and 5:30 pm.

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

VI. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

- A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION -Councilman Andrew Siemsen
I would like to thank the Kaplans for volunteering for the Centennial Committee. The pool opened on Memorial Day weekend and the new hot dog rotisserie was a huge hit. Last Monday, we had the ceremony at 9:00 a.m. at Union Cemetery. I would like to thank everyone involved for organizing the Memorial Day parade. I would also like to thank the Fire Dept. for the refreshments.
- B. PUBLIC SAFETY – Councilman William Jones
My thanks to the Kaplans for their help with the Centennial Committee. My thanks to Guy Greene and all the members of the V.F.W. for the ceremony on Memorial Day. It makes our town a very special place. Jessica Whelan’s essay was excellent. My thanks to the Fire Dept., Rescue Squad, and Police.
- C. BUILDING PLANNING & ZONING – Councilman Arthur M. Nalbandian
I would like to thank the Girl Scouts for visiting tonight. It is always worthwhile. My thanks to Maryann and Keith Kaplan for joining the Centennial Committee. I would also express my appreciation to Guy Greene and all the members of the V.F.W. for the Memorial Day parade. My thanks to the Borough employees, especially the emergency services, and the members of the Road Department. Congratulations to Jessica Whelan on writing a great essay. Ramsey DARE Idol was once again a tremendous show and I would like to congratulate all of the contestants who participated. I think we have the best DARE program in the State. Congratulations to Mary Kate Kelly on winning DARE Idol this year. Also, I would like to thank the Jr. Women’s Club for their Book Sale to raise money for the USO.
- D. UTILITIES, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Councilwoman Deirdre A. Dillon
My thanks to the Girl Scouts for attending tonight’s meeting. It is always fun to have them. I echo the remarks of my fellow Councilmembers with regard to the Memorial Day parade and services. All were extremely well done and very well attended. We will be replacing the old boiler which is no longer working. We have to have specs drawn up so that it can go out to bid. We will also be introducing an ordinance to appropriate \$100,000 for road resurfacing. On Sunday, May 18, many of our residents attended the CF Walk.
- E. PUBLIC & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS – Council President Bruce Vozeh
My thanks to the Girl Scouts for attending tonight. Congratulations to the Kaplans for joining the Centennial Committee. My thanks to Guy Greene for the Memorial Day parade and to the Mayor for his idea of having the essay contest winner speak. Jessica Whelan did an outstanding job. My thanks to Freeholder O’Brien for her remarks. Congratulations to everyone involved in DARE and the DARE Idol. The basketball courts should be opened by this weekend. They are just waiting to do the final coating.

F. HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES – Councilwoman Vanessa Jachzel
I would like to thank all of our veterans for their immeasurable service to our country. The Jr. Women’s Club had a very successful book sale to benefit the USO’s program for deployed soldiers. I would like to thank the Girl Scouts who were here tonight; they did a great job. Congratulations to the Kaplans. My thanks to Officer Shoemaker for putting together a terrific program for DARE Idol. It was a strong, positive, anti-drug message. Congratulations to Mary Kate Kelly. The Relay for Life will be Friday, June 6, to Saturday, June 7. The Garden Club Centennial Event will be on June 7.

G. MAYOR CHRISTOPHER C. BOTTA

I would like to remind everyone about the Garden Club tour on June 7. Tickets are available at Borough Hall. I am pleased to report that the Arsenic Remediation Project on the various wells that the Board of Public Works has undertaken over the past few months was completed on time and on budget. A lot of credit goes to our Borough Administrator and to Crew Engineers. We start our second phase of the remediation with a bid that will be opened tomorrow. By end of this year, the project will be complete. The basketball project at Finch Park is nearing completion. I am pleased to report that the Bergen County Open Space Trust Fund has allotted Ramsey another \$72,525.00 for that project. That is in addition to a \$61,000 grant from last year. That goes a long way towards the completion of that project. I would like to thank the Board of Education and the VFW for working with me on arranging the essay contest for Memorial Day. Jessica Whelan had the winning essay and she did a great job. My thanks to all of the veterans for their service and sacrifices.

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

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

J. BOROUGH CLERK – Meredith Bendian

I would like to congratulate my Deputy Sherry Richards on passing the Registered Municipal Clerk’s exam. I am very excited for her.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Doug Rennie, 30 Rose Avenue, spoke about increasing the number of County Committee people. The southern part of Bergen County represents about 60 to 70% of the voting people for County Committee. We should have about 20 seats, instead of the 12 that we have. I have been pleading with the Council and make them aware that you have an obligation to the residents of Ramsey. We are an active Republican town and I am embarrassed. We need to hire a firm that can do the redistricting for us. Timing is probably already gone for this time. We should be preparing for it.

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

IX. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

[Ordinance 05-2008 Authorizing the repaving of Briggs Avenue, Lost Tree Lane](#), Snyder Avenue, Vaughn Drive, Column Court and sections of Prince Street, Peach Hill, Church Street, and Gertzen Plaza in the Borough of Ramsey, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey and to appropriate the sum of \$100,000.00 to pay the cost thereof. Introduced by Dillon, seconded by Nalbandian

BE IT RESOLVED that an ordinance entitled: BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE ROAD RECONSTRUCTIN AND REPAVIG OF LOST TREE LANE, SNYDER AVENUE, VAUGHN DRIVE, COLUMN COURT AND SECTIONS OF PRINCE STREET, PEACH HILL, CHURCH STREET AND GERTSEN PLAZA IN THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, COUNTY OF BERGEN, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$100,000.00 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE IN PART SUCH APPROPRIATIONS AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION 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 11th day of June, 2008, 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, Jachzel, Jones, Nalbandian, Siemsen, Vozeh NAYS: None

Ord. 6-2008 Loitering
Resolution by Jones, seconded by Nalbandian

BE IT RESOLVED that an ordinance entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER III OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, BERGEN COUNTY NEW JERSEY AND MORE SPECIFICALLY SECTION 3-7 THEREOF ENTITLED LOITERING 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 11th day of June, 2008, 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, Jachzel, Jones, Nalbandian, Siemsen, Vozeh NAYS: None

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Borough Administrator acknowledged and thanked Sherry Richards for a job well done. She attended 5 classes throughout the last 2 or 3 years to also take the final exam and receive her certification as Borough Clerk. I believe less than 50% passed the State exam.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Jones stated that the DARE graduation is June 10. I believe it is 7:00 p.m.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

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

Meredith Bendian
Borough Clerk