

The Annual Re-Organization Meeting of the Borough of Riverdale Mayor and Council opened on the above date at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor William Budesheim presiding.

**ROLL CALL:**       **Present:**     **Astarita, Falkoski, Guis, Loesner, Wetzel, Carelli**  
                           **Absent:**       **None**

Mayor Budesheim announced that proper notice of this meeting was made as to time, date, place and agenda.

**MUNICIPAL CLERK READS CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION:**

Municipal Clerk Carol Talerico read the certification of the determination of the November 8, 2011 General Election as follows:

<b>NAME</b>	<b>OFFICE</b>	<b>TERM</b>
William Budesheim	Mayor	4 Years
Theodore Guis	Borough Council	3 Years
Elaine Wetzel	Borough Council	3 Years

**OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED TO NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS:**

The Oath of Office was administered to the Borough Council Members and Mayor.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS AND REMARKS BY SAME.**

Mayor Budesheim stated that Morris County Freeholder Bill Chegwidde and Mount Arlington Mayor Art Ondish, who is also President of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, stopped in earlier this evening to wish us well.

**COUNCILWOMAN ELAINE WETZEL:**

As I begin another term, I'd like to thank the Riverdale residents for their support and encouragement, and without the support of my family all of these years of service would not have been possible. I'm hopeful that this Mayor and Council will be able to move forward to continue the business of the town in a manner in which we are accustomed and proud of. I look forward to being a part of another successful year in Riverdale. As always, I make myself readily available to the residents, my committees, the mayor, and my other council members in the hope of keeping all lines of communication open for a more conducive outcome that will benefit all of us. Thank you again and may you all have a healthy and happy New Year.

**COUNCILMAN THEODORE GUIIS:**

I'd also like to thank the residents for my reelection. I look forward to continuing in my capacity working with the DPW and the Engineering groups to continue to improve infrastructure and hopefully we've been making some strides in the last months on the flood control and possibly some renovations and some work on the river. To be honest with everybody, that's going to be one of my major priorities this year and I'm hoping we can make some progress in that direction. Again, I thank everyone and everybody have a happy New Year.

**MAYOR BUDESHEIM:**

First of all, I'd like to thank the support that I received this past year. Much has transpired this past year requiring changes that must be addressed in 2012. Our approach towards governing needs reflect this new economic environment under which we now operate. In 2010 municipalities were forced to operate their budgets within a 2% cap on the local tax levy. For Riverdale that's \$90,000, or one tax point, out of a nearly \$7,000,000 budget. In order to continue to provide the same level of services that our residents and the business community have come to expect, we will have to be financially creative. When the cap was imposed, the towns were advised by the Governor that the cap would not work unless the state approved the necessary tool kit that changes the way in which we can operate. To date the tool kit has not been implemented. We have been searching out and contracting with alternative suppliers of utility services reducing costs of electric and phone services. We will continue to search out for even better deals. Another avenue to be explored is shared services. It is somewhat amusing to hear so many municipalities, especially the larger ones, discussing this phenomenon. The small towns invented shared services out of necessity. However, we must continue to work with neighboring towns to a greater degree than we have in the past. We have been approached not only to be provided with municipal services, but also inquiring whether we can provide some particular service to other towns. We must respond to these overtures diligently and promptly. This year we're going to another property revaluation. The drop in real estate values over the past few years makes this necessary. With the increase in tax appeals, the tax burden is shifting unjustly on too many of our residents. This must be rectified. Communication is critical today. Accurate and immediate information is anticipated by the residents on a daily basis. People need to know. We have implemented a new reverse 9-1-1 system and we were one of the first towns to sign on with the Morris County MC Urgent emergency notification system. The usual means of communicating are changing continuously resulting in a new vernacular. If you're not friending, tweeting, blogging or whatever you are in the dark. I'm sure there are more words out there as I try to get caught up with yesterday's technology. Therefore, I will be appointing this evening Riverdale's first Social Media Coordinator. This person will be responsible for dispatching the items of interest to so many members of our community not having the time to read newspapers with yesterday's news in it. There are many issues confronting our community this coming year and it will require all of us working together for the betterment of the people who put us here. I know we have met the challenges in the past. I am more confident that we will together meet them this year. Thank you.

**APPOINTMENT OF BOROUGH ATTORNEY – BY MAYOR AND CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL:**

Mayor Budesheim offered the name of Robert Oostdyk as Borough Attorney.

Thereupon, Councilman Astarita set forth the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Wetzel, to appoint Robert Oostdyk as Borough Attorney.

**ROLL CALL:**           **Ayes: Astarita, Carelli, Falkoski, Loesner, Wetzel, Guis,**  
                                  **Nays: None**  
                                  **(6 ayes – 0 nays - motion carried)**

**RESOLUTIONS:**

Councilman Falkoski asked for clarification of resolution No. 6-2012. Borough Attorney Oostdyk stated that it is not changing anything. It's necessary for the fair labor standards.

Thereupon, Councilman Astarita set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Carelli, to approve the following resolutions:

**RESOLUTIONS (continued):**

- 1) **Resolution No. 1-2012;** Re: Official Legal Newspaper – Suburban Trends.
- 2) **Resolution No. 2-2012;** Re: Annual meeting schedule – 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
- 3) **Resolution No. 3-2012;** Re: Bank Signatures and Depositories.
- 4) **Resolution No. 4-2012;** Re: Delinquent Taxes & Interests.
- 5) **Resolution No. 5-2012;** Re: Local Public Contracts Law.
- 6) **Resolution No. 6-2012;** Re: Police Department – Setting Work Schedules.
- 7) **Resolution No. 7-2012;** Re: Official Holidays – Borough Employees.
- 8) **Resolution No. 8-2012;** Re: Cash Management Plan
- 9) **Resolution No. 9-2012;** Temporary Budget - 2012

**ROLL CALL:**       **Ayes: Astarita, Carelli, Falkoski, Loesner, Wetzel, Guis,**  
                           **Nays: None**  
                           **(6 ayes – 0 nays - motion carried)**

**COPY OF RESOLUTIONS IN FULL ON PAGES 3-A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H AND I****COUNCIL TO SELECT PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL:**

Councilman Astarita offered the name of Joseph Falkoski as Council President; motion seconded by Councilwoman Wetzel.

**ROLL CALL:**       **Ayes: Astarita, Carelli, Falkoski, Loesner, Wetzel, Guis,**  
                           **Nays: None**  
                           **(6 ayes – 0 nays - motion carried)**

**COUNCIL TO APPOINT PLANNING BOARD LIASON:**

Councilman Loesner offered the name of Joseph Falkoski as Planning Board Liaison, motion seconded by Councilman Carelli.

**ROLL CALL:**       **Ayes: Astarita, Carelli, Falkoski, Loesner, Wetzel, Guis,**  
                           **Nays: None**  
                           **(6 ayes – 0 nays - motion carried)**

**MAYOR BUDESHEIM NAMES COUNCIL COMMITTEES:**

Mayor Budesheim stated the 2012 Council Committees:

Councilperson Falkoski	Finance	2 <sup>nd</sup> Astarita
Councilperson Astarita	Public Safety	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wetzel
Councilperson Guis	Public Works	2 <sup>nd</sup> Loesner
Councilperson Wetzel	Community Relations	2 <sup>nd</sup> Carelli
Councilperson Loesner	Buildings & Grounds	2 <sup>nd</sup> Guis
Councilperson Carelli	Personnel	2 <sup>nd</sup> Falkoski

Councilman Falkoski asked if the committee appointments could be held up until some legal questions are answered with regard to rejecting an appointment to serve on another committee. Borough Attorney Oostdyk stated that he could report back at the next meeting on the issue of whether or not a Councilperson has the ability to reject the Mayor's appointment. The committees will stand until the next meeting.

**2012 APPOINTMENTS MADE BY MAYOR BUDESHEIM AND CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL:**

Mayor Budesheim stated that the Council had received a copy of the 2012 Appointment List. Councilman Falkoski asked if there were any new people. Mayor Budesheim stated there were a few. Councilman Falkoski stated he didn't see an appointment for EOM Director. Mayor Budesheim stated it would be done at the next meeting. He also stated there is an additional person on the Recreation Committee and that is Lori Clinton.

Mayor Budesheim requested Council confirmation of the 2012 Appointments.

Thereupon, Councilman Astarita set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Guis, for Council confirmation of the 2012 Appointments as listed.

**ROLL CALL:**       **Ayes: Astarita, Carelli, Falkoski, Loesner, Wetzel, Guis,**  
                           **Nays: None**  
                           **(6 ayes – 0 nays - motion carried)**

**COPY OF 2012 BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE APPOINTMENT LIST IN FULL PAGE NO. 4-J**

Councilman Astarita set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Carelli, to appoint Elaine Wetzel as council representative to the H.U.D. Committee.

**ROLL CALL:**       **Ayes: Astarita, Carelli, Falkoski, Loesner, Wetzel, Guis,**  
                           **Nays: None**  
                           **(6 ayes – 0 nays - motion carried)**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NO. 1:**

There being no comments, Councilman Falkoski set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Astarita, that the public portion be closed.

**ALL IN FAVOR.**

**SWEARING IN OF FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF AND ASSISTANT CHIEF:**

Mayor Budesheim stated that the Fire Department had is reorganization meeting and election of officers.

The Oath of Office was administered to Department Chief Dan Sturm and Assistant Chief Jim Regeling, Jr.

**SWEARING IN OF MEMBERS OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE:**

The Oath of Office was administered to the members of the Recreation Committee.

**SWEARING IN OF OFFICERS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

The Oath of Office was administered to the newly elected officers of the Fire Department.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilman Carelli set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Astarita, to adjourn the meeting.

**ALL IN FAVOR.**

Adjourned: 7:44 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

Respectfully Submitted:

---

Carol J. Talerico, R.M.C.  
Municipal Clerk