

The Annual Re-Organization Meeting of the Borough of Riverdale Mayor and Council opened on the above date at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor William Budesheim presiding.

**ROLL CALL: Present: Astarita, Carelli, Guis, Mastrangelo, 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 6, 2012 General Election as follows:

NAME	OFFICE	TERM
Paul Carelli	Borough Council	3 Years
Gary Mastrangelo	Borough Council	3 Years

OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED TO NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS:

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

INTRODUCTION OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS AND REMARKS BY SAME.

COUNCILMAN GARY MASTRANGELO:

I just want to thank everybody for having the trust in me to keep an eye on the town for the next three years. I'm not going to let you down.

COUNCILMAN PAUL CARELLI:

I would like to thank the residents of Riverdale for electing me to another term on the borough council. I especially want to thank my wife, June, and my children for the sacrifices they make throughout the year. Without their support I could not face the challenges of being a councilman for Riverdale. Tonight marks my sixth time being sworn into office. While one might expect the role to get easier, it has become increasingly harder over the last several years. With an economy in decline, the process of running a municipal government has been more of a challenge to all local officials. Budgets have gotten tighter, revenues have significantly decreased, and pressure has mounted to take action. However, action for the sake of action is unacceptable. Our actions must be taken with proper planning, thoughtfulness, financial feasibility and sensitivity for all those affected. I start this New Year with the same enthusiasm and hope for Riverdale as I've always had. Do not let anyone tell you that Riverdale is in decline. Look around at our hard working borough employees, our professional police and fire departments, our countless volunteers and organizations, and the many residents that make up this town. It always has been and always will be an honor to serve all of you. Following the advice my father gave me - just do what you think is right and the rest will take care of itself. This is my commitment. I look forward to working with all of you. Happy New Year and best wishes for 2013. 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 Carelli set forth the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Wetzel, to appoint Robert Oostdyk as Borough Attorney.

ALL IN FAVOR.

RESOLUTIONS:

Councilman Falkoski asked for clarification of resolution No. 6-2012. Mayor Budesheim responded.

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

1. **Resolution #1-2013** - LEGAL PAPER.
2. **Resolution #2-2013** - ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE.
3. **Resolution #3-2013** - BANK SIGNATURES AND DEPOSITORIES.
4. **Resolution #4-2013** - DELINQUENT TAXES & INTERESTS.
5. **Resolution #5-2013** - LOCAL PUBLIC CONTRACT LAW.
6. **Resolution #6-2013** - POLICE DEPARTMENT - SETTING WORK SCHEDULES.
7. **Resolution #7-2013** - HOLIDAYS - BOROUGH EMPLOYEES.
8. **Resolution #8-2013** - CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN.
9. **Resolution #9-2013** – TEMPORARY BUDGET – 2013.
10. **Resolution #10-2013** – ADOPTION OF A STANDARD TORT CLAIM NOTICE CLAIM FORM.

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

COPY OF RESOLUTIONS IN FULL ON PAGES 2-A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I AND J

COUNCIL TO SELECT PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL:

Councilman Guis offered the name of Paul Carelli as Council President; motion seconded by Councilman Astarita.

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

MAYOR BUDESHEIM NAMES COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Mayor Budesheim announced the 2013 Council Committees:

Councilperson Carelli	Finance & Shared Services	2 nd Guis
Councilperson Falkoski	Public Safety	2 nd Carelli
Councilperson Guis	Public Works	2 nd Mastrangelo
Councilperson Wetzel	Community Relations	2 nd Astarita
Councilperson Astarita	Buildings & Grounds	2 nd Wetzel
Councilperson Mastrangelo	Personnel	2 nd Falkoski

COUNCIL COMMITTEES (continued):

Council has appointed Mayor Budesheim as a third member of all committees.

COUNCIL TO APPOINT PLANNING BOARD LIASON:

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

ALL IN FAVOR.

2013 APPOINTMENTS MADE BY MAYOR BUDESHEIM AND CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL:

Mayor Budesheim stated that the Council had received a copy of the 2013 Appointment List. There is one name not on the list and that is Police Chaplain. We are fortunate and blessed to have a pastor in our town such as Reverend Timothy Flynn. He and his family have always been there whenever the town has called upon him and I would like to add his name to the list.

Mayor Budesheim requested Council confirmation of the 2013 Appointments.

Thereupon, Councilman Carelli set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Astarita, for Council confirmation of the 2013 Appointments as listed.

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

COPY OF 2013 BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE APPOINTMENT LIST IN FULL PAGE NO. 3-K

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

ALL IN FAVOR.

Mayor Budesheim appointed Elaine Wetzel as alternate representative to the H.U.D. Committee.

REMARKS BY MAYOR BUDESHEIM:

A new year, another reorganization meeting. At this time the governing body, having closed out the previous year's business looks forward to the upcoming year with a clean slate, a fresh outlook and hope for the future. Everyone up here, I am sure, has the interests of the town at heart. Though we may have different approaches, ultimately our goal is the same. A concern expressed by each of us is a lack of communication, too often becoming aware of a proposal the night of a meeting. This has to stop in fairness to all. Therefore, the council meetings should be conducted according to the original intent. The workshops will be just that – workshops. At that meeting, all items of interest to the municipality will be discussed reserving formal action to the regular meeting each month. At the workshop meeting the council will be informed of all committee meetings held the previous month and their recommendations. Of course, if time is of the essence and formal action needs to be taken at the workshop we still have that flexibility. At the regular meeting formal action will be taken on the issues discussed at the workshop. Again if a timely issue should arise between the two meetings, the council does have the ability to consider taking action. Hopefully this will keep all issues before the public so

REMARKS BY MAYOR BUDESHEIM (continued):

that all can be aware of the deliberations behind our decisions. Secondly, we have major financial issues confronting the borough that must be addressed in a fiscally responsible approach. A shared services agreement failed to get passed by the council a month ago. I believed then and I believe still that in certain areas shared services are the only way if we are going to afford providing services to the residents. The costs of doing business are always rising. Finding alternative ways of providing those services will be our only solution. Also, I'm asking for all councilpersons to work towards a goal of finding a savings at the end of the year of five percent out of their operating expense budgets for which they are responsible. This money may then be diverted into debt service and/or our capital budget for future projects. Employee group health insurance is, with the exception of police salaries, the single largest line item in our budget. That includes garbage collection, library services, pension, debt service, etc. We must move forward with insurance reform if we ever hope to comply with the state's constraints on the municipal budget process. We will begin our journey towards fiscal accountability as we accomplish these three goals: 1. Structured meetings will provide for fair and optimal consideration of all issues before the council and residents. 2. Cost savings that can help to maintain the tax structures that make Riverdale the most desirable town in the area, and 3. Insurance reform to continue to provide our employees quality health benefits while helping to remedy our financial position. I look forward to working with all the employees and everyone on the governing body to give the residents of our community the government to which they are entitled. Thank you and I wish everybody a Happy New Year.

MAYOR BUDESHEIM ACKNOWLEDGES LARRY FELD FOR DEDICATION AND SERVICE TO RIVERDALE:

Also at this time we have the opportunity to acknowledge a resident who's contributed so much time and effort to our community. Larry Feld is stepping down as President of the Library Board of Trustees. He's served there for almost 12 years now and he held tight reigns on the board and he directed us. We went from a small one-room library station to what we consider a gem of Riverdale. Without his guidance and his attention to detail, and especially working with the budgets and the personnel – two of the biggest issues to confront the board – he helped to make the library what it is tonight. Over his objections – I know I was always the one who nominated him to be President – this year he threatened if I did it again he would step down from the board altogether. I won't take that chance because he's going to have to stick around to help whoever is taking over for him. Mayor Budesheim presented Mr. Feld with a certificate of appreciation for his dedication and service to the Borough of Riverdale.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NO. 1:

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

ALL IN FAVOR.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

ALL IN FAVOR.

Adjourned: 7:20 p.m.

APPROVED:

Respectfully Submitted:

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