

The workshop meeting of the Borough of Riverdale Mayor and Council opened on the above date at 7:30p.m.

Mayor William Budesheim presiding.

**ROLL CALL: Present: Astarita, Carelli, Guis, Mastrangelo, Revis, Wetzel
Absent: None**

Also Present: Police Chief Smith, Fire Chief Sturm

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NO. 1:

There being no comments, Councilman Astarita set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Revis, to close the public session.

ALL IN FAVOR.

RESOLUTIONS:

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

- 1) Payment of Claims. (including the following)
 - a. RFM Printing Newsletter – A&E o/e \$935.85
 - b. Postmaster Postage – A&E o/e \$344.14
- 2) **Resolution No. 33-2014;** Authorizing an Auction of Abandoned Clothing Bins.
- 3) **Resolution No. 34-2014;** Approval of Stipulation of Settlement for Formosa Partnership tax appeal.

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

COPY OF BILLS LIST AND RESOLUTIONS IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 25-A, B, AND C

CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1) From Planning Board recommending the amendments to the Riverdale Zoning Ordinance. (copy of memo and Chapter 168, Zoning transmitted to governing body with agenda).

Mayor Budesheim stated that this ordinance has been worked on by the Planning Board for the past year and will be introduced at the next meeting. Council discussed the Zoning ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) P.L. 2013 c.38 which gives municipalities the option after July 1, 2014 to require that all pay be distributed through direct deposit. The effect of this law is two-fold. First, it would cut costs associated with paper checks. Second, because it gives municipalities the ability to establish policies regarding direct deposit by ordinance, it would make direct

NEW BUSINESS (continued):

deposit a non-negotiable issue under the New Jersey Employer Employee Relations Act (NJEERA).

Mayor Budesheim stated that right now this is an elective but we have the right to do it by ordinance.

MAYOR REPORT: No Report

BOROUGH ATTORNEY REPORT: No Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE: Councilman Carelli stated the new computers will be ordered when he gets a purchase order number. He reported that he has a quote for the phone system. We'd have to make an investment of about \$2,500 to buy the phones. This would be VOIP telephones and there are a lot of advantages to the system. We will save about \$1,300.00 a month so it pays for itself in two months. I will get a formal quote for the next meeting and we can vote on that. I met again with a firm for the Police Department. Our fund balance went from \$931,000 to \$1,017,000 due to some revenue that we weren't expecting. The budget this year will require some restructuring because of the shared services agreements we have now. We need to think about what our personnel plan is going forward for this year. Last year we had a lot of discussion about the Police Department and concerns about overtime but we were very close. We'll have some budget savings in finance, tax collection and tax assessor and construction code. We had some increases in insurance and pension. I will meet with the CFO and will hopefully have more information in two weeks.

PUBLIC SAFETY: Councilman Mastrangelo reported he has an application for the Fire Department from Amanda Marie Dakake.

Thereupon, Councilman Mastrangelo set forth the motion, seconded by Council Councilman Astarita, to approve the application from Amanda Marie Dakake for membership in the Riverdale Fire Department as a Junior Member.

ALL IN FAVOR.

PUBLIC WORKS: No Report

COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Councilwoman Wetzel reported on playground equipment. The Summer Recreation issue has been resolved. We negotiated a partial program for the 7th and 8th graders and we'll make adjustments as it goes along. Councilwoman Wetzel questioned the new seating arrangements. She asked if we have anything in writing about rental fees for the fields. Mayor Budesheim stated he would get the fees.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: Councilman Astarita reported that he got in touch with Joe Kovach regarding the library roof heaters and is waiting for a reply. Montville will take over our position on the services sub-committees today and tomorrow because I won't be available.

PERSONNEL: Councilman Revis stated we will have a meeting this week to discuss some personnel issues that will impact the budget.

Councilwoman Wetzel asked if there has been any meeting yet with Linda Forbes with regard to her position once Carol retires. It's coming very quickly and I'm curious as to

COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued):

what the plan is. Mayor Budesheim stated that there has been no formal meeting. I told her the presumption was she would take Carol's place. The only thing open is the salary and that's one of the things we'll be discussing at our meeting. Councilwoman Wetzel asked if we have a backup plan if she doesn't take the position. Councilman Astarita asked if we thought of posting the position. Mayor Budesheim stated that we sent her to school to become a Borough Clerk and she was told from the beginning that was the reason. Councilwoman Wetzel stated that she's hopeful it works out but I don't think we can just assume that regardless of what we offer her she's going to take the position. With a month to go it's something that should have been discussed or decided by now. Mayor Budesheim stated that there hasn't been time to meet with the committee to go over these things.

Mayor Budesheim announced the garbage is being picked up on Wednesday this week due to the storm that was predicted.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NO. 2:

Mike Schwinn, 20 Greenwich Street, asked what was being purchased with the \$1,700,000 bond. Mayor Budesheim explained it is for buyout of the flood properties on Harrison Road and one on Riverview Terrace.

Jeff Romaine, 43 Greenwich Street, asked the Council why we are giving everything in town away to other towns. Mayor Budesheim stated that we are trying to make the budget stretch. Mr. Romaine asked how much each household will save. Mayor Budesheim said you don't go by that. You go by the budget that you have to work with. Mr. Romaine stated that you're giving the town away and a lot of people feel that way. Mayor Budesheim stated his goal is to preserve Police, Fire, Ambulance and DPW. Those are the most important departments we have in town.

An unidentified audience member asked how much we would save by having dispatching service provided by another town. Councilman Carelli stated we could save about \$125,000 a year. Mayor Budesheim said that the last time this was brought up this room was filled with people opposed to doing that.

There being no further comments, Councilman Astarita set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Revis, to close the public session.

ALL IN FAVOR.**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- 1) Purchase of DOT Property located at the Magnus Tract from the DOT for an amount of \$15,000 to \$16,000 – discussed at the October 7th workshop meeting.
- 2) Adoption of Wanaque Borough's fee schedule by ordinance per the Department of Community Affairs notice that this is required for all Shared Services Agreements per Uniform Construction Code Statute #5:23-4.17e. (email sent to governing body and borough attorney regarding this on January 23, 2014 explaining the telephone call the clerk received from the DCA)

Councilman Carelli stated that Wanaque is already doing our construction and asked what the holdup is with the fee schedule. Mayor Budesheim stated that Wanaque's fees are so much lower than ours that he asked them to consider increasing them. They are starting to review it.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (continued):

Councilman Guis asked if we heard anything on the sewer allocation. His understanding is that Bloomingdale and Lincoln Park have gallonage available and Pequannock and Riverdale are looking for it. Mayor Budesheim stated that he did not and that he will call Dan Kelly again.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

ALL IN FAVOR.

Adjourned: 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

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