

The workshop 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:**     **Carelli, Loesner, Wetzel, Falkoski**  
                           **Absent:**       **Astarita (family medical reason), Guis (death in family)**

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

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NO. 1:**

Joan Garcia stated she would like discussion on the bylaws. She never heard of an organization that simply decided not to follow bylaws because they were old. Borough Attorney Oostdyk stated that the old bylaws remain the bylaws of the Council until such time as they are repealed and new bylaws are adopted. He urged the Council to make changes as they feel appropriate. Councilman Carelli stated that the Council is working on it. He asked how we know that the typewritten bylaws are the ones that were adopted. Borough Clerk Talerico stated that the minutes could be searched.

An unidentified audience member asked how many person committees we have. Borough Attorney Oostdyk stated that the Council put three on each committee. With the Mayor as member ex-officio they are four member committees and would have to be published and noticed in the event the fourth person was going to attend.

Mr. Ball asked if the Mathews Avenue intersection was now completed because property markers were to be put back when the job was done. Mayor Budesheim stated that it is and he will check the status with the Borough Engineer. Mr. Ball asked how deep the quarry is allowed to go. Mayor Budesheim replied that they can't go below the Hamburg Turnpike elevation except for a retention basin at the footing.

An unidentified audience member commented on the bylaws. Assuming the bylaws are dated they will be followed from this point forward. Borough Attorney Oostdyk stated that they are the bylaws in effect until they are repealed or amended.

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

**ALL IN FAVOR.**

**RESOLUTIONS:**

Councilman Loesner commented on payment to Hometown Newsletter. We haven't received any additional revenue since the last meeting. If we pay this tonight, we'll be behind \$1,425.57. Additionally the auditor has asked for verification on the invoices for shipping and postage which we have not received. He offered a temporary solution until we have a contract in place for this vendor. If we have the newsletters shipped here, he would verify the count and deliver them to the post office in Paterson and get a receipt. Mayor Budesheim stated that we would need a bulk mailing permit that will cost \$190 in order to do that. Councilman Loesner asked the Mayor to discuss the matter with the auditor since the bookkeeper is concerned. He stated that he's never seen a situation where advertising is not collected up front.

**RESOLUTIONS (continued):**

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

- 1) Payment of Utility Bills. (including the following)
  - a. Hometown Newsletters, LLC A&E o/e \$1,002.57
  - b. Vertical Lift Platform HUD Grant \$9,506.00
- 2) **Resolution #36-2012;** Transfer of 2011 Appropriation Reserves
- 3) **Resolution #37-2012;** Emergency Temporary Appropriations
- 4) **Resolution #38-2012;** Refund of Tax Overpayments – Block 29, Lot 9.516 – Assunta Areal, in the amount \$875.80 year 2012 – Reason Total Disability.

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

**COPY OF BILLS LIST AND RESOLUTIONS IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 30-A, B, C AND D**

**BOROUGH CLERK REPORT:** No Report

**ATTORNEY REPORT:** No report.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**PERSONNEL:** Councilman Carelli reported that he's been working with the Finance Committee and distributed handouts with analysis for some of the departments and some of the matters that have been discussed lately including the court, police, and dispatch. They are working on bylaws and will try to have something ready for everyone to look at for the next meeting. They are also working on a social media policy.

Mayor Budesheim stated that the question came up at the last meeting whether we had a light duty policy. There is a light duty policy in our handbook if we want to use it.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Councilman Falkoski reported that the County is ready to implement uniform standardized ID cards which all first responders in the state will have. In order to participate they are requiring each town to authorize this by resolution which we should have by the next meeting.

Mayor Budesheim asked how we were coming along with the fire ordinance. Councilman Falkoski replied that the Fire Chief said they weren't interested in it when you spoke with him. You told them to get in touch with you if they were and that was quite a while ago. Based on the information from the Fire Chief and reviewing the ordinance myself nobody seems to be interested.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Mayor Budesheim reported that we need a letter from the Governing Body regarding the \$87,500 grant from the DEP for desnagging and desliting of the river and confirming that 25% will go to Pequannock and 75% to Pompton Lakes.

Thereupon, Councilman Carelli set forth the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Wetzel, to authorize Mayor Budesheim to send a letter to Pompton Lakes confirming that of the \$87,500 grant awarded to Riverdale by the NJDEP for desnagging and desliting the river, 25% will go to Pequannock and 75% will go to Pompton Lakes.

**ALL IN FAVOR.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued):**

Mayor Budesheim reported that former Chief Soules contacted him requesting his check for 2012 based on the resolution we adopted when he retired.

Thereupon, Councilman Falkoski set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Carelli, to authorize a check in the amount of \$15,748 be issued to former Police Chief Soules for payment of comp time and vacation time.

**ALL IN FAVOR.**

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS:** Councilwoman Wetzel read the Recreation Director's report on current recreation events. She also reported that she brought the information and comments from the last meeting to the Board of Health and they will follow that up at their next meeting.

**FINANCE:** Councilman Loesner distributed the CFO's analysis for this year's budget and a draft copy of the budget prepared by the Finance Committee for 2012. He reported that the draft copy of the budget puts us under the cap by \$30. We left everything out – we reduced salaries for Mayor and Council, took out salaries for recreation, didn't allow for an increase in salary for any employee, didn't put a provision in to hire a police officer, and didn't put a provision in for any promoting outside of DPW Superintendent. If you want to put something in we have to find where to get the money. At least this way we're working from the ground up. We were \$492,000 over in the original draft. He asked for any suggestions to be sent in. Mayor Budesheim asked if the budget would be ready for introduction at the next meeting. Councilman Loesner replied that it would.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NO. 2:**

An unidentified audience member asked if the budget includes paying our debt. Mayor Budesheim stated the payment was reduced by \$200,000. Councilman Loesner stated we are making a \$400,000 payment towards our debt this year. The audience member asked what it's supposed to be. Councilman Loesner stated the interest is \$39,000 so anything above that. Mayor Budesheim stated it was supposed to be \$600,000. Councilman Loesner stated that's what we paid last year but we're not held to that. We'd have to take \$200,000 from somewhere else. The audience member said as a taxpayer I recommend you take the full amount. You're extending the debt and you won't get the interest rate you got last year.

Joan Garcia asked if there will be no pay for the Mayor and Council. Councilman Loesner said that we didn't make provisions for a lot of things to get it down to the cap number. What I handed out is the draft copy and we could introduce it as it is. If we want to put things back it has to come from somewhere else. Ms. Garcia stated she is concerned with the things that were not included in the budget. Councilman Loesner stated that they made provisions for gas, utilities and roads. Councilwoman Wetzel explained that recreation programs can still work by raising the fees.

An unidentified audience member asked how much the Council salaries were reduced. Mayor Budesheim stated it is about 7%.

An unidentified audience member asked if they would reconsider the new health care option that could potentially save \$200,000. Councilman Loesner stated that they will definitely do something with healthcare this year. The new state plans are in place and the PBA contract will be up. Councilman Carelli stated that this is the first year of a four year phase in for employee contributions to health care.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NO. 2 (continued):**

An unidentified audience member asked if any of the Council members were receiving health benefits. Councilman Loesner stated that one is but he is paying for it.

An unidentified audience member inquired about the health plan that could save \$200,000. Councilman Loesner stated that the PBA would have had to agree to it. We brought the people in to give a presentation and the PBA rejected it. It was not a similar plan. Councilman Carelli explained the employee contribution plan. The audience member asked if there was a state mandate for the police to start to pay towards their benefits. Councilman Carelli replied that there is when their contracts are up. The contract terminates the end of this year and we'll start negotiating a new contract at some point this year.

An unidentified audience member asked if the police ordinance that was in contention at the last meeting has been rewritten yet. Councilman Falkoski replied that it is still in the works.

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

**ALL IN FAVOR.**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

**ALL IN FAVOR.**

Adjourned: 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

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