

The regular 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 Budesheim presiding.

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

Also Present: Police Chief Smith

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES DATED:

Regular Meeting - July 15, 2013
Workshop Meeting - August 5, 2013

Councilman Falkoski set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Astarita, to approve the above listed minutes as read.

ALL IN FAVOR

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

RESOLUTIONS:

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

- 1) Payment of Claims. (including the following)
 - a. Darmofalski Engineering Riverdale Green Escrow \$ 1,200.00
 - b. Burgis Associates, Inc. Riverdale Green Escrow \$ 6,946.00
- 2) **Resolution No. 58-2013A; Refund** Homestead Rebate – Block 18, Lot 26.02; Joseph & Kathryn DeMauex - \$677.21.
- 3) **Resolution No. 59-2013;** Resolution of the members of the governing body have personally reviewed as a minimum the Annual Report of Audit, and specifically the sections of the Annual Audit entitled “General Comments & Recommendations” as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the governing body.
- 4) Approval of request for extension of hours of operation by Target Store T2247 on 94 State Route, Riverdale for an opening at 12:00 a.m. for the day of November 29, 2013, day after Thanksgiving.
- 5) Approval of purchase of truck for the DPW/Water Department not to exceed \$30,000.
- 6) Mayor to appoint Shawn Hopkins, CTA as the Tax Assessor for the Borough of Riverdale through the Interlocal Agreement with the Borough of Butler.
- 7) **Resolution No. 61-2013;** Chapter 159 – Clean Communities Grant - \$7,023.34. (Finance Officer item)
- 8) **Resolution No. 62-2013;** Chapter 159 – Municipal Court Alcohol Education, Rehabilitation and Enforcement Fund – Grant - \$580.52. (Finance Officer item)

RESOLUTIONS (continued):

- 9) **Resolution No. 63-2013;** Chapter 159 – Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund – Grant - \$7,928.73. (Finance Officer item)
- 10) **Resolution No. 64-2013;** Chapter 159 – Volunteer Fire Assistance Program – Grant - \$1,301.66. (Finance Officer item)

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

COPY OF BILLS LIST AND RESOLUTIONS IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 94-A, B, C, D, E, F, AND G

MAYOR REPORT: No Report.

BOROUGH CLERK REPORT: No Report.

BOROUGH ATTORNEY REPORT: No Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mayor Budesheim stated that there are no agenda items for the committees.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 1) **Resolution No. 60-2013;** Salary Resolution.

Mayor Budesheim stated that this is a regular meeting and everything is supposed to be brought up at a workshop meeting before we vote on it. This item was not brought up but there are employees here so I have no problem discussing this sample resolution that was sent out on Friday. We can vote on it at the workshop meeting.

Councilman Carelli stated this resolution was passed out at the July 15th meeting. It was brought up during budget discussions on ten separate occasions where there was no input. I did receive some input from Councilman Mastrangelo about some of the positions. I asked for feedback, I asked the Council to review it and I asked the Borough Clerk to review it for accuracy. The draft resolution had an adoption date of August 19th since that was the next regular meeting. The fact that we did not discuss it at the workshop is irrelevant and to decide an hour after I distribute it to the Borough Clerk to be put on the agenda that it can't be put on is unreasonable and unfair to the employees. They have been waiting for their raise for nine months and I don't know what waiting another meeting is going to do. I'd like the Council to consider voting on it tonight.

Councilman Astarita stated that we've been discussing this for many meetings and he agreed we should move on it.

Mayor Budesheim disagreed. He stated that the July 15th resolution is different from the one that was sent to us Friday afternoon. The directive was sent to the Borough Clerk before she received anything from you. It's just enforcing the bylaws. There were two different proposals out there. There was a 2% retroactive and a 3% going forward. That has never been discussed.

Councilman Carelli went over in chronological order what the Finance Committee did at each meeting regarding the budget and salary resolution. He said there was no feedback and there was no need to talk about it at the last meeting. This is the normal business

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (continued):

meeting so I gave it to the clerk to put on the agenda and then I found out it couldn't be on the agenda. I find it troubling.

Councilman Mastrangelo stated that he had quite a few questions but was never responded to by Councilman Carelli. There was disagreement regarding the matter. Councilman Mastrangelo stated that a 3% effective October 1 is more beneficial to employees who are going to be here for two or three or four years. I know some employees who are leaving this year and next year would rather have that 2% and run. I'm more concerned with the people who are going to be here. This first draft is wrong. There are people on there that didn't get a raise and I wanted to discuss the Mayor's salary.

Councilwoman Wetzel stated that the budget was approved with a 2% retroactive raise for the employees so if you wanted to change it to 3% you should have brought it up.

Councilman Guis stated that he feels a moral, ethical responsibility to do what we discussed and said we were going to do.

Mayor Budesheim stated that we should discuss the matter. He said that he believed the custodian and violations clerk should be given the same raise as everybody else.

Councilman Astarita stated that we should go with the 2% and include the borough employees that I assume didn't get raises the last two years either. Councilwoman Wetzel stated she agreed with that. Councilmen Guis and Carelli said they had no problem with it.

Councilman Astarita stated that he would make that a motion and Councilwoman Wetzel stated she would second it. Councilman Astarita then stated he wanted to take something back because he didn't know if the salary resolution he was looking at was what we're voting on. He said there's also the question we've brought up many times about the Mayor's salary. Although Paul tells me that has not changed, even though it's on this document, I guess there's some other monies under a different heading.

Councilman Carelli stated that we had voted to continue until such time it is rectified but that has not happened yet so it doesn't really affect that.

Councilman Astarita asked if we have a document here in front of us that is accurate.

Councilman Carelli stated that the two positions that we're referring to are on page 3.

Councilman Astarita stated that the motion would be to approve this resolution with changes.

Councilman Guis stated to add 2% to those two line items.

Councilman Falkoski asked about the Mayor's salary.

Councilman Astarita stated that has not changed.

Councilman Falkoski asked what he meant by it has not changed.

Councilman Carelli stated that has to be addressed separately.

Councilman Falkoski if the motion is to pass this resolution excluding the Mayor's salary.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (continued):

Councilman Carelli said no, the Mayor's salary is here. The other portion we've already voted on to continue that until such time as we find another way to do it.

Councilman Falkoski said in other words even though this relates a lower salary than what he's getting paid his salary is not going to be cut.

Councilman Carelli stated that is correct.

Councilman Astarita stated that is what he understands to be the case.

Councilman Mastrangelo asked if we didn't agree once the salary resolution was adopted and we did all of this we were going to take care of that.

Councilman Carelli stated that hasn't been done yet so I guess it just continues until we address it. We have to address that somehow.

Mayor Budesheim asked what there is to address. Either fix it or cut it but having a sword hanging over my head for the past two years is getting tiring. Either do it now or don't do it at all.

Councilman Astarita clarified the motion he set forth is to approve the salary resolution which includes the change of salary for custodian from \$23.16 to \$23.62 per hour and violations clerk from \$18.36 to \$18.73 per hour.

Councilman Astarita stated that along with moving the monies from that other heading into the Mayor's salary.

Councilman Carelli said he wouldn't do that here. That should be done separately because we already voted not to do that and we voted to continue paying him. That needs discussion. Nobody's saying to cut it and this wouldn't cut that at all but it should be addressed.

Councilman Astarita asked what the difference is if we do it now or later. Are there some overriding legal implications that we can't do that now?

Borough Attorney Bryce stated that he didn't believe there were any legal implications.

Councilman Mastrangelo stated he would like to make that motion.

Councilman Guis stated there is already a motion on the table.

Councilman Carelli said he would do it as separate.

Councilman Falkoski stated we need to clarify what the motion is now.

Councilman Carelli stated he did not know.

Councilmen Astarita stated the motion he made was to approve the salary resolution with the two addendums or changes giving those two line items 2%.

Councilman Falkoski asked if that would be retroactive.

Councilman Carelli stated that it would be retroactive.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (continued):

Thereupon, Councilman Astarita set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Mastrangelo, to approve the following resolution.

- 1) **Resolution No. 60-2013; Salary Resolution.**

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

COPY OF RESOLUTION IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 97-H

Councilman Astarita set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Mastrangelo, to bring the Mayor's salary this year to what he's been paid and move that money from the other heading into the Mayor's salary heading.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Astarita, Falkoski, Mastrangelo, Budesheim*
Nays: Guis, Wetzel, Carelli
(4 ayes – 3 nays – motion carried)

*Mayor Budesheim asked what it would mean if he doesn't vote.

Borough Attorney Bryce stated the salary would stay the same. It means that the headings have not been changed so from what Councilman Carelli is saying is that it would remain as is and as currently is being paid. If you abstain the motion fails.

Mayor Budesheim asked if his salary stays exactly the same then.

Borough Attorney Bryce stated it's just how it's allocated my understanding is.

Mayor Budesheim asked if the vote is just which line item we're taking it out of.

Borough Attorney Bryce stated that is correct. We already addressed that earlier in the year so nothing's changed.

Mayor Budesheim asked if this was a bookkeeping thing.

Councilman Carelli stated he didn't know about that.

Mayor Budesheim stated that you said the salary stayed the same; it's not going to get cut if we don't do this, and therefore all we're doing is a journal entry from the unassigned salaries to the Mayor and Council line item. Is that the effect of this resolution?

Councilman Carelli stated he didn't know.

Mayor Budesheim asked him what he just voted on.

Councilman Astarita asked the Mayor why he doesn't vote yes.

Mayor Budesheim stated he wanted to make it clear that I'm not giving myself a raise as some people are saying.

Councilman Astarita stated this isn't giving you a raise. It's giving you the salary that you're getting now. The people have spoken and we want a full time Mayor so let's just put this to bed and vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (continued):

Mayor Budesheim voted to break the tie vote.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NO. 2:

An unidentified audience member spoke regarding the development of the Verizon property. Mayor Budesheim responded that Push-to-Walk and the developer are working on a new plan and he is invited to come to the meeting.

Police Chief Smith recommended we appoint a part-time dispatcher at this meeting or the next meeting. He is a retiring Pompton Lakes police officer and would require minimal training.

Thereupon, Councilman Falkoski set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Mastrangelo, to approve the appointment of Ronald Thomas as a part-time dispatcher for the Riverdale Police Department.

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

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

ALL IN FAVOR.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

ALL IN FAVOR.

Adjourned: 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

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