

The workshop meeting of the Borough of Riverdale Mayor and Council opened on the above date at 7:30 p.m. with the roll call followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Budesheim presiding.

ROLL CALL: Present: Astarita, Carelli, Mastrangelo, Revis, Wetzel, Guis

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.

SWEARING IN OF SERGEANT ROBERT DIGIROLAMO

Mayor Budesheim stated that Digirolamo led the police department in DWI arrests in 2005, 2007, and 2009 along with being highly recommended by Chief Smith and his lieutenant. Digirolamo was sworn in by Borough Attorney Robert Oostdyk.

SWEARING IN OF PATROLMAN DANIEL SALVATI

Mayor Budesheim stated that he was pleased with Chief Smith choosing a qualified patrolman who is also a Riverdale resident. Salvati was sworn in by Borough Attorney Robert Oostdyk.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NO. 1:

Jim McMichael, came before the Mayor and Council to ask the next steps for the donation of a bench on behalf of his father. Mayor Budesheim and Councilperson Guis advised to have it brought in and will be displayed and installed by the Borough after the winter season in time for the Memorial Day Ceremony.

Tom Batelli, 712 Canella Way, expressed his opinion on the replacement of a commercial property to become a cultural center on Riverdale Road.

Dave Desai, 22 Cotluss Road, asked about the new component of the meeting agenda labeled "Mayor's Comments." Desai noted that the change in the agenda may be in violation of bylaws without the approval of the council. Desai asked the council to consider the benefits of allowing the addition of the new component before being voted on.

Will Leggy, 68 Mountain View Court, shared his opinion on how in other town council meetings that members of the governing body are freely allowed to express their opinion at any time during the meeting. Leggy also stated that all bylaws should be followed.

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

ALL IN FAVOR

RESOLUTIONS:

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

- 1) Payment of Claims.
- 2) **Resolution No. 59-2014;** Resolution stating 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.
- 3) **Resolution No. 60-2014;** Approval of submittal of DOT Grant application for the Riverview Terrace and Fernwood Crescent Improvement Project with a total eligible aid amount of \$180,000.00 and a total project amount of \$284,850.00.
- 4) **Resolution No. 61-2014;** Chapter 159 – FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program - \$179,622.00.
- 5) **Resolution No. 62-2014;** Approval of Amendment to the Employee Handbook. (distributed to Governing Body with agenda)- **EXCLUDING THE HEALTH INSURANCE POLICY (by request of Councilperson Carelli)**

RESOLUTIONS: (continued)

- 6) Authorizing the appointment of Dawn Gossen as Police Matron.
- 7) Authorizing the appointment of James Carifi as per diem/part time dispatcher.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Astarita, Carelli, Mastrangelo, Revis, Wetzel, Guis

Nays: None

(6 ayes- 0 nays- motion carried)

By request of Councilperson Mastrangelo, **Resolution 63-2014**; Establishing Salaries for 2014, was voted on separately.

Councilperson Revis set forth the motion, seconded by Councilperson Carelli, to approve **Resolution 63-2014**; Establishing Salaries for 2014

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Astarita, Carelli, Revis, Wetzel, Guis

Nays: Mastrangelo

(5 ayes- 1 nay- motion carried)

COPY OF BILLS LIST AND RESOLUTIONS IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 93-A, B, C, D, E, AND F

WORKSHOP DISCUSSION:

- 1) Mayor Budesheim explained what the Best Practices Inventory was and the significance of following the inventory as closely as possible on a yearly basis and opened the floor to the council for any questions.
- 2) Mayor Budesheim opened the floor for questions on the distributed accounting manual by the CFO

CORRESPONDENCE:

Councilperson Mastrangelo set forth the motion, seconded by Councilperson Astarita, to approve the following correspondence:

- 1) Request for extension of hours of operation by Wal-Mart, 48 State Route 23 North, Riverdale to be open on Thursday, November 27, 2014 at 7:00 AM through 12:00 PM on November 28, 2014, day after Thanksgiving.

ALL IN FAVOR

MAYOR REPORT:

- 1) Discussion of the Recreation Director position of whether to be paid or volunteer. Mayor Budesheim wants to reestablish the position for \$100 a week. Councilmember Wetzel spoke of volunteerism and expressed her desire to have this position as a volunteer basis.
- 2) Mayor Budesheim asked for permission from the council to auction off police vehicle number 164-2008 Dodge Charger

Councilperson Guis set forth the motion, seconded by Councilperson Astarita, to approve placing Police Vehicle number 164 on auction.

ALL IN FAVOR

- 3) Mayor Budesheim stated that there are two vacancies on the Board of Health and offered to appoint John Revis & Tom Fordella as members.

Councilperson Astarita set forth the motion, seconded by Councilperson Wetzel, to approve John Revis and Tom Fordella as members of the Board of Health.

MAYOR REPORT: (continued)**ALL IN FAVOR**

- 4) Mayor Budesheim obtained a quote for the CDL licensing. The quote is for \$994 for the entire DPW for a year. This will be voted on at the next meeting.
- 5) Mayor Budesheim stated that creation of an audit committee will be in compliance with the best practices inventory. The audit committee will be comprised of the Mayor, CFO, and the finance councilmember.
- 6) Mayor Budesheim will have an ordinance and resolution ready for a following meeting for energy aggregation. This will save the residents money on their energy costs. This will be effective next March.
- 7) Mayor Budesheim received an estimate to have the entire municipal building hooked up to the already purchased generator.
- 8) Mayor Budesheim declared this month on behalf of Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva (F.O.P).
- 9) The section 125 plan was adopted in 2010 but was never finished according to Mayor Budesheim. The cash benefit option will be effective for one year, and renewed, to allow borough employees to waive their health benefits. In return the employees waiving their health benefits will receive 25% of the savings- up to \$5,000. This will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.
- 10) A property located at 83 Newark Pompton Turnpike was bought with funds received from COAH. It became impractical for the developer to carry out the project at this location. Mayor Budesheim would like to put the property up for auction and return the money to the COAH trust fund. Bid specs will be prepared for the next meeting.

COPY OF PROCLAMATION IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 94-A**BOROUGH CLERK REPORT:** No report**BOROUGH ATTORNEY REPORT:** No report**COMMITTEE REPORTS:****FINANCE:** Councilperson Carelli stated he was pleased with the work of the CFO with renewing the bond anticipation note at a good rate.**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Councilperson Mastrangelo distributed a noise ordinance to be introduced at a later meeting needing the input of the councilmembers and Borough Attorney.

Surveillance Camera quote was distributed. It would cover the borough hall, police department, fire department, community center, and the DPW.

PUBLIC WORKS: Councilperson Guis asked for an update with the water billing. Mayor Budesheim replied that it was being handled by Councilman Carelli in connection with Butler. Councilperson Guis also asked for an update with the I&I and Mayor Budesheim responded that the requests went out with a deadline and is waiting to receive them.**COMMUNITY RELATIONS:** No report**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS:** Councilman Astarita stated that the fire house garage door repair was completed to satisfaction. The two baseball fields were completed and ready for the following year.**PERSONNEL:** Councilperson Revis thanked Councilperson Carelli for his help with the salary resolution. Councilperson Revis inquired about the Audit Committee that was created for the best practices inventory.**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NO. 2:**Dave Desai, 22 Cotluss Road, asked if we currently had the list of proposals for the I&I. Mayor Budesheim stated that we are waiting to receive them by the October 15th deadline.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NO. 2: (continued)

Tom Batelli, 712 Canella Way, shared his opinion that the Recreation Director position should be paid as it is difficult to find a volunteer.

Chris Scilingo, 24 Cedar Street, happy with good press lately with the Borough. Unhappy to see an article written by an elected school board official on a Riverdale “watch dog” website. Shared his opinion as a police officer that it is necessary for Riverdale to place several cameras within the police department.

Keith Hamilton, 14 Van Duyne Ave, shared his opinion that the elected school board members should be able to write articles on any website.

Matt Oswald, 9 Cotluss Road, supports the cameras being placed within the police department and public facilities. Cautions against high maintenance costs, other costs down the road, and quality of service we are receiving.

Ann Gould, 22 Cotluss Road, asked who appoints the recreation director. Believes that the position should be on a volunteer basis. Asked about the rental income and maintenance costs of the property that is owned and rented out by the Borough.

Jerry Mahler, Halsey Ave, believes that the Recreation Director position should be on a volunteer basis.

Councilperson Carelli believes that the portion of “Mayor Comments” be made during the audience participation and not after.

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

ALL IN FAVOR

Councilperson Mastrangelo set forth the motion, seconded by Councilperson Astarita, to approve the purchase of a surveillance camera system from Veraciti Inc. in the amount of \$17,374.30.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Astarita, Carelli, Mastrangelo, Revis, Wetzel, Guis

Nays: None

(6 ayes- 0 nays- motion carried)

MAYOR’S COMMENTS:

Mayor Budesheim stated that other municipalities use the same format as a guideline for the agenda of meeting of the governing body. The planning board hired a planner to review all the concerns that were brought up. Welcomed the new superintendent to the Borough of Riverdale.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

ALL IN FAVOR

Adjourned: 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jimmy Homs

Assistant Municipal Clerk