

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: Astarita, Falkoski, Guis, Mastrangelo, Wetzol, Carelli
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 Falkoski set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Carelli, to close the public session.

ALL IN FAVOR.

Gary Shaw, Government Affairs Director for Cablevision, addressed the Council regarding the renewal of their franchise. Mr. Shaw stated that the borough introduced an ordinance with a 3 year term length and they were concerned. We have to notify you 3 years prior to expiration of our intent to seek renewal. The ordinance we sent to the borough, which included an \$8,000 grant, was predicated on a 10 year term. If it is the borough's desire to only do three years that grant would have to come out of the ordinance. We are asking the borough to reconsider at least a 5 year renewal where we could provide a \$4,000 grant for that period. After discussing the matter, it was agreed to reintroduce the ordinance for a 5 year term with a grant in the amount of \$5,000 plus free connections in all municipal buildings.

ORDINANCES:

- 1) Councilman Falkoski set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Falkoski, to **re-introduce** the following ordinance as amended and moved its adoption.

ORDINANCE 13-2013

**AN ORDINANCE GRANTING MUNICIPAL CONSENT FOR THE
 OPERATION OF A CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEM WITHIN THE
 BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE, NEW JERSEY TO CABLEVISION
 OF OAKLAND, LLC**

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

COPY OF ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTION IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 111-A

RESOLUTIONS:

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

- 1) Payment of Utility Bills/Claims

RESOLUTIONS (continued):

- 2) Authorization of extended hours request for The Sports Authority located on Route 23 North to remain open until 12 am on Thanksgiving Day, November 28, 2013 and to open on November 29, 2013 at 5 a.m.
- 3) Authorization of extended hours request for Best Buy located on Route 23 North to open on November 29, 2013 at 12 am.
- 4) Authorization of extended hours request for Wal-Mart located on Route 23 North to be open from November 28th, 2013 at 7 a.m. through 12 midnight on November 29, 2013. Appropriate fees have been received.

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

COPY OF BILLS LIST IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 112-B**INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY:**

- 1) “Certificate of Determination and Award” Issuance of a Bond Anticipation Note in the amount of \$2,500,000 on September 19, 2013 with a maturity date of September 18, 2014, numbered 2013-1. Interest rate per annum is 1.375% payable at maturity, net interest cost 1.3610%, awarded and sold note to Oppenheimer & Co. Inc., Philadelphia, PA at a price of \$2,500,350 plus interest on the note accrued to the date of payment of the purchase price.

MAYOR REPORT:

Mayor Budesheim reported that at the request of the Council he put a classified ad for a bookkeeper on the League of Municipalities website. It ran for two weeks and we received one response from someone with no experience. Based on that, I recommend we go with the Personnel Committee’s recommendation of Carla Mecionis.

Councilman Carelli stated that he felt we didn’t get responses because it is part time and the hourly rate we advertised of \$12 to \$15 per hour was rather low. There were several ads for similar positions on the League website and each was \$20 to \$30 per hour. There are qualifications and I feel it’s an important position. It concerns me that a person will come in with no experience and there’s no one to teach them. There are temp agencies that can supply someone until you can find the right person but I’m not sure if we’ve exhausted all of our resources here to look.

Councilman Mastrangelo stated that time is of the essence. The bookkeeper is going to be gone in three weeks.

Councilman Carelli stated that you can have a temp next week. They can supply a person for \$40 an hour who knows Edmunds, payroll, all the things we have in the ad. It could be an interim thing until you find someone.

Councilman Mastrangelo stated that we could go to a temp agency if the person we hire doesn’t work out.

Mayor Budesheim stated he was hoping to hire someone at \$12.00 an hour for training up to 10 hours a week and effective November 1st it could go up to \$15.00 an hour. The person would be put on 6 month probation and if they meet our expectations we can bring it up to \$20.00 an hour.

MAYOR REPORT (continued):

Thereupon, Councilman Mastrangelo set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Astarita, to approve the Mayor's appointment of Carla Mecionis as a part-time bookkeeper at a salary of \$12.00 per hour while training 10 hours per week and \$15.00 per hour beginning November 1st for up to 25 hours per week with a 6 month probationary period.

ROLL CALL: **Ayes: Astarita, Mastrangelo**
 Nays: Falkoski, Guis, Wetzal, Carelli
 (2 ayes – 4 nays – motion denied)

Councilman Falkoski asked if we could put another name in contention for the position. Mayor Budesheim stated we could not because the Finance Chairman told us at the last meeting that none of them are qualified. Councilman Falkoski stated that Susan Ramirez had qualifications as a bookkeeper and that is basically what we're hiring. Mayor Budesheim stated he was not ready to make that appointment now.

Mayor Budesheim reported on shared services. I've spoken to a town in the area and they're very interested in providing Building Department services for us. It's costing about \$90,000 a year to run that department between salaries, taxes and pension costs. As of September 30th we've taken in \$27,000 in receipts and that projects to about \$36,000 a year. The best case is that we're running at about a \$50,000 deficit. Our cap is going to be at around \$90,000. There are no added assessments this year. That's another indication the building department isn't going to be getting the work. I don't think we can ignore this any more and hopefully I'll have something for the Council to review by the next meeting and make a decision.

Councilman Carelli asked if they could provide some office hours in Riverdale for the residents and provisions to exit or share in the revenue in case the revenues change. Mayor Budesheim stated there is going to be a cap and that is what we're hoping to do.

Mayor Budesheim reported on the flood buyouts on Harrison Road and one house on Riverview Terrace. Last week I sent out the formal offers. These offers are pre-flood conditions and between Green Acres and the County's program we should be getting about 95% of the purchase price and the homeowners contribute 5%. Out of the seven one has already returned the agreement.

Mayor Budesheim reported on the offer from the State to purchase surplus property. The cost is between \$15,000 and \$16,000. There's no real use for that property. My concern is that the current owner of the adjacent property has been looking to put a coffee shop or a car wash on that site. Council discussed the matter and it will be on the next agenda.

Mayor Budesheim informed the Council that he received an email from the American Water Resource Company. They are planning to solicit our water users to try to sell them a water line protection program in case their water line breaks. The town has nothing to do with this.

Mayor Budesheim reported on the electric bill for the route 23 traffic light near Home Depot. We had a \$2,000 bill that covers a few years and it's running about \$75 to \$95 per month. I sent the letter back to the State asking them to clarify the date because the contract date was 2004 signed by Mayor Dedio who left office in 2003, and I asked if there was any authorization for this. They sent back a copy of a resolution adopted by the borough August 18, 2003 which authorized the Mayor and Clerk to sign the agreement. The minutes indicated a motion was approved to enter into a traffic signal pre-emption agreement provided that Pequannock Township absorbs full payment. The instructions

MAYOR REPORT (continued):

were very clear that we were not to pay anything towards this. I am going to send the resolution to them and pursue this.

Mayor Budesheim reported on random mandatory drug testing that was brought up during PBA negotiations. I think this is a protection for the officers and the town to have this policy in place.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT WORKSHOP:

- 1) Street sign parameters (Councilman Mastrangelo)

Councilman Mastrangelo stated that we had two dedicated street signs go up in a relatively short amount of time and he feels we should set some parameters. He read aloud his recommended policy. Council agreed there should be a policy and discussed the guidelines.

- 2) Renewal of Dexter's Liquor License. (Special ruling received from Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control)

Borough Clerk Talerico explained the special ruling was received from the State and it will be on the next agenda for the Council to vote on approving the renewal.

- 3) Excess Surplus Land known as Route 23, Section 3, Parcel VX16B1C being offered for purchase by the Borough of Riverdale.

This item was discussed during the Mayor Report.

- 4) Use of Freedom Park ball field request.

Mayor Budesheim stated we received a few requests. Councilwoman Wetzel stated that when someone calls the borough they get referred to her and she advises them they need all clearance from Pompton Lakes/Riverdale – any and all of their sports. We've never had a problem with any outside leagues and they have done additional work and taken good care of the fields. She will handle this request.

- 5) Engineering budgets for projects: Glenburn, Overlook, Sewer Pump Station.

Borough Clerk Talerico reported the fees that will be on the next agenda for approval. Council requested an explanation of the estimate for the Glenburn.

- 6) Required discussion of Best Practices Inventory at workshop meeting per Finance Officer. (Distributed with agenda)

The Best Practices Inventory and results were discussed by the Mayor and Council. Mayor Budesheim stated that he had worked on the above with the Finance Officer.

BOROUGH CLERK REPORT: No Report.

BOROUGH ATTORNEY REPORT: No Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE: No Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued):

PUBLIC SAFETY: Councilman Falkoski stated he has an application for membership to the Riverdale Fire Department from Jonathan Kazemaini.

Councilman Falkoski set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Mastrangelo, to approve the application of Jonathan Kazemaini for membership in the Riverdale Fire Department.

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

Fire Chief Dan Sturm reported that thanks to the ordinance change for residency we have three residents of Pompton Lakes who will be joining the Fire Department. He also reported the OEM plan is done and it will be forwarded to the County and State on Friday.

PUBLIC WORKS: Councilman Guis reported on water and sewer lines and where the borough's responsibility ends and the homeowner's begins. He had a meeting with the Mayor and DPW Superintendent and they've come up with a concept. The borough attorney will check into ordinance changes needed. He also reported that an alteration to the septic system at the DPW garage is needed as the seepage pit is failing. In the process of lying that out we determined that one house on the end of Riverview Terrace is using about 30 feet of borough property. There's a shed and small landscape wall on the property. Borough Attorney Oostdyk stated that it's better for the borough and the homeowner if we clarify what the rights and responsibilities are. We should first determine if we need to utilize the property and then how to address it.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Councilwoman Wetzel reported on upcoming recreation events. Fright night is October 23rd at the Glenburn. Registration deadline for Disney on Ice is October 29th and the Karate program is October 30th. We have a lifelong resident in town, Leanne Weiss, who has taken off in her music career. I called and told her we are very proud of her and I'm hoping that when she does actual CD cuttings we could acknowledge her with a small signing or release party. She has always responded when asked to do things in town.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: Councilman Astarita reported that the library director has been looking into the roofing situation there and those shingles are no longer manufactured. I will meet with her this week and see what the Library Committee is thinking about doing there.

PERSONNEL: No Report.

Mayor Budesheim stated that Obama Care will take effect in January and there are certain reporting requirements. For employers with less than 50 employees the requirements are considerably less than those with more than 50 employees. We have close to 80 people on the payroll. It includes part time and seasonal workers and there is a formula to figure out how many part timers equals one full timer. We have close to 33 actual full time employees. I spoke with the library and told them they may have to break off from us.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NO. 2:

There being no 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 Astarita, to adjourn the meeting.

ALL IN FAVOR.

Adjourned: 8:352 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

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