

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

Mayor William Budesheim presiding.

ROLL CALL: **Present:** **Astarita, Carelli, Guis, Wetzel, Falkoski**
 Absent: **Bush (vacation)**

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

BOROUGH ENGINEER REPORT:

Mayor Budesheim stated that he did not agree with the recommendation of Mead Avenue and the Newark Pompton Turnpike as the two roads selected for improvements in resolution No. 61-2007. He feels that Arlington Place is in worse condition. Borough Engineer Darmofalski stated that there is a point system of criteria for awarding of the grants and traffic is a major condition. He said he feels strongly that the Newark Pompton Turnpike is ready to fall apart and if we don't do something now we'll spend a lot more money than what we're anticipating. It is a very heavily traveled road and the condition of the asphalt is at a point that it will start unraveling and it is a bigger expense than Arlington. Mead Avenue includes sidewalk replacement on both sides. Councilman Guis stated his opinion is that Mead Avenue is the worst in terms of sidewalks and curbing from a liability standpoint. It is heavily traveled by pedestrians. Borough Engineer Darmofalski explained the grant applications and the amounts we are requesting. There was additional discussion regarding the assessment of the roads, curbs and sidewalks. Mayor Budesheim stated that he is concerned with the cost to the borough not covered by grants. Councilman Carelli agreed. Mr. Darmofalski stated that we do not have a paving program in the borough and the roads do need attention. There was additional discussion regarding the matter and it was decided to include Arlington Place on the Newark Pompton Turnpike project and submit one application. Borough Engineer Darmofalski will modify the application and it will be placed on the agenda for the August 20th meeting.

Mayor Budesheim stated that Mr. Bell at 1 DeGraw Road is concerned with the realignment at the intersection of DeGraw and Mathews Avenue. He asked if a guardrail could be installed if the owner requests it. Borough Engineer Darmofalski will meet with the owner. Mr. Bell arrived and discussed his concerns with Mr. Darmofalski. They will meet tomorrow at the site. Mayor Budesheim asked if 3 Linden Street would be able to tie in to the manhole on his own. Mr. Darmofalski stated there is more than adequate depth to allow him to tie in but he will need to do it quickly.

Mr. Darmofalski reported that bids will be received for the Paterson Hamburg Turnpike Sewer on August 15th. He also reported that Target is quickly completing their site work. There was discussion regarding financial responsibility for the traffic signal in resolution No. 57-2007. It was decided to table the resolution. Borough Engineer Darmofalski will send an estimate with a recommendation for escrow.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NO. 1:

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

ALL IN FAVOR.

Mayor Budesheim read a portion of a letter sent by the Senior Planner for the Morris County Department of Planning, Development and Technology regarding our Master Plan. The letter commended the Planning Board for their comprehensive review of various subjects and redevelopment issues. Mayor Budesheim stated that we originally appropriated \$100,000 and have \$25,000 left that we can use to finish the Master Plan.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NO. 1 (continued):

Audience member John Conroy asked for justification for hiring a new DPW employee. Councilman Guis stated the DPW is down two employees and we are hiring a replacement. Mr. Conroy asked how many employees the DPW has and if it was really necessary to hire another one. He stated he is against hiring anyone this year because the taxes have gone up so much. Mayor Budesheim described various responsibilities of the DPW and stated there are 7 employees. Councilman Guis stated that there is work in town that is not getting done and the DPW employees in Riverdale are constantly busy. He assured Mr. Conroy that it has been evaluated and is a legitimate need. Mr. Conroy was unconvinced and said he is only complaining because his taxes have gone up tremendously. Councilwoman Wetzel stated that there is a cost for the quality of services we expect in this town. Mayor Budesheim stated that no one has come forward with any suggestions for cutting expenses since he put the bills list on the website. Mr. Conroy stated that he does look at it but doesn't understand some of the expenses because it is not detailed enough.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Guis reported things are status quo and running well.

Councilwoman Wetzel reported the concerts have been running smoothly.

Councilman Astarita reported the library roof is still leaking. The roofer has been called in multiple times and can't find the leak. He will be asking other experts to come in and has not been charging except for the ceiling he did. He said the Library Committee wants to meet with him to discuss the matter.

Councilman Falkoski reported he has an application for Bruce Dickerson to be appointed to the Riverdale Fire Department. Councilman Falkoski passed around photographs he took on June 28th of a tree laying on the wires across Cotluss Road. He said the tree belongs on state property so he stopped and called the dispatcher on his cell phone. It was reported to the state and they wanted nothing to do with it. He then told dispatch to get in touch with JCP&L and they arrived within 1-1/2 hours to remove the tree. He asked what the state's liability is for that tree. Borough Attorney Oostdyk stated that if the tree is on their property they have responsibility and he could send them a letter informing them of our disappointment at their lack of response. Councilman Falkoski reported that a while ago he had referred the Fire Chief to Borough Clerk Talerico regarding their insurance policy. It had not been reviewed in over 20 years. There are 30 members, 12 auxiliary members and 3 junior members and the existing policy does not cover auxiliary and does not completely cover juniors. The current life insurance coverage is \$25,000 for a premium of \$997.50 per year. The Fire Chief has obtained 3 quotations. The policy they have gotten quotations on would cover the auxiliary and juniors and the top level would raise the life insurance to \$100,000 for a premium of \$2,564 per year. There is a level of \$50,000 for a premium of \$1,947 per year. Fire Chief Cleary described the services performed by auxiliary and junior members at a fire scene. He stated that we can get \$25,000 coverage for all members, auxiliary and juniors for the same premium we are now paying. Borough Clerk Talerico stated that if they are injured while on duty they are covered and also have \$25,000 life insurance under Workman's Compensation. Councilman Guis asked if this is a redundancy. Borough Attorney Oostdyk stated that typically when you have Workman's Comp you still have

COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued):

life insurance. He said that we should be comparing the additional life insurance policy to the new quotations. There was discussion regarding the matter.

RESOLUTIONS:

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

- 1) Approval of check issuance to Mary Wolbach for supplies bought for the summer recreation program from BJ's Wholesale Club in the amount of \$104.89.
- 2) Approval of sewer line tie in by Mr. Stewart, located at 279 Hamburg Turnpike, Riverdale Block 3 Lot 5.
- 3) Approval of check issuance of the down payment check in the amount of \$100,000 to Charles Dube for the purchase of the property known as Block 12, Lot 1 on the tax maps of the Borough of Riverdale as approved by Ordinance #6-2007 and Ordinance 7-2007.
- 4) Mayor to appoint Matthew E. Cline as a Provisional Employee to the DPW Department with consent of council, at a pay rate of \$14.00 per hour.
- 5) Approval of governing body for Special Counsel Richard Clemack to represent the Borough in the Dexter's v. Borough of Riverdale case, at the rate approved with 2007 Professional Agreement.
- 6) **Resolution #56-2007;** Authorizing Mayor Budesheim to execute an application and agreement and any amendment thereto if awarded with the County of Morris known as the Land Acquisition on Hamburg Turnpike, in the amount of \$75,000.
- 7) **Resolution #58-2007;** Special Item of Revenue and Appropriation – Chapter 159 – U.S. Department of Homeland Security – FEMA – FY 2007 Assistance to Firefighters Grant in the amount of \$39,778.00.
- 8) **Resolution #59-2007;** Lien Redemption.
- 9) **Resolution #60-2007;** Professional Agreement with PK Environmental; total cost of \$13,115.00 - \$6,000 00 for PK Environmental and \$7,115.00 direct costs.
- 10) Mayor to appoint Jordan Pellegrini and Bruce Dickerson as Riverdale Firemen with consent of council.
- 11) **Resolution #62-2007;** Acceptance of the Natural Resources Inventory for the Borough of Riverdale as prepared by the Pequannock River Coalition.
- 12) **Resolution #63-2007;** “Designation of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) at the Basis for all Incident Management in the Borough of Riverdale”.
- 13) **Resolution #65-6007;** Special Item of Revenue and Appropriation – Chapter 159 – County of Morris – Historic Preservation Trust Fund – Glenburn House (Van Ness House) Project - \$142,040.00.
- 14) Approval of insurance upgrade for the Fire Department with VFIS at a premium of \$2,564.00 per year.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Astarita, Carelli, Guis, Wetzal, Falkoski
Nays: None
(5 ayes – 0 nays – motion carried)

COPY OF RESOLUTIONS IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 81-A, B, C, D, E, F, AND G.

MAYOR REPORT:

Mayor Budesheim reported on an advisory from the Commissioner of the DOT regarding the traffic light on Route 23 by the Home Depot. They've made a firm commitment to the local and state politicians in Morris County to resolve the situation in a timely and expeditious manner.

BOROUGH CLERK REPORT:

Borough Clerk Talerico said she will contact the Borough Attorney for advice regarding COAH. She also asked Borough Attorney Oostdyk if he had reviewed the correspondence from Crown Castle. Mr. Oostdyk stated it appears they are replacement antennae and they don't need separate approval for replacements. They are advising us.

Mayor Budesheim asked Borough Attorney Oostdyk for his opinion on the definition of road frontage. Borough Attorney Oostdyk stated there are two issues. One is whether you front on an improved public street that provides access to the property. The second is how to calculate the amount of frontage you have. You want to be sure the property does front on a street that provides accessibility but your entire frontage does not have to give you accessibility. There was additional discussion regarding a landlocked property with frontage on Route 287. Mr. Oostdyk stated that the accessibility has to be over what you are calling the frontage. He will review the ordinance.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NO. 2:

John Conroy stated there was an article in the Trends regarding insurance in Kinnelon that he wanted to comment on but he didn't bring it with him.

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

ALL IN FAVOR.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

ALL IN FAVOR.

Adjourned: 9:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

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