

The Special Meeting of the Borough of Riverdale Mayor and Council opened on the above date at 9:00 a.m.

Mayor William Budesheim presiding.

ROLL CALL: Present: Bush, Wetzel, Guis, Carelli, Falkoski
Absent: Astarita

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

THE PURPOSE OF THIS SPECIAL MEETING IS TO FINALIZE ANY MATTERS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE GOVERNING BODY FOR THE CONCLUSION OF YEAR 2006:

Councilman Carelli reported on the purchase of a home theater system for the senior center. The purchase would most likely cost a maximum of \$11,000 and the payment will most likely be paid out of donation dollars or possible capital money from two grants. Two additional quotations are needed to purchase the items.

Thereupon, Councilman Guis set forth the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Wetzel, to approve the purchase of a home theater system for the Senior Community Center at a maximum price of \$11,000 after obtaining two additional quotations.

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

Councilman Falkoski reported on the problem of transferring funds from the fire and police budgets that had been appropriated for purchases for those departments. The firemen were unaware of the transfers and Councilman Falkoski stated they felt they should have at least been notified. Borough Clerk Talerico mentioned at this time the transfers were needed due to funds being needed by other departments that were short in their budgets. Also, that if the purchasing practices among department heads were utilized in the proper manner by obtaining purchase orders prior to making purchases, this problem would not exist at the end of each year requiring the transfers to cover expenditures made prior to checking balances in their accounts. The encumbrance system is required by law in the State of New Jersey for this exact reason of not over expending budgets. Ms. Talerico also mentioned that both she and Councilman Carelli and Finance Officer Kenneth Sesholtz had discussed putting a purchasing policy in place to be followed by all departments.

Mayor Budesheim reported that there are possibly two people leaving the DPW in 2007. One will be replaced for the building cleaning and maintenance. The other may not be replaced. The Borough of Butler now hires out its lawn maintenance to a private contractor and it costs them approximately \$12,000 per year. It may be more beneficial for the borough to do the same for our grounds maintenance and not replace the other employee.

Councilman Carelli brought up the employee's salary increases for the year 2007 and discussed the increase being 4%. The council members discussed the increase and decided it was a reasonable one. Councilman Carelli stated that he would have the resolution ready for the next meeting so the payroll would not have to include months of retro pays.

Mayor Budesheim reported on the possibility of changing the parameters of offering of health benefits to employees. Possibly not offering family coverage to new hires, the

employee would have to pay for the family portion of the policy as a payroll deduction if they opt to take it. Also, at this point a lot of the existing employees opt for the Traditional Plan which is a more expensive plan but may not be any better than the NJ Plus plan. If the employees that are on the Traditional Plan changed to NJ Plus, Riverdale would save approximately \$60,000 per year. This idea will have to be investigated and probably would not be able to go into effect until 2008. We will also have to check the police contract to be sure it does not state that they have to be offered a better or comparable policy.

Municipal Clerk Talerico mentioned that there is a problem with the way personal days are addressed in the personnel policy manual. It does not give any time limit of employment prior to the employee being entitled to taking their personal days. It was discussed to possibly address it as 1 day for every 4 months employed for the first year.

Borough Engineer Paul Darmofalski reported that a thorough investigation of the quarry dust is being done through the new Health Officer, Peter Correale, and a tentative meeting is planned for January 5th at 9:00 a.m. He is awaiting confirmation on the date and time.

RESOLUTIONS:

Councilman Carelli set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Falkoski, to approve the following resolution.

- 1) Payment of Claims.

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

COPY OF BILLS LIST IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 142-A

ADJOURNMENT:

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

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

Adjourned: 10:25 a.m.

APPROVED:

Respectfully Submitted:

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