

July 28, 2021

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 Carelli presiding.

**ROLL CALL: Present: Desai, Kheyfets, Purcell, Pellegrini**  
**Absent: Oswald, Revis**

The Municipal Clerk announced that proper notice of this meeting was made as to time, date, place and agenda.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

July 14, 2021

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

**ROLL CALL: Ayes: Desai, Kheyfets, Purcell, Pellegrini**  
**Nays: None**  
**(4 ayes - 0 nays - motion carried)**

**OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS ON RESOLUTIONS:**

Mayor Carelli opened the meeting to the public for comments.

There being no comments, Mayor Carelli closed the public session.

**RESOLUTIONS - CONSENT AGENDA:**

Councilman Desai set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Purcell, to approve the following resolutions:

- 114-2021:** AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH July 23, 2021 FOR 2020/2021 BILLS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$972,859.39
- 115-2021:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RETURN OF THE BALANCE OF ESCROW DEPOSITS WITH THE BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE
- 116-2021:** RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE DATE THIRD QUARTER TAX BILLS ARE DUE
- 117-2021:** RESOLUTION APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR A SEWER CONNECTION Nicole Saenz, 60 Post Lane, Riverdale, NJ Block 23, Lot 33
- 118-2021:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A MORRIS COUNTY TRAIL CONSTRUCTION GRANT APPLICATION FOR INDEPENDENCE PARK WALKING PATH DESIGNS
- 119-2021:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF NEW FIREFIGHTER - Nicholas Davis

**ROLL CALL: Ayes: Desai, Kheyfets, Purcell, Pellegrini**  
**Nays: None**  
**(4 ayes - 0 nays - motion carried)**

**COPY OF BILLS LIST AND RESOLUTIONS IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 55-A THROUGH E**

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**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**PERSONNEL:** No report.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Councilman Purcell reminded everyone our second summer concert is August 5<sup>th</sup> and we're hoping for a good turnout.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** No report.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Fire Chief Regeling thanked the Council for the generators at the Firehouse and Community Center.

**FINANCE/SEWER:** Councilman Desai reported on the Sewer Authority meeting. Their engineer prepared specs for an RFP for a meter servicing contract. The borough capital ordinance was discussed.

**BOROUGH CLERK REPORT:** No report.

**BOROUGH ATTORNEY REPORT:** No report.

**MAYOR REPORT:**

Mayor Carelli reported that we just finished our application with the Borough Engineer for the 2022 D.O.T. grant. We applied for work on Van Duyne and Greenwich Street. He reported that the master list for billing the sewer connection fees over time is now complete so we'll be able to project the receivable every year. Mayor Carelli proposed that we eliminate the second meeting in August.

Councilman Kheyfets set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Purcell, to cancel the August 25, 2021 meeting.

**ROLL CALL: Ayes: Desai, Kheyfets, Purcell, Pellegrini**  
**Nays: None**  
**(4 ayes - 0 nays - motion carried)**

Mayor Carelli reported that Riverdale Day will be on September 25<sup>th</sup> at Independence Park with a concert and fireworks at the conclusion. The Street Fair will be on Labor Day.

**OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Mayor Carelli opened the meeting to the public for comments.

Thomas Batelli, 712 Cannella Way, thanked the Council for providing direction with Powder Mill's gas pipe problems which are now resolved. He also spoke about a public safety problem at Powder Mill during the sewer and paving projects. They had been told that at all times one of their entrances would be open. That did not happen and if an emergency occurred they couldn't get in or out of the property. He said people are here tonight to find out why this happened.

Mayor Carelli agreed this is a problem and had asked the Borough Engineer for a full explanation. He read the Engineer's response which said that emergency vehicles would have been able to access the development at all times. In addition the Police and paving company personnel were on site to direct vehicles entering and exiting. Mayor Carelli asked if anyone had been denied access.

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**OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS (continued):**

Al Grossman, 731 Cannella Way, and Steve Cielusniak, 633 Cannella Way, both stated they had been denied access by the police officer.

Mimi Hertzog, 424 Cannella Way, commented that the police officer who handled the situation badly should be reprimanded and if the Engineer's contract is up you should reconsider it.

Mr. Batelli spoke about a situation with a storm drain on the Powder Mill property that is backing up. He received a letter from the Zoning Officer stating they are responsible for the run off. Mayor Carelli and Councilman Pellegrini will look into the matter.

Joanne Arahill, 125 Cannella Way, spoke about her experience with police officer who assisted her and tried to get her home by telling her to follow him. He was not aware that the road was closed and seemed surprised.

There being no further comments, Mayor Carelli closed the public session.

**ALL IN FAVOR**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilman Kheyfets set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Purcell, to adjourn the meeting.

**ALL IN FAVOR.**

Adjourned: 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Abubakar T. Jalloh  
Municipal Clerk