

December 22, 2021

The regular meeting of the Borough of Riverdale Mayor and Council opened via Video Conference on the above date at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Carelli presiding.

ROLL CALL: Present: Desai, Kheyfets, Oswald, Purcell, Revis, Pellegrini
Absent: None

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

December 8, 2021

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

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Desai, Kheyfets, Oswald, Purcell, Revis, Pellegrini
Nays: None
(6 ayes - 0 nays - motion carried)

SCOUT PROJECT PRESENTATION

Michael Carelli is the person that manages Sustainable Jersey Certification which is done every year. One of the specific actions that they are looking at to be approved, is to build a Community Garden. Originally Sustainable Jersey applied for a grant and were denied, however they will be applying again this year. Last year they applied for \$20,000 and this year they are applying for \$10,000. Since their denial they have enlisted two Scouts for their milestone project and they are going to build the actual Community Garden beds that are required. The Borough will still need to put up a fence and do all the site work including gravel and water. Michael introduced Mathew Soto and Gina Oswald who will be building the actual beds. Gina Oswald has been in Girl Scouts since she was 5 years old and it is very important to her and is a huge part of her life. The gold award is the highest award that you can get as a Girl Scout and it's 80 hours for one project to help the Community. Her plan is to build three ground beds, two compost bins and two raised beds. The area where they will be building is the old Bocce Ball Court. To do the Garden it would cost approximately \$2,658.00 for lumber, screws and wiring. Mathew spoke about his Eagle Project which he will be building two salad beds, two ground beds two ADA table top beds and he is still figuring out the price. Michael explained that they did put together pricing when they applied for the grant and all in it's about \$20,000 but with in-kind labor it's more like \$10,000. Councilman Desai asked about the timing and Gina explained that she needed to set up an estimated time frame and she is thinking that January and February they would build it and final planning at the end of March beginning of April.

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.

ALL IN FAVOR

RESOLUTIONS - CONSENT AGENDA:

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Councilman Kheyfets set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Oswald, to approve the following resolutions:

- 178-2021:** AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH DECEMBER 17, 2021 FOR 2020/2021 BILLS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$139,685.41
- 179-2021:** RESOLUTION APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR A SEWER CONNECTION Annie Quigley, 2 Munn Avenue, Riverdale, NJ Block 23, Lot 25
- 180-2021:** RESOLUTION APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR A SEWER CONNECTION Traci Milko, 11 Cottage Place, Riverdale, NJ Block 29, Lot 52
- 181-2021:** RESOLUTION TO AFFIRM THE BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE'S CIVIL RIGHTS POLICY WITH RESPECT TO ALL OFFICIALS, APPOINTEES, EMPLOYEES, PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTERS, INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS, AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT COME INTO CONTACT WITH MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES, OFFICIALS AND VOLUNTEERS
- 182-2021:** RESOLUTION APPROVING MAYOR AND COUNCIL REORGANIZATION MEETING FOR 2022
- 183-2021:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF LISA O'NEILL AS THE DEPUTY BOROUGH CLERK FOR THE BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2022
- 184-2021:** AUTHORIZE GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR RESILIENCY PLANNING GRANT

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Desai, Kheyfets, Oswald, Purcell, Revis, Pellegrini
Nays: None
(6 ayes - 0 nays - motion carried)

COPY OF BILLS LIST AND RESOLUTIONS IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 89-A THROUGH G

MAYOR REPORT:

Mayor Carelli reported that today was Linda Forbes last day and we wished her well on her retirement. She worked for the Borough for 18 years and we appreciate her service. He was notified last week by PSE&G that they would be replacing the gas lines on Hamburg Turnpike sometime in January and then they were there the next day digging up the road. Several of the businesses were upset and he was able to contact our liaison from PSE&G and he tried to see what he could do. On Monday the Mayor called the County Engineer, who happens to live in Riverdale, and he was very helpful and they shut the job down on Monday morning. They will be back after the holidays and he thinks the Business Owners were quite pleased. He was told last night that Michael Carelli is receiving a Congressional award from Congresswoman Sherrill and it's an award for work he did for social media for Pompton and Riverdale during the pandemic and keeping people up to date. Congratulations Michael!

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PERSONNEL: Councilman Kheyfets had no report but asked Michael Carelli if he would like to add anything about the website. Michael responded that we are launching our new Borough Website tomorrow, same domain but with a different company AlphaDog Solutions. It's a work in progress and we still have additions and tweaking to do. He encourages everyone to take a look at it tomorrow. Also,

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COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued):

please send your Bio so it can be put on the website. Every news item and every item in the digital Calendar that is uploaded to the website auto generates an e-newsletter that's sent out every Monday morning at 8AM. There is a ticketing system and we don't upload items on our own the Company does it. Authorized users that are to submit tickets are Lisa O'Neill and myself.

UTILITIES: Councilman Oswald wished everyone a Happy Holiday, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Please stay safe!

COMMUNICATIONS: Councilman Purcell wished everyone a Happy and Healthy Holiday. Best of luck in 2022.

PUBLIC WORKS: Council President Pellegrini reported that everything in his department is going smoothly. He wished everyone a Happy and Safe Holiday.

PUBLIC SAFETY: Councilman Revis wished everyone Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday and a Happy and Healthy New Year. Chief Smith wished everyone a Merry Christmas. Chief Regeling wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. There are 90 new positive tests since last meeting. Chief Regeling was nominated Chief again and Pat Cleary Assistant Chief.

FINANCE/SEWER: No report.

BOROUGH CLERK REPORT: No report.

BOROUGH ATTORNEY REPORT: No report.

NEW/OTHER BUSINESS:

Mayor Carelli reported that the Re-organizational meeting is Thursday, January 6th at 6PM and he is hoping that after the meeting they can go across the Street and have a New Year's celebration.

Councilman Desai reported that they still need to get together with Ryden on any of the work that needs to be done before we do the paving. Mayor Carelli said he looked at the map and there are two unaccounted for but it appears that every single property has the stub. Councilman Desai said the other one we want to talk to him about is if and when Federal and Halsey area that would be something that needs to be done before we do the paving on Post Lane.

Councilman Desai asked Councilman Kheyfets about the Hand Book, last meeting you said you would have the draft and the insurance company said we need to have that updated. Mayor Carelli responded that it has been done and we needed to insert specific stuff which he did and I sent it back to our Risk Manager and he must be on vacation because he sent him three emails. It was on the agenda tonight to adopt it but he didn't think it was fair to everyone because he wants the final drafts so everyone can review it. Hopefully we will have it at the first meeting in January. As soon as he can get it formatted correctly, he will send a copy to everyone for their review.

Mayor Carelli reported that we have six pretty big projects and he is trying to put together a timeframe for all of them so right after the New Year I will try and pass it out before the next meeting so we can go over it.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS:

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Mayor Carelli opened the meeting to the public for comments.

Dawn O'Donnel, 6 Drace Place, had questions about the new website. If there were any suggestions is there an email that she can send them too? Councilman Kheyfets responded that once the site goes live there will be an email address for suggestions and questions. She is still concerned about the lights that are left on at night. Mayor Carelli said she should follow up with the Zoning Officer.

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

ALL IN FAVOR

ADJOURNMENT:

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

ALL IN FAVOR.

Adjourned: 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Abubakar T. Jalloh
Municipal Clerk