

The Annual Re-Organization Meeting of the Borough of Riverdale Mayor and Council opened on the above date at 6:10 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**READING OF THE CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION:**

Mayor Carelli read the Certification of the Determination of the November 2, 2021 General Election as follows:

| <b>NAME</b> | <b>OFFICE</b>   | <b>TERM</b> |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Dave Desai  | Borough Council | 3 Years     |
| Matt Oswald | Borough Council | 3 Years     |

**OATHS OF OFFICE/COMMENTS:**

The Oath of Office was administered to the Borough Council Members by Municipal Attorney Oostdyk.

**COUNCILMAN DAVE DESAI:**

I can't believe that six years have already passed and there is a lot of history already from the time we first came. I remember when we first started here, we had to bring a certain amount of professionalism to the Council and I think we have accomplished that in all and met a lot of the objectives we had when we first came. The biggest one being the revision of the sewer agreement which we thought we were being overcharged when it was really a problem with the pending sewer expansion. Thanks to the efforts of everyone here, Mayor we did get that accomplished. The expansion of our sewer system is moving along swiftly and he is very proud of that. Also, I am very proud to be appointed and serving as a Commissioner on the Pequannock Regional Basin Sewerage Authority with Council President Pellegrini.

The other thing that he is very proud of is we wanted to create a Road Improvement plan which was done for the town and I think we have done that as well. We have married it up to the sewer work but not limited to that. Thank you for everyone's efforts and tenacity and also the hard work of our Borough Engineer on that road plan. We have gotten a tremendous amount of support through the DOT grants that we have been applying for. The town looks tremendous with all the new sidewalks and paving.

We have a lot of work ahead of us in the next few years. We have the 100-year Anniversary coming up and I am looking forward to being a part of that. Also, the long-awaited Quarry re-development may actually finally take place during my next term. I am looking forward in supporting the effort as well.

Thank you and thank you to the people in Riverdale for supporting me for another term.

**COUNCILMAN MATT OSWALD:**

Thank you and like Dave said these years have come by quick but I think we came with a lot of things on the agenda and I think we have tackled a lot of them. The fields were in disrepair before we took office and I think we were able to fix a lot of the problems down there and add a lot of new things. In the upcoming two or three years we are adding the wall, a walking path, the exercise area and we did add the dragging machine that we didn't have before. The income from the rentals has offset that and it isn't coming out of the tax payer's money.

We do have the 100-year Anniversary and I am proud to be a part of that committee and I am looking forward to that and I am looking forward to serving the people of Riverdale for the next three years.

**MAYOR'S ADDRESS 2022:**

I'd like to start out today by wishing everyone a very happy and healthy New Year. It's really been an unbelievable year as I thought the pandemic would have been behind us by now, let's hope that 2022 will finally bring an end to this once and for all. For the sake of time, I will keep my address short this year but I would like to highlight some of the accomplishments despite the obstacles put before us. As always it couldn't be done without the help of the fine Borough Council and their expertise and once again, they stepped up and we were able to accomplish many projects.

The Budget for 2021 had a Municipal tax increase of 1.9% that equated to an increase of \$67.00 for the average residential Homeowner. This was accomplished despite losing over \$300,000 of revenue over the last two years. As always, we plan to adopt another tax friendly budget in 2022.

Under the leadership of Chief Smith, the department continues to be one of the best trained, equipped and professional departments around and we thank them for their commitment to Riverdale during these challenging times. In 2021 you saw the promotions of Pat Harden in the position of Lieutenant and Patrolman Kyle Parrill in the position of Sargent. I also want to thank Chief Regeling and Assistant Chief Pat Cleary and the rest of the Riverdale Fire Department and office of Emergency Management for keeping us safe every day and guiding us through this pandemic.

Our Road Improvement plan is moving along with another ten streets scheduled for upgrades in 2022.

A special thanks to Public Works Superintended Steve Schotanus and his entire team for their efforts throughout the year. Especially during these cold months, we know they are ready to hit the streets when the snow starts falling. They really are the best around and it looks like they will be out again tonight.

We finally completed our sewer expansion project we have provided the ability to connect to our sewer system to an additional 250 homes. The response from our residents have been overwhelming with many of them taking advantage of the ability afforded them by the Mayor and Council to pay over time. We have authorized our sewer engineer to prepare a proposal for the next phase of our expansion.

Riverdale has received a Morris County trails construction grant for \$43,950.00 for the design of a walking path around Independents Park. This will be coupled with the replacement of the retaining wall due to go out to bid shortly.

Finally, the Generator installation at our Community Center and Fire House has been completed. A FEMA Grant of \$75,000.00 was awarded to help fund the product.

Our social media presence with regards to Facebook, Twitter and our Borough Website continues to grow. It was extremely important this year in getting information out to the residents regarding the COVID pandemic. A special thanks to our social media director Michael Carelli who manages these sites daily.

On December 1<sup>st</sup> the Borough of Riverdale launched a new website I urge everyone to take a look and sign up to receive a weekly newsletter delivered to your email.

We were fortunate to have a brief pause in the pandemic this summer it enabled us to bring back some of our great town events such as the Memorial Day Parade, the Street Fair and Riverdale Day. The turnout for all of these events were overwhelming and greatly appreciated by the residents. Looking ahead plans are underway for Riverdale's 100 Anniversary in 2023.

We had several changes in 2021 and we will begin 2022 with a few more. In 2021 in a shared service agreement the Riverdale Municipal Court assumed the responsibility for the Butler Municipal Court. With the retirement of our Deputy Clerk, Linda Forbes, our Office Manager, Lisa O'Neill, will assume the responsibility of Deputy Clerk and Connie Andersen will become our Registrar.

Our long and waited update to our Riverdale Handbook has been completed and will be presented to the Council for approval at the end of January. It was a joint effort with our insurance provider the Morris County JIF who provides updated information regarding new policy and laws with regards to Federal and State initiatives.

In summary, we once again have ambitious goals for 2022 but I know we have the right people to get the job done. I also want to thank the hard-working borough employees who make it all happen: A.J. Jalloh our Borough Clerk, Lisa O'Neill our Deputy Clerk, Linda Roetman our Borough Secretary, Zoning Official and Property Maintenance Enforcement Officer, Connie Anderson our Finance and Tax Assistant, Qualifying Purchasing Agent and her new responsibility as Registrar. Steve Schotanus our Public Works Superintendent and his entire DPW Department, Krista Osborne our Recreation Director, Michael Carelli our Social Media Director, Chief Kevin Smith and the Riverdale Police Department, Chief Jim Regeling and the Riverdale Fire Department, Elianna Kesling our Court Administrator and the folks in the Municipal Court, Therese McClachrie and the Riverdale Library and especially all our great volunteers on our various Commissions and Boards. We couldn't do it without them. Thank you all we appreciate your hard work and dedication to Riverdale. I wish you all a happy, healthy and successful New Year.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Carelli called the meeting to order at 6:24 p.m.

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**ADOPTION OF COUNCIL BY-LAWS:**

Councilman Oswald set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Revis, to approve the following resolution:

**01-2022: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE BY-LAWS OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE FOR 2022**

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

**COPY OF RESOLUTION IN FULL ON PAGE NO 3-A**

**PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENT RESOLUTIONS:**

Councilman Desai set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Oswald, to approve the following resolution:

**02-2022:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL BOROUGH ATTORNEY SERVICES FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2022 – Robert Oostdyk, Esq.

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

Councilman Desai set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Oswald to approve the following resolution:

**03-2022:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL BOROUGH WATER AND SEWER ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2022 – Anderson & Denzler Associates, Inc.

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

Councilman Desai set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Oswald to approve the following resolution:

**04-2022:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL BOROUGH AUDITOR SERVICES FOR 2022 – Nisivoccia LLP

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

Councilman Desai set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Oswald, to approve the following resolution:

**05-2022:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL BOROUGH BOND COUNSEL SERVICES FOR 2022 - McManimon, Scotland and Baumann, LLC

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

Councilman Desai set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Oswald, to approve the following resolution:

**06-2022:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL BOROUGH PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2022 – John Grey, Esq.

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

Councilman Desai set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Oswald, to approve the following resolution:

**07-2022:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR SPECIAL LEGAL SERVICES FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2022 – Greg Mascera, Esq.

**PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENT RESOLUTIONS (continued):**

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

Councilman Desai set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Oswald, to approve the following resolution:

**08-2022:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL BOROUGH ENGINEERING SERVICES 2022 – Darmofalski Engineering Associates

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

**COPY OF RESOLUTIONS IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 5-A THROUGH 5-G****RESOLUTIONS – CONSENT AGENDA:**

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

- 09-2022:** AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF JAMES E. LASALA, ESQ. AS MUNICIPAL PROSECUTOR FOR THE YEAR 2022
- 10-2022:** AUTHORIZING ANNUAL SCHEDULE OF COUNCIL WORK SESSIONS AND REGULAR MEETINGS FOR 2022
- 11-2022:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL BOROUGH HOLIDAYS FOR 2022
- 12-2022:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL BOROUGH NEWSPAPER FOR 2022
- 13-2022:** DESIGNATING THE OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES OF THE BOROUGH FOR THE YEAR 2022
- 14-2022:** AUTHORIZING INTEREST FOR NON-PAYMENT OF TAXES OR ASSESSMENTS
- 15-2022:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING WORK PERIODS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT
- 16-2022:** RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN OF THE BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE FOR 2022
- 17-2022:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADOPTION OF TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS.
- 18-2022:** RESOLUTION APPOINTING FUND COMMISSIONERS FOR THE MORRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND
- 19-2022:** RESOLUTION APPOINTING CLASS II SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS FOR 2022
- 20-2022:** RESOLUTION APPOINTING LINDA ROETMAN TO FIVE TOWN REGIONAL DIAL-A-RIDE BOARD FOR 2022
- 21-2022:** AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF THE BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 2022
- 22-2022:** AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF THE BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE RECREATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR THE YEAR 2022

- 23-2022:** AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS
- 24-2022:** AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF THE RIVERDALE RECYCLING COORDINATOR FOR THE YEAR 2022
- 25-2022:** AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF THE CLASS III PLANNING BOARD MEMBER
- 26-2022:** RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE PENSIONS AND BENEFITS CERTIFYING OFFICER AND CERTIFYING SUPERVISOR
- 27-2022:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL HOURS OF OPERATION FOR BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE EMPLOYEES FOR 2022

**RESOLUTIONS – CONSENT AGENDA (continued):**

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

**COPY OF RESOLUTIONS IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 6-A THROUGH 6-S**

**ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT:**

- 28-2022:** ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT FOR 2021

Councilman Oswald offered the name of Vincent Pellegrini as Council President; motion seconded by Councilman Kheyfets.

**ROLL CALL: Ayes: Desai, Kheyfets, Oswald, Revis**  
**Nays: None**  
**Abstain: Pellegrini**  
**(4 ayes – 0 nays – 1 abstain - motion carried)**

**COPY OF RESOLUTION IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 6-T**

**APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:**

Mayor Carelli announced the Council Committees for 2021.

Councilman Desai set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Kheyfets, to approve the following resolution:

- 29-2022:** RESOLUTION APPOINTING COUNCIL COMMITTEES FOR 2022

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

**COPY OF RESOLUTION IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 6-U**

**MAYOR APPOINTMENTS:**

Mayor Carelli stated that Resolutions 30-2022 through 39-2022 are Mayor's appointments and do not require a Council vote. He announced the appointments.

- 30-2022:** MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF CLASS I PLANNING BOARD MEMBER
- 31-2022:** MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF CLASS II CLASS IV AND ALTERNATE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS

**32-2022:** MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF HUD COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**MAYOR APPOINTMENTS (continued):**

**33-2022:** MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEMBERS

**34-2022:** MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF SHADE TREE COMMISSION MEMBERS

**35-2022:** MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF SOCIAL MEDIA DIRECTOR

**36-2022:** MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2022

**37-2022:** MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF QUARRY REDEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2022

**38-2022:** MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF SUSTAINABLE GREEN TEAM COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2022

**39-2022:** MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

**COPY OF APPOINTMENTS IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 7-A THROUGH 7-J**

**OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Mayor Carelli opened the meeting to the public for comments.

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

Councilman Revis wanted to let everyone know that Chief Regeling was unable to attend tonight's meeting but he wanted everyone to know that the stunning statistics in the last 30 days reported there were thirty new cases of COVID in Riverdale. He wanted to make sure everyone was aware of that and that they were following the CDC Guidelines taking this very seriously.

**ALL IN FAVOR.**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

**ALL IN FAVOR.**

Adjourned: 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Abubakar T. Jalloh, R.M.C.  
Municipal Clerk