

February 22, 2023

The Council Workshop 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, 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:**

February 8, 2022

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

**ROLL CALL: Ayes: Kheyfets, Oswald, Revis, Pellegrini**  
**Abstain: Desai, Purcell**  
**(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 Purcell set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Oswald to approve the following resolutions:

- 52-2023:** AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH FEBRUARY 22, 2023 FOR 2022/2023 BILLS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$1,594,806.00
- 53-2023:** RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MUNICIPAL RISK MANAGAGEMENT CONSULTANT TO SERVE THE BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE
- 54-2023:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT TO BATTAGLIA ASSOCIATES, LLC FOR FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE

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

**COPY OF BILLS LIST AND RESOLUTIONS IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 14 -A THROUGH C**

**MAYOR REPORT:**

Mayor Carelli reported that everyone should have received a newsletter today. My thought process is maybe do it quarterly and I found a new printer that you send him all the files and he will take care of everything, including bringing them to the post office. He wanted to get the newsletter out to the residents as a reminder of some of the dates of the things we are doing in the town with respect to the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We have secured the National Guard Parking lot for the Carnival. Thank you to Assemblyman Rooney who helped us out with that and it's booked for September 13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup>. Part of our commitment is we have to man some of the booths and we would get a cut of that, so the committee thought the best approach would be to seek out some of the organizations in town to see if they would staff

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some of their people and they would get a cut of the proceeds, almost like a fund raiser for them. He sent out about 65 letters to the business owners in town to see if they would be interested in sponsoring. We have received sponsorship from KIA Dealership, Curley's Ice Cream, Murphy McKeon, Darmofalski Engineering, Advanced Sports Medicine and Malanga's Automotive. We will not be using tax payers' dollars, the residents will either be buying the ticket and the rest will be through donations. They met with RER last week and there are some new Stormwater management regulations from the state. Because we own the property we will have to comply and we sort of turned it over to RER and if they want to stay, they will need to comply. He met with Tom Boorady to schedule the work on Newark Pompton Turnpike so hopefully we will get that going. He did the draft on the Open Space Plan and the DEP wanted to review it before we have Bob record it with the County. We will be having a meeting with the sewer authority on March 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss meter. We are still waiting to hear back from Mr. Nemith from the NJJIF.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**PERSONELL:** No report.

**UTILITIES:** Councilman Oswald reported that they are going to finish up the walking paths in March once the plants open.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** No report.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** No report.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Councilman Revis reported that we need to update the salary ordinance for promotions and once that is done, we can go over with Chief Smith and his concerns.

**FINANCE/SEWER:** Councilman Desai reported that he knows of a certain Riverdale Robotics team that would be very interested in helping out at the Carnival. Mr. Junk from the Cannabis manufacturing processing plant has just reached out to him asking if he should come tonight and I told him no. I think I am pretty much to the point that I can put everything together and send it out and we can take a vote. To the comments that the Chief's made, Kevin really didn't have any concerns except that the retail should have around the clock security guard. The mayor responded that at the last meeting in Wanaque they had a presentation which was excellent about cannabis and Ron Mondelli did that presentation. Ron is an attorney and a former Councilman in Fairlawn and in Kinnelon. He has been hired by Hoboken, Bayonne and all the big cities and he represents those municipalities in regards to Cannabis. His whole philosophy is it is not right for every town. Councilman Desai was at dinner with his wife for Restaurant week in another town and his wife thought it would be a good idea to have it in Riverdale for the Centennial. Councilman Purcell responded that there is a business that just opened on Route 23 South side that's called Smoke Topia. They are not just selling smoke and I'm a 100% sure that there are other things being sold. This is not only in Riverdale but the problem is in Butler for a long time. We don't have an ordinance that says if someone is selling this illegally then the Borough will issue a fine, can this be done. Bob Oostdk responded that Butler has brought them to Municipal Court under zoning because it is not a permitted use in the zone. It also would not be permitted in our zone. We could be written it up under zoning.

**BOROUGH CLERK REPORT:** No report.

**BOROUGH ATTORNEY REPORT:** No report

**NEW/OTHER BUSINESS:**

**OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Mayor Carelli opened the meeting to the public for comments.

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

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**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

**ALL IN FAVOR.**

Adjourned: 8:15PM

Respectfully Submitted:

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Abubakar T. Jalloh  
Municipal Clerk