

The Council 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, Oswald, Purcell, Pellegrini
Absent: Revis**

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

June 12, 2024

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

**ROLL CALL: Ayes: Desai, Kheyfets, Oswald, Pellegrini
Absent: Revis
Abstain: Purcell
(4 ayes, 0 nays – 1 Absent - 1 Abstain - motion carried)**

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

- 1) Council President Pellegrini set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Desai, to introduce the following ordinance and moved its adoption.

ORDINANCE 07-2024

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 160 OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE AND AMENDING THE PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON VAN DUYN AVENUE AND DRACE PLACE

**ROLL CALL: Ayes: Desai, Kheyfets, Oswald, Purcell, Pellegrini
Nays: None
Absent: Revis
(5 ayes – 0 nays – 1 Absent motion carried)**

COPY OF ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTION IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 41-A

Mayor Carelli opened the meeting to the public for comments.

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

PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE

- 1) Councilman Oswald set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Purcell, to carry Ordinance 05-2024 to the next scheduled meeting on July 24, 2024

RESOLVED that Ordinance No. 05-2024 be carried to the next scheduled meeting on July 24, 2024.

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

2) Public Hearing and Adoption of an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE 06-2024

CALENDAR YEAR 2024 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK

The Mayor Carelli read the notice for the second reading and final adoption.

Mayor Carelli opened the meeting to the public for comments.

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

ALL IN FAVOR

Councilman Desai set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Oswald,

RESOLVED that Ordinance No. 06-2024 as read on second reading at this meeting, be adopted and finally passed.

**ROLL CALL: Ayes: Desai, Kheyfets, Oswald, Purcell, Pellegrini
Nays: None
Absent: Revis
Abstain: None
(5 ayes - 0 nays - 1 Absent - motion carried)**

COPY OF ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTION IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 42 - A

RESOLUTIONS - CONSENT AGENDA:

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

- 95-2024:** RESOLUTION APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR A SEWER CONNECTION FOR JAMES O'CONNELL, 19 VAN DUYNE AVENUE, Riverdale, NJ Block 14.02, Lot 43
- 96-2024:** APPROVING THE RENEWAL OF VARIOUS LIQUOR LICENSES FOR THE 2024/2025 LICENSE YEAR IN THE BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE
- 97-2024:** RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING SALARIES FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2024
- 98-2024:** APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS TO NORTH CORPORATE DRIVE, KENNER COURT, DEGRAW ROAD, AND PERRY COURT
- 99-2024:** AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH JUNE 26, 2024 FOR 2023/2024 BILLS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$1,218,930.66
- 100-2024:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF JOHN GILLOOLY AS TAX ASSESSOR

**ROLL CALL: Ayes: Desai, Kheyfets, Oswald, Purcell, Pellegrini
Absent: Revis
(5 ayes - 0 nays - 1 Absent - motion carried)**

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

- 102-2024:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DATE CHANGES FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS IN THE BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Desai, Kheyfets, Oswald, Purcell, Pellegrini
Absent: Revis
(5 ayes – 0 nays – 1 Absent - motion carried)

COPY OF BILLS LIST AND RESOLUTIONS IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 42 -B THROUGH H

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PERSONNEL: No report

UTILITIES: No report

COMMUNICATIONS: Councilman Purcell reported that Valley Medical Group has reached out and they are ready to do their ribbon cutting ceremony and they are asking for the Mayor and Council to attend on August 22nd at 8AM – 10:30AM.

PUBLIC WORKS: Council President Pellegrini reported that for the last two weeks we have been having small water issues with the town and as of this morning it seems they have all been straightened out. It needed a pump, motor and some controls on the system. We need to talk about our water rates they haven't been raised in 15 years. Right now, it's about \$3.90 per thousand gallons to the residents. When we switched to Passaic Valley, we are charged \$4.50 per thousand gallons. Council President will check around to see what the average rate is for water. The mayor responded that if it doesn't rain, we are going to have to put some water restrictions on.

FINANCE/SEWER: Councilman Desai reported that they went over a draft budget for the sewer authority and they were looking at a 1.5% increase across the board and we said no. They are going to redo it and maybe come back with a .5% increase for next year. The owner of the two Curly Properties and the Gas Station cannot connect to the manhole that is convenient for them because that's where the meter is so they have to go back to the manhole that the Gas Station was originally supposed to connect too. To get to that they will need to open up the road that's within the DOT right-a-way. They will need DOT permission; they will need to close the exit and the gas station for a period of time. The mayor asked that Councilman Desai and Council President find out from the Authority if we have the capacity to purchase water if someone came in and wanted to add fifty homes.

BUDGET and FINANCE PRESENTATION:

- 2024 Annual Budget and Finance Presentation

Mayor Carelli gave a Power Point Presentation that provided an overview of the 2024 municipal budget. He thanked the Governing Body, Municipal officials, Professionals, employees and volunteers for their work throughout the year. He gave a recap of the 2023 tax bill and reviewed the 2023 assessments. The average bill break down from 2023 was 6800.00 the school makes up half of that, the municipality is about a third and the rest is the County, Library and Open Space. The new tax rate for this year is 1 billion 22 million dollars. 62% of the assessments are residential and about 32% are Commercial. He gave a summary of the operating budget that is going up 1.1%. We are in compliance with the 2% levy cap this year and we are in compliance with the 3 ½% appropriation cap. For 2024 our proposed budget is 8.5 million, tax levy at 2.9, we are going to us 442,000 of surplus and our rate is .588 which is about \$90.00 more for the average house this year. Just for the school referendum on the average house you will see an increase of \$228.00.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS ON BUDGET:

PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION OF THE 2024 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Council President Pellegrini set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Oswald to approve the following resolution:

101-2024: Resolution to adopt the 2024 Municipal Budget (Sheet 41)

ROLL CALL: **Ayes: Desai, Kheyfets, Oswald, Purcell, Pellegrini**
 Nays: None
 Absent: Revis
 (5 ayes – 0 nay – 1 Absent - motion carried)

COPY OF 2023 MUNICIPAL BUDGET IN FULL ON PAGE NO. 44-A

BOROUGH CLERK REPORT: No report

BOROUGH ATTORNEY REPORT: No report

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mayor Carelli opened the meeting to the public for comments.

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: 8:53p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

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