

BOROUGH OF RAMSEY
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, April 13, 2022

BUDGET
PUBLIC
HEARING

Due to COVID19 this meeting is being conducted telephonically. The dial-in number is (425)436-6365 Access Code 213563#. You may also view the meeting on the Ramsey YouTube Channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeBnVXBwSn_ILMuAGkSin9w

Mayor Dillon called the meeting to order at 7:31pm, asked Councilman Gutwetter to lead the flag salute. Mayor Dillon read the Open Public Meetings Act notice.

I. ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Dillon, Councilpersons Cusick, Gutwetter, Poppe (via phone) and Weber

Also Present: Borough Clerk Bendian, Borough Administrator Vozeh and Borough Attorney Scandariato

Absent: Councilpersons Kilman and Woods

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 03-23-22

Motion by Councilman Gutwetter, seconded by Councilman Weber. All in favor. Carried.

III. COMMUNICATIONS -

Motion by Councilwoman Cusick, seconded by Councilman Weber. All in favor. Carried.

1. George Bumiller, Ramsey, NJ
fax dated March 31, 2022, including suggestions for the governing body
2. Alison Gordon, Northwest Bergen Utilities Authority, 30 Wyckoff Ave, Waldwick, NJ
e-mail dated March 25, 2022, attaching correspondence concerning the adoption of the Authority's Bond Resolution on March 15, 2022
3. Kim Single, Northern NJ Chair, ALS Walk Chairperson, 42 Broadway, NY, NY 10004
letter received April 11, 2022, requesting permission to hang a banner advertising their walk on Sunday, June 12, 2022

Mayor Dillon asked for a motion to go out of the regular order of business for the 2022 municipal budget public hearing.

Motion by Councilman Gutwetter, seconded by Councilwoman Cusick.

Roll Call:

YAY: Cusick, Gutwetter, Poppe, Weber

Mayor Dillon opened the public hearing on the 2022 municipal budget as introduced at the March 10th meeting. Asking anyone with comments to please give their name and address. With no one in chambers or on the telephone wishing to be heard, Mayor Dillon closed the public hearing on the 2022 municipal budget.

Councilman Gutwetter read the amendment of the 2022 municipal budget, seconded by Councilwoman Cusick.

Mayor Dillon opened the public hearing on the amendment to the 2022 municipal budget. Not hearing anyone from the public in chambers or on the telephone, Mayor Dillon closed the public hearing.

Mayor Dillon asked for a roll call for the 2022 budget, as amended.

Roll Call:

YAY: Cusick, Gutwetter, Poppe, Weber

Motion to return to the regular order of business by Councilman Gutwetter, seconded by Councilwoman Cusick.

Roll Call:

YAY: Cusick, Gutwetter, Poppe, Weber

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Anyone wishing to address the governing body please give your name (spelling the last name) and address. Please speak in an audible tone and address your comments to the Chair. There will be a five-minute time limit per speaker, unless reduced because of the volume of business on the agenda. Please note, public comment is your time. Out of respect and fairness to all, there will be no interruptions or questions answered during your time. No time shall be ceded to anyone else and no time shall be saved for later use. Any responses may be given during the governing body's comments later in the meeting, or as directed by the Chair. The Borough Clerk is the official time keeper.

Mayor Dillon opened public comment, offering several times to anyone in person or on the telephone. With no one wishing to be heard, Mayor Dillon closed public comment.

V. ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES – None

VI. APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Dillon made the following appointments

Anthony Graziano, Ramsey Rescue Squad, Explorer Member

Ranya Makkawi, Ramsey Rescue Squad, Probationary Member

VII. CONSENT RESOLUTION

Motion by Councilman Gutwetter, seconded by Councilwoman Cusick

BE IT RESOLVED that the following resolutions herewith listed having been considered by the governing body of the Borough of Ramsey be and are hereby passed and approved:

- | | | |
|----------|-------------|---|
| 096-2022 | Resolution: | payment of vouchers |
| 097-2022 | Resolution: | ratifying the actions of the governing body for payroll number seven |
| 098-2022 | Resolution: | authorizing the dissolution of the shade tree trust fund |
| 099-2022 | Resolution: | approving a contract for Moore Productions for the sound stage and equipment for Independence Day celebration in the amount of \$7,535 |
| 100-2022 | Resolution: | authorizing the submission of an application for DMHAS Grant funding for the Ramsey Municipal Alliance for Year One Grant Term 7/1/22 – 3/14/23 in the amount of \$4,620.00 |
| 101-2022 | Resolution: | proclaiming April as Autism Awareness Month in the Borough of Ramsey |
| 102-2022 | Resolution: | confirming the appointment of Anthony Graziano to the Ramsey Rescue Squad |
| 103-2022 | Resolution: | confirming the appointment of Ranya Makkawi to the Ramsey Rescue Squad |

VII. CONSENT RESOLUTION (cont'd)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following applications and/or recommendations hereby be approved:

A. SPECIAL PERMITS:

Ramsey High School Band and Guard Parents are requesting permission to have their annual door-to-door hoagie sale from April 15-April 24, 2022. Delivery will be on April 30, 2022

The Northern NJ Walk for ALS Association is requesting permission to hang a banner at the RHS tennis courts from May 9-June 12, 2022 to advertise the walk on Sunday, June 12, 2022

B. BLOCK PARTY REQUESTS:

Roll Call:

YAY: Cusick, Gutwetter, Poppe, Weber

VIII. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS - None

IX. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

- A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION – Councilman Michael Gutwetter
Ramsey Library – Discussed various events past and present.

Recreation Commission -Basketball, wrestling and Challenger basketball have been completed. Adult softball leagues started in April. The commission by-laws are in the process of being finalized. Summer camp enrollment has begun.

Pool Commission – There are a few weeks left to register for the pool early bird rates. You can also sign up for swim team and lessons through Community Pass.

- B. PUBLIC SAFETY – Councilman Peter Kilman
Absent

- C. BUILDING, PLANNING & ZONING – Councilwoman Jane Woods
Absent

- D. UTILITIES, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Councilwoman Judy Cusick
Thanked the First Responders for their response to the events on April 7th at the Ramsey High School.

Congratulated the new appointees to the Ramsey Rescue Squad.

Planning Board - There were five (5) Site Plan Waivers which were approved and a resolution for Soil Movement which was approved.

Shade Tree Commission - The Commission will do a tree planting at the Ramsey Pool on Arbor Day, April 29th. There is information on the borough website regarding the Shade Tree Commission.

Board of Public Works - Springtime fire hydrant flushing is scheduled for the weeks of April 11th, 18th & 25th.

- E. PUBLIC & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS – Councilwoman Sara Poppe
Ramsey Municipal Alliance discussed Mental Health Awareness Month in May at their last meeting. They will sponsor programs in the local schools and at the Stigma Free Walk and Talk-a-thon on May 7th at the high school. Alliance participated in the Clean Up Day and held a special meeting to discuss the programming for the DMHAS Grant.

Reported that the Ramsey Farmers' Market continues on Sundays from 10-1 at the Ramsey Train Station, that articles for the Ramsey Journal are due by April 15th and the Ramsey Chamber of Commerce held an informational meeting which was a mentoring and networking event.

The Mayor and Council and the Borough is sponsoring a new resident mixer on Tuesday, June 14th at the Ramsey Pool. Invitations will be sent out in the regular mail.

- F. HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES – Councilman Harry Weber
Board of Education – At the April 26th Board of Education meeting the school budget will be discussed.

Echoed the comments of Councilwoman Cusick complimenting the emergency services as well as the school administration.

Environmental Commission – At the Annual Clean Up Day there were over 85 volunteers. There were many different groups, including members of the Mayor and Council. Second Chance toy collection will be on April 22nd at the Farmers’ Market. Thanked Joyce Hudon for her help updating the display case in the lobby of borough hall. Reminded everyone of the plastic bag ban effective the beginning of May.

Congratulated the new appointees to the Ramsey Rescue Squad.

RIFE – Basketball season ended will start softball at the end of April. Will also be planning upcoming social events at the next meeting.

Complimented Councilman Gutwetter and all of those who worked on the budget. They do a great job every year keeping us under the CAP limit.

Councilman Weber thanked all colleagues and friends for their prayers, etc., on the passing of his father.

- G. MAYOR DEIRDRE DILLON

Thanked everyone who worked so hard on the budget. Borough Administrator Vozech, Councilman Gutwetter and the Finance Committee. It is a responsible budget to ensure services are delivered to residents and businesses while keeping the budget below the 2% CAP.

Thanked the Environmental Commission for a successful Clean Up Day.

Congratulated the new appointees to the Ramsey Rescue Squad.

Commended Dr. Thumm on his well-written e-mail regarding the incident at the high school, is glad that he recognized the training of Chief Lyman and Captain Cherven. Also wanted to recognize the administration, the teacher, the students, Ramsey Police and the other law enforcement agencies that assisted that day.

Announced a reminder from the Ramsey Police Department: Please lock your vehicles and do not leave keys, fobs or valuables in your vehicles. There are very sophisticated auto theft rings operating in the state.

Reported that the Ramsey Fire Department and the Rescue Squad gathered a bunch of gear that is past its ten-year useful life in the United States and sent the valuable gear to a church in Clifton that will donate to Ukraine.

H. BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR – Bruce Vozech

Summarized the Amending Resolution to 2022 Municipal Budget: The amending budget resolution incorporating recommendations from the State after their formal review has no change to the municipal tax rate and dollar amount of municipal tax levy. The State has recommended some line item changes and relocation of some line items to different sections of the budget. Changes in the amendment are as follows:

Relocate revenue from utility operating surplus related to the pool from Section G in revenue to Section A with no change in the dollar amount

Eliminate \$1,734.65 in Body Armor Grant on both the revenue side of the budget and the offsetting appropriation side of the budget, this amount was already included as part of another offsetting grant line.

Reallocate \$7,750 of operating expense line items as indicated in amendment for no net impact to total amount

Reallocate \$40,000 of Deferred Charge line items as indicated in amendment with no net impact to total amount.

Relocate Accumulated Absence line-item funding from Deferred Charges to Operations Section of Appropriations with no change in the dollar amount.

Resolution 99 – Approval for a contract for Moore Productions for Independence Day Celebration We received proposal from Moore Productions for sound equipment, sound operators and stage rental for the Borough Independence Day celebration for July 1st. Moore Productions has successfully provided these services in the past and this resolution awards contract for same services in 2022 in an amount of \$7,535.

I. BOROUGH ATTORNEY – Peter A. Scandariato, Esq.

Suggested that there be a motion to grant approval under new business for permission to perform aerial mosquito spraying in unpopulated areas by the County of Bergen.

J. BOROUGH CLERK – Meredith Bendian - No report

X. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES - None

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

XII. NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Dillon asked for a motion to allow Borough Attorney Scandariato to grant permission to the Bergen County Mosquito Control Division to perform their annual aerial spraying, at no charge to the borough.

Motion by Councilwoman Cusick, seconded by Councilman Weber

Roll Call:

YAY: Cusick, Gutwetter, Poppe, Weber

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Weber, seconded by Councilman Gutwetter. All in favor. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.

Meredith Bendian, RMC
Borough Clerk