

BOROUGH OF RAMSEY  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
December 21, 2009

Mayor Botta called the regular meeting of the Mayor and Council to order. Council President led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor read the Open Public Meetings law notice.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Botta, Councilmembers Dillon, Jachzel, Jones, Siemsen, Vozeh,  
Borough Administrator Nicholas Saros, Borough Attorney Peter Scandariato,  
and Borough Clerk Meredith Bendian.

Absent: Councilman Nalbandian

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – None

III. COMMUNICATIONS

Motion by Jones, seconded by Jachzel, to receive and file the following Communications.  
Carried.

1. [Michael Kates, Chairman, Friendship House, 125 Atlantic Street, Hackensack, NJ 07601](#) letter dated December 1, 2009, regarding the funding for the program.
2. [Sergeant Christopher Riedel, Ramsey Police Department, 25 N. Central Avenue](#), letter dated December 15, 2009, announcing his retirement from the Ramsey Police Department effective December 31, 2009. Councilman Jones expressed his appreciation to Sgt. Riedel for his many years of dedicated service.
3. [Lou Janicek, Ramsey Resident](#) e-mail dated 12/21/09 regarding cell phone towers.
4. [Richard DeLio, 31 Manor Drive, Ramsey, NJ 07446](#) letter dated 12/21/09 regarding leaf pick up.

Mayor referred letters 3 and 4 the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

IV. APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Botta made the following appointments:

[Tom Bajek](#) – Ramsey Rescue Squad

[Gregory Ameres](#) – Office of Emergency Management

V. CONSENT RESOLUTION

Resolution by Siemsen, seconded by Vozeh

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:

- 283-2009 Resolution: [Payment of vouchers](#)
- 284-2009 Resolution: [Transfer Resolution No. 2](#)
- 285-2009 Resolution: [Authorizing the Borough to enter into a contract with Tyco Animal Control Services in an amount not to exceed \\$16,320.00](#)
- 286-2009 Resolution: [Authorizing the tax redemption to Dimitri Vlahakis for Block 4603 Lot 41 in the amount of \\$15,932.74](#)
- 287-2009 Resolution: Accepting the retirement of Sergeant Christopher Riedel from the Ramsey Police Department with regret
- 288-2009 Resolution: [Confirming the appointment of Tom Bajek to the Ramsey Rescue Squad](#)
- 289-2009 Resolution: [Confirming the appointment of Gregory Ameres to the Office of Emergency Management](#)
- 290-2009 Resolution: Authorizing the change order for the Ramsey Municipal Pool sidewalk in the amount of \$1,200.00

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

A. SPECIAL PERMITS:

[MER Corporation/Floorsmart is requesting permission to hang a temporary sign](#) advertising their business until a permanent sign is approved.

[Ramsey Senior Center Inc. is requesting permission to renew their bingo license](#) from Jan 1, 2010 – Dec. 31, 2011

AYES: Dillon, Jachzel, Jones, Siemsen, Vozeh  
ABSENT: Nalbandian

NAYS: None

VI. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

- A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION -Councilman Andrew Siemsen  
I would like to congratulate the new appointees and wish everyone a very Happy New Year and safe travels.
- B. PUBLIC SAFETY – Councilman William Jones  
I would like to welcome the new volunteers and thank them for volunteering. Sgt. Riedel will be missed at the Police Department. I will wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.
- C. BUILDING, PLANNING & ZONING – Councilman Arthur M. Nalbandian  
(Not at this meeting).
- D. UTILITIES, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Councilman Bruce Vozech  
I would like to thank Sgt. Riedel for his many years of service to the Borough. I would also like to thank the new volunteers for joining. My thanks also to the D.P.W. for their hard work during the storm. We have received many positive comments. I wish everyone a Happy Holiday.
- E. PUBLIC & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS – Councilwoman Vanessa Jachzel  
I also want to thank Sgt. Christopher Riedel for his many years of service and wish him all the best in his retirement. Thank you to our new volunteers. I also want to commend the D.P.W. for getting the roads safe very quickly. They did a great job and they make Ramsey look good. I wish everyone a very Happy New Year.
- F. HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES – Council President Deirdre A. Dillon  
Thanks to the D.P.W. for a great job after the storm. Congratulations to the new volunteers. Best wishes to Sgt. Riedel on his retirement and Happy Holidays to all and best wishes for a very Happy and Healthy, Prosperous New Year.
- G. MAYOR CHRISTOPHER C. BOTTA  
I would like to commend Sgt. Riedel for his years of service to the Ramsey Police Department and wish him well in his retirement. I wish everyone Happy Holidays and a joyous New Year.
- H. BOROUGH ATTORNEY – Peter A. Scandariato, Esq. No comments.
- I. BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR – Nicholas C. Saros  
I too would like to congratulate Sgt. Riedel much happiness and success in his retirement and his future endeavors.
- J. BOROUGH CLERK – Meredith Bendian No comments.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Alan Braggin, 25 Franklin Street, expressed his appreciation to the Road Department for clearing the snow, and the flu vaccine program was handled in a very professional manner. Mr. Braggin then spoke about the possible purchase of a mulching vehicle. Borough Administrator stated that Morris Plains was the closest town using this piece of equipment for leaf collection. Borough Administrator advised that the Administrators of the surrounding towns meet on a monthly basis and there is also a County Representative who works with us on shared services and regional purchases. Mr. Braggin asked about the labor cost, depreciation, etc. to fully evaluate the machine and compare the cost to what we have now, and added that there would have to be a comprehensive cost benefit analysis. Mr. Braggin stated that if Bergen County agrees to purchase the machine as a demonstration test site for Ramsey, it seems that it would not be justified for Ramsey only and it should be fully evaluated. Borough Administrator stated that he has been in contact with the Director of the Morris Plains Public Works and they have had good results with the machine. We are looking at all the maintenance required in the operation of leaf collection. We will be going to Morris Plains with our Public Works Director. We will take everything into consideration before we spend \$125,000 of our money. Mayor stated that we constantly look at all of our inventory and make determinations based upon our allocation of resources, as to whether it is beneficial to purchase a piece of equipment all the way to pick-up trucks, dump trucks, and plows. Those issues are always addressed in council committees in making determinations of capital purchases. Mr. Braggin stated that it seemed that there was a rush to approve and Mayor stated that we are looking at it and it is a new idea that was brought to the table; we are not going to rush into and it is not something that is going into place within a short period of time.

Not seeing anyone else who wished to speak, Mayor closed the public comment.

VIII. ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES - None

IX. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES - None

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

XI. NEW BUSINESS - None

XII. RECESS -

Motion by Vozeh, seconded by Dillon, to adjourn Sine Die 7:00 p.m. Monday, January 4, 2010. Carried.

Meredith Bendian  
Borough Clerk