

Approved at the 5/12/10 Mayor and Council Meeting

BOROUGH OF RAMSEY  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
April 28, 2010

Acting Mayor Siemsen called the regular meeting of the Mayor and Council to order. Police Chief Bryan Gurney led the Pledge of Allegiance. Acting Mayor read the Open Public Meetings law notice.

I. ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Mayor Botta

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Dillon, seconded by Jones, to approve the minutes of April 14, 2010, as submitted. Carried.

III. COMMUNICATIONS

Motion by Nalbandian, seconded by Siemsen, to receive and file the following Communications. Carried.

1. [Howard Hurwitz, Executive Director, Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority, 30 Wyckoff Avenue, Waldwick, NJ, letter dated April 16, 2010, notifying of the Public Hearing on NBCUA Connection Fees that will be held on May 11, 2010.](#)
2. [William H. Horton, Jr., Ramsey Borough Superintendent of Public Works, letter dated April 19, 2010, notifying of his retirement; his last day with the Borough will be on June 30, 2010.](#)
3. [Russel Rothman, Owner, M. Rothman and Co., Inc., 50 Williams Drive, Ramsey, NJ letter dated April 20, 2010, requesting permission to hold a warehouse sale at their company headquarters on Friday, June 18, 2010, from 12 noon until 6pm with a raindate of Saturday, June 19, 2010 from 10am until 3pm.](#)
4. [Dr. Rudolph Iorio, Chairman, Ramsey Planning Board memo dated April 23, 2010, enclosing the Planning Board's comments regarding the Sustainable Land Use Pledge.](#)

IV. APPOINTMENTS –

Acting Mayor made the following appointments:

Chris Haskell – Drug Alliance

Kevin T. Kelly – Sergeant, Ramsey Police Department

Thomas Bajek – Office of Emergency Management

James Heaney – Office of Emergency Management

V. CONSENT RESOLUTION

Introduced by Vozech, seconded by Jachzel

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:

- |          |             |  |
|----------|-------------|--|
| 092-2010 | Resolution: | <a href="#">Payment of Vouchers</a>  |
| 093-2010 | Resolution: | <a href="#">Authorizing \$4,402 to J. Fletcher Creamer for emergency repairs on Roandis Court</a>  |
| 094-2010 | Resolution: | <a href="#">Confirming the appointment of Kevin T. Kelly to Sergeant of the Ramsey Police Department</a>   |
| 095-2010 | Resolution: | <a href="#">Authorizing the escrow release to R.C. Jennee Subdivision, Block 5201 Lot 16 in an amount of \$50.00</a>   |
| 096-2010 | Resolution: | <a href="#">Confirming the appointment of Thomas Bajek to the Office of Emergency Management.</a>  |
| 097-2010 | Resolution: | <a href="#">Confirming the appointment of James Heaney to the Office of Emergency Management.</a>  |
| 098-2010 | Resolution: | <a href="#">Authorizing the award of a three-year contract to LTI, Inc., for the maintenance of borough lands including alternates one and two</a>   |
| 099-2010 | Resolution: | <a href="#">Regarding compensation for various non-union employees</a>   |
| 100-2010 | Resolution: | <a href="#">Authorizing the award of contract to Dynamic Productions for the stage, lighting and sound equipment for the Ramsey Fine Arts Council Independence Day Concert at Finch Park</a> |

- 101-2010 Resolution: Authorizing the award of contract to B & C Communications for the Zetron Communication System for the Ramsey Police Department
- 102-2010 Resolution: [Authorizing the denial of insurance waiver request](#)
- 103-2010 Resolution: [Accepting the retirement of William H. Horton,](#) Superintendent of DPW effective June 30, 2010

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

A. SPECIAL PERMITS:

[The Pediatric Orthopaedic Research Group is requesting permission to hold a walk-a-thon on Sunday, May 16, 2010 at 2:00 pm. They will be walking from St. Paul's Church to Finch Park using sidewalks.](#)

[Model Electronics Inc. is requesting permission to hold a car show at corporate headquarters on Saturday, June 19, 2010 \(rain date June 20<sup>th</sup>\).](#)

AYES: Dillon, Jachzel, Jones, Nalbandian, Siemsen, Vozeh NAYS: None

VI. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION -Councilman Bruce Vozeh

My thanks to the Police and all the emergency services who worked so hard to make the funeral procession for Corporal Jankiewicz a special tribute. Ramsey showed itself extremely well and it was a heartfelt moment. We will be introducing the budget at the next meeting. We will be under the cap of 4% in terms of property taxes. The Library project is on schedule. Pool registrations have increased. I would like to thank the new volunteers and congratulate Sgt. Kelly. I would also like to thank Bill Horton for his many years of service.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY – Councilman William Jones

My congratulations and best wishes to Bill Horton on his pending retirement and thank him for his many years of service to the town. I would like to echo Councilman Vozeh's comments regarding our police and emergency services for all of their involvement and community effort for Corporal Jankiewicz's services. It is another testament to what makes Ramsey a special place. Also, the same groups were involved in the Baseball/Softball parade last Saturday and it is always a smooth running event and I thank everyone for that as well. I would like to offer my congratulations to Sgt Kelly on his promotion, certainly well deserved. We are very fortunate to have enough qualified people to do the job. I would like to also welcome the new volunteers.

- C. BUILDING, PLANNING & ZONING – Councilwoman Deirdre Dillon  
I would like to echo my colleagues’ remarks regarding the escort procession for Corporal Jankiewicz who so bravely served his country. Congratulations to our new Sergeant and my thanks to the new volunteers. My thanks to Bill Horton for his many years of dedicated and very professional service to the Borough.
- D. UTILITIES, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Councilman Arthur Nalbandian  
I too would like to thank the new volunteers who were appointed tonight. Congratulations to Sgt. Kelly; I know he will continue to do a great job. I would like to echo Councilman Vozeh’s comments regarding the efforts of our emergency services for the funeral and procession for Corp. Jankiewicz. A special thanks to Chief Gurney for coordinating the funeral. I would also like to announce that we are going to have another Shred-It Day on May 8<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the DPW garage. There is a maximum of 3 boxes per Ramsey resident. I would like to wish Bill Horton well in his retirement.
- E. PUBLIC & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS – Councilwoman Vanessa Jachzel  
I would like to extend my well wishes to Bill Horton; he has always been prompt and thorough as Superintendent of Public Works. Under Bill’s leadership, the town has an excellent reputation in the area for a job well done, clearing up after storms. I would like to thank him for that and wish him well in his retirement. Congratulations to Kevin Kelly on his promotion to Sergeant. My thanks to the new volunteers also. I would also like to thank Angela Strollo and the members of the Environmental Commission for organizing the annual Clean-Up Day on April 17. It certainly adds to the beauty of our town. On May 8, the Garden Club will hold their annual plant sale at the train station from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. There is a lot of information in the current issue of the Ramsey Journal. If you didn’t receive a copy in the mail, it is available on the Borough’s website.
- F. HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES – Acting Mayor Andrew Siemsen  
I would like to thank the emergency services for their work on the ceremony for Corporal Jankiewicz. My congratulations to Bill Horton on his retirement; he will be missed. My thanks to the new volunteers and congratulations to Kevin Kelly on his promotion to Sergeant.
- G. MAYOR CHRISTOPHER C. BOTTA - Not at this meeting.
- H. BOROUGH ATTORNEY – Peter A. Scandariato, Esq. No comments.
- I. BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR – Nicholas C. Saros No comments.

J. BOROUGH CLERK – Meredith Bendian

Congratulations to Bill Horton on his retirement; it has been a pleasure to work with him. My thanks to the Police Department for their assistance with the school election.

Motion by Nalbandian, seconded by Vozeh, to go out of the normal order of business. Carried. Councilman Jones joined Acting Mayor Siemsen to administer the oath of office to new Sergeant Kevin Kelly. Chief Gurney asked Mrs. Kelly to pin the badge on Sergeant Kelly. Police Chief Gurney expressed his appreciation for the assistance with Corporal Jankiewicz's funeral. Police Chief stated that everyone does an excellent job in the Police Department. Sergeant Kelly has a Master's Degree from Seton Hall and he was a PBA delegate for Local No. 155. Police Chief stated that Sergeant Kelly is a constant professional, who understands the management concept. Congratulations! Sergeant Kelly thanked members of his family for their support and the officers that he has worked with on a daily basis, as well as the members of the Public Safety Committee of the Mayor and Council.

Acting Mayor administered the oath of office to the new volunteers and congratulated each one.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Allan Braggin, 25 Franklin Street, stated that he would wait until the next meeting to make his comments, when Mayor Botta is here.

Doug Rennie, 30 Rose Avenue, spoke about the Boy Scout project at the bocce courts. The VFW would like to have a sign at the Senior Center.

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

VIII. ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES

[ORDINANCE 08-2010 An ordinance amending Chapter X of the Code of the Borough of Ramsey, Bergen County, New Jersey and more specifically section 10-13 thereof entitled retiree insurance benefits sub section \(a\) and \(c\) so as to clarify years of service](#)

Resolution by Vozeh, seconded by Siemsen

BE IT RESOLVED that an ordinance entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER X OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AND MORE SPECIFICALLY SECTION 10-13 THEREOF ENTITLED RETIREE INSURANCE BENEFITS SUB SECTION (A) and (C), SO AS TO CLARIFY YEARS OF SERVICE having been brought up for public hearing and all persons interested having been given an opportunity to be heard, pass final reading by title, and that said ordinance be adopted as an ordinance of the Borough of Ramsey; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be, and she hereby is, directed to cause a copy of the title of said ordinance to be published in an official newspaper of the Borough in the manner provided by law, together with a notice of the date of introduction and adoption of said ordinance.

Councilman Vozech stated that this is clarification language and there is no substantive change in years of qualifying service for health benefits.

Not seeing anyone else who wished to speak, Acting Mayor closed the public hearing for ord. 8-2010.

AYES: Dillon, Jachzel, Jones, Nalbandian, Siemsen, Vozech      NAYS: None

#### IX. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

[ORDINANCE 09-2010 An ordinance amending Chapter IV of the Code of the](#) Borough of Ramsey, Bergen County, New Jersey, more particularly Section 4-13.13 thereof entitled Insurance Requirements

Resolution by Jones, seconded by Dillon

BE IT RESOLVED that an ordinance entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER IV OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AND MORE PARTICULARLY SECTION 4-13.13 THEREOF ENTITLED INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS pass the first reading by title and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage and adoption at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council to be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2010, 8:45 p.m. prevailing time or as soon after as the matter can be reached, at the Municipal Building in said Borough, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be, and she hereby is, instructed to publish in an official newspaper of the Borough in the manner provided by law a copy of said ordinance, together with notice of introduction thereof, and notice when the same will be considered for final passage and adoption.

Councilman Jones stated that this ordinance was recommended by our RISK management insurance consultant and clarifies some language of what coverage is necessary for towing in the Borough.

AYES: Dillon, Jachzel, Jones, Nalbandian, Siemsen, Vozech      NAYS: None

#### X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Borough Administrator outlined some of Bill Horton's accomplishments. In 1990, we used to have two Superintendents: one for the Water Department and one for the Department of Public Works. We felt that we needed a merger at that time and Bill Horton was hired and took over the merger, with a cost savings of having one Superintendent doing both jobs. I think he did a very outstanding job in juggling those two positions and he also accomplished making Ramsey a superior town in snow plowing operations. At that time, we used to hire the county contractor to come and do many of the county roads. We then started doing that in-house and I think it has

been a great accomplishment for Bill and his crew to actually do all of the snow removal operations in-house. Bill has done a lot in the last 20 years. Ramsey's parks and recreational facilities are far superior to other communities and that is due to Bill's leadership in the Buildings and Grounds Department. I wish him well in his retirement and I know that it was a difficult job in the combination of those two positions, and he did both very well.

XI. NEW BUSINESS - None

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Nalbandian, seconded by Jones, to adjourn the meeting. Carried.

Meredith Bendian  
Borough Clerk