

MINUTES
Council Meeting
Monday, January 10, 2011
8:00pm

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Council Vice President Bromberg called the meeting to order at 8:02pm in the Council Chambers located at 406 Rivervale Road, River Vale, New Jersey 07675.

SALUTE TO FLAG

Council Vice President Bromberg asked all in attendance to rise and join him in a Salute to the Flag.

SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT

Council Vice President Bromberg read the Sunshine Statement into the record, as follows:

“In accordance with the provisions set forth in the Open Public Meetings Law, notification of this meeting has been sent to all officially appointed Township newspapers and notice is posted at the Municipal Office.”

ROLL CALL

Councilman de Stefan, Councilman Matos, Councilwoman Sieg and Council Vice President Bromberg were present. Council President Jasionowski was absent.

Also present: Mayor Joseph Blundo, Robert Gallione, Business Administrator, Holly Schepisi, Township Attorney, Christopher Statile, Township Engineer, Gennaro Rotella, CFO and Karen Padva Township Clerk.

TOWNSHIP COMMUNICATION

MAYOR’S COMMENTS

Mayor Blundo opened his comments with the special recognition of Rob Delaney. The Mayor stated that this is one of the proudest days in River Vale. Rob Delaney grew up in River Vale living both on Highland Avenue and then Westwood Avenue. The Mayor announced that Rob Delaney pitched for the Minnesota Twins in an American League professional baseball this last September. Rob has lived a dream that many have. Rob is the first River Vale native to pitch in professional baseball and he would like to recognize his accomplishment.

The Mayor read the following proclamation into the record:

PROCLAMATION
RECOGNITION OF ROB DELANEY

January 10, 2011

WHEREAS, Rob Delaney was raised in River Vale and is the son of Jerome and Robin Delaney. He has two sisters Laura and Ashley; and

WHEREAS, Rob Delaney excelled in sports playing both basketball and baseball as a student at Pascack Valley High School. As a pitcher and first baseman, Rob was a first-team All-League Selection as a sophomore, junior and senior in baseball. Additionally, he earned All-County honors in both basketball and baseball as a junior and senior; and

WHEREAS, Rob Delaney then went on to St. John's University where he played college baseball. During his time at St John's he continued to pitch impressively and in 2004 he contributed to the team securing a spot in the Big East Tournament. Rob Delaney graduated from St. John's University in 2006 with a Sports Management degree; and

WHEREAS, in June 2006 Rob Delaney was signed by the Minnesota Twins. As a part of the Twins' organization Rob continues to be promoted and compile an impressive pitching record. During his off-season time Rob Delaney works as a substitute teacher at Pascack Valley High School. On November 20, 2009 Rob Delaney was added to the Minnesota Twins 40 man roster; and

WHEREAS, on September 4, 2010 Rob Delaney made his Major League Baseball debut with the Minnesota Twins pitching in relief against the Texas Rangers leading to a 12-4 win. Rob Delaney will forever be remembered in River Vale history as the first resident to ever play baseball in a Major League game; and

WHEREAS, the achievements and evident character of this very talented athlete have brought much honor and recognition to the Township of River Vale. We wish him the very best in health, happiness and success in all his future endeavors.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Joseph Blundo, Mayor of the Township of River Vale along with all the Council Members and residents proudly applaud and acknowledge the extraordinary athletic achievements of Rob Delaney and do hereby declare January 10, 2011 as "Rob Delaney Day" in the Township of River Vale.

Mayor Blundo then presented Rob Delaney with a trophy and introduced Nick Issackedes of River Vale Baseball. Mr. Issackedes also presented Rob with a plaque.

Council Vice President Bromberg requested a brief break at 8:15pm. The meeting reconvened at 8:25pm.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman de Stefan expressed what an inspiration Rob is and what a huge achievement on his part.

Councilman Matos stated how great it is to see the community come together to recognize these accomplishments. He also said these are his happiest times on the Council.

Councilwoman Sieg expressed how wonderful it is to see someone's dreams come true. She also congratulated Rob and we are very honored and wished him much success.

Councilman Bromberg congratulated Rob Delaney and remarked on what a great inspiration and positive role model he is to our youth. Councilman Bromberg also thanked Rob for taking time and effort to come back to River Vale and allow all the kids to participate in this event.

Business Administrator's Report

Mr. Gallione encouraged the resident to sign up for NEXEL in order to receive messages and alerts regarding weather and other Town events. The system is managed by the Police Department and there is more information on the Township website. Mr. Gallione also reported that we are finishing up Phase II of our auction which has brought \$8,600.

Township Engineer's Report

Mr. Statile reported that he and Mr. Gallione had a meeting with the County regarding grant applications submitted by the Township. He gave an update on the \$2 million Open Space grant application for the Golf Course; and that the public hearings will be held in February and March. Mr. Statile noted that River Vale is the only applicant with actual possession of the property that they applied for.

He also gave updates on the Rivervale Road stabilization project which will cover from Town Hall to Piermont Avenue. The permit application has been submitted to the DEP. The County does not have the funding to implement the work for the area north of Piermont. However they are obtaining the necessary easements from United Water. Councilman Bromberg noted that the crack of significant concern is further north. Mr. Statile continued that the County is aware of the crack but feels that the more southern end has a much steeper embankment. Therefore if it does slide it would be a much larger event.

Mr. Statile reported that he is working on the 2011 Road Resurfacing Program based on the Rich's roster of street ratings. The Bike path is moving slowly he hopes to be complete by the spring; and the Roberge Field Project is on hiatus for the winter and will resume in April. Mr. Statile also reported that the Roberge headwall in need of repair is owned by the Township.

Councilman de Stefan questioned the bank stabilization near Town hall and if we could get assistance. Mr. Statile answered that the County can't do it due to funding but perhaps the state; he will look into it.

Councilwoman Sieg commented on the poor repair work United Water did on her road.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Motion by Councilman Matos; seconded by Councilwoman Sieg to open the meeting to the public.

Council Vice President Bromberg read the following statement into the record.

“Each person wishing to address the Council shall step up to the microphone, shall give his or her name in an audible tone for the record. All member of the public are expected to conduct themselves in a proper manner. Any derogatory, abusive or threatening statements will not be permitted. The Chair will immediately rule such conduct out of order and terminate any further comments.”

Jim Catabellata – 140 Rivervale Road– questioned the status of the Bonnabel property.

Councilman de Stefan answered that it is still pending before the Planning Board. Mayor Blundo added that the new administration at the County killed all purchases. However, he did receive a phone call that the deal could possibly be revived. Mr. Bonnabel is requesting to build more than what is allowed; the Council debated and we would not be persuaded to allow him to build in one area. The Mayor continued that he cannot support any effort by the County to buy while he is suing the Township in addition to the loss of ratables.

Jeffrey Albrechtson – 711 Rivervale Road – commented on a lighting problem he is having with his neighbor. Bob Gallione answered that they are making arrangements for a light meter reading by Mike Sartori and our Sanitarian, Chloette and that the County will do the test for free.

George Dalcero – 136 Rivervale Road – thanked the Council for repairing drainage problem on Tiffany. Mr. Dalcero also reported his concerns regarding cherry trees hanging over Rivervale Road.

Richard Tax – 630 Montview Place— expressed his concerns regarding the deer population. Mayor Blundo answered that this falls under State wildlife and doesn’t believe we have any power. Ms. Schepisi added that Essex County is doing a culling. Mayor Blundo said we would check with the County to see what they can do.

There being no further questions or comments from the public; motion by Councilman de Stefan; seconded by Councilman Matos to close the meeting to the public.

RESOLUTIONS

Motion by Councilman Matos; seconded by Councilman de Stefan to approve Resolution #2011-43 through #2011-48 on Consent Agenda, as follows:

Resolution #2011-43

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING CONTRACT WITH CERTAIN APPROVED STATE VENDORS FOR CONTRACTING UNITS PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-2a – JACOBSEN HYDRAULIC FINE CUT ROTARY MOWER

WHEREAS, the Township of River Vale, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12a and N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29(c), may by resolution and without advertising for bids, purchase any goods or services under the State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program for any State contracts entered into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property in the Department of the Treasury; and

WHEREAS, the Township of River Vale has the need on a timely basis to purchase goods or services utilizing State contracts; and

WHEREAS, the Township of River Vale intends to enter into contracts with the attached Referenced State Contract Vendors through this resolution and properly executed contracts, which shall be subject to all the conditions applicable to the current State contracts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of River Vale authorizes the Purchasing Agent to purchase certain goods or services from those approved New Jersey State Contract vendors on the attached list, pursuant to all conditions of the individual State contracts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Township of River Vale pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.5 (b), the certification of available funds, shall either certify the full maximum amount against the budget at the time the contract is awarded, or no contract amount shall be chargeable or certified until such time as the goods or services are ordered or otherwise called for prior to placing the order, and a certification of availability of funds is made by the Chief Financial Officer.

Resolution #2011-44

RESOLUTION

**TAX APPEAL JUDGEMENT
REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENT**

WHEREAS, residents of 538 Elizabeth Avenue (Block 1706, Lot 8) were rendered a Tax Court Judgment decision for a reduced assessment for the year 2010;

WHEREAS, the homeowner is requesting a tax refund for overpayment for the following year as follows:

- **2010—\$ 934.47**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale, that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to issue a municipal check as designated above payable to:

“Davenport & Spiotti”

Mail to:

Davenport & Spiotti
219 Changebridge Road
Montville, New Jersey 07045

Resolution #2011-45

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE 2011 PASCACK VALLEY FIRE CHIEF’S ASSOCIATION MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the Pascack Valley Fire Chief's Association, comprised of (8) towns has provided both man power and equipment for both stand-by and emergencies for many years;

WHEREAS, the need has arisen to have such an agreement in writing;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the Mayor is hereby authorized to sign the above mentioned agreement for the year 2011.

Resolution #2011-46

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE 2011 CONTRACT WITH THE BOROUGH OF HILLSDALE BOARD OF HEALTH FOR CHILD HEALTH CONFERENCE SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hillsdale will be offering Child Health Conference Services to several towns in the area; and

WHEREAS, the River Vale Board of Health in conjunction with the Hillsdale Borough of Health wishes to promote CHC activities and provide eligible River Vale residents their services in order to maximize the use of the program; and

WHEREAS, the agreed upon fee of \$30.00 per each visit for River Vale residents meeting economic guidelines shall be established; and

WHEREAS, the Township of River Vales agrees to pay the Borough of Hillsdale an annual fee of \$100.00 to cover administrative costs of the program;

NOW THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the Mayor is hereby authorized to sign the Hillsdale Board of Health Contract for the 2011 Child Health Conference services.

Resolution #2011-47

APPROVE THE SOCIAL AFFAIRS PERMIT FOR THE RIVER VALE GOLF COURSE OPEN HOUSE EVENT

WHEREAS, the Township owned River Vale Golf Course is hosting an "*Open House*" on Saturday, February 26, 2011; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council hereby approves the social affairs permit for the River Golf Course to hold their "*Open House*"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township of River Vale shall issue a check in the amount of \$100.00 to the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control for said permit.

Resolution #2011-48

RESOLUTION
(TRANSFERS)

WHEREAS, there exists a need to make transfers in the 2010 Budget Appropriations Reserves, and there exists balances from which to make said transfers,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the Chief Financial Officer hereby be authorized to make the following transfers to the 2010 Budget Appropriations Reserves.

Inside CAP:

From:

Police Patrol S&W	\$10,000.00
DPW S&W	\$ 8,500.00

Total \$ 18,500.00

Inside CAP:

To:

Tax Assessor OE	\$ 5,000.00
Snow & Ice Removal OE	\$13,500.00

Total \$ 18,500.00

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman de Stefan, Councilman Matos, Councilwoman Sieg and Council Vice President Bromberg voted yes. Council President Jasionowski was absent.

ORDINANCES 1st READING

There were no Ordinances for 1st Reading this evening.

ORDINANCES 2nd READING

There were no Ordinances for 2nd Reading this evening.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Motion by Councilwoman Sieg; seconded by Councilman Matos to open the meeting to the public.

There being no questions or comments from the public; motion by Councilman de Stefan; seconded by Councilman Matos to close the meeting to the public.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilman de Stefan; seconded by Councilman Matos to adjourn the meeting at 9:10pm.

Council Vice President
Mark Bromberg

ATTEST:
Karen Padva
Township Clerk