



**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting of the Township Council**  
**Monday, April 24, 2006**  
**8:00 PM**

**CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

Council President Menville called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building located at 406 Rivervale Road, River Vale, New Jersey.

**SALUTE TO FLAG**

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

**SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT**

Council President Menville read the following 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 Blundo, Councilman de Stefan, Councilman Matos and Council President Menville were present. Councilman Jasionowski was absent.

Also present: George A. Paschalis, Mayor, John M. Carbone, Township Attorney and Roy Rossow, Tax Collector, CFO and Wanda A. Worner, Township Clerk.

**TOWNSHIP COMMUNICATION**

1. Mayor's Comments

Mayor Paschalis asked the Council for their confirmation on the Business Administrator. Motion by Councilman Blundo; seconded by Councilman Matos to approve Resolution #2006-106, as follows:

**RESOLUTION #2006-106**

**RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR**

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists in the position of business administrator; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Code of the Township of River Vale the Mayor shall appoint a Business Administrator, with advice and consent of the Council, to serve during his term of office and until the appointment and qualification of a successor;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council hereby confirms the Mayor's appointment of Robert Gallione, Jr. as Business Administrator.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Blundo, Councilman Matos, Councilman de Stefan and Council President Menville voted yes. Councilman Jasionowski was absent.

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Mayor Paschalis invited the Soccer Coach Andreas Droste to say a few words before presenting each of the following girls with a certificate for being the Indoor Soccer Champs.

Mr. Andreas thanked Rich Campanelli and Michael Freedman for their help this year with the Soccer program. He also thanked Nick LaRocca, Bob Schmidt and Mr. Lipshultz for their participation in the program. He stated that in the 24 years of River Vale Soccer history there have been 30 teams and he considers River Vale to be the best in Bergen County Soccer.

He further stated that this has been a great indoor season. He stated that the girls dominated with 22 wins and that all three groups went to the finals. He introduced Mr. Nick LaRocca, the head coach.

Mr. LaRocca stated that the girls worked hard for 4 ½ months and they came out on top. He thanked the parents, the schools and the community for their cooperation this season. He stated that it produced results. He also thanked the girls for working so hard and congratulated them.

Mayor Paschalis, along with the coaches then handed out the certificates.

**River Vale Girls' Division 4 Pascack Valley Indoor Soccer Champions**

Gabrielle Buono, Alicia Christiano, Dara Cooper, Danielle Cuite, Dana Desposito, Rebecca Ehrlich, Gabrielle Freedman, Caylin Iannotta, Chelsea Katz, Justine LaRocca, Alyssa Lipshultz, Allison Shubert, Erin Smith, Gabriella Sullivan, Victoria Volpe, Allison Waldman, Lauren Widman.

Mayor Paschalis reported that there are two serious quality of life issues facing River Vale. He stated the first one is the Mercedes property over the state line in Rockland County. When the property was sold, River Vale contacted the Orangetown Planning Board and Supervisor and let them be aware that River Vale wants to be appraised of any future development on that land. He stated that plans are under way to subdivide that property into 3 lots. One lot would be used for an office building structure and one of the other ones for a Senior Housing project.

Mayor Paschalis reported that the other issue is that the FAA is redesigning the air space for plane traffic and there will be a risk of a noise increase level of 10 decibels. He stated that he has contacted Congressman Garret and has asked for a meeting. He stated that all of the Pascack Valley should speak with one voice against this change and learn everything there is to know about the issue so fight it in an adequate manner.

## 2. Township Council Comments

Councilman Blundo stated that he has been corresponding with the Township Attorney with regard to the sports issue brought up at the last meeting. He stated that the committee will have their first meeting on Wednesday evening with Councilman de Stefan and the Athletics Director, Mike Freedman. He stated that their first order of business will be to interpret the correspondence with the attorney. He stated that he understands that there have been some negotiations between the two leagues, but there is no resolution at this point.

Councilman de Stefan had no report this evening.

Councilman Matos had no report this evening

Council President Menville had no report this evening.

## **HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**

Motion by Councilman Matos; seconded by Councilman de Stefan to open the meeting to the public.

Council President Menville 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 members 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.”*

The following people spoke with regard to the conflict with regard to the two basketball leagues:

Rich Dehn - 615 Jones Street  
Kevin Hurley- 658 Caruso Lane  
Glen Scalia – 120 Holiday Lane  
David Friedkin – 601 Haring Court  
Joe Donato – 609 Colonial Road  
Debbie Davenport – 620 the Plaza

Council President Menville and Councilman Blundo explained that the committee has to meet to discuss what can and cannot be done and what is legal as opposed to what the council would like to do. They stated that the committee’s intention is to look at the insurance issue and the wear and tear on the fields. They stated that it is not their intent to discriminate against anyone and they need to find out what their options are.

John Napier – 660 Rivervale Road – Read the following statement into the record:

*“I represent Bergen Hills Country Club, who we believe to be the single largest taxpayer in the Township of River Vale. We have tried unsuccessfully, as reflected in the timeline below, on two occasions to have information regarding the potential loss of \$460,000 in rateable to the Township contingent upon the Township/County’s pursuit of Bergen Hills Country Club. We believe that such a loss would have to be absorbed by the taxpayers and should be reflected in the “Hearing of the Public” portion of the printed meeting minutes for all to see.”*

There being no further questions or comments at this time; motion by Councilman Matos; seconded by Councilman de Stefan to Close the hearing of the public at 8:44 PM

## **RESOLUTIONS**

Motion by Councilman Blundo; seconded by Councilman Matos to approve resolution #2006-103, as follows:

### **RESOLUTION #2006-103**

#### **RESOLUTION APPROVING MINUTES – April 10, 2006**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the minutes of the April 10, 2006 Meeting of the Township Council are hereby approved.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Blundo, Councilman Matos, Councilman de Stefan and Council President Menville voted yes. Councilman Jasionowski was absent.

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Motion by Councilman Matos; seconded by Councilman de Stefan to approve Resolution #2006-104 and #2006-105, as follows:

### **RESOLUTION #2006-104**

#### **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR THE RECEIPT OF BIDS FOR 2 2007 CHASSIS WITH DUMP BODIES**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Clerk is hereby authorized for the above mentioned.

### **RESOLUTION #2006-105**

#### **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR THE RECEIPT OF BIDS FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE TOWN HALL ROOF AND SIDING**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Clerk is hereby authorized for the above mentioned.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Matos, Councilman de Stefan, Councilman Blundo and Council President Menville voted yes.

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After various asked and answered questions; Motion by Councilman Matos; seconded by Councilman Blundo to approve Resolution #2006-107, as follows:

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Matos, Councilman Blundo, Councilman de Stefan and Council President Menville voted yes. Councilman Jasionowski was absent.

**ORDINANCES – 1<sup>st</sup> reading**

**#150-2006 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RIVER VALE, COUNTY OF BERGEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, SPECIFICALLY CHAPTER 33 OF THE NEW CODE ENTITLED “POLICE DEPARTMENT”**

Council President Menville stated that this ordinance is not going to be entertained this evening.

Motion by Councilman de Stefan; seconded by Councilman Matos to Introduce Ordinance #154-2006, as follows:

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 81 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RIVER VALE ENTITLED “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC” SPECIFICALLY PROHIBITED PARKING AND CROSSWALKS**

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale, as follows:

Section 1. That 81-1, Prohibited Parking shall be amended to reflect the following:

NAME OF STREET	SIDE	LOCATION
Echo Glen Avenue Avenue	South	From the intersection with Rockland  to a point 150 feet east of Rockland Avenue
Echo Glen Avenue to	North	From the intersection with Rivervale Road  A point 900 feet west of the Rivervale Road Intersection

Section 2. That 81-40, Pedestrian Crosswalks established be amended to reflect the following:

NAME OF STREET	LOCATION
Westwood Avenue	480 feet west of Rivervale Road

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect upon publication, according to the law.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman de Stefan, Councilman Matos, Councilman Blundo and Council President Menville voted yes. Councilman Jasionowski was absent.

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Mr. Carbone stated that this ordinance has been withdrawn at this time.

**#155-2006 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RIVER VALE, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 0-11-04 OF THE TOWNSHIP FINALLY ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 23, 2004, PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF RIVER VALE AND APPROPRIATING \$460,000 THEREFOR, AND PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF \$437,000 IN GENERAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RIVER VALE TO FINANCE THE SAME**

**ORDINANCES – 2<sup>nd</sup> reading**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE XXVI OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RIVER VALE ENTITLED “SHADE TREES”**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that Article XXVI of the Code of the Township of River Vale be amended as follows:

Section 1. That Article XXVI, be amended to read “Shade Tree Advisory Committee”.

Section 2. That Section 142-134, Establishment; membership; terms; appointments; be amended as follows:

- a. “There is hereby established the Advisory Shade Tree Committee of the Township of River Vale. The Committee shall consist of seven members, three of whom shall be the Property Maintenance Officer and the Superintendent of Public Works and the Land Use Administrator.
- b. That the rest of Section 142-134 remains the same.

Section 3. That in Section 142-139, Advisory Shade Tree Committee is hereby deleted and replaced with the Property Maintenance Officer.

Section 4. That Section 142-142. Violations and penalties be amended, as follows:

“Any person who shall violate any provision of this Part 5 shall be liable to a fine for the violation of each rule or regulation in the amount not exceeding \$300 for each violation and/or a replacement of tree illegally removed. Summons for violation of this Part 5 are to be issued by the Property Maintenance Officer.

Section 5. That all other parts of this section of the code remain in full force and effect.

Section 6. That this ordinance shall go in effect upon publication and advertisement in accordance with the law.

Motion by Councilman de Stefan

Second by Councilman Matos

**Open Public Hearing –**

Motion by Councilman Matos; seconded by Councilman de Stefan to open the public hearing on Ordinance #148-2006.

**Close Public Hearing –**

There being no questions or comments from the public; motion by Councilman Blundo; seconded by Councilman Matos to close the public hearing on Ordinance #148-2006.

**Council Comments –**

There were no questions or comments from the council on this ordinance

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Councilman de Stefan, Councilman Matos, Councilman Blundo and Council President Menville voted yes. Councilman Jasionowski was absent.

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**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #105-2005 ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE SIGN ORDINANCE**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that Ordinance #105-2005 be amended as follows:

Section I. That Section 3. Window Signs (a) be amended to read as follows:

1. (a) Information on such signs shall be limited to advertisements for special promotions, temporary sales and other such similar nonpermanent sales promotions related to the relevant business. An exception shall be granted for restaurants, which may post one (1) menu not larger than two (2) square feet.
2. Section (b) be deleted in its entirety.
3. Section (c) be changed to (b)
4. Section (d) be changed to (c)
5. Section (e) be changed to (d) and that the maximum total area of such signs shall not exceed 25% and that 75% of the window area shall be open without merchandise displayed....

6. Section (f) be changed to (e) and the following wording added “no such sign shall be added, torn or improperly kept”.

Motion by Councilman Blundo.

Seconded by Councilman de Stefan

**Open Public Hearing –**

Motion by Councilman Matos; seconded by Councilman Blundo to open the public hearing on Ordinance #149-2006.

**Close Public Hearing –**

There being no questions or comments from the public; Motion by Councilman Matos; seconded by Councilman de Stefan to close the public hearing on Ordinance #149-2006.

**Council Comments –**

Councilman de Stefan stated that it did not appear that his changes are in the Ordinance. Council President Menville stated that Councilman de Stefan’s changes were discussed at the Planning Board meeting and they didn’t feel that the changes needed to be made. It was determined after a lengthy discussion that the Ordinance didn’t need to be changed.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Councilman Blundo, Councilman de Stefan, Councilman Matos and Council President Menville voted yes. Councilman Jasionowski was absent.

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Motion by Councilman Blundo; seconded by Councilman Matos to carry Ordinance #151-2006, 152-2006 and 153-2006 to the May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting so that Councilman Jasionowski can be present.

**#151-2006 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RIVER VALE, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND OTHER RELATED EXPENSES IN AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF RIVER VALE AND APPROPRIATING \$1,215,000 THEREFOR, AND PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,154,250 IN GENERAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RIVER VALE TO FINANCE SAME**

**#152-2006 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RIVER VALE, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING IN AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF RIVER VALE AND APPROPRIATING \$885,000 THEREFOR, AND PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF \$840,750 IN BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RIVER VALE TO FINANCE THE SAME**

**#153-2006 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RIVER VALE, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A COMMUNITY CENTER IN AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF RIVER VALE AND APPROPRIATING \$400,000 THEREFORE, AND PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF \$380,000 IN BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RIVER VALE TO FINANCE SAME**

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Blundo, Councilman Matos, Councilman de Stefan and Council President Menville voted yes. Councilman Jasionowski was absent.

**HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**

Motion by Councilman de Stefan; seconded by Councilman Matos to Open the hearing of the public.

Council President Menville 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 members 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.”*

The Council again entertained questions from the public with regard to the new basketball league, practice time allotted to the various leagues, Hillsdale’s participation in some of the sports leagues, etc.

Those residents were:

Rich  
Rosemary Scalia  
Marc Goldstein  
Glen Kissler  
Stuart Able

Mayor Paschalis stated that there will be a resolution to this matter in the near future. Councilman Blundo stated that there are definite questions and the number of registrants will be a factor in any decision. Councilman de Stefan stated that discussions will take place with the appropriate officials. Mr. Carbone stated that the Athletics Director stated at the last meeting that he is coming up with criteria for the use of all fields and he continues to do so. Everyone agreed that practice time is very important and all of these issues will be addressed at their committee meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the council; motion by Councilman Blundo; seconded by Councilman Matos to adjourn the meeting at 9:33 PM.

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Robert A. Menville, Council President

ATTEST:

Wanda A. Worner  
Township Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_