

MINUTES
Council Meeting
Monday, August 11, 2008

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Council President Jasionowski 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 07675.

SALUTE TO FLAG

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

SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT

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

Also present: Mayor Joseph Blundo, Holly Schepisi, Township Attorney, Dennis Harrington, Township Engineer, Gennaro Rotella, CFO, and Karen Padva, Acting Clerk.

TOWNSHIP COMMUNICATION

1. Mayor’s Comments

Mayor Blundo commended the River Vale Police Department and Joyce May for running a very successful *National Nights Out* event. He has received numerous compliments on the event. The Mayor also announced that the tax bills were mailed out today. He also stated how pleased he is with how well the Tax Department is running.

The Mayor concluded his report with brief updates on the Newsletter, the preservation of Open Space on Poplar Road and the recent Bond sale.

2. Council Comments

Councilman Matos complimented the RVPD on the success of the *National Nights Out* event.

Councilman Bromberg offered a brief update on the proposed FAA design changes. He stated that the FAA is standing by their original position and recommendations.

Councilwoman Sieg reported on a resident’s compliments and appreciation of both the River Vale Police and Fire Departments with regard to their response to a fire at his home. Councilwoman Sieg added her appreciation to the DPW staff on how well they cleaned up her street after a recent storm.

Council President Jasionowski echoed the Mayor’s compliments of the *National Nights Out* event.

Mayor Blundo added that Lightning Rod Detectors are being installed at the Upper Grove and Mark Lane Fields. The Mayor stated that this safety measure is for a good cause and dedicated to Lee Weisbrod; a resident killed in a lightning strike in Montvale.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

Dennis Harrington reported that he is ready to assist the Township to research other options for field improvements at Mark Lane in light of the recent news regarding turf fields. He is also closing out on both the DPW and Lower Grove Lighting projects.

The Road Program also concluded last week. Mr. Harrington is carefully looking at any complaints and that no payment has been released to the Contractor.

The Engineer concluded with updates on two (2) drainage projects; both of which were dry after a recent storm. The Interglen project is about 90% complete. Mr. Harrington concluded that the next project going out to bid will be the resurfacing of the DPW/South Fire House parking lot.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

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

Council President Jasionowski 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.”

Joe Massin – 68 Holiday Court – remarked about how much he enjoyed the National Nights Out event. Mr. Massin also commented that the Port Authority is not in agreement or favor of the new FAA flight design.

Howard Lawrence – 607 Montview Place – thanked the Council for repairing his road however; he is now very concerned about a tree on his property that has been compromised.

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

RESOLUTIONS

Motion by Councilman Matos; seconded by Councilwoman Sieg to approve Resolutions #2008-178, as follows:

Resolution #2008-178

RESOLUTION APPROVING MINUTES–June 23, 2008

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the minutes of the June 23, 2008 Regular Meeting of the Township Council are hereby approved.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Motion by Councilman Bromberg; seconded by Councilwoman Sieg to approve Resolutions #2008-179, as follows:

Resolution #2008-179

RESOLUTION APPROVING MINUTES–July 14, 2008

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the minutes of the July 14, 2008 Regular Meeting of the Township Council are hereby approved.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

*****RESOLUTION #2008-180 TABLED BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT JASIONOWSKI*****

Resolution #2008-180

RESOLUTION APPROVING MINUTES–July 28, 2008

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the minutes of the July 28, 2008 Regular Meeting of the Township Council are hereby approved.

Motion by Councilman Matos; seconded by Councilman Bromberg to approve Resolutions #2008-181 through #2008-189 on Consent Agenda, as follows:

Resolution #2008-181

AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN A CONTRACT FOR A PART-TIME COALITION CONSULTANT FOR THE HILLS VALLEY COALITION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the Mayor is hereby authorized to sign the above mentioned contract.

Resolution #2008-182

REFUND OF ESCROW

WHEREAS, the following individual has posted an Escrow Deposit for inspections for a Zoning Application; and

WHEREAS, the Zoning Board has determined that said project is completed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, buy the Township Council of the Township of River Vale, that the Escrow Balance is refunded, and the Chief Financial Officer be directed to issue a Township check to the following Applicant:

Chris Lelii	617 Roberge Drive (Block 2208 Lot 10)	\$ 326.50
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Resolution #2008-183

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP’S PARTICIPATION IN THE SHARE GRANT AGREEMENT FOR DPW STUDY

WHEREAS, the Borough of Westwood received notice from the SHARE Program of their eligibility to receive a SHARE Grant in the amount of \$21,450.00; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the award is to hire a consultant to study and recommend the sharing of DPW equipment, services, scheduling and evolving towards environmentally friendly practices that would be beneficial to the residents and municipalities of the Pascack Valley; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council that the Township of River Vale acknowledges that the Borough of Westwood is authorized to act on behalf of Township of River Vale and execute the SHARE Grant Agreement with the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

Resolution #2008-184

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NOT TO EXCEED LIMITATIONS FOR T & M ASSOCIATES – RECONSTRUCTION OF PARKING AREA FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, SOUTH FIRE HOUSE AND DPW FACILITY

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that limitations in an amount not to exceed \$ 14,000.00 be authorized for services to the Engineering Firm of T & M Associates in connection with the Reconstruction of the parking areas for the Police Department, south Fire House and the DPW Facility.

Resolution #2008-185

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NOT TO EXCEED LIMITATIONS FOR T & M ASSOCIATES – SLOPE FAILURE AT THE MUNICIPAL COMPLEX

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that limitations in an amount not to exceed \$23,500.00 be authorized for services to the Engineering Firm of T & M Associates in connection with the stabilization of the Slope failure at the Municipal Complex.

Resolution #2008-186

AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN OPEN SPACE TRUST GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF BERGEN FOR THE ACQUISITION OF TRACT I-6A

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the above mentioned grant agreement.

Resolution #2008-187

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING ENDORSEMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

WHEREAS, a Bergen County Development grant of \$ 40,000 has been proposed by the Township of River Vale for Barrier Free Improvements at the Municipal Complex in the Township of River Vale, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the State Interlocal Services Act, Community Development funds may not be spent in a municipality without authorization by the Governing Body, and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid project is in the best interest of the people of the Township of River Vale, and

WHEREAS, this resolution does not obligate the financial resources of the municipality and is intended solely to expedite expenditure of the of the aforesaid CD funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing body of the Township of River Vale hereby confirms endorsement of the aforesaid project, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Director of the Bergen County Community Development Program so that implementation of the

Resolution #2008-188

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NOT TO EXCEED LIMITATIONS FOR CHRISTOPHER P. STATILE – 2007 NJDOT TRUST FUND GRANT RIVERVALE ROAD SIDEWAK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that limitations in an amount not to exceed \$4,500.00 be authorized for services to the Engineering Firm of Christopher P. Statile in connection with the 2007 NJDOT Trust Fund Grant Rivervale Road Sidewalk Improvement Project.

Resolution #2008-189

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH COUNTY OF BERGEN FOR SENIOR CITIZEN ACTIVITIES

BE IT RESOLVED, that that Mayor and Council of the Township of River Vale wishes enter into a grant agreement with the County of Bergen for the purposes of using \$3,000 in 2008-2009 Community Development Block Grant funds for Senior Citizen Activities in the Township of River Vale; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council hereby authorizes the Mayor Joseph Blundo to be signatory for the aforesaid grant agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council hereby authorizes Gennaro Rotella, Chief Financial Officer to sign all County vouchers submitted in connection with the aforesaid project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council recognizes that the Township of River Vale is liable for any funds not spent in accordance with the Grant Agreement; and that liability for any funds not spent in accordance with HUD requirements.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

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

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

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilman Matos; seconded by Councilman Bromberg to adjourn meeting at 8:25 pm

Glen Jasionowski
Council President

ATTEST:
Karen Padva
Acting Township Clerk