

MINUTES
Regular Virtual Council Meeting
Monday, January 25, 2021
7:30pm

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Council President Bromberg called the Virtual meeting to order at 7:30pm.

SALUTE TO FLAG

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

SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT

Council 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 Ben-Yishay, Councilman Donovan, Councilwoman Sieg and Council President Bromberg were present. Councilman Criscuolo was absent.

Also present: Mayor Glen Jasionowski, Township Attorney Silvana Raso, Business Administrator/CFO Gennaro Rotella, Township Engineer Chris Statile and Township Clerk Karen Campanelli.

Councilman Criscuolo joined the meeting at 7:32pm.

Council Comments

There were no Council comments this evening.

Business Administrator's Report

Mr. Rotella reported that he and the Mayor had a conversation about in Town electric charging stations. The Mayor is very much in favor of this idea. Mr. Rotella is looking at different avenues to install electric charging stations in Town. Mr. Rotella also feels this is a great idea and more and more you are seeing electric cars. Mr. Rotella added that as he gets more information he will keep the Council updated.

Councilman Criscuolo also feels this is a great idea and questioned if you would have to pay for the charge. Mr. Rotella responded that there a couple of ways it could work. He explained that the Town can pay for the charging stations; additionally some of the charging stations have electronic billboards for advertising which means the charging is free to the individual. Therefore, the units are sustainable by themselves. Mr. Rotella is researching how much the charging stations will cost and that they need to be in an area where they have electricity. Some places they are considering are Mark Lane and the parking lot by the Tennis Courts.

Engineer's Report

Mr. Statile reported that they have surveyed Central Avenue and will be sending their plan to the State for approval. He continues to work with Rich Campanelli on the Road Program. Mr. Statile has also been working with the Architect on the Site Design for the new Police Department.

He next reported that the Bunker project at the Golf Course is near completion and the contractor will be supplying the sand this week. And the Fairways development is progressing quite quickly; water and gas lines are going in and the curbing has been completed.

1st Hearing of the Public

Motion by Councilman Ben-Yishay; second by Councilman Criscuolo to open the meeting to the public.

There being no questions or comments from the public. Motion by Councilman Criscuolo; second by Councilman Ben-Yishay to close the meeting to the public.

RESOLUTIONS

Council President Bromberg pulled Resolution #2021-63 from the agenda.

Motion by Councilman Ben-Yishay; second by Councilwoman Sieg to approve Resolution #2021-62 as follows:

Resolution #2021-62

RESOLUTION APPROVING MINUTES JANUARY 11, 2021 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the minutes of the January 11, 2021 Regular meeting of the Township Council are hereby approved.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Ben-Yishay, Councilman Criscuolo, Councilwoman Sieg and Council President Bromberg voted yes. Councilman Donovan abstained.

Motion by Councilman Ben-Yishay; second by Councilman Donovan to approve Resolutions #2021-61 through Resolution #2021-71 with the exception of Resolutions #2021-62 and #2021-63 as a Consent Agenda as follows:

Resolution #2021-61

RESOLUTION APPROVING MINUTES JANUARY 4, 2021 REORGANIZATION MEETING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the minutes of the January 4, 2021 Reorganization meeting of the Township Council are hereby approved.

Resolution #2021-64

**RESOLUTION APPROVING REFUND
BUILDING PERMIT FEE
(565 CENTRAL AVENUE)**

WHEREAS, the following contractor is requesting a refund of the permit fee for the removal of an oil tank at 565 Central Avenue which was inadvertently paid twice; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds in the Current Account.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that said refund is approved and the Treasurer is hereby authorized to issue a municipal check payable as follows:

Payable to:

“Russell W. Anderson, Inc.”

Mail to:

Russell W. Anderson, Inc.
P.O. Box 757
Ramsey, New Jersey 07446

Refund Amount: \$ 125.00

Resolution #2021-65

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL
NOT-TO-EXCEED LIMITATION FOR SETTEMBRINO ARCHITECTS
NEW PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX**

WHEREAS, on November 18, 2018 Settembrino Architects submitted a proposal for the design of a New Public Safety Complex; and

WHEREAS, on January 12, 2021 Settembrino Architects submitted a revised proposal detailing the changes to the schematic design of the building resulting in an increase in square footage; and

WHEREAS, the proposed additional service fees for the increased Scope of Work are as follows:

Original Proposal:	\$ 562,500.00
Increase:	+ \$ 383,740.00
	\$ 946,240.00

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds in the Capital Account.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that additional not-to-exceed limitations are hereby approved and established in the amount of \$ 383,740.00 for the architectural services of Settembrino Architects.

Resolution #2021-66

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADJUSTMENT TO THE
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) FOR LOSAP QUALIFIERS**

WHEREAS, the Township of River Vale adopted by ordinance a program to reward municipal volunteers, known as Length of Service Award Programs (LOSAP); and,

WHEREAS, the LOSAP Plan adopted by the Township provides that the Chief Financial Officer certify the availability of funds and recommend that the Township Council by resolution grant an increase based on inflation and the consumer price index if so notified by the State of New Jersey; and,

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs has advised through the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in Local Finance Notice 2021-01 that an adjustment to the maximum LOSAP contribution due to changes in the CPI can be made at this time; and,

WHEREAS, the Township of River Vale has adjusted the CPI index since 2008; and,

WHEREAS, that Local Finance Notice sets the increase for each calendar year.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Township Council has recommended granting the increase in the contribution made by the Township of River Vale and Chief Financial Officer certified the availability of funds for such an increase in the amount of contribution of the LOSAP for each Township Volunteer Fireman and member of the Volunteer Ambulance Corps.
2. That the payment of the cumulative CPI increase to 2010 is hereby granted pursuant to law and the authority conferred herein.

3. That the annual contribution be increased from \$1,506.00 to \$1,551.00.

Resolution #2021-67

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE BERGEN COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

WHEREAS, the Township of River Vale, New Jersey, has experienced natural hazards that result in public safety hazards and damage to private and public property;

WHEREAS, the hazard mitigation planning process set forth by the State of New Jersey and the Federal Emergency Management Agency offers the opportunity to consider natural hazards and risks, and to identify mitigation actions to reduce future risk through the adoption of a Bergen County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (“Hazard Mitigation Plan”); and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management is providing federal mitigation funds to support development of the Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, a draft Hazard Mitigation Plan has been developed by the Mitigation Planning Committee; and

WHEREAS, the draft Hazard Mitigation Plan includes a prioritized list of mitigation actions including activities that, over time, will help minimize and reduce safety threats and damage to private and public property; and

WHEREAS, the draft Hazard Mitigation Plan was provided to each participating jurisdiction and was posted on the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management’s website so as to introduce the planning concept and to solicit questions and comments; and to present the Hazard Mitigation Plan and request comments, as required by law; and

WHEREAS, the draft Hazard Mitigation Plan was submitted by the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management to the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency on August 7, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency have approved the draft Hazard Mitigation Plan as submitted; and

WHEREAS, formal adoption and maintenance of the Hazard Mitigation Plan by the governing body is a condition of receipt of federal disaster aid; and

WHEREAS, the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management has recommended to the County Executive and Board of Chosen Freeholders that the Hazard Mitigation Plan, as submitted to the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency on August 7, 2020, be adopted as the official Hazard Mitigation Plan of the County of Bergen.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Township of River Vale, Bergen County, New Jersey that:

1. The Bergen County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, as submitted to the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency on August 7, 2020 by the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management is hereby adopted as an official plan of the County of Bergen; minor revisions recommended by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and/or the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management may be incorporated without further action.
2. A hard copy of the Hazard Mitigation Plan shall be kept on file at the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management, and a digital copy shall be posted on the web site of the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management.
3. Any action proposed by the Hazard Mitigation Plan shall be subject to and contingent upon budget approval, if required, which shall be at the discretion of the Township of River Vale, and this resolution shall not be interpreted so as to mandate any such appropriations.
4. The Township of River Vale Emergency Management Coordinator shall coordinate with their local offices and officials; and periodically report on the activities, accomplishments, and progress, and shall prepare an annual progress report to be submitted to the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management. The Bergen County Office of Emergency Management shall prepare an annual progress report on the goals and mitigation actions set forth in the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Copies of those

reports will be kept on file at the office of the Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management. Municipal status reports may be submitted at any time to the County Coordinator to amend mitigation actions identified in the Hazard Mitigation Plan. At a minimum, municipal status reports shall be submitted to the County Coordinator on an annual basis. The County Coordinator will identify one meeting per year that will address hazard mitigation updates, as required by the State of New Jersey’s Hazard Mitigation Plan and its Standard Operating Procedure.

Resolution #2021-68

**RESOLUTION CONFIRMING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES APPOINTMENT
APPEAL & ASSESSMENT SERVICES**

WHEREAS, on January 14, 2021 the Township received one proposal for the Professional Services Contract Position providing the Township with Appeal and Assessment Services through a “Fair and Open Process” as defined by N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20 for awarding 2021 contracts; and

WHEREAS, the Township desires to award a Professional Services Contract for the provision of Appeal and Assessment Services; and

WHEREAS, the one proposal received from the firm Associated Appraisal Group, 6 Commerce Drive, Cranford, New Jersey 07016 has been reviewed and determined to be in the best interest of the Township of River Vale to award a contract to Associated Appraisal Group.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that firm Associated Appraisal Group is hereby appointed to provide Appeal and Assessments Services for a one (1) year term expiring December 31, 2021.

Resolution #2021-69

RESOLUTION
(TRANSFERS)

WHEREAS, there exists a need to make transfers in the 2020 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 2020 Budget Appropriations Reserves.

Inside CAP:

From:

General Admin SW	\$ 25,000.00
Police SW	\$ 80,000.00
Law OE	\$ 10,000.00
<u>DPW Streets & Roads SW</u>	<u>\$ 15,000.00</u>
Total	\$130,000.00

Inside CAP:

To:

General Administration OE	\$ 25,000.00
Fire Department OE	\$ 10,000.00
Garage OE	\$ 15,000.00
<u>Accumulated Absences</u>	<u>\$ 80,000.00</u>
Total	\$130,000.00

Resolution #2021-70

RESOLUTION
REFUND TAX OVERPAYMENT

WHEREAS, tax overpayments were received for the 4th quarter of 2020 and the property owners have requested a refund of said overpayments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale, that the Treasurer is hereby authorized to issue municipal checks payable as follows:

Block 2205, Lot 21
176 Bergen Place
Refund Amount: \$4,381.71

Block 1703, Lot 3
511 Herrmann Avenue
Refund Amount: \$3,027.84

Block 1901, Lot32
794 Mattner Court
Refund Amount: \$4,605.58

Payable to:
Allison DeSantis
176 Bergen Place
River vale, NJ 07675

Payable to:
Corelogic
Attn: Refund Department
95 Methodist Hill Road, Ste. 100
Rochester, NY 14623

Payable to:
Corelogic
Attn: Refund Department
95 Methodist Hill Road, Ste. 100
Rochester, NY 14623

Resolution #2021-71

PAYMENT OF BILLS

RESOLUTION FOR PAYMENT OF BILLS

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the Business Administrator is hereby authorized to pay the following claims:

CURRENT ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	34,297.18
RESERVE CURRENT ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	174,520.05
GOLF COURSE UTILITY OPERATING ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	63,964.38
RESERVE GOLF COURSE UTILITY OPERATING ACCT claims in the amount of:	\$	139,210.89
SNOW REMOVAL TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	-
ANIMAL TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	902.40
GRANT ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	-
RECREATION TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	364.00
PRIVATE DUTY TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	92,417.08
UNEMPLOYMENT TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	4,953.76
HOUSING TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	-
JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	38.01
GOLF COURSE UTILITY CAPITAL ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	-
OPEN SPACE TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	48,313.00
CAPITAL ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	40,000.00
PLANNING BOARD TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		
SPECIAL TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	24,481.25
ZONING BOARD TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	787.50
TOTAL CLAIMS TO BE PAID	\$	624,249.50

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that the following claims have been paid by the Business Administrator prior to the Bill List Resolution in the following amounts:

CURRENT ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	7,746,553.17
RESERVE CURRENT ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	31,784.75
GOLF COURSE UTILITY OPERATING ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	267,291.86
RESERVE GOLF COURSE UTILITY OPERATING ACCT claims in the amount of:		
P.A.T.F. TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	64.49
ANIMAL TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		
GRANT ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	20,000.00
RECREATION TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	255.52
OPEN SPACE TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		
PRIVATE DUTY TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	79,081.20
PAYROLL AGENCY TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	13,093.95
SNOW REMOVAL TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	674.85
JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	38.01
UNEMPLOYMENT ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	332.81
SPECIAL TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		
CAPITAL ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:	\$	37,690.00

BUILDERS ESCROW ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		
PLANNING BOARD TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		
ZONING BOARD TRUST ACCOUNT claims in the amount of:		
TOTAL CLAIMS PAID	\$	8,196,860.61
 TOTAL BILL LIST RESOLUTION	 \$	 8,821,110.11

**MANUAL DISBURSEMENTS
BILL LIST FOR Jan 25, 2021**

12/15/2020	Transfer Payroll	\$	335,959.04
12/30/2020	Transfer Payroll	\$	343,054.65
1/15/2021	Transfer Payroll	\$	293,746.46
 TOTAL STATUTORY ACCOUNT DISTRIBUTIONS		 \$	 972,760.15

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Ben-Yishay, Councilman Donovan, Councilman Criscuolo, Councilwoman Sieg and Council President Bromberg voted yes.

Ordinances for 1st Reading

Ordinance #373-2021

Motion to Introduce: Councilwoman Sieg

Seconded: Councilman Criscuolo

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RIVER VALE, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 45 OF THE CODE ENTITLED "ALARM SYSTEMS" SECTION 8 "FEES"

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of River Vale that Chapter 45 section 8 is amended as follows:

§ 45-8. Fees.

B. There shall be a required annual renewal of the alarm user permit, at a fee of ~~\$10~~ **\$15** per annum; said renewal procedure to be administered by the Chief of Police.

This Ordinance shall take effect following adoption and approval in a time and manner prescribed by law.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Ben-Yishay, Councilman Donovan, Councilman Criscuolo, Councilwoman Sieg and Council President Bromberg voted yes.

There were no ordinances for 2nd Reading

2nd Hearing of the Public

Motion by Councilman Ben-Yishay; second by Councilwoman Sieg to open the meeting to the public.

There being no questions or comments from the public. Motion by Councilman Criscuolo; second by Councilman Ben-Yishay to close the meeting to the public.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilman Donovan; second by Councilwoman Sieg to adjourn the meeting at 7:45pm.

ATTEST:

Karen Campanelli, Township Clerk

Council President Mark Bromberg

