

M I N U T E S  
Meeting of the Mayor and Council  
Monday, September 20, 2010  
8:00 P.M.

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER -

Mayor Watkins called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Borough Hall.

SILENT PRAYER - FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Watkins called for a moment of silent prayer and asked Councilman Smith to lead the salute to the flag.

STATEMENT -

Mayor Watkins read the statement under the Sunshine Law and asked the Clerk to put it into the minutes. "Adequate Notice of this meeting has been made by sending notice on December 18, 2009 to THE RECORD and THE RIDGEWOOD NEWSPAPER, by positioning on the bulletin board in the lobby of the Borough Hall, and filing a Notice of the same with the Municipal Clerk".

ROLL CALL - Councilwoman Walker, Councilwoman Rush, Councilman Porco, Councilman Smith, Councilman Cannon, Councilman Cordts and Mayor Watkins were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - By Consent

Motion by Councilwoman Walker, seconded by Councilman Smith to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Council work session and regular meeting of September 7, 2010.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Walker, Councilwoman Rush, Councilman Porco, Councilman Smith, Councilman Cannon and Councilman Cordts voted yes.

PROCLAMATION & AWARDS - None

APPOINTMENTS & PERSONNEL CHANGES

Motion by Councilwoman Rush, seconded by Councilman Smith to approve the resignation of Jackie Curran, 490 the Fenway, from the River Edge Volunteer Fire Department, effective August 10, 2010.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Walker, Councilwoman Rush, Councilman Porco, Councilman Smith, Councilman Cannon and Councilman Cordts voted yes.

Motion by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Cordts to approve the retirement of Robert O'Connor, Equipment Operator II, Department of Public Works, effective September 1, 2010.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Walker, Councilwoman Rush, Councilman Porco, Councilman Smith, Councilman Cannon and Councilman Cordts voted yes.

CORRESPONDENCE -

Letter - Jackie Curran - 9/8/10  
Re: Resignation from Fire Department  
Letter - Board of Chosen Freeholders - 9/8/10  
Re: Adopted Ordinances

MONTHLY REPORTS -

Building Department - August 2010

PUBLIC HEARING - COUNTY OPEN SPACE - BOGERT ROAD POCKET PARK

Motion by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Cannon to open hearing of the public.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Walker, Councilwoman Rush, Councilman Porco, Councilman Smith, Councilman Cannon and Councilman Cordts voted yes.

Mayor Watkins- this portion of the meeting is now open to the public on the Bogert Road Pocket Park application for the County Open Space. If there is anyone interested in speaking on this please raise your hand, state your name and address and ask your question or make your statement.

Joseph Dunsay-151 Concord Drive-stated, I know I put out this suggestion a few meetings ago about maybe selling the development rights so that piece of land has air rights that owners of other properties could use.

Bill Lindsley, Esq.-replied, I'm not aware of any such thing existing Joseph as development rights. Each lot stands by its own in accordance with the zoning. Just because there are two units on there doesn't mean you can put two units anywhere else if the zoning doesn't allow it.

Joseph Dunsay-just a couple of ideas regarding the pocket park. It's very possible to design it in phases where, phase one, you could make it rows of corn that would have recreational and educational value, phase two could be building something when the town has money again. Also, last Sunday I went to my old neighborhood in Bushwick in New York City where there used to be an empty lot there near where my apartment was and now it's a mushroom farm. Outside there's a sign that says maintained by a certain non-profit group in cooperation with the city, so perhaps the town could hand over the responsibility for building and maintaining the park to a non-profit group similar to what they did in New York City.

Mayor Watkins-that's a nice idea, thank you Joseph. Is there anybody else in the audience who wishes to be heard. Yes, name and address.

Stacy Stein-2 Eastbrook Drive-I really am here representing Beautification and our support of the park on Bogert Road. This is a very rare project and something that rarely happens in our community where we are partnering with other groups to create a plan for this park. I can only speak for myself and I'd like to address some of the concerns that the Council had. I know Mayor that you were saying that maybe they won't have the funds to keep going and maintain the piece of property but I think that my group, in particular, has shown that we continue to maintain, develop and plant them and will continue to do that with this park and commit open space that they have right now and dedicate them to this park as well. As the Council knows we were given absolutely no operating budget and we are flying by the seat of our pants this year. We initiated fundraising activities created by our committee themselves, we had maintained, developed and created even more properties and even more initiatives this year than we've had before with our original operating budget. Six years ago when I started which was close to \$6,200.00 we now have zero. In the past creatively, we have been given open space for that purpose because we do work on parks and we use that accordingly and without an operating budget nobody in this town can tell me that it looks like that we absolutely no money. I have people that are committed to growing and maintaining things in their home that we take and put on Borough properties. So please when you say that you're afraid that we're going to go away, we're not going anywhere. We are developing junior people that come as associate gardeners so they can put it on their resume for college and want to learn and have other people in our community who are not on our committee but work with us side by side. We have taken the Cultural Center from a flat piece of dirt to a beautiful garden this year and we've done it all with cooperation from the Boys Scouts and Girl Scouts and continue to maintain gardens. We would just like to go on record that we are very proud and excited that we have the opportunity to help develop this plan and look forward to working on it in the future.

Mayor Watkins-thank you Stacy and I know that the entire community is very happy that you've done so much. Actually whenever I meet you I always comment on all the great things that you've been doing. The town does look very very nice and to do it without funds, it's even more remarkable. You have green thumbs and artistic flair, all of you. And lets just hope that your energy does not wane. Joseph Dunsay-I'm encouraged to hear about the commitment from the Beautification Committee. Back when I was a teenager I volunteered at a farm in Demarest to produce food for the homeless, so if this committee is ready to step in and build a park, I would be very happy to join the committee and do my share.

Mayor Watkins-anyone else who wishes to be heard, yes please.

Bonnie Stewart- 299 Jefferson Avenue-I'm the chairperson of the Green Team and I want to say one thing about the park that is huge for us to do exactly what you're saying. What they're doing in Brooklyn, what they're doing in New York is a big thing. The produce goes from a small farm to your table, could feed everyone in this room and more. The tomatoes could go to Sanducci's, they could buy our vegetables and it's a much bigger thing than just seeing a garden that's beautiful.

Mayor Watkins-thank you. Anybody else? Seeing that nobody else wishes to be heard, I'd like a motion to close this portion of the meeting to the public.

Motion by Councilwoman Walker, seconded by Councilman Smith to close hearing of the public.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Walker, Councilwoman Rush, Councilman Porco, Councilman Smith, Councilman Cannon and Councilman Cordts voted yes.

ORDINANCES - 1<sup>st</sup> Reading - NONE

ORDINANCES - 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading - NONE

RESOLUTIONS - By Consent

Motion by Councilman Cannon, seconded by Councilman Smith to approve resolution #10-341 through #10-343, #10-345 through #10-350 and #10-353.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Walker, Councilwoman Rush, Councilman Porco, Councilman Smith, Councilman Cannon and Councilman Cordts voted yes.

#10-341 Resolution of Certification of the Annual Audit

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-4 requires the Governing Body of every local unit to have made an annual audit of its books, accounts and financial transactions; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Report of Audit for the year 2009 has been filed by the Registered Municipal Accountant with the Municipal Clerk pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-6, and a copy has been received by each member of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 52-27BB-34 authorizes the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey to prescribe reports pertaining to the local fiscal affairs; and

WHEREAS, the Local Finance Board has promulgated N.J.A.C. 5:30-6-5, a regulation requiring that the governing body of each municipality shall, by resolution, certify to the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey that all members of the governing body has reviewed, as a minimum, the sections of the annual audit entitled "Comments and Recommendations", and

WHEREAS, the members of the governing body have personally reviewed, as a minimum, the Annual report of Audit, and specifically the sections of the Annual Audit entitled "Comments and Recommendations", as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the governing body attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, such resolution of certification shall be adopted by the Governing Body no later than forty-five days after the receipt of the annual audit, pursuant to N.J.A.C.5:30-6-5; and

WHEREAS, all members of the governing body have received and have familiarized themselves with, at least, the minimum requirements of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey, as stated aforesaid and have subscribed to the affidavit, as provided by the Local Finance Board; and

WHEREAS, failure to comply with the regulations of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey may subject the members of the local governing body to the penalty provisions of R.S. 52:27BB-52, to wit:

R.S. 52:27BB-52: A local officer or members of a local governing body who, after a date fixed for compliance, fails or refuses to obey an order of the director (Director of Local Government Services), under the provisions of this Article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, in addition shall forfeit his office.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, hereby states that it has complied with N.J.S.A. 5:30-6.5 and does hereby submit a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to said Board to show evidence of said compliance.

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#10-342 Authorize Refund of Parking Permit

WHEREAS, a yearly parking permit for the River Edge Road Train Lot was issued and then returned to the Borough of River Edge.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Accounts Supervisor is hereby authorized to issue a pro-rated refund in the amount of \$58.66 for the yearly permit to:

<u>Name/Address</u>	<u>Permit #</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Nicholas Doyle 181 Jefferson Avenue River Edge, NJ 07661	#052	\$58.66

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3. That the applicant is committed to providing a dollar for dollar cash match for the project; and
4. That the applicant agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations in its performance of the project; and
5. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

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#10-345 Authorize Mayor and Administrator to Sign Municipal Alliance 2010 Grant

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Administrator are hereby authorized to sign the Municipal Alliance to Prevent Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Grant.

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#10-346 Authorize Clerk to Go Out for Bid - Emergency Generator Public Safety Building

WHEREAS, the Borough of River Edge desires to go out for bid for a New Emergency Generator for the Public Safety Building.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Clerk be authorized to advertise in THE RECORD for the purpose for providing said service.

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#10-347 Authorize Mayor to Sign the Grant for the State and Local Cooperative Housing Inspection Program

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to sign the Grant for the State and Local Cooperative Housing Inspection Program for \$4,200.00.

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#10-348 Authorize Tax Collector to Refund Duplicate 3rd Quarter 2010 Tax Payments

WHEREAS, the tax office has received duplicate tax payments for the 3rd quarter 2010 taxes on the following properties; and

WHEREAS, a written request was received from the homeowners to refund the overpaid amounts directly to the homeowners.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Accounts Supervisor is hereby authorized to issue refund checks in the following amounts and the Tax Collector to adjust her records accordingly.

Block/Lot	Name & Address	Refund Amount
111/8	COLETTE FORDE 91 Kenwood Road River Edge, NJ 07661	\$2,225.72
1204/14	MICHAEL & PATRICIA FERNANDEZ 197 Zabriskie Place River Edge, NJ 07661	\$ 352.93

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#10-349 Resolution to Adjust 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Tax Bill 2010 for Senior Citizen & Disabled Deductions Disallowed

WHEREAS, the following homeowners were disallowed the \$250.00 senior

deduction because they sold their property or they exceeded the income limit for that year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to disallow the 2010 senior deductions and adjust the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter taxes for the pro-rated amounts.

<u>Block/Lot</u>	<u>Name &amp; Address</u>	<u>Adjusted Amount</u>
204/17	Patricolo, Frank 842 Bogert Road	\$250.00
401/5	Scott, Ruth 795 Bogert Road	\$250.00
910/25	Berman, Sondra 373 Oak Avenue	\$250.00
1107/25	Armstrong, Vincent 278 Van Saun Drive	\$250.00

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#10-350 Resolution to Grant and Credit 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2010 Taxes the \$250.00 Deduction Due to Approval of a Veteran and/or a Senior Deduction

WHEREAS, the following homeowners applied for a Veteran and/or a Senior Deduction for the year 2010 and were approved by the Tax Assessor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tax Collector will credit the \$250.00 deduction to their 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2010 tax payment.

<u>Block/Lot</u>	<u>Name &amp; Address</u>	<u>Credit Amount</u>
104/5	Chitnis, Sushella (Senior Citizen) 921 Willow Ave. River Edge, NJ	\$250.00
115/7	John Kane (Veteran) 295 Woodland Ave. River Edge, NJ	\$250.00
205/10	James Geraghty (Veteran) 793 Summit Ave. River Edge, NJ	\$250.00
305/49	Froonjian, Anahid (Senior Citizen) 243 Webb Ave. River Edge, NJ	\$250.00
812/7	Alessandrini, Amleto (Veteran) 163 Manchester Rd River Edge, NJ	\$250.00
1002/51	Lacorazza, Anthony (Senior Citizen) 180 Howland Ave. River Edge, NJ	\$250.00

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Councilman Smith-asked for clarification on this resolution.

Motion by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Cannon to approve resolution #10-351.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Walker, Councilwoman Rush, Councilman Porco, Councilman Smith, Councilman Cannon and Councilman Cordts voted yes.

#10-351 Resolution Authorizing the Borough of River Edge to Enter Into a Shared Services Agreement with the County of Bergen

WHEREAS, the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, et seq., N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq., allows any municipality or county to enter into a contract with any other municipality or county for the joint provision of any services within their joint jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the County has purchased one (1) mounted infrared restoration system for asphalt (the "Vehicle") for use by the Riverside Cooperative which includes the following municipalities: Alpine, Bergenfield, Closter, Cresskill, Demarest, Dumont, Englewood Cliffs, Fair Lawn, Harrington park, Haworth, Little Ferry, New Milford, Northvale, Norwood, Oradell, River Edge, Rockleigh and Tenafly; and

WHEREAS, the County recognizes the need, cost effectiveness and savings regarding the municipalities' utilization of the Vehicle; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement has been reviewed by the Mayor and Council at the September 20, 2010 work session meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of River Edge seeks to enter into a Shared Services Agreement with the County of Bergen to share in the use of the Vehicle and received the benefit of costs savings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of River Edge that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the Shared Services Agreement between the County of Bergen and the Borough of River Edge.

September 20, 2010

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Alan Negreann-explained that we made our authorization in March and the tax levy was struck by the County of Bergen in July so we ended up under funding the authorization. He is requesting that they cancel the \$4,000 out of the Open Space Fund to match the amount of the levy and the operating budget will have to absorb it through the transfer process in November.

Councilman Porco-asked for additional clarification.

Alan Negreann-explained that in March, groups came before the Council making requests for Open Space. They were approved in an amount that actually exceeded the actual amount for the Open Space levy as it was struck in July by \$4,000.00.

Councilman Porco-asked if the operating account has to fund Open Space.

Alan Negreann-stated that these are DPW park maintenance salaries.

Councilman Porco-asked if we are going to use open space money.

Alan Negreann-stated that we were going to use open space money for the Department of Public Works salaries. Right now the operating budget will have to absorb those salaries.

Councilman Porco-asked why we are doing this. Is it because we have no money in open space or because we can't use the money that's there for the salaries.

Alan Negreann-explained that it's because the tax levy did refund the authorizations that were put in place in March. We estimated the levy early in March.

Motion by Councilman Cannon, seconded by Councilman Smith to approve resolution #10-352.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Walker, Councilwoman Rush, Councilman Porco, Councilman Smith, Councilman Cannon and Councilman Cordts voted yes.

#10-352 Cancel Open Space Authorization

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of River Edge adopted resolution #06-234 on August 7, 2006; and

WHEREAS, a referendum was held on the question of creating a Municipal Open Space Trust Fund and was approved by the voters of the Borough of River Edge; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of River Edge authorized allocations of Open Space funding to the Department of Public Works via resolution #10-106 dated March 1, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the allocation for the Department of Public Works from resolution #10-106 was for \$133,396.00; and

WHEREAS, the apportionment of taxes from the Bergen County Tax Board was received in July of 2010 and the Municipal Open Space Levy is not what was anticipated; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined by the Chief Financial Officer that the authorizations of the Governing body will be under funded by \$4,193.10.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that \$4,193.10 from resolution #10-106 is hereby cancelled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer shall adjust his

records accordingly.

September 20, 2010

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#10-353 Authorize Issuance of Replacement Payroll Check

WHEREAS, the Borough of River Edge had on the books, payroll check #80903 in the amount of \$352.86 dated December 15, 2006; and

WHEREAS, the employee resigned as of December 16, 2006; and

WHEREAS, the check was outstanding in 2007 and cancelled by resolution #07-387 dated November 19, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the employee notified the Borough on September 14, 2010 that she found the original check and returned it to the Finance Department, which was then researched and was found to have no replacement check issued in its place.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Accounts Supervisor is hereby authorized to issue a replacement check to the following:

Gloria S. Lopez Giraldo           \$352.86  
16 Kiwanis Street  
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301

September 20, 2010

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Councilwoman Rush read resolution #10-354 into the record.

Motion by Councilwoman Rush, seconded by Councilman Smith to approve resolution #10-354.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Walker, Councilwoman Rush, Councilman Porco, Councilman Smith, Councilman Cannon and Councilman Cordts voted yes.

#10-354 Payment of Bills

WHEREAS, vouchers for the payment of goods and services rendered to the Borough of River Edge have been received; and

WHEREAS, each bill has been checked by the receiving department, approved by the Chief Financial Officer and Borough Clerk and reviewed by the three members of the Finance Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that bills as listed now be confirmed for payment from the appropriate funds as follows:

CURRENT ACCOUNT TOTAL	\$1,566,290.57
CAPITAL ACCOUNT	\$ 9,864.91
RECREATION ACCOUNT	\$ 5,275.00
TRUST OTHER - DEVELOPERS ACCOUNT	\$ 385.00
TRUST OTHER ACCOUNT	\$ 9,959.90
OPEN SPACE ACCOUNT	\$ 140,660.69

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that claims read and approved by the Governing Body at a Council meeting will be dated the day after the reading of those claims and will appear on the following bill list at the next public meeting of the Mayor and Council at which time claims would be paid.

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Councilwoman Walker-abstained from check #34413 for \$100.00.

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OPEN HEARING OF THE PUBLIC -

Motion by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Walker to open hearing of the public.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Walker, Councilwoman Rush, Councilman Porco, Councilman Smith, Councilman Cannon and Councilman Cordts voted yes.

Mayor Watkins-introduced Greg Ogden and Bonnie Stewart of the Green Team. Greg Ogden-stated that when the Green Team was formed one of the initiatives were to come up with ideas of how to help the people of River Edge. One of the ideas that they came up with deals with recycling. If you drive through River Edge on a cardboard recycling day, many residents have cardboard just laying out curbside and their idea was to come up with some type of can to organize it better. They understand that there is no money and grants are hard to come by, so they went to the garbage contractor and got a sample container which they will display on Green Day. They've pre-ordered 150 cans and the cost of the can would be between \$15 and \$20 which would be paid by the homeowner. Greg met with Lisa Hessman and John Lynch and they requested that the container be no larger than 32 gallons and this is a 20 gallon container. The Green Team felt that the smaller container would make it easier for our residents to bring into their house. They are looking for approval for the logo which would be hot stamped instead of putting stickers on the cans. The cans will be displayed at River Edge Day on October 10<sup>th</sup> and they will not pre-order until they're sure the interest is there.

Councilman Porco-asked if the residents would have to use this.

Greg Ogden-replied no, it would be strictly voluntary.

Councilman Porco-stated that he's not sure large cardboard boxes would fit in this can and he personally puts all of his cardboard in a large box.

Greg Ogden-stated that the can could be used for any type of recycling.

Alan Negreann-stated that this is the first time he is hearing of this concept and asked to meet with the Green Team representatives, Superintendent of Public Works and the Public Works liaison because he has something different in mind.

Councilwoman Walker-stated that another thing they talked about was that the DPW could issue stickers which would remind people what can go in there.

Councilman Cordts-suggested that they put a flip top on the can so that if it gets blown over during a wind storm, the recyclables don't come out all over the street.

Greg Ogden-explained that the lid that comes with it is flat.

Eamon Harbord-stated that she is starting a web-site which will combine local news for River Edge and Oradell which will include local school board news, committee and commission activities. Eamon asked the Mayor and Council for permission to take a picture of the logo in the Council Chambers for the website which will be up and running sometime in November.

Councilman Porco-asked if Eamon would be willing to put our link on his website.

Eamon Harbord-stated that he will hang around after the meeting if the Council has any other questions.

Theresa Power-15 Tenney Avenue-complained about the new parking regulations on Tenney Avenue.

Bill Lindsley-stated that the change came from the Police Department.

Theresa Power-spoke with Lieutenant Walker and he said that the change had a lot to do with accidents that had occurred on the corner of Tenney and Center Avenue. Mrs. Power stated that she and several neighbors have lived there for a while and know of no accidents that have occurred.

Bill Lindsley-explained that the ordinance was generated by Lieutenant Curran and was adopted two weeks ago.

Mayor Watkins-suggested that they ask the Police Department to revisit it.

Councilman Cannon-asked Mrs. Power exactly what her issue is. Is it that they are inconvenienced because they can't park their cars on the street.

Theresa Power-said yes, her family has to constantly jockey cars around. Her other concern is that motorists will pick up speed if there are no cars parked on the street and feels that it will be dangerous for children in the area.

Peggy White-741 Center Avenue-stated that before the parking regulation was changed, she was under the impression that commuters were parking there and not residents.

Joseph Dunsay-151 Concord Drive-did his own traffic survey on the corners of Howland and Kinderkamack which shows the need for a traffic light and widening Howland Avenue. He also did a survey on New Milford Avenue and Kinderkamack Road which has two lanes and thinks we should duplicate that on Howland Avenue.

Laurie Mason-176 Wayne Avenue-asked the Council to consider putting a stop sign at the corner of Elm and Wayne Avenue because she feels that it is extremely dangerous.

Mayor Watkins-stated that she would ask Lieutenant Curran to check it out.

CLOSE HEARING OF THE PUBLIC -

Motion by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Walker to close hearing of the public.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Walker, Councilwoman Rush, Councilman Porco, Councilman Smith, Councilman Cannon and Councilman Cordts voted yes.

COUNCIL COMMENTS -

Councilwoman Walker-stated that she is sorry to hear Jackie Curran has resigned from the Fire Department. Councilwoman Walker stated that she thinks that the Recreation Commission is responsible and receptive to the open space and feels that they were very conservative in what they plan to do and very aware that DPW's time is very limited. She is happy that they received the approval because there is a short period of time to get the application in. She mentioned that the River Edge School's website has been redone by the Laura Fleming, the Librarian and feels that it is a very useful tool for everyone. She congratulated Laura for doing a fabulous job which made a big difference for the schools. Councilwoman Walker agreed with Laurie Mason's request to put a stop sign up at Elm and Wayne Avenue.

Councilwoman Rush- had no comment.

Councilman Porco- had no comment.

Councilman Smith-stated that he did a ten year review of grants that were secured and many of them had to do with ADA compliance. He further stated that over the last ten years the Borough has received a little under \$2,000,000 in grants. He contributes that to being very aggressive in terms of trying to secure every grant we can so that every grant dollar we get in is one dollar less we have to spend. Councilman Smith attended the S.C.O.R.E. meeting and was happy to see that over 60 senior citizens were in attendance. Rabbi Borovitz asked him to thank the Police Department because during the Jewish holidays, the Police did an excellent job in terms of traffic and parking and were extremely helpful in making it easy for those attending temple. Councilman Smith explained some of the ways the Borough participates in shared services such as road paving, gasoline, natural gas, etc. He complimented the River Dell Schools for improving their ranking and feels that it's a reflection on the superintendent, staff and students. He thanked the Ambulance Service and Officer Naprstek for responding very quickly to an emergency his grandson had a few weeks ago. Councilman Smith stated that while the Mayor and Council sometimes publicly disagree, the priority for all of them is to make the best decisions for the community.

Councilman Cannon-encouraged everyone to sign up for Nixle through the Police Department which keeps residents updated on traffic and safety alerts.

Councilman Cannon stated that Chief Cariddi informed him about a large drug bust in the Korean community and River Edge Officer Daniel Lee was called in to assist as an interpreter. He thanked and commended him for a job well done.

Councilman Cordts-had no comment.

Mayor Watkins-stated that Mary Jane Singer who was the curator of the Blauvelt Museum passed away and asked everyone to keep the Singer Family in their prayers. The Mayor attended the naturalization ceremony which was held at Von Steuben House at New Bridge Landing. The Mayor stated that two River Edge residents made a flag which resembled the one that Betsy Ross had made and it was all hand stitched. The Mayor attended the Riverside Cooperative meeting with Alan on Wednesday and thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT - 8:50 P.M.

Motion by Councilwoman Rush, seconded by Councilman Cannon to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Walker, Councilwoman Rush, Councilman Porco, Councilman Smith, Councilman Cannon and Councilman Cordts voted yes.

Mayor Margaret Falahee Watkins

Attest:

Denise A. Dondiego, Borough Clerk  
Dated: