

M I N U T E S  
Sine Die Meeting of the Mayor and Council  
Tuesday, December 27, 2011  
Immediately Following Work Session

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER -

Mayor Watkins called the meeting to order at 7:57 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 Mignone 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 2, 2011 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 - Councilman Bartelloni, Councilman Porco, Councilman Mignone, Councilman Cordts and Mayor Watkins were present; Councilman Moscaritolo and Councilman Cannon were absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES -.By Consent

Motion by Councilman Cordts, seconded by Councilman Bartelloni to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Council work session and regular meeting of December 19, 2011.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Bartelloni, Councilman Porco, Councilman Mignone and Councilman Cordts voted yes; Councilman Moscaritolo and Councilman Cannon were absent.

Motion by Councilman Cordts, seconded by Councilman Bartelloni to approve minutes of the Mayor and Council special meetings of December 19, 2011.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Bartelloni, Councilman Porco, Councilman Mignone and Councilman Cordts voted yes; Councilman Moscaritolo and Councilman Cannon were absent.

PROCLAMATION & AWARDS -

Council President Cordts thanked the Mayor for her many years of service to the Borough and stated that he is pleased to have had the opportunity to work with her.

Council President Cordts presented Mayor Watkins with a crystal plaque that read as follows:

MARGARET FALAHEE WATKINS  
COUNCILWOMAN 1990 -1999  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT 1993  
MAYOR 2000-2011

GIVEN TO A LEADER WHOSE PROFESSIONALISM  
AND HARD WORK  
EARNED THE RESPECT OF HER FELLOW ELECTED  
OFFICIALS, THE ADMIRATION  
OF THE EMPLOYEES AND THE AFFECTION OF THE RESIDENTS

A LEGACY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS WITH YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS  
WILL SERVE BOROUGH RESIDENTS LONG INTO THE FUTURE

GIVEN IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION  
FOR HER DEDICATED SERVICE

COUNCIL

2011

Mayor Watkins thanked everyone for the beautiful crystal plaque and stated that it has been her honor to serve as the Mayor of River Edge. The Mayor also stated that it's been a pleasure working with the residents and the employees of the Borough. She continued by saying that she has enjoyed working with Alan, Denise and Judy and regardless of what people think she has given to the Borough, she has gotten it back one hundred fold. The Mayor considers the Borough her home away from home and will really miss working with everyone. Mayor Watkins thanked everyone for giving her the opportunity to serve the Borough.

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Freeholder John Felice presented Mayor Watkins with a Certificate of Commendation from the County of Bergen. He stated that in no way does it say enough about her tenure of 22 years of service to this great community.

Freeholder Felice read the certificate as follows:

The Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders Presents this Certificate of Commendation Honoring Margaret Falahee Watkins in Recognition of Your 22 Years of Service to the Borough of River Edge. We Thank You for Your Service to the Residents of River Edge and Wish You all the Best on your Future Endeavors.

December 27, 2011

Board of Chosen Freeholders

Freeholder Felice stated that during the four years that he served as Councilman under Mayor Watkins, she was an inspiration to him and to many of the residents of River Edge and Bergen County. He thanked her for her many years of leadership in River Edge and Bergen County.

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Joe Maugeri from the VFW Post 876 read a statement as follows:

It's truly a pleasure to have the honor and the privilege today to introduce Margaret Falahee Watkins.

For the past 12 years, the Borough of River Edge has been fortunate to have had her dedication and hard work at its disposal as she has served as our Mayor.

Peg has always been an individual the people of our community could always count on for leadership, guidance and fairness. But make no mistake, Peg's service and dedication have a history extending many years prior to her becoming our Mayor.....I can personally vouch for that as it's been my good fortune to see it first hand in countless activities and projects which we have worked on jointly.

It is with deep gratitude that I, on behalf of VFW Post 876 and my fellow citizens of River Edge, now offer a BIG THANK YOU! to Peg in recognition of all her accomplishments and sacrifices for our community.

Joe Maugeri presented Mayor Watkins with a plaque that read as follows:

The Officers & Members of  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Caldronney-Kleiber-Frost Post 876  
Hereby present this  
Commendation for Meritorious Service to  
Margaret Falahee Watkins

For her many years of loyal, dedicated service  
to the town of River Edge, including but not limited to,  
her tenure as Mayor.

It is with deep respect and profound appreciation that we offer  
our thanks to Peggy for all she has done on our behalf.

Presented this 27<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2011  
in the Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey

Joseph Maugeri, Commander

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John Driscoll, Chairman of the Board of Chosen Freeholders spoke on behalf of Kathleen Donovan, Bergen County Executive and himself to wish Mayor Watkins well in the future and thanked her for her many years of service. He stated that the Mayor's wealth of knowledge would be welcome at the County and told her that after many years of service he will always consider her the Mayor.

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Mayor Watkins presented Christopher Caruso with a Certificate of Recognition and Appreciation which read as follows:

*Christopher Caruso*

*has been awarded this certificate in recognition for Thirteen Years of Dedicated Service to the Planning Board as a Member and Chairperson. Your organization and professional manner served the interests of the town and residents of River Edge with integrity.*

*Our gratitude and thanks for your service.*

*Margaret Falahee Watkins, Mayor and Council*

Christopher Caruso thanked the Mayor, Sam Cereste and Bill Lindsley for their help over the years and stated that it has been his honor and privilege to serve on the Planning Board.

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APPOINTMENTS & PERSONNEL CHANGES

Motion by Councilman Cordts, seconded by Councilman Bartelloni to approve the resignation of Shannon Carroll, Esq. as the Municipal Public Defender, effective December 31, 2011.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Bartelloni, Councilman Porco, Councilman Mignone and Councilman Cordts voted yes; Councilman Moscaritolo and Councilman Cannon were absent.

CORRESPONDENCE -

Letter - Shannon Carroll, Esq. - 12/16/11  
Re: Resignation as Public Defender  
Letter - Mary Donohue - 12/20/11  
Re: Thank You - Patrolman Casey

MONTHLY REPORTS -

Planning Board - November 17, 2011  
Tax Department - November 2011  
Police Department - November 2011

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

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

RESOLUTIONS - By Consent

Motion by Councilman Cordts, seconded by Councilman Mignone to approve resolution #11-454 through #11-459.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Bartelloni, Councilman Porco, Councilman Mignone and Councilman Cordts voted yes; Councilman Moscaritolo and Councilman Cannon were absent.

#11-454 Enter Into Agreement with Robert Costa, Borough Engineer, for Professional Services Related to the Design - Voorhis Storm Rehabilitation

WHEREAS, there exists a need for expert professional engineering services related to the Design - Voorhis Storm Rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has determined and certified in writing that the annual aggregate value of the service may exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available from Account #01-2010-20-1652-170 of the Current Fund not to exceed \$15,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that the resolution authorizing the award of contracts for "Professional Services" without competitive bids and the contract itself must be available for public inspection.

WHEREAS, Robert Costa has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Robert Costa has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of River Edge Governing Body in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit Robert Costa from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the rate of pay shall not exceed \$65.00 per hour as Borough Engineer and per hour rates as follows:

Principal Land Surveyor.....\$ 75.00

Survey Field Crew.....\$150.00  
 Senior Designer.....\$ 65.00  
 Senior Drafter.....\$ 55.00  
 Computer Drafting.....\$ 75.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge as follows:

1. The Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the attached agreement with Robert Costa, Costa Engineering Corp., 327 South River Street, Suite 302, Hackensack, New Jersey 07601; and
2. The Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and
3. The contract is awarded without competitive bidding as "Professional Service" in accordance with 40A:11-5(1)(a) of the Local Public Contracts Law because the service performed is by a person authorized to practice a recognized profession.
4. That a copy of the resolution be forwarded to THE RIDGEWOOD NEWS for publication.

December 27, 2011 - Sine Die

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#11-455 Establish Accounts Payable

WHEREAS, there exists various encumbrances on the books of the Current Fund for the year 2011; and

WHEREAS, these outstanding orders will lapse from the appropriation reserves unless established by the Governing Body of the Borough of River Edge as an accounts payable; and

WHEREAS, the various purchase orders and contracts creating these accounts payable have been investigated by the Chief Financial Officer and it has been determined that these should be established.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following accounts payable in the below listed amounts be and are hereby established on the balance sheet of the Borough of River Edge Current Fund.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to adjust his records accordingly.

<u>P.O. #</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>
22923	Bernard Malin, Esq	\$ 340.00	2 <sup>nd</sup> Attorney for Pub. Def. #10-4
22929	Robert Costa	\$ 530.00	Emerg. Repair #10-83 Infrastructure
23396	Gainesborough Co-Op Corp.	\$ 1,120.00	Garbage Service 2010
23506	Valley Health Medical Group	\$ 613.00	Drug Test #10-254
23669	Robert Costa	\$11,126.00	Outfalls #10-290
23725	Borough of Paramus	\$ 1,017.52	Interlocal Sewer 2010
23833	DiCara/Rubino Architects	\$ 3,000.00	Doors-PSB & BH #10-319
23834	McNerney & Associates	\$ 5,200.00	Appraisal for State Tax Court Appeals #10-326
23870	PSE&G	\$ 1,640.00	Change Order Direct Install Change Sensors
23879	PSE&G	\$ 3,251.00	Direct Install Program #10-61
23880	PSE&G	\$ 4,810.00	Direct Install Program #10-61
24094	D & E Uniforms	\$ 32.00	Encumber for Uniforms-F.D.
24100	Borough of River Edge	\$ 8,990.57	Garbage/Trash Apts. 2010
24109	AAA Emergency Supply Co.	\$ 1,542.30	Fire Department
24111	Ruscon Truck Service & Equip	\$ 2,101.83	Vehicle Repair (None Stated) F.D.
24112	NJ Fire Equipment	\$ 206.49	Flo Test Regulators F.D. 2010
24125	Municipal Excess Liability	\$30,000.00	Self Ins. Co-Pay Daly Litigation
24126	Municipal Excess Liability	\$30,000.00	Self Ins. Co-Pay Haggis Litigation
24283	Robert Costa	\$ 5,575.00	PSB Generator #10-416
24363	Robert Costa	\$ 1,300.00	Outfall Locations
24366	Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri	\$ 9,415.00	Service of Labor Attorney
24370	Mr. Mold LLC	\$ 5,614.00	705 Kinderkamack Road
24399	American Freeze Dry	\$ 6,200.00	Mold Remediation-Boiler Room

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#11-456 Resolution to Re-instate Thomas Cariddi to Full-time Status as Police

Chief of the River Edge Police Department

WHEREAS, on September 20, 2011 the Governing Body of the Borough of River Edge found it necessary to address an emergent situation in the Police Department; and

WHEREAS, this was done via resolution #11-343 at a special meeting of the Governing Body on September 20, 2011; and

WHEREAS, that emergent matter has been resolved.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Chief Cariddi's status of paid leave of absence shall be terminated effective December 28, 2011.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that effective December 28, 2011, Chief Cariddi is hereby returned to full-time status as Police Chief of the River Edge Police Department on duty restricted to administrative functions.

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#11-457 Cancel Unexpended Appropriations

WHEREAS, the Borough of River Edge has on its books and records unexpended appropriations; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the following unexpended balances of the Current Fund of the 2011 Budget will not be required.

8. General Appropriations

(A) Operations - Within "CAPS"

NJPDES Stormwater Permit		
Municipal Clerk	\$	450.00
Other Expenses (20-5104-100)		
General Administration		
Other Expenses (20-5102-100)	\$	50.00
Public Information		
Other Expenses (20-5106-100)	\$	675.00
Legal		
Other Expenses (20-5105-100)	\$	1,200.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the aforementioned unexpended balances be and are hereby ordered cancelled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby instructed to adjust his records accordingly.

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#11-458 Transfer of Funds

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 49:4-59 permits the transfer of appropriations during the last two months of the fiscal year from accounts showing unexpended balances to accounts in which commitments may exceed the original budgeted appropriations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following transfers be authorized:

FROM: Electric & Natural Gas O/E	31-4482-125	\$ 1,200.00
TO: Public Repair Maint O/E	26-2902-041	\$ 200.00
TO: Public Repair Maint O/E	26-2902-030	\$ 1,000.00
FROM: Historic Sites Office O/E	20-1752-187	\$ 400.00
TO: Police Department O/E	25-2402-177	\$ 400.00
FROM: Municipal Clerk S/W	20-1201-011	\$ 3,000.00
TO: Animal Welfare O/E	27-3402-100	\$ 3,000.00
FROM: Legal Services O/E	20-1552-168	\$10,000.00
FROM: Revenue Administration O/E	20-1452-023	\$ 5,000.00
TO: Engineering Services O/E	20-1652-170	\$15,000.00
FROM: Tax Assessment S/W	20-1501-011	\$ 5,000.00
FROM: Public Health Services S/W	27-3301-011	\$ 8,000.00
FROM: Public Works-Rep/Maint S/W	26-2901-011	\$12,000.00
TO: Unemployment Insurance O/E	23-2252-100	\$25,000.00

FROM: Emergency Mgt. S/W	25-2521-011	\$ 2,000.00
FROM: Municipal Prosecutor O/E	25-2752-100	\$ 500.00
TO: Garbage & Trash Removal O/E	26-3050-100	\$ 2,500.00
FROM: Revenue Administration O/E	20-1452-023	\$ 1,500.00
TO: Revenue Administration S/W	20-1451-011	\$ 1,500.00
FROM: Tax Assessment S/W	20-1501-011	\$ 2,000.00
TO: Planning Board S/W	21-1801-011	\$ 2,000.00
FROM: Public Defender O/E	43-4952-100	\$ 1,400.00
TO: Municipal Court S/W	43-4901-011	\$ 1,400.00
FROM: Sanitation Landfill O/E	32-4652-124	\$18,000.00
TO: Police S/W	25-2401-011	\$18,000.00
FROM: Public Health Services O/E	27-3302-173	\$ 1,100.00
TO: Uniform Fire Safety S/W	25-2651-011	\$ 1,100.00
FROM: Public Works Rep/Maint. S/W	26-2901-011	\$ 3,100.00
TO: Recycling S/W	26-3051-011	\$ 3,100.00
FROM: Public Works Rep/Maint. S/W	26-2901-011	\$ .01
TO: Building & Grounds S/W	26-3101-011	\$ .01
FROM: Public Works Rep/Maint. S/W	26-2901-011	\$ 600.00
TO: Vehicle Maint. S/W	26-3151-011	\$ 600.00
FROM: Public Works Rep/Maint. S/W	26-2901-011	\$ 1,600.00
TO: Maintenance of Parks S/W	28-3751-011	\$ 1,600.00
FROM: Financial Administration O/E	20-1302-168	\$ 1,000.00
FROM: Public Health Services O/E	27-3302-093	\$ 1,000.00
TO: Public Library S/W	29-3901-011	\$ 2,000.00
FROM: Public Works Rep. Maint S/W	26-2901-014	\$ 800.00
TO: Fire Hydrant Services O/E	31-4452-100	\$ 800.00

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#11-459 Appropriating Debt Service Requirements

WHEREAS, N.J.S. 40A:4-19 provides authority for appropriating in a temporary resolution the permanent debt service requirements for the coming year providing that such resolution is not made earlier than December 20<sup>th</sup> of the year preceding the beginning of the fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the date of this resolution is subsequent to December 20, 2011; and

WHEREAS, principal and interest will be due on various dates from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012 inclusive of sundry bonds issued and outstanding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following appropriations be made to cover the period from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012.

DEBT SERVICE BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE

Interest on Bonds	45-9302	\$288,000.00
Interest on Loan	45-9452	\$ 9,000.00

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Councilman Porco read resolution #11-460 into the record.

Motion by Councilman Porco, seconded by Councilman Mignone to approve resolution #11-460.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Bartelloni, Councilman Porco, Councilman Mignone and Councilman Cordts voted yes; Councilman Moscaritolo and Councilman Cannon were absent.

#11-460 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	\$330,772.03
CAPITAL ACCOUNT	\$ 28,181.75
RECREATION ACCOUNT	\$ 617.58
ANIMAL WELFARE	\$ 370.00
TRUST OTHER ACCOUNT	\$ 22,342.50
OPEN SPACE ACCOUNT	\$ 827.90
TRUST OTHER DEVELOPERS ACCOUNT	\$ 1,836.00

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.

December 27, 2011 - Sine Die

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OPEN HEARING OF THE PUBLIC -

Motion by Councilman Cordts, seconded by Councilman Porco to open hearing of the public.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Bartelloni, Councilman Porco, Councilman Mignone and Councilman Cordts voted yes; Councilman Moscaritolo and Councilman Cannon were absent.

CLOSE HEARING OF THE PUBLIC -

Motion by Councilman Cordts, seconded by Councilman Bartelloni to close hearing of the public.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Bartelloni, Councilman Porco, Councilman Mignone and Councilman Cordts voted yes; Councilman Moscaritolo and Councilman Cannon were absent.

Kevin Duerr-438 Oak Avenue-wished the Mayor well and thanked her for her service.

COUNCIL COMMENTS -

Councilman Cordts-stated that he appreciates the time that the Mayor has given, especially to him as a newly elected Councilman. He stated that he appreciated her help and friendship during the past few years.

Councilman Mignone-stated that 22 years of continuous and dedicated service is something to be very proud of and doesn't see how anyone will match that for a very long time. He continued by saying that he was very proud of the fact that when he was in the company of Mayors from other towns, they always spoke of Mayor Watkins in the highest regard and felt that she was an advocate for the residents of River Edge. He is grateful that the Mayor had confidence in him by putting him on the Planning Board and for her support throughout his first year as a Councilman.

Councilman Porco-stated that he will miss the Mayor very much and is grateful that he has had the opportunity to serve with her. He continued by saying that the Mayor has helped him out countless times by answering questions and giving guidance on how the process works. He thanked her for giving her life to the Borough and stated that River Edge owes her a lot.

Councilman Bartelloni-stated that although he has only had the opportunity to work with the Mayor this past year on the Council, he has had the opportunity to see her work as Mayor and throughout the town during the last ten years. He remembers that the first time he saw Mayor Watkins was at a 9/11 ceremony at River Dell High School where she gave a very moving speech to the community at a very difficult time. He stated that many people think it's easy to sit back and criticize but to actually sit on the Council and sit as the Mayor is when things actually count and matter. He commended her for her 22 years of service.

Councilman Bartelloni stated that River Edge owes her a debt of gratitude that it could never repay and doubts that the Borough will ever have a Mayor who will be as involved and put as much time into the community. Councilman Bartelloni stated that as long as he's lived in River Edge, Peg has always been the Mayor and feels that he will always look to her as the Mayor. He again thanked the Mayor for her commitment and service.

Mayor Watkins-thanked the residents of River Edge for giving her their trust and is humbled for all of the years that they have elected her. The Mayor explained that she started out as a candidate to fill in for a one-year term because many thought she would not be elected and was surprised herself when she was. The

Mayor always felt that if you say you're going to do a job, you do it completely. The residents of River Edge have allowed her to be their servant, to work for them and for the betterment of the town and she did that to the best to her ability. The Mayor stated that she never promised anything that she couldn't produce and always promised to do her best. The Mayor stated that everyone that she has worked with has been stellar and even though she and some Council members didn't always agree, they did try to work together and move things along. The Mayor wished everyone the best in the future and encouraged everyone to have faith and believe that things will happen. She thanked everyone for their comments and especially thanked Sam Cereste for all of his support.

ADJOURNMENT - 8:25 P.M.

Motion by Councilman Cordts, seconded by Councilman Bartelloni to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Bartelloni, Councilman Porco, Councilman Mignone and Councilman Cordts voted yes; Councilman Moscaritolo and Councilman Cannon were absent.

Mayor Margaret Falahee Watkins

Attest:

Denise A. Dondiego, Borough Clerk

Dated: