

# MINUTES

Mayor and Council Regular Meeting

Monday, August 10, 2020

7:00 P.M.

*Meeting held electronically via ZOOM*

## **CALL TO ORDER –**

Mayor Papaleo called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Borough Hall.

## **SILENT PRAYER – FLAG SALUTE**

Mayor Papaleo called for a moment of reflection and asked everyone to stand for the flag salute.

## **STATEMENT –**

Statement of Compliance with Open Public Meeting Act: This meeting complies with the Open Public Meeting Act by notification on December 20<sup>th</sup> of this location, date and time to the Ridgewood News and the Record and by posting of same on the municipal bulletin board and Borough Web Site and filing a notice of the same with the Municipal Clerk.

## **ROLL CALL –**

Councilwoman Busted, Councilman Chinigo, Councilman Gautier, Councilwoman Kaufman, Councilwoman Kinsella, Councilwoman Montisano-Koen and Mayor Papaleo were present.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES -**

On motion by Councilwoman Montisano-Koen, seconded by Councilwoman Kinsella, the minutes of the Mayor and Council Regular Meeting of July 13, 2020, were approved on the following roll call: Councilwoman Buteed, Councilman Gautier, Councilwoman Kaufman, Councilwoman Montisano-Koen and Councilwoman Kinsella voted yes; Councilman Chinigo abstained.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY ITEM ON THIS AGENDA –**

On motion by Councilwoman Kinsella, seconded by Councilwoman Montisano-Koen to open public comments on any item on the agenda was unanimously approved.

There being no comments by the public, the motion by Councilwoman Kaufman, seconded by Councilman Gautier to close public comments on any item on the agenda was unanimously approved.

## **PROCLAMATIONS & AWARDS –**

### **Stormdrain Art Contest – Winners & Runners Up**

Laura Hoogstate- Chairperson of the Environmental Commission –thanked the Mayor and Council

for acknowledging this project and also thanked Jenny Schneider who came up with the idea and lead the project by bringing it to the schools. She also thanked Cherry Hill and Roosevelt School principals for getting the art teachers involved. Jenny taught lessons and raised awareness to all of those who participated. Students through art and creativity have a desire to protect the watershed and came up with great contest entries. There were over 210 entries in the contest. Just about all of the 5<sup>th</sup> graders of both schools participated. There was one winner from each school and 5 runner's up. Laura also thanked Jason Milito who scouted out sites and procured materials for this project. His crew will be going out to prep the sites. She also thanked Sara Teresa Bartelloni, the art teacher from the high school for finding a student artist. She extended her congratulations to all the winners and runners up.

Mayor-asked if all 12 students were present on zoom?

Laura Hoogstrate- said that she doesn't think so.

Councilwoman Kaufman – displayed the artwork of the winners and runners up.

Councilwoman Busted-thanked Chairwoman Hoogstrate for being the champion of this project and making a connection between art and our environment. She also thanked Jenny Schneider for bringing it to life and going into our classrooms to teach the importance of being stewards of our waters. Councilwoman Busted announced the names of the winners and runners up as follows:

Roosevelt School

**Winner** – Ava Wittreich

**Runners Up:**

Zach Moro

Ethan Wigdor

Andrew Kelm

Hannah Lee

Hailey Park

Cherry Hill School

**Winner** – Jack Ranley

**Runners Up:**

Iris Chang

Ashton Aller

Robert Viscardi

Melody Chang

Vivian Suh

Councilwoman Busted thanked all involved and is excited to see paintings on our storm drains. She said that everyone will be receiving certificates through the mail.

Mayor Papaleo –congratulated Councilwoman Busted, Chairperson Hoogstrate, the teachers and students and commended all of them for their hard work. He feels that it's important to take care of the environment and it will take care of us. He thanked everyone for joining them this evening.

**APPOINTMENTS & PERSONNEL CHANGES –**

On motion by Councilwoman Busted, seconded by Councilman Chinigo to approve the following appointments & personnel changes were unanimously approved as follows:

Salary change of Michael Varrecchia, Police Department from a present salary of \$121,622.00 for performing duties of the rank of Sergeant to \$112,614.00 – returning to work as Patrolman, effective July 18, 2020.

Salary change of Katia Minaya, Accounts Payable Clerk from an hourly rate of \$21.89 to \$24.00 due to taking on additional responsibilities, effective August 14, 2020.

**MONTHLY REPORTS –**

Library Board	-	July 2020
Fire Prevention	-	April – June, 2020
Environmental Commission	-	July 2020
Historic Commission	-	June 2020

**ORDINANCES – 1<sup>ST</sup> READING**

Councilman Chinigo read the title of Ordinance #20-12 into the record.

Ordinance #20-12 ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 71 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE ENTITLED “POLICE DEPARTMENT” ESTABLISHING PROMOTION PROCEDURES FOR THE RANK OF POLICE CHIEF

Councilman Chinigo-said that he would like to move this ordinance with 2 amendments. The first, Article C, paragraph 2, the sentence reads: The oral examination shall take place after the receipt of the written examination results. They would like it to read: The oral examination may take place after the receipt of the written examination results. Secondly, there will be language that will be adopted at the second reading that will include a peer review as an element that the Council will consider in reaching its determination. By that, we’re talking about departmental peer review evaluation of the candidates for Chief.

Tom Sarlo, Esq.-said in the first paragraph, C., Promotion Testing, he feels that the last sentence should be changed also to read: The Mayor and Council reserve the right to waive the psychological exam and/or oral examination.

Councilman Chinigo- agreed.

Tom Sarlo-said it will be more consistent. He explained that these changes are minor changes and don’t affect the scoring so they can move it today and amend the ordinance at the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. He explained that if this council or future council’s eliminate the oral exam which is now 20%, they would be grading on a scale of 80. He said he’ll work with Councilman Chinigo on the peer review language.

On motion by Councilman Chinigo, seconded by Councilwoman Kinsella, the first reading of Ordinance #20-12 as amended was approved unanimously as follows:

**BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE  
COUNTY OF BERGEN  
ORDINANCE NO. 20-12**

**ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 71, OF THE  
CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE ENTITLED  
“POLICE DEPARTMENT,” TO ESTABLISH A NEW  
ARTICLE, PROMOTION PROCEDURES FOR THE RANK OF  
POLICE CHIEF**

**WHEREAS**, within its general powers as a municipality, the Borough of River Edge may make and enforce ordinances, rules and regulations not contrary to federal or state law as it deems necessary and to protect the public safety and welfare of its residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge support and encourage efficiency within the River Edge Police Department; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge have determined that it would be in the best interest of the citizens of the Borough to establish a promotion practice based upon merit for the position of Police Chief when there is a vacancy in said position; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of River Edge desires to have a promotional practice for the position of Police Chief based upon merit, experience, education, demonstrated ability, competitive examinations and competitive written submissions within the River Edge Police Department in the interest of better serving the residents of the Borough of River Edge;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Governing Body of the Borough of River Edge as follows:

- 1) Chapter 71 of the Code of the Borough of River Edge entitled "Police Department" is hereby amended to establish a new article within Chapter 71 which shall provide as follows:

§ \_\_\_\_\_ **Promotion to Rank of Police Chief**

A. The Borough of River Edge Governing Body desires to promote the most qualified candidate to the position of Police Chief. This ordinance establishes the eligibility requirements and the process for promotion to Police Chief. The promotion process shall be on the basis of merit, experience, education, demonstrated ability, psychological examination, competitive examinations and an interview. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:14-129, the promotion of any officer shall be made from the membership of the River Edge Police department. No person shall be eligible for promotion to Police Chief unless he or she shall have served as a full-time police officer in the Borough of River Edge Police Department for a period of ten (10) years or more. Promotions to the rank of Police Chief shall be open to members of the next lowest rank who have served at least two (2) years in said rank, unless the Mayor and Council, in the best interest of the department, chooses to test a wider pool of candidates, in which case they may open testing to the next lower rank and/or reduce the length of time requirement in rank.

B. The Borough Administrator shall announce the promotional process to members of the department at least ninety (90) days before any written examination is to be given. The announcement shall be posted in common areas of the department accessible to all members. The announcement shall contain, at a minimum, the rank to be filled and the dates of the exams. Candidates, who qualify, shall notify the Borough Administrator of his or her interest in taking the examination by submitting a letter of interest no later than ten (10) calendar days after the promotion announcement. Failure to do so shall render the officer ineligible to participate in the process.

C. Promotional Testing Procedure:

The promotional testing procedure for the Borough of River Edge Police Department may consist of the following: a written examination, an oral examination, a psychological examination, a record review and an interview with the Mayor and Council. The Mayor and Council reserve the right to waive the psychological examination and shall so notify any applicant when the initial announcement for the promotional process is posted.

1. Written Examinations: The written examination shall be supplied by a professional testing company, professional law enforcement organization (e.g. State Chiefs of Police Association, International Chiefs of Police Association, etc.) To proceed to the oral examination of the examination procedure, a candidate must achieve a minimum score of seventy (70%) percent on the written examination.

2. Oral Examinations: Candidates will be notified, in writing, of their successful or unsuccessful completion of the written portion of the exam by the Borough Administrator or his designee. The oral examination shall take place after the receipt of the written examination results. A standardized

interview will be conducted by an outside agency (e.g. Chiefs of Police Association, International Chiefs of Police Association, etc.) by a Board of three (3) examiners, at least one of which shall be a Personnel Evaluator from the outside testing agency. None of the evaluators shall be an officer, employee, resident or relative thereof, of the Borough of River Edge or of any of the candidates.

The testing organization shall assign each candidate an identification number, which shall be the only identification used when the written and oral examination is graded. The identification numbers of all candidates for promotion shall be posted on a pass/fail basis only. A complete master list of the actual results of the written and oral examination shall be placed under seal and retained in the office of the Borough Administrator and shall not be revealed to the Mayor and Council until after the interview and record review of the applicants are complete.

3. Satisfactory psychological examination stating that the candidate is able to perform the essential functions of the Police Chief title. Candidates shall not move forward in the promotional process without the completion of a satisfactory psychological examination.

#### 4. Record Review and Interview by the Mayor and Council

Candidates that successfully achieve a minimum score of seventy percent (70%) on the written examination and received a satisfactory psychological examination, if applicable, shall proceed to the next step in the promotional process, the review of service record and interview. The interview shall be conducted by the Mayor and Council. The record review shall be conducted by the Borough Administrator, Mayor, Council Police Liaison and one Councilperson of the Personnel Subcommittee.

(a). The interview with the Mayor and Council shall focus on, but not be limited to, leadership and management skills, knowledge of the Borough of River Edge's form of government, knowledge of the Police Department Ordinance, familiarity with the municipal budget process, the police department budget in particular, staff/resource allocations and knowledge of N.J.S.A. 40A:14-118. The Mayor and Council shall grade each candidate on a forty (40) point scale and shall ask each candidate the identical questions and the Borough Clerk will keep written records of each candidate's responses to same.

(b). The Borough Administrator, Mayor, Council Police Liaison and one Councilperson of the Personnel Subcommittee shall examine the personnel jacket of each candidate and give specific weight to each category and grade each candidate on a ten (10) point scale. The weight of each category of the record review shall be the maximum of the following points in each of the enumerated categories as follows:

#### **Specialized Training (e.g. FBI Academy) 0 to 3 points**

Each completed course +1 point to a total of 3 points.

#### **Education**

Candidate only gets the point(s) associated with the highest educational degree attained and not the point(s) for each separate education degree.

Associate's Degree	1 point
Bachelor's Degree	2 points
Master's Degree	3 points
Doctorate Degree	5 points

#### **Military Experience**

Active Duty or Reserve Duty-Candidate only gets the highest of the following point(s).

Any enlisted rank	1 point
-------------------	---------

Any officer rank

2 points

**Disciplinary Actions**

Each major sustained discipline (more than 5 day) -2 points. Each minor sustained discipline (5 day suspension or less including written reprimands) -1 point. All previous sustained disciplinary actions shall be considered and reviewed to achieve the broadest scope of review for the given candidate by his/her supervisors.

5. The weight or percentage of each portion of the process shall be as follows:

Written examination	30%
Oral examination	20%
Record Review	10%
Mayor and Council Interview	40%

E. The candidate with the highest overall score shall be voted on by the Mayor and Council as the Police Chief.

F. Where two (2) or more candidates are ranked equally pursuant to the promotional procedure set forth herein, preference shall be given to the candidate with the most seniority in service pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:14-129.

2) Chapter 71 of the Code of the Borough of River Edge entitled “Police Department” is hereby amended to establish a new Article withing Chapter 71 entitled “Acting Designation, No Office or Position Created” which shall provide as follows:

**§ \_\_\_\_\_ Acting Designation; No Office or Position Created**

A. The Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge have the discretion and authority to assign the functions and duties of superior officer ranks, once the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge have certified by resolution that the position of any superior officer rank(s) is vacant and until a superior officer rank(s) is promoted. The Mayor and Council may designate an officer who is qualified to perform the functions and duties of any superior officer rank in an acting capacity.

B. It is explicitly understood that no office or position of any kind is created by the assignment of functions and duties of a higher rank to an officer of a lower rank on an acting basis. Such designation shall also not be considered an appointment to a position, nor constitute a promotion. Such designation shall not entitle the officer to any additional compensation or other emoluments of office unless specifically provided for in a collective bargaining agreement or Borough of River Edge Personnel Policies and Procedures Handbook. The officer fulfilling such assignment is not and is not intended to constitute the holding of a defacto office or position within the meaning of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-6 or any other law. The officer designated in an acting capacity shall continue to fulfill the assignment at the pleasure of the Mayor and Council.

**3) SEVERABILITY**

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance, which shall otherwise remain in full force and effect.

4) **REPEALER**

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

5) **EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Ordinance shall take effect after final passage as provided by law and shall be applied for any promotion to the Chief of Police.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Thomas Papaleo

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephanie Evans, Borough Clerk

**RESOLUTIONS - By Consent**

On motion by Councilwoman Kaufman, seconded by Councilwoman Montisano-Koen, resolution #20-189 through #20-193 and #20-195 through #20-201 were unanimously approved.

Councilwoman Busted- asked Ray Poerio whether or not we need to do a resolution to renew the Employees Assistance Program because this resolution only speaks for animal control services. Ray Poerio – said he will look into it and if we need to, we will put it on the next agenda.

#20-189 Enter into Agreement With the County of Bergen for Animal Control and Services

WHEREAS, due to a new animal cruelty enforcement law, the Borough must appoint a Municipal Humane Law Enforcement Officer who is responsible for animal welfare within the jurisdiction of the municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Health is offering a contract to have the Animal Control Officer named as the Municipal Humane Law Enforcement Officer for a cost of \$3,402.00 for 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available from Account #0-01-20-100-028 of the Current Fund in the amount not to exceed \$3,402.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to execute said agreement.

August 10, 2020

\*\*\*\*\*

#20-190 Resolution to Refund Escrow Money to Mark Neidorff, 268 Jefferson Avenue, Block 506, Lot 27

WHEREAS, the following application has been made to the Land Use Board for Site Plan approvals and has since received such approval; and

WHEREAS, all professionals have been paid.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to refund the following to:

<u>Block/Lot</u>	<u>Name &amp; Address</u>	<u>Refund Amount</u>
506/27	Mark Neidorff 268 Jefferson Avenue	\$375.00

August 10, 2020

\*\*\*\*\*

#20-191 Authorize Tax Collector to Refund a Duplicate 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2020 Tax Payment

WHEREAS, the tax office has received a duplicate and/or tax overpayment for the 3rd Quarter 2020 taxes on the following property; and

WHEREAS, a written request was received from their mortgage company to refund the overpaid amount directly to the mortgage company.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Account Supervisor is hereby authorized to issue a refund check in the following amount and the Tax Collector to adjust her records accordingly.

<u>BLOCK/LOT</u>	<u>HOMEOWNER/ADDRESS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1204/7	BISCEGLIE 217 MOHAWK DRIVE	3,385.24

Total: 3,385.24

Make check payable to: Wells Fargo Home Mortgage  
MAC X2302-04D  
1 Home Campus  
Des Moines, IA 50328  
Attn: Tax Refunds

August 10, 2020

\*\*\*\*\*

#20-192 Authorize Release of a Performance Bond for American Asphalt & Milling Services LLC, 96 Midland Avenue, Kearny, New Jersey 07032 for the 2020 Riverside Cooperative Road Resurfacing Program

WHEREAS, the Borough of River Edge received a Performance Bond from American Asphalt & Milling Services LLC for the 2020 Riverside Cooperative Road Improvement Program dated June 2, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the amount of the Performance Surety Bond was \$464,598.35; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer has certified that the final inspection has been made and approval is given with regard to the 2020 Riverside Cooperative Road Improvement Program and recommends that the Performance Surety Bond be released; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Clerk has received a Maintenance Surety Bond in the amount of \$52,122.95 which will run for a two (2) year period from June 30, 2020 to June 30, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Performance Surety Bond for American Asphalt & Milling Services, LLC on file with the Borough of River Edge be released in the amount of \$464,598.35.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk is hereby instructed to send a copy of this resolution to American Asphalt & Milling Services LLC, 96 Midland Avenue, Kearny, New Jersey 07032 and the Colonial Surety Company, 123 Tice Boulevard, Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey 07677.

August 10, 2020

\*\*\*\*\*

#20-193 Resolution to Authorize Submission of the Application for the River Edge Municipal Alliance to Prevent Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Grant for 2021

WHEREAS, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliance for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Bergen.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT that the Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Borough Council does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the River Edge Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2021 in the amount of:

DEDR	\$3,579.47
Cash Match	\$ 894.87
In Kind	\$2,684.60

2. The Borough Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas Papaleo, Mayor

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

August 10, 2020

\*\*\*\*\*

On motion by Councilwoman Busteded, seconded by Councilman Gautier resolution #20-194 was unanimously approved.

#20-194 Authorize the Mayor to Sign Agreement with the River Edge PBA and SOA Local #201

WHEREAS, the Borough of River Edge has reached an agreement with the River Edge PBA Local #201 and the River Edge SOA (Superior Officers Association) for the years 2019 – 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to sign said agreement.

August 10, 2020

\*\*\*\*\*

#20-195 Authorize Tax Collector to Refund 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2020 Tax Overpayments

WHEREAS, the tax office has received duplicate and/or tax overpayments for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2020 taxes on the following properties; and

WHEREAS, a written request was received from their mortgage company to refund the overpaid amount directly to the mortgage company.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Account Supervisor is hereby authorized to issue a refund check in the following amount and the Tax Collector to adjust her records accordingly.

<u>BLOCK/LOT</u>	<u>HOMEOWNER/ADDRESS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1108/21	HWANG, TAE KWAN & CHANG SUN 264 TAFT RD	3,334.25

Make check payable to:

Lereta LLC  
901 Corporate Center Drive  
Pomona, CA 91768  
Attn: Central Refunds

August 10, 2020

\*\*\*\*\*

#20-196 Change Order Approval and Amendatory Contract for Roof Repairs in Various Parks to Layne Roofing, Inc.

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:34-4.2 lists the requirements for all Change Orders; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of River Edge awarded a contract to Layne Roofing, Inc. via resolution #20-147 dated June 8, 2020; and

WHEREAS Change Order #1 reflects the addition of items that were added to the contract for a total amount not to exceed \$1,864.00; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator and Superintendent of Public Works have recommended the above change; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available from Account #C-04-20-050-103 of the Capital Fund in the amount not to exceed \$1,864.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of River Edge shall enter into a written amendatory contract with Layne Roofing, Inc. 251 Main Street, New Milford, New Jersey 07646, for Change Order #1 for an increase of \$1,864.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the exact form of this amendatory contract shall be at the discretion of the Borough Attorney and the Mayor and the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to execute said contract, and Change Order #1.

August 10, 2020

\*\*\*\*\*

#20-197 Authorize Tax Collector to Refund 2020 3rd Quarter Tax Overpayment(s)

WHEREAS, the tax office has received duplicate and/or tax overpayments for the 3rd Quarter 2020 taxes on the following property(s); and

WHEREAS, a written request was received from their mortgage company to refund the overpaid amount directly to the mortgage company.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Account Supervisor is hereby authorized to issue a refund check in the following amount and the Tax Collector to adjust her records accordingly.

<u>BLOCK/LOT</u>	<u>HOMEOWNER/ADDRESS</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
311/8	FAIRCHILD, MATTHEW & MARIA 735 MILLBROOK RD	DUPLICATE	2,820.73
1003/6	MORGAN, CHRISTIAN T & ELIZABETH A 421 MERCER AVENUE	DUPLICATE	2,780.67
1204/25	TAPIAS, DANIEL & KOTKAS, DERBI 222 CHERRY LANE	DUPLICATE	2,436.75

TOTAL: 8,038.15

Make check payable to: CORE LOGIC TAX SERVICES  
P.O. Box 9202  
Coppell, TX 75019-9978  
Attn: Centralized Refunds

August 10, 2020

\*\*\*\*\*

20-198 Authorize Clerk to Go Out for Bid for ADA Ramp Improvements At Various Locations

WHEREAS, the Borough of River Edge desires to go out for bid for ADA Ramp at Various Locations Intersections of Park Avenue and Lincoln Avenue, Park Avenue and Grove Street, Park Avenue and Washington Avenue, Park Avenue and Bloomfield Avenue, Manchester Road and Oak Avenue, Elizabeth Street and Grand Avenue, Adams Avenue to Millbrook Avenue, Madison Avenue and Center Avenue (Including sidewalk curb and relocation of structures), Coles Court and Eastbrook Drive, Tenney Avenue and Elm Drive (Ramps and milling and paving of intersection and striping) Fifth Avenue and Manchester Road (milling and paving of intersection and striping) ; and

WHEREAS, these plans and specifications are being designed by the Borough Engineer using the following standards:

- 2020 ADA Standards for Accessible Design, dated September 15.
- American's with Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards for Transportation Facilities adopted in 2006 by the U.S. Department of Transportation
- Proposed Accessibility Guidelines for Pedestrian facilities in the Public Right-of-Way dated July 26, 2011 (also known as PROWAG)
- NJDOT ADA Design Standards
- Bergen County ADA Design Guidelines and Standards

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk be authorized to advertise in the RIDGEWOOD NEWS for the purpose of providing said service.

August 10, 2020

\*\*\*\*\*

#20-199 Change Order Approval and Amendatory Contract for the 2019 Community Avenue to AA Berms LLC, P.O. Box 180, Belleville, New Jersey 07109 Development Block Grant Curb Replacement Project at Reservoir

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:34-4.2 lists the requirements for all Change Orders; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of River Edge awarded a contract to AA Berms, LLC on May 26, 2020 via resolution #20-134; and

WHEREAS Change Order #1 reflects the addition of items that were added to the contract after the work started for a total amount not to exceed \$2,471.00; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer has recommended the above change; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available from Account #G-02-41-031-003 in the amount not to exceed \$2,471.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of River Edge shall enter into a written amendatory contract with AA Berms LLC, P.O. Box 180, Belleville, New Jersey 07109, for Change Order #1 for an increase of \$2,471.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the exact form of this amendatory contract shall be at the discretion of the Borough Attorney and the Mayor and the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to execute said contract, and Change Order #1.

August 10, 2020

\*\*\*\*\*

#20-200 Trust Fund Application Municipal Endorsing Resolution

WHEREAS, the Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Floodplain Protection, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund (“County Trust Fund”), provides matching grants to municipal governments and to nonprofit organizations for assistance in the development or redevelopment of outdoor municipal recreation facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of River Edge desires to further the public interest by obtaining a matching grant of \$131,875.00 from the County Trust Fund to fund the following project: KBG Ball Field Upgrades; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body has reviewed the County Trust Fund Program Statement, and the Trust Fund Municipal Program Park Improvement application and instructions, and desires to make an application for such a matching grant and provide application information and furnish such documents as may be required; and

WHEREAS, as part of the application process, the Governing Body held the required Public Hearing to receive public comments on the proposed park improvements in the application on July 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the County of Bergen shall determine whether the application is complete and in conformance with the scope and intent of the County Trust Fund; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is willing to use the County Trust Fund in accordance with such rules, regulations and applicable statutes, and is willing to enter into an agreement with the County of Bergen for the above names project and ensure its completion on or about the project contract expiration date.

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

1. That it is hereby authorized to submit the above completed project application to the County; and
2. That, in the event of a County Trust Fund award that may be less than the grant amount requested above, the Mayor and Council has, or will secure, the balance of funding necessary to complete the

project, or modify the project as necessary; and

3 That the Mayor and Council are committed to providing a dollar for dollar cash match for the project; and

4. That only those park improvements identified and approved in the project application, its Trust Fund contract, or other documentation will be considered eligible for reimbursement.

5. That the Mayor and Council agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, ad local laws, rules, and regulations in its performance of the project; and

6. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

August 10, 2020

\*\*\*\*\*

#20-201 Award Bid for the 2019/2020 Municipal Aid Program for Bogert Road Improvement Project, Section 3 & 4 to FDM Construction LLC, 901 Willow Street, Carteret, NJ 07008

WHEREAS, the Clerk was authorized to go out for bid for the for 2019/2020 Municipal Aid Program for Bogert Road Improvement Project Section 3 & 4 via resolution #20-178 dated July 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of River Edge received four (4) sealed bids on August 6, 2020, the lowest from FDM Construction LLC in the amount of \$386,578.65; and

WHEREAS, the lowest bid from FDM Construction LLC has been reviewed by the Borough Engineer and the Borough Attorney; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available from Account #C-04-20-070 in the amount of \$254,000.00 and #C-04-20-07-102 in the amount of \$131,678.65 of the Capital Fund in the amount not to exceed \$386,578.65.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the bid is hereby awarded to FDM Construction LLC, 901 Willow Street, Carteret, New Jersey 07008 in the amount of \$386,578.65 and the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign said contract for the Borough.

August 10, 2020

\*\*\*\*\*

Councilwoman Kaufman read resolution #20-202 into the record.

On motion by Councilwoman Kaufman, seconded by Councilman Chinigo resolution #20-202 was unanimously approved.

#20-202 Payment of Bills

At a Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, held on August 10, 2020.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge approve the following expenditures.

CURRENT FUND ACCOUNT

\$3,442,146.61

CAPITAL FUND ACCOUNT	\$ 135,381.75
ANIMAL CONTROL ACCOUNT	\$ 14.40
TRUST OTHER ACCOUNT	\$ 7,658.00
OPEN SPACE ACCOUNT	\$ 77,879.11
PAYROLL ACCOUNT	\$ 2,124.52
DEVELOPER'S ESCROW ACCOUNT	\$ 1,600.00
RECREATION ACCOUNT	\$ 3,680.16

August 10, 2020

**NEW BUSINESS –**

**COVID Plan - Fall Sports-**

Ray Poerio reported that the COVID Committee asked that he and our Rec Director, Carolyn develop a plan for sports.

Councilman Gautier– said that in Section 2A, it speaks about close contact and thinks we need to define close contact.

Councilman Chinigo-feels that perhaps the Council should review this separately and discuss it at the next meeting.

Councilwoman Busted –wanted to clarify that the goal is to provide one uniform policy for rec programs and this is an attempt to do that.

Mayor Papaleo – agreed to table this topic until next meeting.

**Cherry Blossom Park**

Councilman Gautier- reported that he, the Mayor and Councilwoman Busted met at Cherry Blossom Park to look at the problem with storm runoff and to discuss possible solutions. He suggested forming a sub-committee.

Mayor Papaleo– called for a motion to form an ad hoc sub-committee.

On motion by Councilman Gautier, seconded by Councilwoman Busted, to form an ad hoc committee was unanimously approved.

Mayor Papaleo – suggested that Councilman Gautier work with the Borough Administrator to coordinate. He suggested calling it the Cherry Blossom Erosion Committee

Councilwoman Busted – said that Carolyn has a volunteer who would like to sit on the ad hoc committee.

Councilman Gautier-said he would follow up with Carolyn.

Mayor Papaleo – asked who would be on the committee? He feels that Councilman Gautier and Councilwoman Busted should be members because they are the liaisons to the pertinent groups.

Councilman Chinigo – suggested Councilwoman Kinsella also.

Mayor Papaleo-announced the Cherry Blossom Erosion Committee members as follows: Councilman Gautier, Councilwoman Busted and Councilwoman Kinsella.

**OLD BUSINESS –**

### **Opening Borough Hall-**

Mayor Papaleo asked if anyone sees a date in near future to open Borough Hall? He feels that for the record he would like to start a dialogue.

Councilman Chinigo asked, what is the need?

Mayor Papaleo – said that there is no need but wants it to be part of the public record. The Governor made clear that he’s maintaining his emergency directive because of funding issues and not because of COVID cases. The Mayor wants to keep the dialogue open in case the Council feels that we want to revisit this in the future.

Councilman Gautier –feels that they should err on the side of caution.

Mayor Papaleo–said that the Council feels the same way but just wanted to have a discussion

Councilwoman Busted– feels caution is very important but wants to make sure that we are still able to deliver services to our residents. She asked if there was any feedback from residents that they are not able to access our services.

Ray Poerio–said that operations are still functioning as normal as possible. For example, he has witnessed Nicole from the Building Department go outside to assist residents and contractors as well employees of the Finance Department going outside to answer tax questions while maintain social distancing.

Mayor Papaleo– said that no one has reached out to him that their services have not been met.

Ray Poerio– reported that the Municipal Court is going on via zoom to the best of its ability. The Court Administrator is in constant contact with the AOC and is waiting for guidance from the County on when we will open up. He said that ultimately the decision is up to the AOC as to the whens and hows. We’re following all the guidelines and regulations that they’ve handed out.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS –**

On motion by Councilwoman Kaufman, seconded by Councilwoman Montisano-Koen to open for public comments was unanimously approved.

There being no comments by the public, the motion by Councilwoman Kinsella, seconded by Councilman Chinigo to close public comments was unanimously approved.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS -**

Councilman Chinigo– extended his congratulations to the storm drain art contest winners, Laura Hoogstrate for all of her hard work, Councilwoman Busted and all of the teachers were involved. He said that it’s nice to see our young people be environmentally conscious and concerned about matters in our society. He reported that recently the first traffic flashing signs were installed by 7 Eleven and was very pleased that cars actually stopped when he was crossing.

Councilwoman Busted – extended her congratulations to the storm drain art contest winners and thanked those who appeared to receive recognition. She thanked our first responders, the DPW and PSE&G for clearing trees and responding to emergencies during the recent storm. She received positive posts from residents thanking them for doing a good job. She wanted to call attention to the Council and residents that tomorrow evening in cooperation with the Rec Commission, they will be hosting the Black Poster Project from 6 – 8 pm in Memorial Park to provide awareness about drug overdose. This project was brought to us by a bereaved parent who lost a child. She encouraged everyone to get out and walk by Memorial Park during these hours.

Councilman Chinigo-thanked everyone for their kind thoughts during his illness and especially thanked the Police Department and Ambulance Service for responding so quickly. He thanked the DPW for all of their hard work in dealing with the storm during the week.

Councilman Gautier –also congratulated the art contest winners. He commented on the big storm last week and felt that the DPW did tremendous job. Many trees have been cut down that were

uprooted and the DPW will evaluate the damage. He reported that uprooted stumps will be removed and filled in with top soil and parks will be cleaned up. The Elm Avenue ditch was cleaned out a few weeks ago which alleviated some problems during the storm. He also reported that uprooted borough trees have dislodged about 20 sidewalks. He suggested that these sidewalks be replaced by the Borough which would cost approximately \$300 each and asked if this could be discussed further at a future meeting.

Councilwoman Kaufman– echoed everything that has been said previously. She thanked the Mayor for all of the hard work in getting our power back quickly. She thanked the DPW and the Fire Department for the great work that they continue to do.

Councilwoman Montisan-Koen-congratulated the winners and runner ups of the art contest and to the DPW for their efforts during and after the storm. She thanked the Police Department and first responders as well as the library for opening their doors during the power outages.

Councilwoman Kinsella-thanked the DPW for the incredible work that they did during the storm. Her neighbors had giant oak tree branch fall and the next day she noticed it was gone and was impressed with the quickness of the removal. She welcomed back Councilman Chinigo.

Councilwoman Kinsella congratulated the winners and runners up and everyone involved putting the project together. She reported that the door to door canvassing for the Census will end one month earlier on Sept. 30th. She said that we are #4 in Bergen County and our response rate is 92%. Councilwoman Kinsella thanked Councilwoman Kaufman for setting up a meeting with Mr. & Mrs. Mah from SCORE to introduce them as she has taken over as co-liasion.

Mayor Papaleo- thanked Assemblyman Lagana, Assemblyman Tully, Assemblywoman Swain and their staff for helping him reach out to PSE&G so that they could understand the needs of River Edge. He thanked OEM Coordinator, Ron Starace for coordinating with us to get more PSE&G vehicles in town. The Mayor is very grateful to all of them as it really was a team effort. The Mayor felt that the DPW took the brunt of most of the work and Jason Milito reported that they had to remove 12 trees, 36 large limbs, clear branches from 48 different locations and will possibly be removing up to 36 more trees. The Mayor thanked the following staff who fielded hundreds of calls during the storm: Chris Leishman, Rick Stephen, Lisa Hessman, Cathy Solimando, Scot Ader, Bill Camera, Jason DeCarlo, Dan Dekker, Francis Gallagher, Jairo Duarte, Ken Morris, Eric Phillips, Eric Schultz, Anthony Naem, Pete Stitz, Michael Szczecina, Chris Tabor, Roger Tarpey, Ben Mullen, Anthony Preziuso. He feels that we have best DPW and they are always there for us. OEM Coordinator, Ron Starace told the Mayor that Sgt. Abate spearheaded an OEM initiative to update an antiquated list for power reliant residents. These are people who need electricity for respirators and other medicals equipment and needs. He was told that once the list was updated, Chief Cariddi established protocol for the officers to go on welfare checks within a half an hour of a power outage. Earlier in the day, Sgt. Abate and other officers personally went to visit each of 7 to residents to insure them that they would be taken care of in case of a power failure. The Mayor said that it is truly satisfying that this initiative is working and the commitment of care to our residents. Ron and the Mayor want to commend the efforts of our police officers, especially Sgt. Abate. The Mayor feels that we have the best police force in Bergen County. The Mayor read a letter from resident Carol Lamendola thanking members of the police department for responding to her home during an emergency. The Mayor thanked the following Police Department members: Chief Cariddi, Lieutenant Walker, Lieutenant Casey, Sgt. Cheevers, Det. Lee, Det. Sanches, Sgt. Wilhelm, Sgt. Starost, Sgt. McGinty, Sgt. Abate, Sgt. Griffin, Officer Shouldis, Officer Varrecchia, Officer Zemaite, Officer Roman, Officer Diamond, Officer Blue, Officer Prisendorf, Officer Estevez, Officer Hamm, Officer Pilterski, Officer Staron and the Police Dispatchers. The Fire Department Chief asked the Mayor to thank every member from Company 1 and Company 2 as it was a group effort all day. They responded to 8 calls, assisted one resident with a generator and assisted the Ambulance Service on one call. Bethann Kiely, Captain of the Ambulance Service reported that they only responded to 2 calls during the storm. One was a woman in labor and the other was a pedestrian struck by a tree. She and Bobby Alexiou responded along with Sgt. Abate and several

firefighters assisted. He said that we are so lucky in River Edge because there is not one member of our emergency services that doesn't give 100% and is also very proud of our employees.

**ADJOURNMENT – 8:00 P.M.**

On motion by Councilwoman Busteded, seconded by Councilman Gautier to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. was unanimously approved.

Attest:

---

Mayor Thomas Papaleo

---

Stephanie Evans, Borough Clerk  
Dated: