

**BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2017**

PRESENT:

Mayor	Edward J. Mignone
Councilman	Alphonse Bartelloni
Councilwoman	Ellen Busteed
Councilman	Dario Chinigo
Councilwoman	Mary Davis
Councilman	Thomas Papaleo

ALSO PRESENT:

Borough Attorney	Thomas Sarlo
Borough Administrator	Alan Negreann
Borough Clerk	Stephanie Evans

ABSENT:

Councilman	Vito Acquafredda
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Mayor Mignone called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm by reading the Open Public Meetings Act and asking for roll call.

MOTION TO SUSPEND WORK SESSION AND ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Councilman Chinigo, second by Councilwoman Davis

All in favor 5-0

Resolution 17-415

CLOSED SESSION TOPICS

Closed Session

<u>Docket #</u>	<u>Item Title or Description</u>	<u>Statutory Reference</u>
17-12/19-1	Personnel – Police Interview Fred Kowal	N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (8)
17-12/19-2	Personnel – Police Department Jeffrey Staron	N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (8)
17-12/19-3	Personnel – Police Interview Robert Litterio	N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (8)

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SUSPEND CLOSED SESSION – RETURN TO WORK SESSION @7:25 PM

Mayor Mignone asked for a Roll Call, everyone one was present.

Mayor Mignone started by saying that it was a great event tonight to congratulate the River Dell High School Girls' Volleyball team on their Sectional Title and State Group II Championship victory. River Edge is more than proud knowing that this level of quality if being put forth by both our towns obviously. It is our distinct honor to recognize you and make sure you understand that the governing body does pay attention to what else goes on in town. We cheer you and it makes us happy and proud to recognize you as we are going to do this evening. We have certificates for each player, not knowing who is here or not, he will read all the names in to

the record. Certificates of Award were presented to the following team members and coaches:

Girls' Volleyball

**Julia Bretan
Emily Gamper
Samantha Grandich
Logan Grebla
Faith Herity
Jenna Karpowich
Olivia Lolk
Shannon McKinless
Taylor McMahon
Emma Plutnicki
Sofia Poznansky
Catherine Sattely
Makayla Serrett**

**Dianne Furusawa
Ichi Furusawa
Erin Curatola
Breyln Kirk**

Mayor Mignone wanted mention that just for the record the River Dell Football team was invited for this evening. He wasn't going to read the names but asked that the Clerk list all the names in the minutes, send them a copy of the minutes, forward the certificates to coaches asking them to distribute them on our behalf with our best wishes.

Football Team

**Ryan Berninger
Holden Brodersen
Sean Burke
Cameron Callahan
Brendan Conroy
Dave Estevez
Dave Fletcher
Chris Forster
Matt Froonjian
Aaron Furneaux
Jack Gillies
Brian Goddel
Asim Greene
Alex Grisham
Alex Hailaou
Adam He
Kieran Hughes
Kevin Hwang
Josh Iyonsi
Damiah Kahng
Alon Kleinman
Josh Korath
Ryan MacDonald
Jake Manning**

Jack McGrinder
Matt McHale
Tyler Mellaci
Jaden Michel
Griffin Milgram
Matt Montgomery
Conor Murphy
Cole Murrell
Hiyuma Nagai
Sebastian Peralta-Hiraldo
Matt Polito
Shane Quinn
Jack Racine
Mike Rizik
Andrew Sanchez
Mike Sirico
John Straniero
Matt Tibus
Steve Yoon
Kyle Ziegler

DJ Nimphius
Mike Aliano
Erick Morgan
Al Henion
Bill Lynn
Vic Tribuzio
Tim Trochanowski
John Ranu
John Francin

APPOINTMENTS & PERSONNAL CHANGES

Approve the re-appointments of Chris Lau, Alicia Armental, and James Teehan for 3 year terms through 12/31/20; Peter Smith and Christ Ilg for 2 year terms through 12-31-19; Carlo Rebosio and Kenneth Krautheim for 1 year terms through 12-31-18, and Lauren Cerullo as Alternate #1 for a 2 year term through 12-31-19 to the Recreation Commission, effective December 20, 2017.

Mayor Mignone explained that the reason they are staggered is to make sure we have the proper staggering in terms of the appointments and basically what we did was give the senior people the most tenure. That was the fairest way to do it.

**Motion by Councilwoman Busteded, second by Councilman Chinigo to approve.
All in favor 5-0**

Approve the resignation of Maureen Sherger, Technical Assistant in the Library, effective December 2, 2017.

**Motion by Councilman Chinigo, second by Councilwoman Davis to approve.
All in favor 5-0**

Approve the resignation of Carol Byrne, Recording Secretary to the Land Use Board, effective January 1, 2018.

**Motion by Councilman Bartelloni, second by Councilman Chinigo to approve.
All in favor 5-0**

Mayor Mignone stated that he was very sorry to see her step-down from this position. She has been excellent at picking up, we had a very, very difficult period of time with the previous secretary with illnesses and being out and having to catch up with minutes. Carol impressed everybody on the board by her professionalism. She was able to turn in excellent minutes and he just hopes that whoever we get to her can at least try to meet that standard. The board is every sorry to see her not continue in this roll and we appreciate all her hours.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR'S TOPICS

WORK SESSION CONSENT AGENDA

MAYOR'S REPORT

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **Borough of River Edge Senior/Community Center** – Mayor Mignone said that unfortunately Councilman Acquafredda is absent tonight but he did speak with the councilman a week ago when he was in the hospital and Mayor Mignone stated that we will continue to discuss the issues with the architect Councilman Bartelloni and the Mayor will bring the concerns back to the architect and hopefully get everything to a point where we can actually make this an official project and start presenting it more to the public. He thinks at this point all the stakeholder groups have been met with but we are still waiting...Councilman Bartelloni stated that he had not met with the Cultural Center yet. Mayor Mignone commented that we where we stand on that.

Councilman Chinigo asked about an update on the crosswalks on Kinderkamack from Mr. Costa. Mayor Mignone had no idea and referred to Mr. Negreann. Mr. Negreann said that he has written to him asking him to provide the service and reminded him, but he hasn't seen anything of the work product yet. Mayor Mignone wanted Mr. Negreann to ask again and let Mr. Costa know that Councilman Chinigo asked again. Mr. Negreann stated that we would see Mr. Costa on Friday for the Sub-Sewer committee and would bring it up to his attention. Mayor Mignone added that Mr. Costa doesn't have to wait until the next meeting, he can get whatever information prior to...Councilman Chinigo stated it seems like it should be pretty easy.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS BY CONSENT AGENDA

- #17-416 **Authorize Mayor to Sign a Supplemental Agreement with River Edge PBA Local 201**
- #17-417 **Amend 2017 Budget**
- #71-418 **Authorize Tax Collector to Adjust and Refund Taxes for a 2017 Veteran Deduction Allowed**
- #17-419 **Authorize Accounts Supervisor to Issue a Refund Check to Schlomac LLC for a Street Opening at 794 6th Avenue**
- #17-420 **Acknowledge Receipt of Certification of Request for Emergency Purchases Repair Sewer Line at Borough Hall**
- #17-421 **Transfer of Funds**
- #17-422 **Refund of Construction Bond for Shade Tree to Quality Construction for the**

Property Located at 290 Olympia Drive, River Edge, NJ

**Motion by Councilman Bartelloni, second by Councilman Chinigo to approve.
All in favor 5-0**

PAYMENT OF BILLS

**Motion by Councilman Bartelloni, second by Councilman Chinigo to approve
All in favor 5-0**

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**Motion by Councilman Bartelloni, second by Councilman Chinigo to open.
All in favor 5-0**

No Public Comments

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

**Motion by Councilwoman Busted, second by Councilwoman Davis to close.
All in favor 5-0**

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilwoman Busted – She wanted to make sure that the time was taken to recognize Recreation Director, Bobbi Conway, since this was the last meeting in 2017 and she will be leaving us at the end of this month. It has been her district honor and pleasure to work with the Recreation Commission as the liaison for the last several years. She is a consummate professional and she has the unweaving support of her commission and they work extremely well together. We have been very blessed in this town to have someone such as Bobbi to work in that capacity. She thinks that people don't often realize the extent of what she does outside of her day-to-day office work. She will mark the path, she will mark the lines for River Edge Run every Saturday before the run, and she'll clean the bathrooms at the park if that is what it takes for the events that are going on. Those seemingly unnoticed things are really what made her such a gem for the community for the past twenty years. She did not want this public meeting to go by without formally recognizing her and wishing her all the best in this next chapter of her life. She will be missed and Councilwoman Busted wishes her well.

Councilman Bartelloni – He seconded those sentiments for Bobbi. He didn't know if the council was going to do something like a plague at the Sine Die. Councilwoman Busted added that the Commission is planning a retirement get together in January or February which they will share with the council when the plans are set

Councilman Papaleo – He agreed with everything that was said about Bobbi. She was just an amazing woman who made a very difficult job look very easy, and she never stopped doing for River Edge. He is proud that she has been a part of our community for this long and we will sorely miss her.

Councilwoman Davis – She agrees with everything that has been said and she did thank Bobbi the other day at the Borough luncheon. She told Bobbi how much she would be missed and she is one of those people, a resident of the town who had no idea what her job consisted of. Councilwoman David told her so and that also she thought Bobbi was in charge of the bus rides to Atlantic City and the Christmas Show. That was until she sat up here and saw how much she does and even things we don't what she did. She will definitely be missed.

Councilman Chinigo – Thank you Bobbi for everything. You will be missed and there is nothing else he can. He has known Bobbi for a long time and worked with her when he was the Director of Basketball years ago and seeing how hard she working in town. She is always around, always there at every single event. Will be missed and hopefully we will be seeing her

around. Her work ethic and everything she had put into this town will be very hard to replace. We will miss her.

Mayor Mignone – He stated that he echoes those sentiments also and he also publicly thanked her at the luncheon at the risk of making it about Bobbi but it was appropriate because it was the last time everybody was in the room. We can't say it enough of how much she has meant to the Borough. She is the kind of person who is always positive, always cheerful. No matter where you saw her she was always happy and peppy. She did her job and put her heart and soul into everything she did for the Borough. We wish her well in her retirement and we know she will be around and we will see her around. He just hopes that we can find someone who can strive to give us the same kind of quality and dedication that Bobbi did and hopefully have an excellent working relationship with commission as well.

Mayor Mignon just wanted to say publicly to those watching the video we concluded our interviews this evening because we are hiring three new police officers or expect to. He wanted to thank the Chief and publicly he thinks we had some very excellent candidates to choose from and he thinks the council was very diligent in the interview process and he doesn't know what the outcome will be but we had 9 candidates for 3 positions and we have not been in this position in a very long time so thank you Chief for that and it will only benefit the Borough to that kind of choice. Any of them that we hire will certainly be a compliment to the department.

Finally he wanted to wish everybody who celebrates a happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas, he wishes everybody a happy and safe New Year. We will reconvene for Sine Die on New Year's Day. Our reorganization meeting will be at noon on New Year's Day where we will swear in Councilman Chinigo and Councilman Papaleo and make all our other appointments

Motion to Adjourn Work Session and Return to Closed Session @ 7:40 pm
Motion by Councilman Papaleo, second by Councilman Chinigo
All in favor 4-0

Stephanie Evans, RMC, CMR
Borough Clerk