

M I N U T E S
Meeting of the Mayor and Council
Monday, May 20, 2013
8:00 P.M.

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER -

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

SILENT PRAYER - FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Moscaritolo called for a moment of reflection and silent prayer and asked Councilman Acquafredda to lead the salute to the flag.

MISSION STATEMENT & OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS -

Mayor Moscaritolo read the Mission Statement into the record as follows:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and attend any meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon.

In accordance with this act the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge have caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Borough Hall and notices have been sent to the Record and the Ridgewood News.

The mission of this governing body is to provide essential services through the establishment and implementation of public policy that will safeguard our infrastructure provide honest, courteous and professional services; and establish a sense of trust and accomplishment with our residents. Through research and prudent planning we seek to minimize risks while improving our services. We are sensitive to the needs of our taxpayers while realizing that this governing body cannot be all things to all people within the revenue constraints imposed by state mandates, economic conditions and prevailing attitudes about taxation.

ROLL CALL - Councilwoman Murphy, Councilman Acquafredda, Councilman Cappola, Councilman Mignone, Councilman Bartelloni, Councilman Papaleo and Mayor Moscaritolo were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES -

Motion by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Mignone to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Council work session and regular meeting of May 6, 2013.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Murphy, Councilman Acquafredda, Councilman Cappola, Councilman Mignone, Councilman Bartelloni and Councilman Papaleo voted yes.

PROCLAMATIONS & AWARDS - NONE

APPOINTMENTS & PERSONNEL CHANGES -

Motion by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Mignone to approve the retirement of John Connolly, Patrolman in the Police Department, effective June 30, 2013.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Murphy, Councilman Acquafredda, Councilman Cappola, Councilman Mignone, Councilman Bartelloni and Councilman Papaleo voted yes.

Motion by Councilman Bartelloni, seconded by Councilman Mignone to have a plaque made for Patrolman Connolly.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Murphy, Councilman Acquafredda, Councilman Cappola, Councilman Mignone, Councilman Bartelloni and Councilman Papaleo voted yes.

Motion by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Mignone to approve the hire of Arthur DeRosa, 222 Brook Street, Paramus, New Jersey, as Code Enforcement Officer, at an hourly rate of \$15.74, four (4) hours per week, with a six-month probationary period, effective May 21, 2013.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Murphy, Councilman Acquafredda, Councilman Cappola, Councilman Mignone, Councilman Bartelloni and Councilman Papaleo voted yes.

Motion by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Bartelloni to approve the hire of Daniel Dekker, 13-02 6th Street, Fair Lawn, New Jersey 07410, as Seasonal/Summer help in the Department of Public Works at an hourly rate of \$10.00, 29 hours per week for a total of 750 hours, effective May 21, 2013.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Murphy, Councilman Acquafredda, Councilman Cappola, Councilman Mignone, Councilman Bartelloni and Councilman Papaleo voted yes.

CORRESPONDENCE -

Notice - River Edge Board of Education - 5/6/13
Re: Meeting - 5/7/13

Notice - River Edge Board of Education - 5/6/13
Re: Revised Meeting Notice

Notice - Thomas Barrett, Esq. - 5/6/13
Re: Site Plan Variance -474-478 Kinderkamack

Letter - State of N.J., DEP - 5/6/13
Re: Underground Storage Tank-884 Summit Ave.

Letter - State of N.J. DOT - 5/6/13
Re: Receipt of \$150,000 Grant

Letter - BCUA - 5/7/13
Re: Public Hearing Notice

Notice - BCUA - 5/9/13
Re: Hearing Re: Computation on Connection Fees

Letter - Cablevision - 5/13/13
Re: Elimination of Video Packages

Letter - Borough of Cresskill - 5/13/13
Re: Back-up to River Edge Ambulance Service

Letter - Patrolman John Connolly - 5/15/13
Re: Notice of Retirement

Notice - New Jersey Transit - 5/16/13
Re: Disadvantaged Business Enterprise

Memo - Recreation Commission - 5/16/13
Re: Thank you to departments, volunteers & Organizations - R.E. Run

Memo - Recreation Commission & Director - 5/16/13
Re: Thank you - John Lynch & Staff

MONTHLY REPORTS -

Building Department - April 2013
Police Department - March 2013
Library Board - April 2013
Tax Collector - April 2013
Shade Tree Commission - April 2013

LIAISON REPORTS -

Councilwoman Murphy - Liaison to DPW, Shade Tree Commission, Library, Senior Citizens co-liaison, New Milford/River Edge Shared Services Committee, Oradell/River Edge Shared Services Committee - reported that the DPW will be putting their old tree truck up for auction within the next two weeks and they are expecting the new truck to be delivered by the end of the month. She reported that the members of the Shade Tree Commission have completed their grant application and it is ready for submission. Councilwoman Murphy is working on the recycling calendar and hopes to have it completed by the end of the month.

Councilman Acquafredda - Liaison to Beautification Committee, Ad Hoc Zoning Subcommittee, River Edge and River Dell Schools - reported that the Beautification Committee met for the last time before the summer break on May 9th and discussed current plantings, fundraising and weeding. He reported that there were two \$250.00 donations made to Beautification; one received from Virginia Korteweg and the other from Rob Schlossberg on behalf of his company, MARJ. Councilman Acquafredda thanked both individuals for their generosity.

Councilman Cappola - Liaison to Construction Code Official, Property Maintenance, Senior Citizens co-liaison, Historic Commission - reported that he and members of SCORE are still trying to come up postcards and letters to send out in September to hopefully attract new members. Councilman Cappola will be attending the Historic Commission meeting this Wednesday where they will be discussing the codes for facades of historic designated homes as well as the historic element.

Councilman Mignone - Liaison to Police Dept., Environmental Protection Commission, Green Team, Planning Board, New Milford/River Edge Shared Services Committee - reported that Patrolman Connolly will be retiring and suggested that they invite Chief Cariddi to a meeting to discuss how that will affect staffing for the remainder of the year and potential impact that it will have on overtime.

He reported that the Green Team started the Community Garden project at the Middle School and was pleased to see that the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts were involved. They also have an on-line sign-up webpage for those who can give an hour or so to help out. He also reported that the Planning Board approved the application for a new large sit down Chinese Restaurant as well as the approval of a soil movement permit for the expansion of a single family home on Voorhis Avenue.

Councilman Bartelloni - Liaison to Recreation Commission, Traffic & Safety, Special Events Committee, Technology Committee, Oradell Shared Services Committee - reported that the Special Events Committee met last week and they continue to work on the July 4th festivities and are looking to have Zumba in the park on June 7th as a fundraiser. They have been discussing a selection for the Grand Marshal and they will have a name to present to the Council at the next meeting for approval. He reported that as far as Recreation, all of the spring sports are moving forward very well.

Councilman Papaleo - Liaison to Fire/Fire Prevention, River Edge Alliance Against Alcohol & Drugs - reported that the Fire Department Engine #2 was put back in service and he thanked the Village of Ridgewood for loaning us a replacement which has been returned. The Fire Department will be participating in the 100th Anniversary New Jersey/New York Firefighter Parade and in preparation, they have been working very hard in getting the vehicles up to spec in hopes of bringing home a few trophies. The Fire Department will be placing flags on grave sites for members who are buried locally before Memorial Day. The Memorial Day services at Company #1 will begin at 10 a.m. and at 10:30 the parade will begin on Millbrook and Wales Avenue. The River Edge Alliance participated in the River Edge Walk/Run which benefitted the Alliance and he was pleased with the amount of money that was raised. READ currently continues in the planning of community events as well as programs within the parochial and public schools to support their mission.

Mayor Moscaritolo reported that the Ambulance Service has three American Heart Association CPR Certified Instructors who obtain recertification yearly, which saves hundreds of dollars by teaching the course in-house. The Mayor reported that they've also taught life savings skills to Boy and Girl Scout leaders. For the month of January they responded to 53 calls, February - 39 calls, March - 53 and April - 30 for a total of 175 calls for the first quarter. On April 20th the Ambulance pager system went down due to the shutting off of a breaker switch during the testing of the emergency generator. Neal Carroll was successful in finding us a back-up with the Borough of Cresskill since they are on the same frequency as River Edge and we will be entering into an interlocal agreement with them for these services. The Mayor reported that also on April 20th, REVAS responded to a hazmat incident in Dumont which was caused by pepper spray. They were in attendance at the River Edge Run and they will be in Oradell on July 5th and will be also be in attendance for the New Milford 5K Run. Mayor Moscaritolo reported that today, he attended the Community Development Grant meeting and was told that there are only ten towns that will be eligible to receive Block Grant funds. The Mayor stated that although there are no funds for a new senior bus this year, River Edge will be receiving funding for senior activities, the senior bus dispatcher and the senior bus driver. Mayor Moscaritolo also reported that we were successful in getting the River Edge Board of Education \$60,000 of Block Grant funds to install an ADA compliant bathroom. The Mayor stated that there are still baby trees at the DPW that need to be planted at Cherry Blossom Park and he and Kathleen planted approximately 28 last week. The Mayor explained that River Edge will be entering into a shared service agreement for a lightning detection system with the Borough of New Milford, River Edge Board of Ed and New Milford Board of Ed and River Dell School System. The funds will be coming from the capital improvement fund which will be offset by pro-rating the cost of the system among the five towns.

ORDINANCES - 1ST READING - NONE

ORDINANCE - 2ND READING - NONE

RESOLUTIONS - By Consent

Motion by Councilman Mignone, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy to approve resolution #13-210 through #13-219.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Murphy, Councilman Acquafredda, Councilman Cappola, Councilman Mignone, Councilman Bartelloni and Councilman Papaleo voted yes.

#13-210 Establish a 25 MPH Speed Limit Along Kinderkamack Road

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of River Edge finds it is in

the interest of public safety to establish a 25 mph speed limit along Kinderkamack Road pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:4-8(b); and

WHEREAS, this matter has been discussed at a meeting of the Mayor and Council on October 1, 2012; and

WHEREAS, this matter was also discussed at a meeting on October 15, 2012 at which time the Chief of Police and Borough Engineer were part of the discussion; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body is of the opinion that a lower speed limit will improve pedestrian and vehicle safety and assist in the improvement of economic conditions; and

WHEREAS, the County of Bergen may enact resolutions or ordinances for roadways under their jurisdiction in accordance with N.J.S.A. 39:4-201; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 69, Laws of 1957 N.J.S.A. 39:4-197.2 municipalities having a paid police force may, with the consent of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Bergen, by ordinance enact regulations affecting county roads; and

WHEREAS, this matter has also been discussed at a meeting on May 6, 2013 at which time the Mayor and Council agreed to have this resolution considered by a new Governing Body forwarded to the County of Bergen.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of River Edge is requesting that the County of Bergen provide its assistance and consent so that the speed limit on Kinderkamack Road from the Hackensack border to the Oradell border is lowered from 35 mph to 25 mph.

May 20, 2013

#13-211 Rescind Resolution #13-177 - Authorizing a Refund to New Jersey Transit for a Street Opening

WHEREAS, resolution #13-177 to authorize a refund to New Jersey Transit for a street opening at Tenney Avenue and the Railroad Tracks was approved on April 15, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the refund check should have been made out to J. Fletcher Creamer.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that resolution #13-177, dated April 15, 2013, is hereby rescinded.

May 20, 2013

#13-212 Authorize Accounts Supervisor to Issue a Refund Check to J. Fletcher Creamer for a Street Opening at Tenney Avenue and the Railroad Tracks

WHEREAS, the Borough of River Edge received a street opening permit from the following who surrendered \$320.00 for a bond; and

WHEREAS, John Lynch, Superintendent of Public Works has inspected the street where the opening was made, Tenney Avenue and the Railroad Tracks, and has declared it satisfactory; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available from Trust Other Account in the amount not to exceed \$320.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Accounts Supervisor is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$320.00 to the following:

J. Fletcher Creamer
1701 E. Linden Avenue
Linden, New Jersey 07036

May 20, 2013

#13-213 Resolution to Go Into Closed Session and Exclude Public

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A.10:4-12, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain enumerated circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. That the public shall be excluded from the June 3, 2013 meeting and discussion of the hereinafter specified subject matter:

Closed Session Docket # _____	Item Title or Description	Statutory Reference
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To be determined by reference to the Borough Clerk's Agenda for the above meeting.

2. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matter will be made public within a reasonable time, the substance of which will be released after the Mayor and Council or the specific authorized public body has reviewed and specifically accepted the data.

3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

May 20, 2013

#13-214 Enter Into Agreement with Peter Cetta, 213 Wales Avenue for Right-of-Way on Borough Property

WHEREAS, Peter Cetta has requested a Right-of-Way to cross over Borough property to allow certain vehicles and/or equipment to remove a tree on his property; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Attorney has drawn up a license agreement for ingress and egress over the portion of Block 305, Lot 7.07 abutting the Licensee's property for the purpose of gaining access to remove a tree on his property; and

WHEREAS, there is a required escrow deposit of \$1,000.00 which has been received.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are authorized to execute the License Agreement with Peter Cetta.

May 20, 2013

#13-215 Rescind Resolution #13-197 Granting a Raffle License to River Edge Little League

WHEREAS, resolution #13-197 to grant a raffle license to River Edge Little League was approved on May 6, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the length of time for the calendar raffle was incorrect.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that resolution #13-197 dated May 7, 2013 is hereby rescinded.

May 20, 2013

#13-216 Amend 2013 Budget

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40:A4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion or increase of any special item of revenue in the budget of any County or Municipality when such an item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion or increase of an item for an equal amount; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has received a grant for a Reserve for Clean Communities Grant Unappropriated in the amount of \$18,366.20.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of River Edge that it does hereby request the approval of the Director for the following:

Increase an item of revenue entitled:

3. Miscellaneous Revenue - Section F

Clean Communities Grant.....\$18,366.20

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the like sum of \$18,366.20 and the same is hereby appropriated under the caption of:

General Appropriations

(A) Operations excluded from the "CAPS"

Public & Private Programs Offset by Revenues

Clean Communities Grant.....\$18,366.20

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough forward two (2) copies of this resolution to the Director of Local Government Services.

May 20, 2013

#13-217 Grant Raffle License to PTO Roosevelt School

BE IT RESOLVED that the following license to conduct an On Premise 50/50 Raffle to PTO Roosevelt School, 711 Summit Avenue, River Edge, New Jersey, 07661, License #642, I.D. 423-5-28534 to take place at Roosevelt School, 711 Summit Avenue, River Edge, River Edge, New Jersey on June 21, 2013 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The Clerk reporting all in order.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said license shall be issued subject to all rules and regulations of the Legalized Games of Chance Control of the State of New Jersey.

May 20, 2013

#13-218 Authorize Refund from Trust Other Account

WHEREAS, a resident paid for a permit to use the park; and
WHEREAS, the resident cancelled the event due to weather conditions; and
WHEREAS, the residents had paid in full for this permit; and
WHEREAS, a refund will be made to the following:

Michele Rossi
428 Oak Avenue
River Edge, New Jersey 07661 \$50.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a total of \$50.00 be refunded from the Trust Other Account to the above listed resident.

May 20, 2013

#13-219 Authorize Mayor and Clerk to Sign a Shared Services Agreement with the Borough of Cresskill to Provide a Back-up Communication Service for the River Edge Ambulance Service

WHEREAS, the Borough of River Edge has a need for a back-up communication system for the ambulance service; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of River Edge wishes to enter into an agreement with the Borough of Cresskill pursuant to the provisions of the "Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act" N.J.S.A. C.40A:65-1 through C.40A:65-35 et seq.); and

WHEREAS, regionalized provisions of such services is a concept specifically endorsed by the aforementioned statutory scheme; and

WHEREAS, it is to the benefit of the Borough of River Edge and the Borough of Cresskill to participate in this joint cooperation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge shall enter into an agreement with the Borough of Cresskill to provide a back-up communication service for the River Edge Ambulance Service, subject to the approval of the Borough Attorney and the provisions of the "Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act" N.J.S.A. C.40A:65-1 through C.40A:65-35 et seq.); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge that:

1. The Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the Shared Services Agreement with the Borough of Cresskill; and
2. The term of this Agreement shall be contingent on the passage of resolutions by both municipalities.

May 20, 2013

Councilman Mignone read resolution #13-220 into the record.

Motion by Councilman Mignone, seconded by _____ to approve resolution #13-220.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Murphy, Councilman Acquafredda, Councilman Cappola, Councilman Mignone, Councilman Bartelloni and Councilman Papaleo voted yes.

#13-220 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	\$272,648.85
CAPITAL ACCOUNT	\$ 34,906.74
RECREATION ACCOUNT	\$ 7,278.41
ANIMAL WELFARE ACCOUNT	\$ 28.80
TRUST OTHER ACCOUNT	\$ 3,377.58
TRUST OTHER DEVELOPERS ACCOUNT	\$ 5,690.00
OPEN SPACE ACCOUNT	\$ 7,392.92

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.

May 20, 2013

OPEN HEARING OF THE PUBLIC -

Motion by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Mignone to open hearing of the public.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Murphy, Councilman Acquafredda, Councilman Cappola, Councilman Mignone, Councilman Bartelloni and Councilman Papaleo voted yes.

Peggy White-741 Center Avenue-stated that at the last meeting, Councilwoman Murphy spoke about the recycling calendar and doesn't understand why the Green Team would be involved when historically it fell under the jurisdiction of the Environmental Commission. She asked the Mayor and Council not to appoint people who have no intention of attending meetings.

Councilwoman Murphy-offered information that she has compiled on putting recycling containers in the parks.

Councilman Mignone-explained that the Green Team had received a grant and they were looking for ways to use the money. He agrees that they need to look at the appointees for the Environmental Commission because they haven't had a quorum in quite some time.

Ellen Busteed-597 Bogert Road-stated that it is wonderful to see progress at the Huffman Koos site and asked if the Governing Body has given any consideration to a public forum to invite comments by the public on the type of retail and establishments they'd like to see on that site as well as other areas in town.

Mark Widder-135 Valley-explained that a tree had fallen on his home during Hurricane Sandy which the DPW had removed but is feeling frustrated because the stump that was left is very large and he was told that he would have to be put on the stump removal list which could take years.

Gregg Cariddi-193 Wayne Avenue-was happy to see that the Borough is hiring a new Code Enforcement Officer tonight and hopes that the Mayor and Council will increase the 4 hours per week because he doesn't feel it's enough. He also explained that an amateur photographer told him that there are several trees blocking the Hackensack River about fifty yards north of our boat ramp. He continued to say during low tide it will not only be a flooding issue but the Fire Department will not have boat access north of the ramp.

Neal Carroll-321 Wales Avenue-asked when the Traffic & Safety Committee will be meeting next because he feels that the topic proposal to make the Marginal Road by Route 4 a one-way going west should be discussed. He stated that there are many firemen who live in that south end of town that use the Marginal Road to get to Company #2 for a fire call and if they have to drive up to Reservoir and come down Kinderkamack, there will be quite a delay in response time. He offered his help in contacting certain individuals of Public Service as well as a rep from the BPU to get the generator project completed.

Mayor Moscaritolo-stated that Traffic & Safety has not discussed this yet, but when it is placed on the agenda, the Fire Department, Police Department and Ambulance Service will be notified.

CLOSE HEARING OF THE PUBLIC -

Motion by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Mignone to close hearing of the public.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Murphy, Councilman Acquafredda, Councilman Cappola, Councilman Mignone, Councilman Bartelloni and Councilman Papaleo voted yes.

COUNCIL COMMENTS -

Councilwoman Murphy-congratulated the Shade Tree Commission for receiving the Gold Leaf Conservation Award which is a very prestigious award given by the State of New Jersey. Councilwoman Murphy informed everyone that Fresh and Fancy Farms in New Milford will donate 15% of sale proceeds from River Edge residents to the Beautification Committee starting now until the end of May. She reminded everyone that on August 24th there will be a wine festival at New Bridge Landing. Councilwoman Murphy also agreed the hours for the Code Enforcement Officer should be increased because she has received many complaints from residents regarding conditions of properties in town.

Councilman Cappola-commended the Beautification Committee for their plantings around town and commented on how nice the Library looks. He was happy to see a shovel in the ground finally at the Huffman Koos site and applauded the Mayor for doing a great job with his speech and representing our town. Councilman Cappola stated that he just happened to find out about the ceremony by word of mouth and was disappointed that as a Council member, he was not invited. He hopes that in the future he will be invited when something that important is happening in town. Councilman Cappola suggested that the sign in front of the American Legion be taken down because half of it is gone and feels that it's an eyesore.

Councilman Mignone-stated that he was out of town last week and would not have been able to attend the ground breaking ceremony, but agrees that the entire Council should have been invited and notified for such an important ceremony. He also stated that there were members of the Planning who were disappointed that they weren't invited because they spent a lot of time reviewing the application. Councilman Mignone stated that when the Mayor takes fundamental disagreements on issues or policies and says that it's politics, it comes across as insulting. He

stated that because the Council may disagree and have different opinions, doesn't mean it's for political gain. He agreed with the statement that the Mayor made during the Reorganization meeting where he said that this Council has agreed more times than not in moving things forward. He also would prefer to increase the number of hours for the Code Enforcer but said that it just isn't in the budget. He continued to say that although the Council worked very hard on this year's budget, the next few years will still be very challenging. If they add hours to one department, they'll have to take it from another.

Councilman Bartelloni-stated that many times he's heard from people up on the dais that when he disagrees, it's because it's politically based. He stated that although he is up for re-election this year, he would not allow that to govern how he thinks or acts and feels that he sticks to his core set of beliefs. He feels insulted when people accuse him of saying things because of politics. Councilman Bartelloni stated that he is not in favor of spending any additional money for the Cherry Blossom Park and feels that he's been consistent about that over the past few years. He doesn't understand why you would hire an engineer to come up with a plan if you don't know how you're going to fund the project. He stated that the only way to fund it would be to take more from Open Space or bond for it because there's no money in the operating budget. He still feels that this park project has never been fully vetted by the entire Council and finds that very disappointing. He also was disappointed that the entire Council was not informed of the ground breaking ceremony and feels that by intentionally not inviting the Republican Council members, it's politics at its worst form.

Councilman Papaleo-is delighted to see that the Huffman Koos project is moving ahead and thanked the Mayor for all of his hard work in getting the project going. He's also thrilled that Cherry Blossom Park is moving forward because it sat for a long time as an unfinished project. Councilman Papaleo respects the fact that the Council has different opinions about the park but his position is that anything that will beautify River Edge and will remove fencing from vacant lot and bring about completion is worthwhile. Councilman Papaleo feels that they worked in a bipartisan manner to put this year's budget together thanked Councilman Bartelloni for his hard work during that time as well as his efforts on the Finance Committee. He feels that although the budget is tight he feels that they still need to get some work done.

Mayor Moscaritolo-thanked everyone for coming and feels that it makes the meetings more interesting when the residents ask questions and voice their opinions or concerns to the Council. The Mayor invited everyone to the Memorial Day Ceremony at Fire Company #1 starting at 10 a.m. followed by the presentation at Memorial Park. The Mayor announced the wine festival that will take place on August 24th at New Bridge Landing and informed everyone that they there will be 8 New Jersey wineries on hand for wine tasting, food vendors, entertainment, etc. and hopes that the weather holds out for this great event. Regarding Cherry Blossom Park, the Mayor stated that there has always been political differences regarding the park but he feels that we own it, it's our property and we have to take care of it. He explained that the Borough was spending \$700.00 a month to keep a fence around a vacant piece of land and now the fence is down, the grass is growing, the land is graded and when it's done it will be a jewel in the crown of River Edge. He stated that this park will be completed under this administration. The Mayor stated that he knows that there are tender egos on the Council but felt that the ground breaking ceremony at the former Huffman Koos property was a ceremonial event, the same as a ribbon cutting or a marriage. He doesn't understand why everyone is so offended and explained that he was asked to provide a guest list which included a Freeholder, who is a Republican, our Assemblyman and Senator. The Mayor again thanked everyone for coming and again invited them to the Memorial Day ceremonies.

ADJOURNMENT - 8:55 P.M.

Motion by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Mignone to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilwoman Murphy, Councilman Acquafredda, Councilman Cappola, Councilman Mignone, Councilman Bartelloni and Councilman Papaleo voted yes.

Mayor Sandy Moscaritolo

Attest:

Denise A. Dondiego, Borough Clerk

Dated: