

ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP COUNCIL – JUNE 15, 2021 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Rockaway was held on Tuesday, June 15, 2021. This meeting was held remotely/electronically using the platform Webex Events and commenced at approximately 6:30PM.

Council President Jackson led those present in the flag salute.

Council President Jackson called for a moment of silence to remember the services and sacrifices of the armed service members who protect our Nation and the first responders who protect our neighborhoods. He noted that in the past week a dedicated member of the community, Mike Friedberger, passed away and to keep his family in your thoughts.

Roll Call was taken for attendance.

Present: Council Members Kelley, Quinn, Friedlander, Kritz, Salberg, Brookes, Noon, Sackett, and Jackson.

Present from Administration: Mayor Michael Puzio, Attorney Iacofano, Attorney Perrone, Ms. Patricia Seger, Mr. David Dyer, Ms. Lisa Palmieri, Ms. Allison Ferrante, and Mr. Ray Sarinelli, Jr., Municipal Auditor.

Council President Jackson stated, "Please be advised that all electronic/remote meetings of the Township Council held on Webex are recorded. All members of the public will be provided the opportunity to speak. During any "public hearing" or "open to the public" sections of the meeting, the Township Clerk will unmute each member of the public and ask if they wish to speak. As per Rockaway Township Code 2-5.14, any person desiring to address the Council shall first seek recognition by the presiding officer; and upon recognition by the chair, the person shall give their name and address for the record. Unless further time is granted by the Council, they shall limit their statement to five minutes. Statements shall be addressed to the Council as a body and not to any member thereof. A Councilman shall not direct any question to a speaker addressing the Council, except through the presiding officer. In addition to speaking on the record during Council Meetings, members of the public may submit questions and comments to the Council by emailing questions@rockawaytownship.org by the end of the "Open to the Public" session."

Council President Jackson stated, "This meeting was advertised in the Daily Record on May 15, 2021 and the Star Ledger on May 17, 2021, the official newspapers for the Township of Rockaway. Notice was posted on the official bulletin boards of Rockaway Township."

Mayor Puzio stated that he would like Council to reconsider the fee for special events permits and to lower it from \$100 to \$50. There was discussion.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2020 AUDIT REPORT:

R-21-100 GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION OF THE ANNUAL AUDIT

Mr. Sarinelli gave a report on the audit to Council. He responded to questions posed by Council Members.

Motion was made by Council Member Quinn, seconded by Council Member Friedlander, to approve Resolution R-21-100.

Roll Call Was Taken.

Yah Votes: 9 (Kelley, Quinn, Friedlander, Kritz, Salberg, Brookes, Noon, Sackett, Jackson)

Nah Votes: 0

Motion carries.

R-21-101 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN IN CONNECTION WITH THE AUDIT REPORT FOR YEAR 2020 TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY, COUNTY OF MORRIS

Motion was made by Council Member Quinn, seconded by Council Member Kelley, to approve Resolution R-21-101.

Roll Call Was Taken.

Yah Votes: 9 (Kelley, Quinn, Friedlander, Kritz, Salberg, Brookes, Noon, Sackett, Jackson)

Nah Votes: 0

Motion carries.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

May 25, 2021 – Regular Meeting

Motion was made by Council Member Salberg, seconded by Council Vice President Sackett, to approve the May 25, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Roll Call Was Taken.

Yah Votes: 8 (Quinn, Friedlander, Kritz, Salberg, Brookes, Noon, Sackett, Jackson)

Nah Votes: 1 (Kelley)

Motion carries.

ORDINANCES TO ADOPT:

O-21-24 ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 7 - ARTICLE II OF THE REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY IN ORDER TO ADD NEW ORDINANCE SECTION 64 ET. SEQ. ESTABLISHING A TITLE 39 ENFORCEMENT PLAN FOR THE REGULATION OF PARKING, STANDING INGRESS, EGRESS, AND THE FLOW OF TRAFFIC ON PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNED BY U.S. HOME CORPORATION D/B/A LENNAR IDENTIFIED ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP AS BLOCK 22401 LOT 1.01 MORE COMMONLY KNOWN

AS COVENTRY PARK AT ROCKAWAY (AKA THE HILLS) GREEN POND ROAD (CR 513)

Motion was made by Council Member Kelley, seconded by Council Member Friedlander, to adopt Ordinance O-21-24.

Public Hearing/Council Discussion

No members of the public came forward.

Council Member Kelley stated that he heard that an individual purchased a building or a group of buildings in Lennar and he wanted to make sure that there wasn't an additional owner. There was discussion.

Roll Call Was Taken.

Yah Votes: 9 (Kelley, Quinn, Friedlander, Kritz, Salberg, Brookes, Noon, Sackett, Jackson)

Nah Votes:

Motion carries.

Motion was made by Council Member Quinn, seconded by Council Member Noon, to remove Item 10, Closed Session, from the agenda.

Roll Call Was Taken.

Yah Votes: 7 (Quinn, Friedlander, Kritz, Brookes, Noon, Sackett, Jackson)

Nah Votes: 2 (Kelley, Salberg)

Motion carries.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

No members of the public came forward.

ORDINANCES TO INTRODUCE:

O-21-25 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING CHAPTER 5, ARTICLE V, ENTITLED PEDDLERS, CANVASSERS, SOLICITORS AND MOBILE FOOD VENDORS OF THE GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY

Motion was made by Council Member Quinn, seconded by Council Member Noon, to introduce Ordinance O-21-25.

Roll Call Was Taken.

Yah Votes: 7 (Quinn, Friedlander, Kritz, Salberg, Brookes, Noon, Jackson)

Nah Votes: 2 (Kelley, Sackett)

Motion carries.

CONSENT AGENDA:

R-21-92 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH DNG FARMS, L.L.C. TO REDEEM A MUNICIPAL TAX TITLE LIEN C#18-00020 APPLICABLE TO BLOCK 11403, LOT 14 VIA PAYMENT OF EQUAL INSTALLMENTS OF PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST FOR THIRTY-SIX (36) MONTHS

R-21-93 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF CLUB LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 FOR GREEN POND YACHT CLUB, INC.

R-21-94 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF CLUB LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 FOR LAKE TELEMARCK COUNTRY CLUB, INC.

R-21-95 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF CLUB LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 FOR MARCELLA COMMUNITY CLUB, INC.

R-21-96 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF CLUB LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 FOR ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP POST 344, DEPT. OF NJ AMERICAN LEGION

R-21-97 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF HOTEL/MOTEL LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 BLENHEIM HOSPITALITY AT ROCHI, LCC.

R-21-98 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 FOR DIVYA 92, CORP.

R-21-99 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 FOR DGK BEVERAGE CO., INC.

R-21-102 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INSERTION OF AN ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE 2021 BUDGET FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR CLEAN COMMUNITIES GRANT PROGRAM

R-21-103 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INSERTION OF AN ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE 2021 BUDGET FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR POLICE BODY-WORN CAMERA (BWC) MANDATE PROGRAM

R-21-104 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INSERTION OF AN ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE 2021 BUDGET FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR COVID-19 RELATED RESPONSE ACTIVITIES / SUPPLEMENTS 1 & 2

R-21-105 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REDUCTION OF A PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE FROM \$17,431,200.00 TO \$7,299,480.00 FOR PONDVIEW ESTATES INC (FORMERLY KNOWN AS HIGHLANDS AT MORRIS INC) REGARDING THE PROPERTY DESIGNATED AS BLOCK 11501 LOTS 24, 29, 41, 45, 46 AND 47 AND BLOCK 11502, LOT 2 ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY

R-21-106 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTION OF A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE NJDOT FOR ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS TO QUEENS ROAD SECTION II

R-21-107 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDERS #001, #002, #003, #004 AND CREDIT CHANGE ORDER #001 INCREASING THE TOTAL CONTRACT PRICE FOR THE SENIOR CENTER FIRST FLOOR RENOVATION PROJECT TO \$79,093.00

R-21-108 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 FOR APPLE FOOD SERVICE OF ROCKAWAY, LLC.

R-21-109 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 FOR CHARLIE'S PUB, INC.

R-21-110 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 FOR THE CHEESECAKE FACTORY RESTAURANTS, INC.

R-21-111 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 FOR GERMANIA PARK OF NJ, INC.

R-21-112 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 FOR GMRI, INC.

R-21-113 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 FOR GREEN POND BARN, LLC.

R-21-114 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 FOR LUZZI'S PIZZA PUB, CORP.

R-21-115 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 FOR RED ROBIN INTERNATIONAL, INC.

R-21-116 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 FOR RICHARD MINE ROAD TAVERN, INC.

R-21-117 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 FOR MILLER'S ALE HOUSE OF ROCKAWAY, LLC.

R-21-118 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 FOR ROCKAWAY BWW, LLC.

R-21-119 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 FOR TOWNSQUARE CAFÉ, INC.

R-21-120 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 FOR WHITE MEADOW LAKE AND COUNTRY CLUB, INC.

R-21-121 RESOLUTION AMENDING R-21-19, R-21-33 and R-21-85 BY ADDING TO THE AUTHORIZED LISTS OF VENDORS SET FORTH IN THOSE RESOLUTIONS AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF CERTAIN GOODS AND SERVICES THROUGH THE USE OF STATE, COUNTY, AND REGIONAL COOPERATIVE CONTRACTS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2021

R-21-122 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF POCKET PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 FOR EHRLICH & JOHNSON, LLC.

R-21-123 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF POCKET PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 FOR RTC RESTAURANT, CORP.

R-21-124 RESCINDING R-20-161 THE RENEWAL OF A PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR (POCKET) LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2020 TO JUNE 30, 2021 AND RETROSPECTIVELY GRANTING THE RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION "POCKET" LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2020 TO JUNE 30, 2021

R-21-125 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF A PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR (POCKET) LICENSE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022

Council Member Kelley requested that the Clerk remove R-21-92, R-21-106, and R-21-107 for discussion. Council President Jackson asked Mr. Iacofano if a motion was required and Mr. Iacofano stated that it is the procedure established by this Council is to make a motion to remove items from the consent agenda.

Motion was made by Council Member Brookes, seconded by Council Member Kelley, to remove R-21-92 for discussion.

Roll Call Was Taken.

Yah Votes: 8 (Kelley, Quinn, Kritz, Salberg, Brookes, Noon, Sackett, Jackson)

Nah Votes: 1 (Friedlander)

Motion carries.

Motion was made by Council Vice President Sackett, seconded by Council Member Brookes, to remove R-21-106 for discussion.

Roll Call Was Taken.

Yah Votes: 9 (Kelley, Quinn, Friedlander, Kritz, Salberg, Brookes, Noon, Sackett, Jackson)

Nah Votes: 0

Motion carries.

Motion was made by Council Member Kelley to remove R-21-107 for discussion. No one seconded.

Motion was made by Council Member Quinn, seconded by Council Member Friedlander, to approve the consent agenda with the exception of R-21-92 and R-21-106.

Roll Call Was Taken.

Yah Votes: 8 (Quinn, Friedlander, Kritz, Salberg, Brookes, Noon, Sackett, Jackson)

Nah Votes: 1 (Kelley)

Motion carries.

Motion was made by Council Member Noon, seconded by Council Member Quinn, to approve R-21-92.

Roll Call Was Taken.

Yah Votes: 8 (Kelley, Quinn, Friedlander, Kritz, Salberg, Noon, Sackett, Jackson)

Nah Votes:

Abstentions: 1 (Brookes)

Motion carries.

Motion was made by Council Member Quinn, seconded by Council Vice President Sackett, to approve R-21-106.

Roll Call Was Taken.

Yah Votes: 8 (Quinn, Friedlander, Kritz, Salberg, Brookes, Noon, Sackett, Jackson)

Nah Votes:

Abstentions: 1 (Kelley)

Motion carries.

APPOINTMENTS

There were no new appointments.

OLD BUSINESS, NEW BUSINESS, AND REPORTS:

Council Member Salberg said that he joined most of the Council Members at the varsity cheer and football player gala and it was nice to see the excitement. He congratulated the victors from the last election.

Council Member Kelley stated that he attended the Memorial Day parade and that it was a great day. Regarding old business, he asked the Township Clerk about liquor license fees as compared to other municipalities. Ms. Clipperton responded. He brought up Resolution R-21-107 and the total work being done. Mayor Puzio said that his office will respond and Council Member Kelley expressed that none of the Council knows what this involves. He asked about the changes to polling places, noted they were disruptive, and asked the Clerk if she had been given assistance with changing the locations. Ms. Clipperton responded. He reported on DNG Farms and Mr. Monte and Mr. Perrone stated that he should not be allowed to speak about this in public session. Council Member Kelley asked why two attorneys are here at the meeting.

Council Member Kritz stated that he wasn't going to bring up the voting but feels that he has to, and that considering that the Township lost two polling locations the Clerk did the best she could. He noted that there were plenty of people who didn't have issues and that if driving a few minutes down the road is the price of democracy, it's a small price. He was at the Rockets dinner and it was an excellent event, as was an event that they held at Peterson Field. He continued that the girls' softball association still has games going on and that this is a top-notch program.

Council Member Noon said that she and Council Member Friedlander went to the Historical Society at the Ford Faesch house. She noted that there are new vendors at the Farmers Market. She congratulated graduates and noted graduation dates.

Council Member Brookes commended the Police Department and Department of Public Works for the paving of Mt. Hope Avenue. He gave an update on street hockey noting that it goes on for about five weeks at Telemark, and that hockey registration is underway. He congratulated graduates.

Council Member Friedlander said that the library is moving forward with programs and opening up. He recapped the Historical Society meeting at the Ford Faesch house. He said that the Board of Assessment is meeting next Tuesday, June 22. He thanked Administration for addressing issues on Valley View Drive and for working with the Traffic Department on adding more speeding signs at White Meadow Lake. He also thanked the Fire Company as he recently observed at Society Hill an inspection that was being conducted in a newly constructed building that involved many firefighters.

Council Member Quinn reported that Senior Services is trying to run two events a month through Dial-A-Ride so seniors can get out for nice meals, and today's event was attended by 20 to 25 people at Cracker Barrel. He encouraged interested residents to call Town Hall for upcoming events. He said that lacrosse ended the season and he congratulated the coaches and athletes.

Council Vice President Sackett noted that he has been happy to attend many of the events that have been going on and it's good to see residents and Council Members out and about. He and Council Member Kritz volunteered at the Renegades' Romp in the Swamp and it's a great event with teams from all over the State. He reported that the Chamber of Commerce meeting is on June 18 and Copeland's graduation is on June 17. He asked candidates for the Primary election to remove their signs.

Council President Jackson said that on Saturday at 11 a.m. at Birchwood there will be a memorial bench dedication and for Council Members to please respond to the Clerk if they're attending. He reported that the Memorial Day parade was well done and it was great to see so many people there. He gave kudos to Dave Swanton and crew for their work on fields and added that the tennis courts look good.

Mayor Puzio congratulated everyone who ran for election. He said that Council Member Brookes expressed concern regarding the Parks Lake dam work and that the Township is working with the Borough to see that the project gets done. He stated that the municipal building is reopening to the public on Tuesday, June 22 after the Juneteenth holiday, which is scheduled for Monday, June 21. He thanked Council President Jackson for spearheading the annual appreciation barbeque planned for Township employees and invited Council Members to come help cook. He noted that Copeland graduation is being held outdoors on Thursday at Peterson Field and thanked Dave Dyer and others for coordinating this. He added that the tennis courts are completed and the basketball courts are getting the final topcoat put on. He wrapped up by reporting on work being conducted to address traffic issues in the Lake Telemark area. He ended by thanking the Council for their input and for working with him.

Attorney Iacofano stated that he had no report.

Ms. Seger reiterated what the Mayor reported about the building reopening to the public on June 22 and thanked all for their support.

Ms. Ferrante stated that she had no report.

Ms. Palmieri stated that she had no report.

Mr. Dyer thanked Dave Swanton and Susan Gabe for their hard work to make the Copeland graduation happen.

Council Vice-President Sackett added to Council President Jackson's report on the memorial bench dedication ceremony, noting that its in honor of Cheryl Miskimon and Danarae Scafati.

Motion was made by Council Member Kritz, seconded by Council Member Noon, to adjourn this meeting at approximately 7:50PM. All members unanimously agreed.

The next Regular Meeting of the Council of the Township of Rockaway is scheduled for July 13, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,



Christina Clipperton
Municipal Clerk