

**BOROUGH OF RIVERTON
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
MAY 19, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.**

Mayor Cairns Wells called the meeting to order and saluted the Flag. The Borough Hall was closed to the general public in accordance with social distancing guidelines in place due to the onset of COVID-19 and the meeting was held via conference call with notice for calling in provided under OPMA.

Under the guidance of the Governor’s Executive Order 107, the Division of Local Government Services of New Jersey has strongly encouraged all municipalities to conduct public meetings with communications equipment to avoid a public gathering. N.J.S.A 10:4-8(b) authorizes local units to conduct public meetings through use of streaming services and other online meeting platforms. Participant instruction for the public meetings are to dial 856-829-6840 password “1234#”.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT

“Public notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, has been given in the following manner:

- a. Having written notice published in the Burlington County Times Sunday May 3, 2020
- b. Forwarding written notice to the Courier Post for informational purposes only on Thursday April 30, 2020
- c. Posting written notice on the Borough Website and the Borough Hall on Friday May 15, 2020

ROLL CALL

Mayor Suzanne Cairns Wells	present	Councilwoman Laura Major	present
Council President Bill Corbi	present	Councilman Ken Mills	present
Councilman Hank DeGeorge	present	Councilman Jim Quinn	present
Councilman Kirk Fullerton	present		

Other Borough Officials Present: Nicole Shively Treasurer, Keith Adams, Public Works Manager, John Shaw, Chief of Police, Solicitor Tom Coleman, Esquire and Borough Clerk Michelle Hack.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES/CLERK REPORT

Minutes from the April 21, 2020 regular meeting, May 1, 2020 Emergency meeting and May 5, 2020 Special meeting were submitted for approval. Motion made by Mr. Corbi to approve the minutes with minor typographical errors to which Mr. Quinn seconded his motion. ROLL CALL: Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. DeGeorge aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Ms. Major aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye.

Ms. Hack reported that Executive Order #144 provides for changes to the July 7 Primary Election Day. The majority of ballots will be conducted Vote by Mail, however we are working with County and Chief Shaw to implement the changes required for a successful Primary that will include reduced polling districts and social distancing guidelines.

TREASURER'S REPORT, FINANCE/TAX REPORT & BILL LIST

Mr. Fullerton asked for a motion to approve the reports and bill list, which closed on May 19, 2020. Mr. Corbi seconded the motion. The full bill list is on file for inspection in the clerk's office. ROLL CALL: Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. DeGeorge aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Ms. Major aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Mayor opened the Public Comment session of the meeting.

Sharon Stokes stated that Riverton's response to the Census is at 70%, which is very good reporting. She also voiced displeasure in the Councils' choosing not to use a video conferencing method for meetings, due to hearing loss, she prefers to see the actions that occur during a meeting.

Michael O'Reirdan supported the comments made by Ms. Stokes noting that the vote seemed contentious to him.

Edgar Wilburn further supported Ms. Stokes comments concerning video conferencing and asked Council to reconsider. He then asked if the school, or any other larger venue will be used for public meetings once the public is able to join in person.

Ms. Wanda Swanson also supported Ms. Stokes request for video conference Council meetings stating she feels it's her right to see the Governing Body and complained there was a vote with no public in attendance. She commended Chief Shaw's assistance in a personal matter.

No one additional came forth to speak therefore closing the public portion.

MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

The Mayor read a Proclamation to "Go Orange" on June 5, 2020 in support of gun violence awareness.

SOLICITORS REPORT

Mr. Coleman stated the Final Compliance hearing to accept the Borough's Plan is rescheduled for June 10, 2020 and placed a resolution for this on tonight's agenda that satisfies the courts request to note that Habitat for Humanity did not renew their contract with Riverton.

APRIL 2020 PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

DPW: Collected brush twice entire town; 7 brush dumpsters. Collected leaves twice entire town. Patched potholes and began sweeping town. Repaired signs at yard for dumping areas; Replaced Do Not Enter sign at Bank and Morgan; Repaired No Outlet sign at 10th St. Replaced front cutting edge on bucket of John Deere loader; Storm water report filed with state. Picked up new trees from nurseries for Shade tree. Painted new parking lines on Main St. **PARKS** Cut park 4 times and Back flow preventer is repaired for sprinkler system. **SEWER:** Sewer calls (3

homeowners' problems, 1 main 600 block of 4th.) Bid opening for panel replacement project will be May 19

Mr. Corbi also shared the Sewer plant report from WRM Incorporated and gave an update that DPW is conducting compliance checks on ADA ramps throughout the Borough, gave an update on the Dog Park construction project, reported the bid opening for the panel replacement was adversely affected due to COVID-19 and bids came in over budget. Mr. Corbi also updated that the second trash pickup starts the end of May and bulk will resume at that time. Last, he thanked Mr. Adams and the DPW for doing a great job staying on top of brush pick up throughout town.

Resolution 80, to hire a sewer plant operator was pulled from the agenda.

RESOLUTION #77-2020

**A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A BLUE LIGHT PERMIT APPLICATION FOR MATTHEW KAPLAN
(FULL RESOLUTION IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

Mr. Mills read the resolution by title only and motioned for approval. Mr. Quinn provided the second. This approves Matthew Kaplan to apply for a Blue Light for the Riverton Fire Company. ROLL CALL: Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. DeGeorge aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Ms. Major aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye.

Mr. Mills shared the current Vacant Property Report which is on file at the Borough Hall.

<u>April Municipal Court Report</u>		<u>Year To Date:</u>
Tickets Issued:	1	275
Tickets Disposed:	7	326
Complaints Issued:	12	48
Complaints Disposed:	9	113
Total Disbursements:	\$1310.80	\$30400.24
Riverton Treasurer:	\$741.74	\$16679.57

Fire Department April 2020

Fires: 18 YTD: 67 Drills: 0 YTD: 8

April 2020 EMS Report Not submitted

April 2020 Description:	Current Month:	Last Month:	6562
Vehicle Mileage:	1966	2396	1
Juvenile Arrests:	0	1	57
<u>Adult Arrests:</u>	5	7	9
a) Contempt	1		
b) Theft	2		

c)Criminal Mischief	1		
d)Simple Assault	1		
These figures represent people who were arrested and the charges against them.			
Motor Vehicle Accidents:	1	3	443
Motor Vehicle Stops:	6	63	293
Motor Vehicle Summonses:	1	50	150
Motor Vehicle Warnings:	5	13	24
Alarms:	11	6	48
Asst. to other Agencies:	20	10	14
Animal Complaints:	6	6	11
Fire Calls:	7	4	66
EMS Calls:	23	28	0
Unattended Deaths:	0	0	66
Criminal Cases:	8	11	1
Domestics:	2	0	4
Thefts:	4	2	3
Burglaries: Vehicles	0	2	0
Assaults:	1	0	2

Mr. Fullerton reported that he in receipt of a Volunteer Form completed by Carlos Rogers of the Riverton Improvement Association to have a licensed and insured professional carpenter to build a bench that will sit inside the Gazebo at Broad and Main. He recommends this project for approval being that all advice of the Borough's insurance provider have been followed to which no one objected. Additionally, the RIA has hired Melrose Landscaping for the spring plantings.

Mr. Fullerton reported that Ms. Shively has provided the entire estimated tax levy for 2020 is set to at \$8,848,806.90 which was previously approved under Resolution 72-2020 at the May 5, 2020 Special Meeting.

ORDINANCE #O-2020-05

2ND READING

**AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR SALARY RANGES FOR ALL MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES
(FULL ORDINANCE IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

Mr. Fullerton read the ordinance by title only and motioned for approval. Mr. Corbi seconded his motion. Public Notice was published in the Official Newspaper on May 7, 2020. The Mayor opened the floor for Public Comment. No one came forth to speak therefore closing the public portion. ROLL CALL: Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. DeGeorge aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Ms. Major aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye.

ORDINANCE O-04-2020

1ST READING

**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS 2020 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, BY AND IN THE
BOROUGH OF RIVERTON, IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY;**

**APPROPRIATING \$447,920 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$425,524 BONDS
OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF”
(IN FULL IN ORDINANCE BOOK)**

Mr. Fullerton read the ordinance by title only and motioned for approval. Mr. Corbi provided the second for this motion. Mr. Fullerton gave an overview of the capital projects on schedule for the year although noting that some may be held off due to budgetary concerns. Second reading and Public Hearing will be held on June 16, 2020 with Public Notice being provided in the Official Newspaper. ROLL CALL: Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. DeGeorge aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Ms. Major aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye.

Ms. Major updated the Economic Improvement Committee is still cautiously optimistic on hosting the June 24 Food Truck night, and provided updates on the EIC meeting, including a craft beer event and showing of available retail space.

**ORDINANCE O-03-2020
2nd READING
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BOROUGH CODE AT CHAPTER 10 “ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE”
(IN FULL IN ORDINANCE BOOK)**

Ms. Major read the ordinance by title only and motioned for approval. Mr. DeGeorge provided the second for this motion. Public Notice was published in the Official Newspaper on April 26, 2020. The Mayor opened the floor for Public Comment. No one came forth to speak therefore closing the public portion. ROLL CALL: Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. DeGeorge aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Ms. Major aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye.

Mr. Quinn reported on the Shade Tree Board and gave an update on the budget, which is on track for this year. He commended the Department of Public Works on their work cleaning the town clean.

**RESOLUTION #74-2020
A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CLERK TO SOLICIT BIDS FOR THE EMERGENCY TREE
SERVICES CONTRACT
(FULL RESOLUTION IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

Mr. Quinn read the resolution by title only and motioned for approval. Mr. Corbi provided the second. The current contract is set to expire July 31, 2020 and it's a two-year contract. ROLL CALL: Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. DeGeorge aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Ms. Major aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye.

**RESOLUTION #79-2020
A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TREATMENT OF EMERALD ASH BORER TO
BOROUGH TREES
(FULL RESOLUTION IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

Mr. Quinn read the resolution by title only and motioned for approval. Mr. Corbi provided the second. This provides for Tru-Green to begin the treatment for Emerald Ash Borer. ROLL CALL:

Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. DeGeorge aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Ms. Major aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye.

Mr. DeGeorge shared the dates that have been tentatively moved for the PE Academy Summer Camp held at Riverton Memorial Park. Mr. Zaun and Mr. Scirotta emailed Ms. Hack stating they are "cautiously optimistic" that camp will take place this summer, but are hoping to extend the dates of camp throughout the month of July: July 6 - 10th; July 13th - 17th; July 20th - 24th; and July 27th - 31st. He also reported that in meeting with Ms. Eck, the school's budget has taken a punch due to the unexpected expenses resulting from Covid-19, such as deep cleanings and the many expenses that come with distance learning. The school is also preparing for a virtual 8th Grade Graduation Ceremony.

RESOLUTION #75-2020

**A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF PARK BENCH FOR RIVERTON MEMORIAL PARK TO SERVE AS A MEMORIAL
(FULL RESOLUTION IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

Mr. DeGeorge read the resolution by title only and motioned for approval. Mr. Corbi provided the second.: This bench is being paid for by a private citizen to honor her friend who was a lifetime Riverton resident, Ms. Kelly C. McGann Glenkowski, however the Borough is responsible for the purchasing and installation. ROLL CALL: Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. DeGeorge aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Ms. Major aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye.

RESOLUTION #78-2020

**A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE PAYMENT TO THE WINNER OF THE EIGHTH GRADE CIVIC AWARD
(FULL RESOLUTION IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

Mr. DeGeorge read the resolution by title only and motioned for approval. Mr. Quinn provided the second. The name will be announced after the 8th Grade Graduation Ceremony. ROLL CALL: Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. DeGeorge aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Ms. Major aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye.

Mayor Cairns Wells made the following appointments:

1. Pete Clifford, Code & Zoning Officer to fill the unexpired term through December 31, 2020 to the Planning Board as the Class II member.
2. Ms. Julie Scott to serve on the Economic Improvement Committee as a resident member for a 2-year term set to expire December 31, 2021

Mayor Cairns Wells also updated the latest information she is receiving from the County on COVID-19 and the effects as they relate to the Borough. She commended the Police Chief, the Department of Public Works and the Borough staff for maintaining the Borough.

RESOLUTION #76-2020

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AMENDED AGREEMENT WITH FAIR SHARE HOUSING

(FULL RESOLUTION IN RESOLUTION BOOK)

Mayor Cairns Wells read the resolution by title only and asked for a motion to approve. Mr. Mills moved to approve the resolution and Mr. DeGeorge seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. DeGeorge aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Ms. Major aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Quinn requested consideration on the following topics: Construction office service, Memorial Park being closed, and the “events of April 13”. He stated that in a conversation with Mr. Mills prior to the meeting he learned how the Department is operating. Mayor Cairns Wells address the park closure stating that she has consulted with Mr. Reed (Emergency Management Coordinator) and Mr. DeGeorge (head of Parks) to determine her decision to keep the park closed. She stated that the park is designed for “active recreation”, not “passive recreation”. The Borough does not employ the resources needed to keep the play equipment and picnic areas sanitized. The Borough’s streets and sidewalks offer safe and ample space for walking and bicycling. She is looking forward to opening the park when it can be utilized safely. Concerning April 13, there are a chain of emails concerning the creation of a Livestock Ordinance effectively amending Chapter 45 of the Borough Code. Mr. Quinn was prepared to read the email/s into the record however Solicitor Coleman advised him in doing so, being he could jeopardize the Borough Clerk’s Rice Notice rights due to some of the emails being accusatory. Mr. Quinn shall consult with Mr. Coleman concerning how to move forward and he will email the entire Governing Body in groups not to breach a quorum so they are aware of the “events of April 13”.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Cairns Wells opened the floor for a second public comment session concerning the agenda.

Katie Lucas stated dissatisfaction, concerning the reading of the April 13 email chain. The Mayor stated it’s a matter of following the law.

Wanda Swanson stated her disappointment in the Governing Body did not further discuss the use of video conferencing.

Sharon Stokes asked for further consideration on the use of Zoom, and thanked the Mayor to the Go Orange Proclamation in support of gun violence.

Based off the Public’s comments, Mr. Quinn approached the subject of employing a video conference platform for the next meeting. The Governing Body discussed the pros and cons of changing from our current method of conference call. Mr. Quin motioned to approve the use of a video conferencing platform for the next regular meeting. Ms. Major seconded his motion. ROLL CALL: Mr. Corbi nay, Mr. DeGeorge nay, Mr. Fullerton nay, Ms. Major aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye, Mayor Cairns Wells aye.

ADJOURNMENT

With no additional business to discuss, Mr. Mills made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Quinn seconded his motion. All voted in the affirmative.

Next meeting of the Governing Body is scheduled for June 16, 2020 at 7 o'clock PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Hack, RMC
Borough Clerk