

Speech by Greg Lobell

Thank you for coming to this year's reorganization. I hope everyone had a wonderful New Year and 2015 will be a healthy and prosperous one.

I am honored and excited to be Council President this year. I look forward to working with everyone to continue the many exciting things that are happening in Raritan.

We had another election last year and I would like to congratulate Denise Carra on her re-election and Jim Foohey on his election win. I am pleased that he decided to get involved in local governance again. His experience will be welcomed and counted on.

I am looking forward to being liaison to Recreation and Parks. After 30 plus years Rich Bartalucci retired as director and will be missed. Rich has been a fixture with Raritan and recreation. I would like to thank Rich and his wife Jan for their unwavering effort to Recreation and the borough. Last month I visited Rich and Jan in Myrtle Beach and `have to say they have a beautiful new home and could not be any happier.

I also am very excited to be working with the Department of Public Works as their liaison. We have such dedicated and hardworking people in DPW that care for the borough and more importantly the residents of Raritan. I continually have resident thank me for the extra efforts the department make to help someone in need.

A lot of exciting things are going on in Raritan and I am very excited to continue with these projects, especially the redevelopment of Orlando Drive and the Riverfront. As the liaison to the Economic Development Committee I can't wait to continue with these efforts. I also look forward to bringing more opportunity to the Main Street and other businesses in Raritan. I feel this is the future of Raritan.

I would like to thank all the employees of Raritan. You are the ones that really make things happen and you do a great Job. I have always felt our employees do not just consider Raritan as a place to work. They have a special connection and loyalty to the Borough and their efforts show this.

We are so lucky to be living in Somerset County. I have had many opportunities to work with the County and it has always been a pleasure to do so. The County provides so many services that go unrecognized. I would like to personally thank the County and its employees for all their efforts and am excited to continue a great relationship between Raritan and Somerset County. I truly believe Somerset County is the best County in the State if not the country to live in.

Lastly to the Council, we have to remember that we serve all the people of Raritan, they are our first responsibility. All our efforts should be to provide all the services they require and provide a quality of life that will make each and every resident proud to call Raritan home.

Thank you very much and let's have a great year.