

**COMMISSIONERS CAUCUS MEETING
RIDGEFIELD PARK**

**April 23, 2015
7:00 PM**

Mayor Fosdick announced that this meeting is being held in accordance with the “Open Public Meeting Act, N.J.S.A. 10 4-6 et seq.” notice of which was sent to the Record, and the Star Ledger on December 31, 2014 and was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board.

ROLL CALL

Those present were Commissioners Anlian (7:05), Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick in the Chair.

Also present: Philip Boggia, Esq., Village Attorney; Alan O’Grady, DPW Superintendent and Tara O’Grady, Village Clerk

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Poli, to approve the minutes of the Caucus Meeting and Closed Session Meeting of April 9, 2015.

On roll call, Commissioners Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted “YEA”.
Absent: Commissioner Anlian

DISCUSSION I

Mike Kelly, Boswell Engineering was present to discuss FEMA’s Flood Insurance Rate Maps. FEMA had conducted open houses to make municipalities and residents aware of their processes. The 90 day appeal period commenced March 31, 2015 and runs through the end of June. Any municipality or resident with questions or concerns are to be addressed to FEMA. Lower flood insurance rates are available if purchased prior to the new maps going into effect. Residents should be made aware that some areas will be in the flood plain that weren’t before. FEMA will no longer be subsidizing flood insurance. However, flood insurance will be transferrable in home sales. FEMA has a community rating system which is a voluntary program which provides discounted insurance for residents. Mr. Kelly will reach out to FEMA on how to join the plan.

03-35 FEMA – Flood Insurance Rate Maps - Informational

03-41 NJLM Washington Watch Advisory – National Flood Insurance Reforms -
Informational

03-50 County of Bergen, Dept. of Planning & Economic Development – Floodplain Protection
Program Workshop – Informational

04-01 Boswell Engineering – Revisions to FEMA’s Flood Insurance Rate Maps -
Informational

04-12 Adam Strobel, Bergen County Division of Open Space – Floodplain Protection Program
Workshop – Informational

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Mayor Fosdick advised the Village has an obligation to identify every property owner in the flood zone and should notify them of the implications.

Commissioner Boyd stated flood safety information should be distributed at the street fair.

Mr. Kelly advised he will draft resident notification letters for review.

At this time, Mr. Kelly left the meeting.

DISCUSSION II

Dr. John Richardson, Superintendent of Schools and Eric Koenig, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction were present to discuss the School Budget. Dr. Richardson announced Eric Koenig will be succeeding him in the superintendent's role. Although there is a 2% cap, the schools will be using their bank cap. The district will be purchasing 3-4 new buses. By bussing everyone, the district will save close to \$1 million dollars. This savings is how the district can afford the St. Francis operation. The district is currently in talks with Little Ferry regarding the bussing of their students to Ridgefield Park. Dr. Richardson stated there will be a reduction of \$34.78 on the school portion of the tax bill for the average assessed house.

Commissioner Boyd stated according to their legal ad, the tax levy is 4.89%. How could there be a decrease?

Dr. Richardson stated because they will be using the bank cap. Also, there will no longer be family plans offered to employees with regard to health insurance. Only the employee will be covered.

Commissioner Boyd inquired about a re-registration for students.

Dr. Richardson advised it is too costly and the district has Bill Morton handling the registration process. It is difficult to register a child in Ridgefield Park. He stated Mr. Morton declines 50-60 registrations a year.

Commissioner Boyd stated she has residents advising her they see students getting off NJ Transit Busses. She stated residents do come in to town hall to have paperwork notarized for registration. Something other than a notarized letter should be required.

Dr. Richardson advised a lease, PSE&G bill and income tax records are required.

Dr. Richardson thanked the DPW for their assistance this past winter.

At this time, Dr. Richardson and Mr. Koenig left the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution

2015-047 Authorize Compliance - Bond Anticipation Note

Motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Poli, that Resolution 2015-047 be approved.

On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

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CORRESPONDENCE

- 04-10 Bergen County Community Development – Public Hearings – the Board of Commissioners discussed and completed the Community Development Survey
- 04-15 NJLM Mayor’s Advisory – Anti-panhandling ordinances - Informational
- 04-16 Board of Chosen Freeholders – Recognition of National Public Health Week - Informational
- 04-17 Starplex Cinema – 1st Quarter 2015 Gross Receipts - Informational
- 04-18 Boggia & Boggia – 100 Challenger Road v. VRP Tax Appeal Settlement – Resolution to be prepared for April 28, 2015 meeting
- 04-19 NJLM Mayor’s Advisory – User Friendly Budget Forms and Instructions On-Line – Commissioner Boyd advised the auditors are looking into it since it needs to be done. Mayor Fosdick advised the League of Municipalities is against the “User Friendly Budget.”
- 04-20 NJLM Mayor’s Advisory – Weekly Policy Update - Informational
- 04-21 Marc Schrieks – CSX-Crude by Rail Safety Act – Mayor Fosdick will draft a letter
- 04-22 Michael DeMarrais – Won Buddhism, 162 Main Street - Informational
- 04-23 65 Challenger Road LLC – Board of Adjustment Public Hearing – Board of Adjustment approved the application for a training school
- 04-24 Zoning Board - Agenda 4/21/15 Meeting - Informational
- 04-25 Board of Chosen Freeholders – Ordinance Introduction - Informational
- 04-26 Bergen County League of Municipalities – Resolution Opposing “User Friendly” Budget - Informational
- 04-27 NJLM Mayor’s Advisory – Weekly Policy Update – Informational
- 04-28 Marc Schrieks – 4/9/15 CSX Meeting - Informational
- 04-29 GJEM – Sports Concussion Resolution – Mayor Fosdick to prepare a letter of notification to each organization that utilizes the fields
- 04-30 Borough of Bogota – CBS Outdoor Billboard Hearing Notice – The hearing is Tuesday night.
- 04-31 Lisa E. Gladwell, Esq. - 422 Teaneck Road - Informational
- 04-32 NJ Department of Transportation – Traffic Shift Notice - Informational
- 04-33 NJ Bankers – Property Maintenance Contact Information for Foreclosures - Informational

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CORRESPONDENCE – cont.

04-34 South Bergen Municipal Joint Insurance Fund – Preventing Sexual Harassment and Hostile Behaviors Seminar - Informational

DISCUSSION III

Personnel Policy Manual – The Board of Commissioners clarified a few questionable items in the personnel policy manual

Capital Budget – Commissioner Boyd would like to introduce an ordinance on May 12, 2015 for the CSOs, Roads, and Municipal Building repairs. Commissioner MacNeill stated he is still researching municipal repairs and the costs involved.

Starplex Concessionaire Permit – Village Attorney will send letter stating there is no objection to the permit.

HEARING OF CITIZENS

No citizens present.

REPORTS

Commissioner Poli advised Teterboro Airport's Wings & Wheels Expo is June 20th & June 21st. The airport approaches will change at the end of May. Commissioner Poli advised co-pays at Urgent Care facilities are waived.

Commissioner Anlian reminded all of the Arbor Day Celebration this Saturday at the High School.

Mayor Fosdick reminded all of the "Night at the Races" sponsored by the RP Alumni at the Knights of Columbus on May 1st. The Hall of Fame Beefsteak is May 15th. Nancy Dietrich will be filling the vacant Library Trustee position - Resolution to be prepared for the April 28th meeting. This Saturday at noon will be Earth Day in Overpeck County Park. The VFW would like a proclamation for their annual Poppy sale – Proclamation to be prepared for the April 28th meeting. The Police Department will be dedicating the Tour Commander's Room to Sgt. Sulborsky this Thursday in honor of the anniversary of his death. Mayor Fosdick advised he will be meeting with Fort Lee and Hackensack to discuss CSOs. The County agreed to permit the Fire Department to utilize the County Park on June 3, 2017 for their parade.

Superintendent O'Grady advised the street lights on Main Street have been repaired.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Fosdick read the following proclamation:
Arbor Day – April 23, 2015

CLOSED SESSION

Resolution:
2015-048 Authorize Closed Session Meeting

On a motion by Commissioner MacNeill, seconded by Commissioner Poli, the public portion of the meeting recessed in order to convene a Closed Session Executive Meeting permitted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b (5) Acquisition of Real Property

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On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted “YEA”.

The Board of Commissioners convened closed session at 8:30 p.m.

On a motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner MacNeill, the Board of Commissioners returned to open session at 8:40 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Fosdick adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

/s/John H. Anlian
Commissioner

/s/Margaret R. Boyd
Commissioner

/s/Adam A. MacNeill
Commissioner

/s/ Hugo R. Poli
Commissioner

/s/ George D. Fosdick
Mayor

/s/ Tara O’Grady
Village Clerk
Approved on May 7, 2015