

**COMMISSIONERS CAUCUS MEETING  
RIDGEFIELD PARK**

**March 5, 2015  
6:00 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, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick in the Chair.

Also present: Philip Boggia, Esq., Village Attorney; Sandra Bognatz, Deputy Village Clerk 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 of February 19, 2015.

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

**DISCUSSION**

John Mosca from Auditing Firm Donohue, Gironda & Doria was present to discuss the 2015 Budget. Although the Village has lost ratables due to tax appeals, there will be a flat increase on the municipal end of the tax bill this year due to the sale of assets and use of surplus. An additional \$400,000.00 was appropriated for tax appeals. The last portion of the 2012 Note for tax appeals will be paid off in 2015. The amount to be raised by taxes is below last year’s figure. However, the school and county figures are not in yet. Commissioner Boyd added to keep in mind that the Village will eventually lose the Hampton Inn Hotel Tax revenue.

The Policy Manual will be discussed at the next Caucus meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

02-32 Bergen County Utilities Authority – Recycling Enhancement Taxes - Informational

02-33 2014 Parking Meter Cash Receipts report – Commissioner Boyd advised the meter receipts will be deposited as revenue moving forward. Funds were deposited into trust fund per the prior CFO.

02-34 County Executive James Tedesco/Board of Chosen Freeholders - K-9 Veterans Day - Informational

02-35 Richard Grant – Invitation to Oil Train Rally – Informational. The Mayor added to expect 100% safety in anything is unrealistic.

02-36 NJLM Mayor’s Advisory – Weekly Policy Update - Informational

02-37 NJLM Mayor’s Advisory – Governor’s Budget Proposal - Informational

02-38 Stephen Pellino Esq. – CBS Billboard – Mr. Boggia advised with new state and federal policy regulations; it will be difficult to stop the billboard.

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**CORRESPONDENCE – cont.**

02-39 Bergen County DPW – Mosquito Control – Mrs. O’Grady to send letter

02-40 Alexander Talikhin – Snow Parking – Mayor Fosdick will send letter

02-41 Board of Chosen Freeholders – Ordinance Introductions - Informational

02-42 Board of Chosen Freeholders – Ordinance Adoption - Informational

02-43 NJLM Mayor’s Advisory – Weekly Policy Update - Informational

02-44 Board of Chosen Freeholders – Ordinance Adoptions – Informational

02-45 Christopher Cachi – VFW – Mayor Fosdick will contact Alan O’Grady

02-46 Washington Watch Advisory – Transportation Funding - Informational

02-47 Boggia & Boggia – Evaluation of Matrix Development, Landfill Gas Management – Mr. Boggia advised as per Gary Brown, RT Environmental Services, the draft report will be changed. The methane detection system cost will be closer to \$500,000.00

03-01 Coalition to Ban Unsafe Oil Trains – Rally - Informational

03-02 Kelly, Kelly, Marotta & Lafferty, LLC – KABR Tenant – Mr. Boggia advised KABR will need a use variance. The Board of Commissioners is not in favor of proposed tenant.

03-03 Boggia & Boggia – Letter to Ed McCann – Won Buddhism – Mr. Boggia stated the property owner does not want to install a sprinkler system in their basement.

**HEARING OF CITIZENS**

No citizens present.

**REPORTS**

**Commissioner Boyd** inquired on the status of the parking meter machines. Mr. Boggia stated he will contact Connect One. The indemnification clause on the bank agreements is not acceptable. Commissioner Boyd asked Mr. Boggia to draft a clause that would be acceptable. Commissioner Boyd inquired if the newspaper ads that are thrown on yards and driveways can be stopped. Mr. Boggia advised no. Commissioner Boyd asked if the Village will be hiring a new parking enforcement officer. Mayor Fosdick responded yes. Commissioner Boyd distributed to the Commissioners a memo from Vince Buono, Tax Collector, regarding the Village’s tax collection rate. The 2014 collection rate was 98.91%.

**Mayor Fosdick** stated he rode with the meals on wheels program. There are 15 stops in Ridgefield Park. Meals must be hand delivered. He advised he and Chief Rose had a conference call with David Babbitt regarding the Skymark Impact Study. More information is needed from Skymark to determine how the Police Department will be impacted. Since the anticipated increase in population will be between 2900-3500, there will be an impact on the Ambulance Corps. There shouldn’t be an impact on the Fire Department. Mayor Fosdick advised RPJSHS Athletic Director Joe Taibi met with the County regarding the county park athletic fields fees. The County maintains the fact that the school system has not been charged for the use of the fields was an error. Mayor Fosdick advised the 2015 Budget will be introduced on Tuesday, March 10, 2015.

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**Clerk O’Grady** stated employees are inquiring whether they fall under the category of state employees and what should be followed if a state of emergency is declared. Mayor Fosdick advised employees will be contacted if the municipal building will close or have a delayed opening. Mrs. O’Grady advised she and Commissioner Boyd will be seeking permission to destroy old files from the State. She inquired if the Commissioners want to save old bid/project documentation. She was advised to destroy what is permissible.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Fosdick adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Absent  
Commissioner Anlian

/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 March 19, 2015