

**COMMISSIONERS CAUCUS MEETING
RIDGEFIELD PARK
December 4, 2014
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 January 7, 2014 and was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board.

ROLL CALL

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

Also present: Philip Boggia, Esq. 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 November 20, 2014.

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

Absent: Commissioner Anlian

**NEW BUSINESS
RESOLUTION**

2014-192 Authorize Sale of Emergency Notes

Motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner MacNeill, that Resolution 2014-192 be approved.

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

Absent: Commissioner Anlian

CORRESPONDENCE

11-12 Harry Graves Sr. – Tree – Commissioner Anlian advised the Shade Tree Commission will inspect the tree

11-22 NJLM – Property Tax Facts - Informational

11-23 Boggia & Boggia – Recommendation of Bid Award, DPW Dump Truck – Resolution was approved on November 25, 2014

11-24 NJLM Mayor’s Advisory – Transportation Funding - Informational

11-25 Terry Kizer, CTM Coordinator – COAH/CTM Records – Informational, Barbara DeLuca is the Village contact

11-26 Board of Chosen Freeholders – Ordinances - Informational

12-01 Boggia & Boggia – VRP v. Shaker – NJ Appellate Division upheld the \$177,000.00 judgment in favor of the Village. The locks have been changed and the property is insured since the Village has title. The Village will list the property for sale if the judgment is not paid.

December 4, 2014

CORRESPONDENCE-cont.

12-02 Bergen County Utilities Authority – Public Hearing 2015 Budget - Informational

12-03 NJLM Educational Foundation – Mayor’s Book Club – Roosevelt School’s 1st grade will participate

12-04 Stephen Quinn – Snow Plowing – Commissioner Anlian will set up meeting with Mt. Quinn and the DPW

12-05 Hartz Mountain – Hilton Garden Inn – Hartz Mt. is refinancing the property

12-06 NJLM Mayor’s Advisory – Bill Dressel’s Intended Retirement – Informational

DISCUSSION

Mayor Fosdick stated \$100,000.00 is budgeted every year for tax appeals. 2014 tax appeal judgments are approximately \$1,295,234.00. \$954,044 have been paid or credited. Exposure for 2015 is approximately \$2 million dollars. Upon the advice of professionals, the Village can allocate proceeds from the sale of Village property or go to Trenton for a refunding bond. The proceeds from the sale must be allocated this year by resolution.

Mr. Boggia advised he is meeting with Robert McNerney on Tuesday to discuss the commercial properties. He will get in writing what Mr. McNerney feels he can defend (\$125-130 square footage). KABR has stated they would withdraw their appeal if the Village drops the assessment to \$90 per square foot.

Resolutions to be prepared for the December 9, 2014 meeting are as follows:

1. Allocate \$800,000.00 for fire truck and equipment
2. Allocate \$1.6 million for tax appeals
3. Allocate \$500,000.00 for road and capital improvements
4. Allocate \$900,000 for tax stabilization

HEARING OF CITIZENS

No citizens present.

REPORTS

Commissioner Boyd advised the Village has collected 98.5% of property taxes. The tax sale was held on December 2nd. Out of 21 properties on the original list, only 3 properties were on the tax sale. The remaining balances on ordinances 02-09 and 10-03 should be allocated as follows: \$11,000.00 to Police Department for equipment, \$15,000.00 for the repairs to Truck Co. No. 1, \$50,000.00 for DPW equipment and any remaining balances cancelled out. Commissioner Boyd inquired on the parking meter contract. Mr. Boggia stated he has made some revisions and will reach out to Mr. Keating.

December 4, 2014

Commissioner Poli stated the Ambulance Corps. had their 2015 elections. The results are as follows:

Chief:	Silvio Zapata	Mechanic:	Tom Carr
1 st Asst. Chief:	George Kotzias		
2 nd Asst. Chief:	Luis Cruz		
3 rd Asst. Chief:	Alex Marlowe		

President:	John Tymon
Vice-President:	Rich Brown
Secretary:	Marge Sellen
Treasurer:	Gina Ascione

Commissioner Poli advised a committee was formed to study 3rd party billing and the possible merger with the Rescue Squad.

Commissioner MacNeill stated there are issues pertaining to the Buddhist Temple. He stated an application was submitted to the Board of Adjustments who in turn granted assembly. Mr. Boggia added the entire building may be tax exempt as per how the resolution was written. Commissioner MacNeill stated the Board of Adjustments and their attorney need to aggressively defend the Master Plan. Mayor Fosdick will ask the Zoning Board Chairman for an executive session without the attorney.

Mayor Fosdick advised the Senior Luncheon is next Thursday at the Empire Club. The Senior Gala is Sunday, December 14th at the K of C at 1pm. Also on Sunday, at 2pm, is the Pearl Harbor Observance. At 5:30pm is the Tree Lighting. Tuesday, December 9th is the Fire Department Installation of Officers. The 2015 chiefs are Michael Lauer, James VanDerTulip, and there is a run-off election between John Malool and Rodney Wagner. He advised Commissioner MacNeill to call the Board of Recreation Director regarding background checks on volunteers. Mayor Fosdick stated the Planning Board Attorney and Ken Ochab will be attending the Bogota billboard hearing. He advised he received a call from John Marienello who would like to meet to discuss the Rialto property. There are 7 finalists for the police testing process. He stated Chief Rose feels it is realistic to keep the police salaries for 2015 at this year's level.

CLOSED SESSION

Resolution:

2014-193 Closed Session

On a motion by Commissioner Anlian, seconded by Commissioner Boyd, 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 (8) Personnel Matters

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

The Board of Commissioners convened closed session at 8:25 p.m.

On a motion by Commissioner Anlian, seconded by Commissioner Boyd, the Board of Commissioners returned to open session at 8:32 p.m.

December 4, 2014

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Fosdick adjourned the meeting at 8:32 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 December 18, 2014