

COMMISSIONERS CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
RIDGEFIELD PARK
March 4, 2021
7:00 PM

Mayor Anlian 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 28, 2020 and was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and the Village Website.

Due to the COVID-19 Coronavirus Health Crisis, this meeting was held via Zoom call.

ROLL CALL

Those present were Commissioners Gerken, MacNeill, Olson, Portorreal and Mayor Anlian in the chair.

Also, present: Philip Boggia, Village Attorney; Joe Rella, Chief of Police; Edward Monroe, DPW Superintendent and Tara O’Grady, Village Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Commissioner Gerken, seconded by Commissioner Portorreal to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Caucus Meeting and Closed Session Meeting of February 4, 2021.

On roll call, Commissioners Gerken, Olson, Portorreal and Mayor Anlian voted “YEA”.
Abstain: Commissioner MacNeill

Motion by Commissioner Gerken, seconded by Commissioner Portorreal to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Caucus Meeting and Closed Session Meeting of February 18, 2021.

On roll call, Commissioners Gerken, MacNeill, Olson, Portorreal and Mayor Anlian voted “YEA”.

CORRESPONDENCE

02-09 Aurora Castello – Block Party – Resolution to be prepared for March 9, 2021 meeting.
Mrs. O’Grady will contact Ms. Castello and advise her to notify her neighbors of the block party and to also advise that bouncy houses are not permitted in the street.

02-10 Adam Strobel, County of Bergen – 2021 Bergen County Open Space Application Deadline - Informational

03-01 Chief Louis Bordi, President, New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police – Cannabis – to be discussed under “Discussion”

03-02 Mike Kelly, Boswell Engineering – 64 Challenger Road - Informational

03-03 NJLM – Daily Update - Informational

03-04 Sen. Paul Sarlo – Ridgefield Park School District State Aid - Informational

03-05 Joseph Baumann Jr. – TP Access – to be discussed in Closed Session

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DISCUSSION

Cannabis Law

The Board of Commissioners would like Resolution 2021-29 revised and ask the Planning Board to conduct a study on Cannabis establishments within the Village.

Employee Handbook

The Board of Commissioners tabled discussion until the April 8, 2021 Caucus.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution:

2021-29 Request Planning Board Study Concerning Cannabis Establishments

Resolution tabled until the Tuesday, March 9, 2021 after revisions are made.

HEARING OF CITIZENS

No citizens present.

REPORTS

Commissioner Portorreal stated the Soccer Field will be lined on March 22 for practices. Parks will open April 1st.

Commissioner Olson is working on the summer concert schedule. Part of Main Street may have to be closed off for the June 12th concert.

The International Swim Academy should have a proposal to the Village by March 15th.

Mott MacDonald submitted a proposal for the Challenger Road sewer study at a cost of \$34,000.

Phil Boggia stated the cost of the study will be paid for by the two property owners on Challenger Road – the Commissioners would like this confirmed in writing.

The Board of Recreation will host archery training for instructors on April 3rd, rain date April 10th.

Commissioner Gerken stated the Environmental Commissioner is proceeding with Earth Day for May 1st.

Clerk O’Grady raised the issue of providing transportation to the Senior Citizens in town. Most towns in Bergen County provide transportation services for their seniors to doctor appointments and Shop-Rite. The Village should consider looking into providing this service.

Commissioner Gerken will research an UBER type of service.

Chief Rella advised there was a 3rd incident today with the sewer pipe. The state is allotting \$58 million for body cameras – there will be an application process.

Superintendent Monroe advised Lauer Plumbing is assisting with the Municipal Building sewer issue.

Hackensack Roofing stated it will cost \$1,775 to fix the shingles on the Municipal Building roof.

Phil Boggia stated he spoke with Mike Kelly and the Village will need roof specs for bidding purposes for a roof replacement. Mike Monroe recommended Fred Rosen to design the specs.

Hackensack Roofing stated the roof needs to be replaced.

The pre-construction meeting on the improvements to Industrial Avenue, Central Avenue, Highland Place and Poplar Street took place this morning.

Mayor Anlian stated the Library Board of Trustees agreed to the Village’s proposed salary increases. They are to be retroactive to January 1, 2021. He made revisions to the Assessment letter that will be going out to the residents.

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CLOSED SESSION

Resolution:

2021-30 Authorize Closed Session Meeting

On a motion by Mayor Anlian, seconded by Commissioner Gerken, 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 (7) Fire Department Issues, TP Access

On roll call, Commissioners Gerken, MacNeill, Olson, Portorreal and Mayor Anlian voted "YEA".

The Board of Commissioners convened closed session at 7:49 p.m.

On a motion by Mayor Anlian, seconded by Commissioner Gerken, the Board of Commissioners returned to open session at 8:41 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mayor Anlian, seconded by Commissioner Gerken to adjourn.

On roll call, Commissioners Gerken, MacNeill, Olson, Portorreal and Mayor Anlian voted "YEA".

Mayor Anlian adjourned the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

/s/William G. Gerken
Commissioner

/s/Adam A. MacNeill
Commissioner

/s/Mark C. Olson
Commissioner

/s/ Wanda C. Portorreal
Commissioner

/s/Tara O'Grady
Village Clerk

Approved on March 18, 2021

/s/ John H. Anlian
Mayor