

COMMISSIONERS CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
RIDGEFIELD PARK
March 18, 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 Olson to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Caucus Meeting and Closed Session Meeting of March 4, 2021.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Anlian announces that the following business is considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted in one motion. Any item may be removed for separate consideration.

RESOLUTIONS:

- 2021-34 Authorize Challenger Road Sewer Buildout and Feasibility Study
- 2021-35 Award Contract for Improvements to Industrial Avenue, Central Avenue, Highland Place and Poplar Street – Revision to Resolution 2021-25

Motion by Commissioner MacNeill, seconded by Commissioner Portorreal, that the consent agenda be approved.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

- 03-06 Board of County Commissioners – Podcast/Resolutions - Informational
- 03-07 Creative Bergen – Arts Amble Event - Informational
- 03-08 Mike Kelly, Boswell Engineering – 291/295 Main Street - Informational
- 03-09 R. Bruce Benton – Additional CARES Act CDBG -CV3 Funding - Informational
- 03-10 Marc Schrieks, County of Bergen – Rides to Seniors for Vaccinations – Informational. Commissioner Gerken will put on website
- 03-11 Congressman Pascrell – American Rescue Plan – Informational. Blanket statement will be put on website.

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03-12 Mike Kelly, Boswell Engineering – RP Nature Preserve - Informational

03-13 NJLM – Daily Update - Informational

03-14 Mike Kelly, Boswell Engineering – Maple Court Apartments, 25 Teaneck Rd. – Informational. Will have Boswell look at it to determine why flooding.

03-15 Mike Kelly, Boswell Engineering – Berkzup Ridgefield, LLC – Bergen Tpke - Informational

03-16 Environmental Alert – Cannabis – Informational. Will forward to Ken Ochab and Planning Board.

HEARING OF CITIZENS

No citizens present.

REPORTS

Commissioner Portorreal stated she referred the Veterans Park project to Ken Ochab. The Pool Commission needs more members if anyone knows anyone that is interested to let her know. The Municipal Building roof repair will cost approx. \$4,000.00. The sewer line issue – the line has been cleared and waiting to replace damaged materials.

Commissioner Gerken stated the shared services agreement with Ridgefield for child vaccinations will be re-written to reflect a \$500 administrative cost and \$40 per vaccine. The fireworks issue has not been resolved since the 4th of July Committee did not meet in January or February – no one to coordinate the fireworks.

Commissioner MacNeill stated the budget sheets are out – check them and will discuss in April.

Mayor Anlian advised 3 of the 6 firehouses are opposed to the centralized firehouse – not feasible for the Commissioners to move ahead at this time. Issues raised at their meeting with the “south” zone companies – loss of volunteers, long tradition of individual fire companies, comradery, Hose 4 response time increased significantly, rent payment increase, capital improvements, stipends. He will schedule a meeting with Chief Antola, Mike Alberque, Bill Lynn, and the captains of each firehouse. The Village still has the opportunity to purchase 78 Mt. Vernon Street. Phi Boggia advised he is waiting on the parking lot draft from Boswell Engineering.

Clerk O’Grady inquired if a decision has been made to move forward with Munisite. Phil Boggia stated there may be proposed legislation that needs to be looked into – preventing companies to monopolize. Hook & Ladder Co. No. 1 submitted a request to close Garden Street on Friday, April 2nd for their annual Fish & Chips dinner – take out only. Resolution to be prepared for the March 23rd meeting.

Superintendent Monroe asked if ok to process the \$3,500 payment for Hackensack roofing – Commissioner Portorreal advised yes. Grant paperwork is in Mayor Anlian’s mailbox for signature.

Attorney Boggia advised he drafted a letter to Senator Sarlo, reminding him that he offered to help the Village with the loss of tax revenue, for Mayor Anlian to review and sign.

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CLOSED SESSION

Resolution:

2021-36 Authorize Closed Session Meeting

On a motion by Mayor Anlian, seconded by Commissioner MacNeill, 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, Finance

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

The Board of Commissioners convened closed session at 7:40 p.m.

On a motion by Mayor Anlian, seconded by Commissioner MacNeill, the Board of Commissioners returned to open session at 8:13 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Mayor Anlian adjourned the meeting at 8:13 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 April 8, 2021

/s/ John H. Anlian
Mayor