

COMMISSIONERS CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
RIDGEFIELD PARK
June 17, 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.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Commissioner Gerken

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

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion by Commissioner MacNeill, seconded by Commissioner Portorreal to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$4,545,677.37.

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

Absent: Commissioner Gerken

CORRESPONDENCE

Ridgefield Park Fire Department Hook & Ladder Co. No. 1 – New Member

Motion by Mayor Anlian, seconded by Commissioner Olson, Christopher Gibbons was accepted as a new member of the Village of Ridgefield Park Volunteer Fire Department subject to approval by the New Jersey State Firemen’s Association.

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

Absent: Commissioner Gerken

CORRESPONDENCE

06-01 Ezio Altamura, GJEM – Employment Practices Compliance Program - Informational

06-02 Board of County Commissioners – Podcasts/Resolutions/Ordinances - Informational

06-03 NJLM Daily Update - Informational

06-04 Local Finance Notice No. 2021-11 – Limited use of rescue money

06-05 Natasha Hopper – Street Closure Request for Block Party – Resolution to be prepared for June 22, 2021 meeting.

06-06 Duplicate of 06-04

06-07 Kellie Nagle – Street Closure Request for Block Party – Resolution to be prepared for June 22, 2021 meeting.

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CORRESPONDENCE – cont.

06-08 Fourth of July Division Placement - Informational

06-09 Borough of Bogota – Notice of Hearing - Informational

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:

- 2021-67 Endorse Community Development Project Proposed by Vantage Health System, Inc. - 40 Hille Place, Ridgefield Park
- 2021-68 Approve Liquor License Renewals
- 2021-69 Approve Liquor License Renewals for Inactive Licenses

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

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

Absent: Commissioner Gerken

HEARING OF CITIZENS

No citizens present.

DISCUSSION

Ridgefield Park Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

Representatives from the Ambulance Corps. were present and gave the Board of Commissioners an equipment inventory. 3 vehicles need replacement – 2 ambulances at approx. \$250,000.00 and 1 command vehicle at approx. \$80,000.00. Chief Nagurka stated they don’t have 1 reliable ambulance at this time. Loaner vehicles are available as long as the ambulances are ordered and purchased. Mayor Anlian asked the members to ask other towns their experiences with loaned vehicles. A new vehicle cannot be approved tonight – need to consult the CFO. The Ambulance Corps. is also having difficulty in recruiting members. There are currently 12 active EMT members. Ridgefield just shut down their program. Mayor Anlian stated the Board of Commissioners are considering reimbursing training time to the Fire Department and will consider the same for the Ambulance Corps. Mayor Anlian suggested putting in a short article in the newsletter to encourage people to join.

Ridgefield Park Fire Department Training Reimbursement

The Board of Commissioners discussed the drafted memo to Chief Antola regarding incentive payments. Building Department permit fees should be half price. Fire Department loans should not be cancelled. Mayor Anlian will revise the memo and re-distribute.

REPORTS

Commissioner Olson advised Summer Recreation registration went well – over 100 applicants. The Artsfest was a great event – Mayor Anlian asked that Main Street not be blocked off next year. Concerts in the Park begin on June 26th. Comm. Olson would like a food truck at the concerts. Tables and chairs have been purchased for future events. Public Arts Champions resolution will be prepared for the June 22 meeting. Bob O’s will be the concessionaire at the pool – working on the contract.

Superintendent Monroe stated for 2022 Local Aid – will apply for paving of 6 streets. Overpeck Avenue is concrete – Commissioners do not want asphalt overlay.

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CLOSED SESSION

Resolution:

2021-70 Authorize Closed Session Meeting

On a motion by Commissioner MacNeill, seconded by Commissioner Olson, 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) Litigation

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

Absent: Commissioner Gerken

The Board of Commissioners convened closed session at 9:10 p.m.

On a motion by Commissioner MacNeill, seconded by Commissioner Olson, the Board of Commissioners returned to open session at 9:25 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner MacNeill, seconded by Commissioner Olson to adjourn.

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

Absent: Commissioner Gerken

Mayor Anlian adjourned the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Abstain
Commissioner Gerken

/s/Adam A. MacNeill
Commissioner

Absent
Commissioner Olson

Absent
Commissioner Portorreal

/s/ John H. Anlian
Mayor

/s/Tara O’Grady
Village Clerk

Approved on July 22, 2021