

COMMISSIONERS MEETING

RIDGEFIELD PARK

February 10, 2009

7:30 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, 2008 and was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board.

ROLL CALL*****

Those present were Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, Poli and Mayor Fosdick in the Chair. Commissioner MacNeill was absent.

FLAG SALUTE*****

The flag salute was led by Mayor Fosdick.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES*****

Motion by Commissioner Boyd seconded by Commissioner Poli to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Meeting of January 27, 2009. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

SPECIAL REPORTS*****

Mayor Fosdick announced the retirement of Village Clerk Sarah Warlikowski effective April 30, 2009. Mrs. Warlikowski has been employed by the Village for 25 years, having served as the Village Clerk for the past several years.

Mayor Fosdick read a proclamation for - READ ACROSS AMERICA.

CORRESPONDENCE*****

None.

PAYMENT OF BILLS*****

Motion by Commissioner Boyd seconded by Commissioner Poli to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$3,788,627.13. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

HEARING OF CITIZENS*****

Rafael Moro - 139 Overpeck Avenue

Mr. Moro spoke concerning the lack of handicapped parking at Roosevelt School either on Highland Place or Hazelton Place. He stated his wife is handicapped and there is no place for her to park. Mr. Moro presented the Board of Commissioners with a request for accessible parking at Roosevelt School, pictures of the area, and the Guide to Disability Rights Laws.

Mayor Fosdick explained that Sgt. Maglione, our Traffic Officer, was hit by a car while on duty this week. However, Chief Lee will investigate the matter and will be in touch with Mr. Moro.

Ray Ziemba, 101 Overpeck Avenue

Mr. Ziemba said he had spent a lot of time in Trenton this week listening to complaints of a lot of people wanting property tax relief. He said we are the second highest State in the nation when it comes to property tax. He said we must reduce the school budget by 10% and the town budget by 10%. Municipal salaries and benefits cost the residents. He also spoke concerning arbitration.

Mayor Fosdick said we are preparing our budget and said he was in receipt of a Tax Analysis from our Tax Assessor. Mayor Fosdick said Ridgefield Park ranks 28th out of a possible 70 taxing districts. He said one of the major problems is fixed costs or spending such as pensions, insurance and union contracts. He explained that one tax point increase in tax rate equals approximately \$160,000 of spending. In order to offset increase of one tax point, you would need a new ratable equal to \$6,700,000 assessed value.

Mayor Fosdick reported presently Avalon Bay for the time being has been put on hold. Contrary to initial reports, Skymark Property did not go bankrupt.

Mayor Fosdick reported after three years we have completed an arbitration process for 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010. We did not have a contract with the Police Department until now and Mayor Fosdick said he doubts very much that the state will vote to remove arbitration.

Mr. Ziemba asked Commissioner Boyd with property values going down and tax bills going out in August, will our taxes be adjusted?

Commissioner Boyd reported people are filing tax appeals. Mayor Fosdick said with the current ratio, our ratio is 95.21%. Commissioner Anlian said that if all the property goes down in value we have to raise the same amount in taxes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS*****

None.

NEW BUSINESS*****

Commissioner Poli introduced an "ORDINANCE FIXING COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK FOR THE YEARS 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 2010". Motion by Commissioner Poli seconded by Commissioner Boyd that the "ORDINANCE FIXING COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK FOR THE YEARS 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010" be approved, duly advertised in the Record and come up for public hearing on February 24, 2009. On roll call Commissioners Boyd, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA". Commissioner Anlian voted "No".

Resolution No. 1] Authorizing Signing of Police Contract.

Motion by Commissioner Poli seconded by Commissioner Boyd that Resolution No. 1 be approved. On roll call Commissioners Boyd, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA". Commissioners Anlian voted "No".

Mayor Fosdick announced that all business is considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted in one motion. Any item may be removed for separate consideration.

- Resolution No. 2. Authorizing Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 06-03.
- Resolution No. 3. Authorizing Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate 08-02.
- Resolution No. 4. Approving Emergency Provision - Current Fund Appropriations
- Resolution No. 5. Approving Transfers between 2008 Appropriation Reserves.
- Resolution No. 6. Authorizing Refund of Duplicate Tax Payment, Block 9, Lot 33.
- Resolution No. 7. Authorizing Payment Of Voucher To: B & C Communications
From Fire Prevention Dedicated Account.
- Resolution No. 8. Authorizing Payment of Voucher To: Chase Electric Company
From Fire Prevention Dedicated Account.
- Resolution No. 9 Authorizing Payment of voucher To: P. Maio Construction From
Fire Prevention Dedicated Account

Motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Poli that the Consent Agenda be approved. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

RECESS*****

Motion by Commissioner Anlian seconded by Commissioner Boyd to recess the Commissioners Meeting at 8:15PM to go into Closed Session and to discuss personnel matters. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

s/ John Anlian_____
Commissioner

s/ Margaret Boyd_____
Commissioner

s/ Adam MacNeill_____
Commissioner

s/ Hugo Poli_____
Commissioner

s/ George Fosdick_____
Mayor

s/ Sarah Warlikowski_____
Village Clerk