

COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES
RIDGEFIELD PARK
January 22 2008
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 21, 2007 and was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board.

ROLL CALL*****

Those present were Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, Poli, Storer and Mayor Fosdick in the Chair.

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 January 8, 2008 meeting. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, Poli, Storer and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

SPECIAL REPORTS*****

Chief Lee presented the following Police Officers with Honorable Service Awards:

Sgt. Albert Baker
Ptl. Arthur Jensen
Ptl. Brian Hippe
Ptl. Christopher Whiting
Ptl. Steven Sulborsky
Ptl. William Morton
Ptl. Michael Mullay

Attached to these minutes is a copy of the various incidents for which the awards were received.

The three newly hired police officers were introduced. Darcy Rellinger, Robert DiStasi and Harry Marquez were sworn in by the Village Clerk and pinned by family members.

Mayor Fosdick on behalf of the Board of Commissioners commended and congratulated the inductees.

Mayor Fosdick introduced former Bogota Mayor, Len Nicolosi.

Mayor Fosdick explained the evaluation process followed before an officer is hired. The process involves a written exam, physical fitness, interviews and psychological tests. Candidates must have a college degree. He thanked the officers for becoming a part of our family and stated they had earned their positions.

Recess at 7:50 PM

Meeting reconvened at 8:00 PM

CORRESPONDENCE*****

Letter received from Hose Co. No. 3 regarding the acceptance of Sean Byrnes as a firefighter. Motion by Mayor Fosdick, seconded by Commissioner Storer to approve Sean Brynes as a firefighter. On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, Poli, Storer and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA". Sean Byrnes was in attendance, and he was introduced and congratulated.

Letter received from Hook and Ladder No. 2 regarding the acceptance of Jason R. Lamb as a firefighter. Motion by Mayor Fosdick seconded by Commissioner Storer to approve the acceptance of Jason R. Lamb as a firefighter. On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, Poli, Storer and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

Letter received from Hook and Ladder No. 2 regarding the resignation of David Henderson. Motion by Mayor Fosdick seconded by Commissioner Storer to accept the resignation of David Henderson with regrets. On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, Poli, Storer and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

HEARING OF CITIZENS*****

Fred Henkston, 123 Second Street.

Mr. Henkston, a representative of Lyndon LaRoche, presented information in the form of a petition regarding the freeze of home foreclosures under the Home Owners Protection Act. They are asking all towns across the country to join forces for this issue. Commissioners stated they would review information.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS*****

Commissioner Poli announced that this was the time and place for the public hearing on "AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE VILLAGE CLERK AS "ISSUING AUTHORITY". No one wished to be heard. Motion by Commissioner Poli seconded by Commissioner Anlian that the "ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE VILLAGE CLERK AS "ISSUING AUTHORITY" pass its final reading and be duly advertised in the Record. On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, Poli, Storer and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

NEW BUSINESS*****

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. 1 - Appointing Dolly Samus to the Pool Commission.

Resolution No. 2 - Authorizing Forwarding Petition to Local Finance Board for Emergency Temporary Appropriations.

Resolution No. 3 - Authorizing Refunds of Overpayment of Taxes Due to Tax Court Judgements

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

ADJOURNMENT*****

Motion by Commissioner Boyd seconded by Commissioner Storer to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 PM. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, Poli, Storer and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

s/John Anlian
Commissioner

s/ Margaret Boyd
Commissioner

s/ Hugh Poli
Commissioner

s/ Joseph Storer
Commissioner

s/George Fosdick
Mayor

s/Sarah Warlikowski
Village Clerk

Honorable Service Award

Sgt. Albert Baker

On February 5th, 2006, a village resident reported that her 4 year old daughter, who suffers from Sickle Cell Anemia, had been abducted by her paternal grandmother in December. The 4 year old was taken out of the United States to Kingston, Jamaica and was being kept at various homes in an attempt to keep the child away from her mother. After two months of unsuccessful attempts to get her daughter back, and with the child's medication running out, the child's mother came to the police department, desperate for help. Detective Baker was assigned the case. Even as his shift ended, Detective Baker continued to work the case on his own time, dealing with hostile members of the child's paternal family as well as dealing with authorities in Jamaica. Detective Baker's perseverance paid off with the relatives agreeing to return the child. But Detective Baker's efforts did not stop there, working with Jamaican Airlines, Detective Baker was able to secure an escorted flight home for the child, and arranged special assistance through the Port Authority Police and US Customs in returning the child to her mother.

Through his intense police work and personal perseverance, Detective Baker was truly instrumental in reuniting a mother and her child, a child in desperate need of her medication.

Sergeant Baker is hereby recognized for his actions and is awarded the **Honorable Service Award**

OCA:07-3615
March 14, 2007

Honorable Service Award

**PO Arthur Jensen
PO Brian Hippe
PO Christopher Whiting**

On March 14th, 2007, Police Officers Arthur Jensen, Brian Hippe and Christopher Whiting were dispatched to 239 Main St on a report of a fire. Upon their arrival they found a heavy smoke condition on the fourth floor of the apartment building. Without regard for their own safety, the officers entered through the heavy black smoke and located the fire in apartment 4D. While Officer Whiting, armed with a fire extinguisher, knocked down the flames, Officers Jensen and Hippe safely evacuated the fourth floor residents. Only after making sure all residents were out, did the officers exit the deteriorating conditions. All three officers suffered from smoke inhalation and were transported to Holy Name Hospital for treatment.

Officers Jensen, Hippe and Whiting are highly commended for their actions and are hereby recognized and awarded the
Honorable Service Award.

Honorable Service Awards

**PO Steven Sulborsky
PO William Morton
PO Michael Mullay**

On August 19th, 2007, Officers Steven Sulborsky, William Morton and Michael Mullay were dispatched by Officer Christopher Thibault to 17 Pershing Court on the report of a possible break-in to the residence with the subjects possibly still inside. Upon arrival, Officers Morton and Mullay were able to determine that at least three males were inside the premises, going from room to room. Officer Sulborsky requested additional backup units from surrounding towns and a K-9 unit from the county police. While awaiting arrival of backup units, the officers continued surveillance and set up a perimeter of the property. Upon arrival of backup units from Bogota Police, Teaneck Police and the Bergen County Police, a tighter perimeter was setup and an entry team comprised of officers from each department breached the front door of the residence and after a room by room search, were able to take three suspects into custody.

The cooperation, skill and professionalism displayed by Officers Sulborsky, Morton, Mullay and responding officers from the assisting agencies, resulted in the safe apprehension of the burglary suspects.

Officers Sulborsky, Morton and Mullay are hereby recognized for their actions and are awarded **Honorable Service Awards**.