

COMMISSIONERS CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
RIDGEFIELD PARK
November 8, 2012
7:00 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 28, 2011 and was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board.

ROLL CALL

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

Also present: Philip Boggia, Esq.; Alan O’Grady, DPW Superintendent; Tara O’Grady, Acting Village Clerk; Courtney Fitzpatrick, Deputy Clerk

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Poli, to approve the minutes of the Caucus Meeting and the Closed Session Meeting of October 18, 2012.

On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted “YEA”.

DISCUSSION

Mayor Fosdick recapped the events leading up to, during, and after Hurricane Sandy:

October 24 – OEM Coordinator Hansen sent out a memo referencing a potential storm

October 25 – OEM meeting with Police Dept, DPW, Emergency Services to discuss general storm preparations

October 29 – OEM office was activated

Reverse 911 calls were made: One (1) to the general community and one (1) to low lying areas to evacuate and move vehicles to higher ground.

A total black out for the entire town was not anticipated. Lincoln School was activated as a shelter. DPW and Emergency Services personnel worked for 3 days straight. Special needs residents were taken care of. Firehouses had no power – garage doors had to be opened and closed manually. There were 160+ emergency calls for the Fire Department.

55 Teaneck Road – ground floor totally uninhabitable

25 Teaneck Road – heating area flooded

17 Teaneck Road – entire building uninhabitable.

Many houses had water through their basements. Principal problem in the Village was no electricity. Election Day went off without a hitch. Food/Clothing Drive was a positive success.

FEMA was in the Village on Monday, Nov. 5, 2012 to assist residents.

As per Governor Christie’s conference call, only one (1) company is authorized to dump debris for FEMA reimbursement – Asplunth (609) 633-1418

A meeting will be scheduled with all departments to re-cap the storm.

Alan O’Grady added that without the Fire Department pumping water from resident’s basements, the DPW would not have been able to do it. Also, the Police Department did a great job and everyone all worked well together.

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CORRESPONDENCE

- 10-18 T-Mobile Letter – 24 Industrial Ave. Lease – Village Attorney Phil Boggia will follow up.
- 10-19 NJLM Mayors Advisory – User Friendly Budget Proposed Reporting Platform – Commissioner Boyd has no information.
- 10-20 Walter Richter Letter – Ongoing Parking Problems – Mayor Fosdick will address.
- 10-21 NJ Clean Water Council – Public Hearing - Informational
- 10-22 NJLM Mayors Advisory – Assembly Action Update - Informational
- 10-23 PSE&G – Preparation for Hurricane Sandy - Informational
- 10-24 NJLM Mayors Advisory – Resolution in Support of A-3393 – Board of Commissioners complied.
- 10-25 NJLM – S-2324 Introduced – Companion to A-3393 Telecommunications Tax Law – already addressed
- 10-26 NJLM Mayors Advisory – Labor situation during League Conference – Conference cancelled due to Hurricane Sandy.
- 10-27 NJLM Mayors Advisory – Administrative Order 2012-09-NJDEP Websites - Informational
- 10-28 So. Bergen JIF – Public Hearing 2013 Budget – Ms. O’Grady to post on Municipal Bulletin Board
- 10-29 Bob Martin DEP – Hurricane Sandy Preparation - Informational
- 11-01 NJLM Mayors Advisory – 97th Conference Cancelled - Informational
- 11-02 NJLM Mayors Advisory – Displaced Citizens/Consumer Protection Info - Informational
- 11-03 NJLM Mayors Advisory – FEMA Transitional Sheltering Assistance - Informational
- 11-04 GJEM – Tropical Storm Sandy Claims - Informational
- 11-05 NJLM Mayors Advisory – Infrastructure Repair / Water Usage Restrictions due to Hurricane Sandy – Informational
- 11-06 NJLM Mayors Advisory – Photo Spread on Hurricane Recovery Efforts – Informational.
- 11-07 Boswell Engineering – Letter to DEP Regarding Remedial Investigation Report/Workplan – Cover letter to DEP per Commissioner MacNeill

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- 11-08 Boswell Engineer – Letter to DEP Regarding Remedial Action Permit/Veterans Park – Cover letter to DEP per Commissioner MacNeill.
- 11-09 Local Finance Notice 2012-26 – Snow Removal Funds – No Snow Removal Trust Fund Account per Mr. O’Grady.
- 11-10 NJLM Mayors Advisory - Disaster Assistance from Small Business Administration – Informational
- 11-11 NJLM Mayors Advisory – Use of Snow Removal Trust Funds/Business Assistance Services – Informational
- 11-12 NJLM Mayors Advisory – FEMA National Emergency Grant – Informational

HEARING OF CITIZENS

No public present

REPORTS

Commissioner Boyd stated generators for the front office needs to be addressed. The Fire Department should also have generators especially when expected to be called in for standby. The Municipal Pool has debris near the concession stand. The funds from the sale of 85 Challenger Road will be deposited into the General Capital Account as per the Village Auditor, Dieter Lerch. All Commissioners should be on the same page for early dismissals for holidays. The Mayor and Commissioners determined the following:
Wednesday, November 21 – All employees will work a full day
Monday, December 24 – Municipal Offices will close at 12 Noon.
Monday, December 31 – Municipal Offices will close at 3 PM
Ms. O’Grady will send memo to all Department Heads.
Comm. Boyd advised the 2012 Tax Sale will be Wednesday, December 12th – currently 27 properties are on the list. Also as of the end of September, the Municipal pool deficit is approx. \$41,000.00.

Commissioner Poli advised the Commissioners a few members of the Ambulance Corps. will be covering Hoboken this weekend to give them a break.

Mayor Fosdick advised the Veterans Day Observance is Sunday, November 11, 2012 at 2 PM at the monument on Euclid Avenue. The Fire Department Installation of officers will be December 11, 2012.

DPW Superintendent Alan O’Grady advised the Mayor and Commissioners that PSE&G is condemning buildings for boilers flooded due to Hurricane Sandy.

Village Attorney Philip Boggia advised the closing on 85 Challenger Road is postponed until next week. The meeting with Chase Partners will be re-scheduled. Skymark would like to meet and discuss adoption of the redevelopment plan.

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Village Clerk Tara O’Grady thanked everyone for their assistance with Election Day. A collection had begun for an employee who had severe damage due to the hurricane. Ms. O’Grady inquired about compensation time for employees that did work on Monday, November 6, 2012 since all departments were not staffed.

The Mayor and Commissioners agreed compensation time is due to employees that worked on Monday, November 6, 2012.

CLOSED SESSION I:

On a motion by Commissioner Anlian, seconded by Commissioner Poli 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 Matters

On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted “YEA”.

The Board of Commissioners convened closed session at 7:50 p.m.

On a motion by Commissioner Anlian, seconded by Commissioner Poli, the Board of Commissioners returned to open session at 8:45 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Fosdick adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Commissioner

Commissioner

/s/ Adam A. MacNeill

Commissioner

/s/ Hugo R. Poli

Commissioner

/s/ George D. Fosdick

Mayor

/s/ Tara O’Grady

Acting Village Clerk

Approved on November 27, 2012