

COMMISSIONERS MEETING

RIDGEFIELD PARK

March 9, 2010

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 28, 2009 and was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board.

ROLL CALL*****

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

FLAG SALUTE*****

The flag salute was let by Mayor Fosdick.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES*****

Motion by Commissioner Boyd seconded by Commissioner MacNeill to approve the minutes of the prior Commissioners Meeting. On roll call Commissioners ANlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

PAYMENT OF BILLS****

Motion by Commissioner Boyd seconded by Commissioner Anlian that bills in the amount of \$2,809,736.15 be approved. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

SPECIAL REPORTS*****

None.

CORRESPONDENCE*****

None.

HEARING OF CITIZENS*****

Ray Ziemba – 101 Overpeck Avenue

Mr. Ziemba said he knew the Mayor had met with the Governor and he got the word – quite a big cut in budget, cannot afford increases. He said you heard it from Mr. Ziemba for months but now you heard it from the Governor. We have a crisis on our hands. There should be cuts in salaries and benefits. You have to make adjustments. Taxpayers are leaving New Jersey.

Mayor Fosdick said the State requires us to pay more into pension, the Governor is withholding School Aid on the basis of surplus. He said surplus is accumulated by being frugal. However, if you spent everything, you do not lose anything; and that is what is frustrating. We accumulate surplus to keep taxes down and now the Governor says we are not going to give you any Aid. Mayor Fosdick said in Ridgefield Park the School Board saved thousands of dollars by being careful and will not get Aid. He said if they spent everything, they would get Aid. He said Unions do not come to the table to give things away. Their job is to fight for everything. He said the School Board cut a position when they hired Mr. Guida to replace Mr. Weber by combining positions and save half a salary. Commissioner Boyd replaced a full timer with a part timer.

Commissioner Anlian said the School Board controls 60% of your tax dollars. He said just as Mr. Ziemba comes to these meetings, he needs to go to the Board of Education Meetings.

Mr. Ziemba said next time Board of Education has a meeting he would try to attend.

Commissioner Anlian said relationship with the Board of Education is excellent. For years, the school budget was voted down and the Commissioners had to make cuts on the budget. He said now, budgets are passed and the students scores are exceptionally good. Mayor Fosdick reported Grant School is the #1 school in the State and is up for a National Blue Ribbon Award. He said in years past, people left Ridgefield Park because they were losing confidence in the school system, but now our schools are great. Commissioner Anlian said the quality of the school system is what makes people move into an area. The Board of Education and Dr. Richardson has made ours one of the best school systems.

Mr. Ziemba said he went to the dog runs in Leonia and North Bergen. He was down in Veterans' Park, and the horseshoe courts, he has yet to see anyone using them. If you made it a dog run, people would use it every day.

Commissioner MacNeill said the cost of the upkeep maintenance is the problem and it would be a major undertaking. Commissioner Boyd said we do not have the money for a dog run.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS*****

None

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 - Authorizing Submission Of Preliminary Presentation On The Pedestrian Bridge..

Resolution No. 2 - Authorizing Increase in Temporary Budget.

Resolution No. 3 - Authorizing Payment Of Voucher With Fire Prevention Funds to Verizon In the Amount of \$464.58.

Resolution No. 4 - Authorizing Payment Of Voucher With Capital Funds To Regional Communications, Inc. In The Amount Of \$27,583.25.

Resolution No. 5 - Supporting Interest Arbitration Reform.

Resolution No. 6 - Authorizing Signing Of Agreement For Well Monitoring.

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

ADJOURNMENT*****

Motion by Commissioner Anlian seconded by Commissioner Boyd to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 PM. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

/s/John H. Anlian

Commissioner

/s/Margaret R. Boyd

Commissioner

/s/Adam A. MacNeill

Commissioner

/s/Hugo R. Poli

Commissioner

George D. Fosdick

Mayor

/s/Barbara Pettit

Acting Village Clerk