

COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
RIDGEFIELD PARK
January 12, 2016
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, 2015 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., Village Attorney; Alan O’Grady, DPW Superintendent; and Tara O’Grady, Village Clerk.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Fosdick. Mayor Fosdick then asked for a moment of silent thought for Tom Grater.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Commissioner MacNeill, seconded by Commissioner Poli to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Regular Meeting of December 22, 2015.

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

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Poli to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$2,713,875.22.

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

SPECIAL REPORTS

Presentation of Awards to the Holiday Display Winners.

Diane Catalano, Board of Recreation President, thanked all who decorate for the holiday season and making the Village brighter.

Ms. Catalano and Mr. Domke announced the winners and presented the awards.

Mayor Fosdick thanked Ms. Catalano and the Board of Recreation for all they do year round. He reminded all the Board of Recreation consists of volunteers. The Mayor referred to an article the Bergen Record published 6 years ago stating over 38% of the homes in the Village were more than 100 years old. He thanked all that participated and made the Village brighter.

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Installation of the Ridgefield Park Heavy Rescue Squad Officers.

Commissioner Boyd welcomed all and asked Chief Rich Shields to present his annual report.

Chief Shields stated for 2015 the Rescue Squad responded to 116 calls. Chief Shields added 2015 will be year 21 for Rescue 530. He announced the Rescue Squad obtained 4 new members. The water rescue training program is proceeding.

Chief Shields thanked the members of the Squad and their families, the Chiefs of the other services, Tara O'Grady and her staff, Joe Saviganano of Apache Auto Wreckers, Susanne of This and That Hardware, and Wayne Sorge of Bogota Rescue. He also thanked the Mayor and Commissioners for their support.

Commissioner Boyd thanked the members and their families for giving so much of their time. She wished them a very safe and easy 2016.

Mrs. O'Grady administered the Oaths of Office to the Administrative Officers.

Commissioner Boyd administered the Oaths of Office to Lieutenant Roberto Velez, Captain Darryl Henkle, and Chief Rich Shields.

Mayor Fosdick emphasized the water rescue training. The Village is bordered on 3 sides by water. Unless on Railroad Avenue, you cannot get out of the Village without crossing a bridge. Due to the elements of Rtes. 46, 80, 95 and two railroads, we must be prepared for anything. While the investment in training and equipment is necessary, we hope we never have to use them. On the average tax bill, less the \$100 supports the volunteer services (fire, ambulance, rescue) in Ridgefield Park. Congratulations and commendations to the members of the Rescue Squad for their service.

RECESS

Motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Anlian to recess for 10 minutes.

By voice vote, all in favor, none opposed.

The Board of Commissioners convened recess at 8:00 p.m.

On a motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Anlian, the Board of Commissioners returned to open session at 8:10 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

No reports given.

HEARING OF CITIZENS

Tom Blumenthal, resident, inquired if the Board of Commissioners had received anything further from the Board of Education pertaining to the \$1.9 – \$2.3 million dollar deficit. Mayor Fosdick replied nothing else has been received.

Walter Richter, resident, advised three weeks ago he reported the “Yield to Pedestrian” sign was missing and it still hasn't been replaced. Mayor Fosdick advised he had spoken to Chief Rose yesterday regarding same.

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Mr. Richter stated he reported a water issue on Teaneck Road by Vorhees Place to the police. He was told the water company had already been notified. 4 accidents occurred at that location before the road was closed for repairs due to icy conditions. He stated the accidents could have been prevented.

Mr. Blumenthal asked who pays the Ridgefield police when they are performing police services in town. Mayor Fosdick responded they are paid by the contractor.

Noel Cote, resident, asked who mandates the police services for road details. Mayor Fosdick stated he believes it to be state mandated. Mayor Fosdick announced the Route 46 Bridge will be open completely on February 5th. Public Service will be paving in the spring.

Mr. Richter stated he was ticketed for non-resident parking even though his vehicle had a resident parking decal. Sgt. Locarno resolved the issue.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Anlian, seconded by Commissioner Poli to adjourn meeting at 8:20 pm.

On roll call, Commissioner Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

/s/John H. Anlian
Commissioner

/s/Margaret R. Boyd
Commissioner

/s/Adam A. MacNeill
Commissioner

/s/ Hugo R. Poli
Commissioner

/s/ George D. Fosdick
Mayor

/s/ Tara O'Grady
Village Clerk
Approved on January 26, 2016