

COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
RIDGEFIELD PARK
July 14, 2020
7:30 PM

Mayor Anlian 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, 2019 and was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board.

ROLL CALL

Those present were Commissioners Gerken, Portorreal and Mayor Anlian in the chair.

Absent: Commissioners MacNeill, Olson

Also, present: Philip Boggia, Village Attorney; Joe Rella, Chief of Police and Tara O’Grady, Village Clerk

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Anlian.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Commissioner Gerken, seconded by Commissioner Portorreal to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Regular and Closed Session Meetings of June 9, 2020

On roll call, Commissioners Gerken, Portorreal and Mayor Anlian voted “YEA”.

Absent: Commissioners MacNeill, Olson

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion by Commissioner Gerken, seconded by Commissioner Portorreal to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$4,663,165.30.

On roll call, Commissioners Gerken, Portorreal and Mayor Anlian voted “YEA”.

Absent: Commissioners MacNeill, Olson

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

No reports.

HEARING OF CITIZENS

Matthew Reber, resident, would like body cameras mandatory for the Police Department, Ridgefield Park currently has dash cameras. Chief Rella responded that he will meet and show Mr. Reber exactly what the dash cameras actually show. Chief Rella stated the body camera program is rather expensive and would entertain it if the Police Department had nothing. He doesn’t see a need for it right now. Footage from dash cams was successfully tested in court. Chief Rella stated he will reach out to him in the near future to arrange a meeting.

Mr. Reber stated he researched body cameras and believes the cost would be approximately \$30,000.00. Body cameras would provide more evidence – dash cams don’t pick up everything. Body cams would benefit both the Police Department and citizens.

Commissioner Gerken stated there seems to be a solution before there is a problem.

Mayor Anlian thanked Mr. Reber for taking the time to write his email and for coming to the meeting. Ridgefield Park reminded all the Ridgefield Park Police Department is accredited and runs efficiently.

July 14, 2020

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Anlian announces that the following business is considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted in one motion. Any item may be removed for separate consideration.

RESOLUTIONS:

2020-096 Authorize Street Closure for Block Party

2020-097 Authorize Mayor Anlian to sign Shared Service Agreement for Animal Cruelty Services with the County of Bergen

Motion by Commissioner Portorreal, seconded by Commissioner Gerken, that the Consent Agenda be approved.

On roll call, Commissioners Gerken, Portorreal and Mayor Anlian voted “YEA”.

Absent: Commissioners MacNeill, Olson

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION

2020-02 AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 62 OF THE VILLAGE CODE TO PROVIDE FOR AUTOMATIC INCREASES IN THE MAXIMUM LOSAP AWARD INDEXED TO THE CPI AND TO REVISE THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE RIDGEFIELD PARK FIRE DEPARTMENT

Commissioner Portorreal moved the ordinance be given its first reading. So ordered.

Commissioner Portorreal read the said ordinance by title.

Commissioner Portorreal moved the ordinance be adopted on first reading, published in the Record Newspaper and posted on the Village Bulletin Board by the Village Clerk. The public hearing will be held on August 11, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gerken.

On roll call Commissioners Gerken, Portorreal, and Mayor Anlian voted “YEA”.

Absent: Commissioners MacNeill, Olson

CLOSED SESSION

Resolution:

2020-098 Authorize Closed Session Meeting

On a motion by Commissioner Gerken, seconded by Commissioner Portorreal, 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 (7) Potential Anticipated Litigation

On roll call, Commissioners Gerken, Portorreal and Mayor Anlian voted “YEA”.

Absent: Commissioners MacNeill, Olson

The Board of Commissioners convened closed session at 8:03 p.m.

July 14, 2020

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

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Portorreal, seconded by Commissioner Gerken to adjourn.

On roll call, Commissioners Gerken, Portorreal and Mayor Anlian voted “YEA”.

Absent: Commissioners MacNeill, Olson

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

/s/William G. Gerken
Commissioner

Abstain
Commissioner MacNeill

Abstain
Commissioner Olson

/s/ Wanda C. Portorreal
Commissioner

/s/ John H. Anlian
Mayor

/s/ Tara O’Grady

Village Clerk

Approved on August 11, 2020