

COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
RIDGEFIELD PARK
November 24, 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 Website and Bulletin Board.

ROLL CALL

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

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 Olson to approve the revised minutes of the Commissioners Regular Meeting of September 22, 2020.

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

Motion by Commissioner Gerken, seconded by Commissioner Olson to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Closed Session Meeting of September 22, 2020.

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

Motion by Commissioner Portorreal, seconded by Commissioner Olson to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Regular Meeting of October 13, 2020.

On roll call, Commissioners MacNeill, Olson, Portorreal and Mayor Anlian voted “YEA”.
Abstain: Commissioner Gerken

Motion by Commissioner Gerken, seconded by Commissioner MacNeill to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Regular Meeting and Closed Session Meeting of October 27, 2020.

On roll call, Commissioners Gerken, MacNeill, Portorreal and Mayor Anlian voted “YEA”.
Abstain: Commissioner Olson

CORRESPONDENCE

Ridgefield Park Fire Department Hose Co. No. 1 – New Member

Ridgefield Park Fire Department Hose Co. No. 1 – New Member

Ridgefield Park Fire Department Hose Co. No. 3 – New Member

Ridgefield Park Fire Department Hook & Ladder Co. No. 2 – Resignation

Motion by Mayor Anlian, seconded by Commissioner MacNeill, Jose Gonzalez, Elias Silva and Emilio Vasquez were accepted as new members of the Village of Ridgefield Park Volunteer Fire Department subject to approval by the New Jersey State Firemen's Association.

On roll call, Commissioners Gerken, MacNeill, Olson, Portorreal and Mayor Anlian voted "YEA".

Motion by Mayor Anlian, seconded by Commissioner MacNeill, the resignation of Sean Neubauer from the Ridgefield Park Volunteer Fire Department was accepted with regret.

On roll call, Commissioners Gerken, MacNeill, Olson, Portorreal and Mayor Anlian voted "YEA".

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Gerken reported the Welfare Director is back to work on a part-time basis. The bid opening for the Nature Preserve took place today. The 4th of July Committee is not thrilled with the idea of fireworks next year. The committee is short on members and unsure if there will be any COVID restrictions in July - Barbara DeLuca is not interested in chairing the fireworks. The committee will meet again in January. Mayor Anlian suggested to ask the Rotary Club to assist.

Commissioner Olson stated the Sustainable Jersey application was submitted Sunday. The tree sculpturer will be starting in about a week. The tree lighting is Dec. 6 at 5:30pm – poetry will be read by Bob Sienicki. Commissioner Olson contacted KABR regarding the car decorating idea but hasn't heard back from them. He suggested the banked vacation time for the DPW Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent perhaps be paid out – to be discussed at a later date.

Commissioner Portorreal stated the Holiday Market at Fellowship Park was great. The municipal buildings will be sprayed again for COVID.

HEARING OF CITIZENS

Paul Boranian Jr., resident, stated at the Holiday Market, he spoke to residents and asked if they had any concerns. Residents have stated there are speeding cars in the Lincoln School area and asked if a speed bump can be installed. Chief Rella stated he would not advocate a speed bump. He will place speed trailers on Paulison/Hackensack/Lincoln Avenue and re-access the situation. Mr. Boranian inquired about the construction on Main Street – water main is being replaced from Route 46 to Christie Street. He also asked why Ridgefield Park has meters and not free parking – to help free up parking spots for shoppers instead of cars parking all day on Main Street.

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Commissioner Olson added commuters used to park on Village streets and take the bus due to the proximity to New York City.

Mr. Boranian also suggested a “Transgender Memorial Rock Garden” in Fellowship Park.

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:

- 2020-149 Authorize Renewal to the Bergen Municipal Employee Benefits Fund
- 2020-150 Authorize Mayor to Sign Shared Services Agreement Renewal with County of Bergen
- 2020-151 Adopt the Bergen County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan
- 2020-152 Appoint Shade Tree Commission Members

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

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

CLOSED SESSION

Resolution:

2020-153 Authorize Closed Session Meeting

On a motion by Commissioner Gerken, seconded by Commissioner Olson, 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, 8) Pending Litigation, Personnel

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

The Board of Commissioners convened closed session at 7:55 p.m.

On a motion by Commissioner Gerken, seconded by Commissioner Portorreal, the Board of Commissioners returned to open session at 8:25 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Mayor Anlian adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

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/s/William G. Gerken
Commissioner

/s/Adam A. MacNeill
Commissioner

/s/Mark C. Olson
Commissioner

/s/ Wanda C. Portorreal
Commissioner

/s/ Tara O'Grady
Village Clerk
Approved on January 12, 2021

/s/ John H. Anlian
Mayor