

**COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
RIDGEFIELD PARK**

**April 28, 2020  
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 31, 2019 and was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and Village Website.

Due to the COVID-19 Coronavirus Health Crisis, this meeting was held via tele-conference call.

**ROLL CALL**

Those present were Commissioners Anlian, Kohles, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick in the chair.

Also, present: Philip Boggia, Village Attorney and Tara O’Grady, Village Clerk

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Commissioner Poli, seconded by Commissioner Kohles to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Regular Meeting of April 14, 2020.

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

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

Commissioner MacNeill advised the Municipal Building will be open for property owners that wish to make cash tax payments only. Masks must be worn.

Mayor Fosdick advised there are 236 positive COVID-19 cases in Ridgefield Park, however, he hasn’t received any information on discharges or recoveries. When the 2020 Meeting Notice was advertised, the Caucus Meeting was scheduled for 6pm, due to Elks Youth Day, followed by the Regular Commissioners meeting since Tuesday, May 12 is the Board of Commissioners Election. The May 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting will begin at 7pm since Elks Youth Day is cancelled - Caucus Meeting followed by the Regular Commissioners Meeting. The May 12<sup>th</sup> Commissioners Election is mail in ballot only. The County is responsible for the election, not Ridgefield Park. Ballots must be postmarked by May 12<sup>th</sup> and received by the County by May 14<sup>th</sup>. The Re-organization meeting will take place May 19<sup>th</sup> if the election is certified by then. Property taxes are still due May 1<sup>st</sup> – grace period can be extended to June 1<sup>st</sup>. The Commissioners are considering passing a resolution tonight approving the grace period extension. The State recommends no reduction in interest rates for delinquent taxes.

**HEARING OF CITIZENS**

Vincent Torrico asked for clarification on the Village’s financial statement listing the “reserve for sale of municipal assets” as a liability.

Mayor Fosdick explained the Village sold properties on Challenger Road and since the money is held in reserve, it is listed as a liability. The Village’s credit rating has improved due to strong reserves.

Mr. Torrico inquired about the 2020 budget. How can money be spent if there isn’t a budget?

Mayor Fosdick advised the Village is currently working on a temporary budget which is based on last year’s budget.

Commissioner MacNeill advised the 2020 budget will be ready for introduction on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

**April 28, 2020**

Mr. Torrico asked if the Village has a bicycle program – collection of bicycles and give to the needy.

Mayor Fosdick advised not at this time.

John Cataldi, resident, advised the Ridgefield Park Baseball Organization has been in contact with the Little League Organization regarding the 2020 season. The RPBO has not cancelled the season yet. Mr. Cataldi asked if there is a tentative date for the opening of the parks.

Mayor Fosdick advised the Village is guided by what the Governor states and no dates have been given. He added, Homeland Security was at the High School performing the meal distribution program audit and saw people on the track and demanded it closed. He added the Governor's May 15<sup>th</sup> date as optimistic.

Mr. Cataldi stated the RPBO will make a decision this weekend about the season.

Robert Layton inquired if anything is being done about foul balls from the ballfield going into the pool area – back stop, nets?

Commissioner MacNeill advised it is being worked on and depends on the proposal.

Maggie Boyd asked if taxes are paid via mortgage companies, are they also allowed to pay up until June 1.

Mayor Fosdick stated as per the state, banks would pay taxes as they normally do.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Fosdick 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:**

2020-046 Re-appoint Michal Lauer as Emergency Management Coordinator

2020-047 Authorize Grace Period Extension for 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Taxes

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

On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Kohles, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Resolution:

2020-048 Authorize Closed Session Meeting

Mayor Fosdick announced the Board of Commissioners will adjourn immediately after the Closed Session Executive Meeting.

On a motion by Commissioner Anlian, seconded by Commissioner Kohles, 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, Kohles, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

The Board of Commissioners convened closed session at 7:57 p.m.

**April 28, 2020**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Fosdick adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

/s/John H. Anlian  
Commissioner

/s/Theresa A. Kohles  
Commissioner

/s/Adam A. MacNeill  
Commissioner

/s/ Hugo R. Poli  
Commissioner

/s/ George D. Fosdick  
Mayor

/s/ Tara O’Grady  
Village Clerk

Approved on May 7, 2020