

COMMISSIONERS MEETING
RIDGEFIELD PARK
February 23, 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 led by Mayor Fosdick.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES*****

Motion by Commissioner Boyd seconded by Commissioner Poli that the minutes of the Commissioners Minutes of February 9, 2010 be approved. On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA"

SPECIAL REPORTS*****

None.

CORRESPONDENCE*****

Mrs. Pettit read two letters from the Ambulance Corps Captain Steven Fernandez. The first letter concerned adding Mark Campbell, Janice Diaz and Marc Berenson to their roster as Probationary Members.

Motion by Commissioner Poli seconded by Commissioner Boyd to approve the addition of the above three members to the roster of the Ambulance Corps. On roll call Commissioner Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

The second letter concerned accepting the resignations of Carlos Carames and Gabriel Carames from the Ambulance Corps.

Motion by Commissioner Poli seconded by Commissioner Boyd to accept the resignations of the above two members with regrets. On roll call Commissioner Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

HEARING OF CITIZENS*****

Frank Connolly

Mr. Connolly said he wanted to inquire about the softball field this year. Commissioner MacNeill said he did not see any problem with the dates. Commissioner MacNeill said tonight we will finalize an ordinance regarding fees for the parks. He said the electric bills are skyrocketing.

Mr. Connolly said his team barely uses the lights. However, Commissioner MacNeill explained that the field needs clean-up. The cost for the league for the season would be \$1000.00. Mr. Connolly said there are about 100 people in the league.

Ray Ziemba – 101 Overpeck Avenue

Mr. Ziemba asked about the Special Reports section of the agenda. He asked the Commissioners if he could have some feed back as to what they are doing.

Mayor Fosdick responded that tomorrow at his own expense, he is going to Trenton to meet with the Governor. It is the annual Mayor's League Conference. He said he never misses it.

Mr. Ziemba said the new Governor tells it like it is. He said the Governor said lower taxes is the key to economic recovery. He said the Governor feels to lower taxes all the towns have to lower school budgets. The municipalities have to get together with the school to create a budget.

Commissioner Anlian suggested Mr. Ziemba also make these comments to the Board of Education.

Mr. Ziemba said property values of our town are directly related to the schools. However, our property value have gone down while school budget keeps going up.

Commissioner Anlian responded budget is not related to the value of the property, they are related to the economy.

Mayor Fosdick said a lot of the things the Governor is talking about, we did years ago. No one retiring gets more than 30 days sick pay. Another thing, we get employee contribution for health care.

Mr. Ziemba spoke about creating jobs. Lower taxes, you put money in people's pockets, so they can spend and that helps create jobs.

Mayor Fosdick said we do meet with the School Board. We have had very little increase. Mayor Fosdick spoke about not receiving State Aid. Mayor Fosdick explained when you save \$100,000 you only reduce taxes by \$23.12. He explained you would have to save \$1,000,000.00 to see a significant reduction in taxes. He explained that we have an agreement with Bogota. The State is requiring that we have a truck wash facility at a cost of \$70,000. Bogota is going to pay half and we will pay half. We will be working with Bogots on their sewers at a cost to Bogota of \$250.00 an hour. He said we a salt facility and a fuel facility. Little Ferry children come to Ridgefield Park Jr/Sr. High School. This has happened for the past 53 years.

Mr. Ziemba said it is imperative to lower taxes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS*****

Commissioner MacNeill announced that this was the time and place for the public hearing on "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND REVISE AND SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 271 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK ENTITLED "PARKS".

Commissioner MacNeill explained that out of towners use our field, pavilions and cook hours and the cost has been overwhelming. He explained the cost of lighting the field and clean-up. Mr. Frank Connolly who was in attendance said that they had purchased a small tractor and put in an irrigation system on the field.

Mayor Fosdick spoke about the new County Park. He said the new soccer field has a sprinkler system so during the summer when the fields get so hot, you will still be able to use them. He said there are also tennis court, baseball fields and a softball fields. He said the County has really come through for Ridgefield Park with this facility.

Motion by Commissioner MacNeill, seconded by Commissioner Poli that the "ORDINANCE TO AMEND REVISE AND SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 271 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK ENTITLED "PARKS" be approved and duly advertised in the Record. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

Commissioner Poli announced that this was the time and place for the public hearing on "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND, REVISE AND SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 197 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK ENTITLED "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC". Commissioner Poli explained that this was basically to add four parking spots at Brewster Park for use of the Ambulance Corps. No one wished to be heard.

Motion by commissioner Poli seconded by Commissioner Boyd that the 'ORDINANCE TO AMEND, REVISE AND SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 197 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK ENTITLED 'VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC" be approved and duly advertised in the Record. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

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 Increase In 2010 Temporary Budget.

Resolution No. 2 - Approving Use Of Veterans Park For Commencement Ceremony.

Resolution No. 3 - Approving the Transfer From POAA Trust \$14,500.00 and From DWI Trust \$25,200.00 To Current Account For Payroll/Special Sessions, As Approved By The Superior Court Of New Jersey.

Resolution No. 4 - Approving Jurisdiction Of Elevator Safety Inspections Be Retained By The Village of Ridgefield Park

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

RECESS*****

Motion by Commissioner Anlian seconded by Commissioner Poli to recess the Commissioners Meeting at 8:07 PM to go into Closed Session to discuss personnel matters. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

/s/ John H. Anlian
Commissioner

/s/ Margaret R. Boyd
Commissioner

/s/ Hugo R. Poli
Commissioner

/s/Adam A. Mac Neill
Commissioner

/s/ George D. Fosdick
Mayor

/s/Barbara Pettit
Acting Village Clerk