

COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING
RIDGEFIELD PARK
April 10, 2012
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, 2011 and was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board.

ROLL CALL

Those present were Commissioner Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick in the Chair. Also present: Joseph Voytus, Esq., Deborah Fehre, Tara O'Grady, and Dieter Lerch

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor Fosdick.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Poli, to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Regular Meeting of March 27, 2012.

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

SPECIAL REPORTS

Commissioner Anlian announced Arbor Day Saturday, April 21, 2012. The Ridgefield Park High School planted two trees. Earth Day will be April 28, 2012 at Riverside Park. There will be no boats due to the damaged dock. Troop 3 will have their giant garage sale that same day at the same location.

Commissioner MacNeill reported that the new sports field is open and being used well.

Commissioner Poli announced the Pasta Dinner on April 28th at St. Francis Church with the Boy Scouts.

BUDGET

2012 Municipal Budget – Public Hearing

On a motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Poli, the meeting was opened to the public for the purpose of a public hearing on the proposed 2012 municipal budget.

Commissioner Boyd introduced Dieter Lerch, Village Auditor.

Mr. Lerch reviewed the 2012 proposed municipal Budget. The budget increase is approximately \$350,000.00 a 1.5% increase, which conforms to the new legislation regarding the 2% cap on increases. There is an amendment to the proposed budget on the agenda. No formal action will be taken to adopt the budget due to the need to act on the amendment resolution. The hearing on the amendment and the adoption of the budget, with the amendment, will be on April 24, 2012.

Commissioner Boyd stated that the average taxpayer would pay a \$67.00 increase.

April 10, 2012

Joan Carlson, resident, asked how the increase affects co-ops. Mayor Fosdick answered that they did not know. The average taxpayer pays \$9,000.00.

Mrs. Leonard, resident, commented that Ridgefield Park has the greatest DPW.

Mr. Leonard asked for clarification on the increase. Mayor Fosdick explained the County, school, and municipal portions of the tax bill.

Angel Fernandez, resident, asked what the school portion would be. Mayor Fosdick advised that the school no longer needs a vote to approve the budget since they have moved their election to November. They are under the same 2% cap limitation as the municipality.

Mr. Dellafave, resident, inquired about the parking meters. Commissioner MacNeill responded that they are looking for funding for the new parking system.

2012-42 Resolution to Amend the 2012 Municipal Budget

On a motion by Commissioner MacNeill, seconded by Commissioner Poli, Resolution 2012-42 was offered for approval.

Commissioner MacNeill informed the public that the amendment to the budget is being taken from surplus and is not an additional increase to the taxpayer.

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

2012-43 Resolution Municipal Annual Budget Self Examination

On a motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Poli, Resolution 2012-43 was offered for approval

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

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion by Commissioner Boyd seconded by Commissioner Anlian to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$5,501,568.09

Commissioner Boyd commented that this list of payments includes significant tax appeal payments.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Ridgefield Park Volunteer Fire Department Hose Company No. 3 - New Member

On a motion by Mayor Fosdick, seconded by Commissioner Boyd, Mr. Michael Wood was accepted as a member.

April 10, 2012

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

Ridgefield Park Volunteer Fire Department Hose Company No. 3 – Resignation

On a motion by Mayor Fosdick, seconded by Commissioner Boyd, the resignation of Joseph Kvilesz was accepted with regret.

Mayor Fosdick commented that he has great respect for the military service of Mr. Kvilesz.

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

HEARING OF CITIZENS

Noel Cote, resident, asked why Commissioner Boyd voted no on the budget amendment. Commissioner Boyd explained that they had a timeline to work with and that it was the principle for her not to change the requests after the work was done.

Walter Richter, resident, commented on a sidewalk in need of repair on Hazelton Street. Mayor Fosdick stated that he spoke to the School Superintendent and it will be taken care of.

Dieter Lerch left the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Mr. Richter then informed the Commissioners of a property that has had all tress removed leaving a bare slope. The debris is piled up behind 9 Brinkerhoff. Commissioner MacNeill will ask the Building Department to look into it.

Mr. Dellafave, resident, asked about police negotiations. Mayor responded that they have been in negotiations for over one year.

Mr. Fernandez, resident, asked about how taxes are calculated when the value of a house changes. Mayor Fosdick explained that the Village still needs to raise a certain amount of money to run the town. There are shifts for some property owners, but not all. Commissioner Anlian added that if all the values went down, taxes would be the same in order to raise the same amount of funds. Commissioner Boyd commented that the tax rate changes, not the amount to be raised.

RESOLUTIONS

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.

Mayor Fosdick read the resolutions by title.

Resolutions:

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 2012-44 | Support the Denial of Parole for Christopher Righetti |
| 2012-45 | Support A-2717, Extending the Deadline for Housing Trust Funds |
| 2012-46 | Authorize Refund of Tax Overpayments |
| 2012-47 | Authorize Tax Lien Redemption and Return of Premium |
| 2012-48 | Approve LOSAP Contributions |

April 10, 2012

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

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

PROCLAMATIONS

Shade Tree – Arbor Day

Mayor Fosdick Commented that this was the 23rd year in a row that Ridgefield Park received the Tree City award.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Anlian, seconded by Commissioner Poli, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Commissioner

/s/Margaret R. Boyd

Commissioner

/s/Adam A. MacNeill

Commissioner

/s/ Hugo R. Poli

Commissioner

/s/ George D. Fosdick

Mayor

/s/ Deborah L. Fehre

Interim Village Clerk

Approved on April 24, 2012