

**COMMISSIONERS CAUCUS MEETING
RIDGEFIELD PARK
April 19, 2012
7:00 PM**

Commissioner 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 28, 2011 and was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board.

ROLL CALL

Those present were Commissioners Boyd, MacNeill, Poli, and Commissioner Anlian in the Chair

Absent: Mayor Fosdick

Also present: Philip Boggia, Esq., Edward Rose, Police Chief, Alan O'Grady, DPW Superintendent, Tara O'Grady, Deputy Clerk, and Deborah Fehre, Interim Clerk

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Commissioner Boyd seconded by Commissioner Poli to approve the minutes of the Caucus Meeting of April 5, 2012

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

Absent: Mayor Fosdick

Motion by Commissioner Boyd seconded by Commissioner Poli to approve the minutes of the Closed Meeting of April 5, 2012

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

Absent: Mayor Fosdick

CORRESPONDENCE

- 04-14 NJLM Mayors Advisory - Support for Small Businesses Available On-line – Informational, copy for Business Association
- 04-15 Douglas Hansen, Fire Marshal – Request for Ordinance Change – Commissioners agreed to increase the late charge to \$100.00 if not in compliance by April 1, 2012. Introduction of Ordinance to be placed on future agenda.
- 04-16 NJLM Mayors Advisory – Affordable Housing Trust Funds, July Deadline – Ridgefield Park submitted resolution opposing July deadline
- 04-17 Governor's Office – 100 Best Communities for Young People - Informational
- 04-18 William Betesh, Esq. – Withdrawal of Tax Appeal – good job by Bill Betesh, Esq.
- 04-19 Troop 3 Boy Scouts – Eagle Scout – Proclamation on agenda for Tuesday Meeting
- 04-20 Mr. Moncello – Businesses in Ridgefield Park – Mayor will respond
- 04-21 Barbara DeLuca – CTM Trust Fund Monitoring – Ridgefield Park – 2010 – Status quo
- 04-22 Senator Sarlo – Copy of Correspondence re: Pedestrian Bridge – Overpeck Park –good letter regarding issues

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- 04-23 BC Environmental Council – 2012 Earth Day Planting - Informational
- 04-24 Rogut McCarthy LLC – Bond Anticipation Notes – Note bearing interest at 1.5%
- 04-25 VFW Post No. 277 – Request for Proclamation re: Annual Poppy Sale - Proclamation on agenda for Tuesday Meeting
- 04-26 Ridgefield Park Lodge No. 1506 – Annual Youth Day Program – Caucus will begin 6:00 after Youth Day
- 04-27 Douglas Hansen, EMC – Carnival at County Park
- 04-28 Mr. Joseph Cuozzo – Copy of Correspondence re: Background Checks – Coaches and parents coming to Commissioner Meeting to ask for an ordinance on background checks.
- 04-29 DCA – GovConnect Update April 17, 2012 – Informational
- 04-30 Philip Boggia, Esq. – Copy of E-mail from Mr. Sokol – Mr. Sokol has a conflict of interest; he is off case for Village of Ridgefield Park v. County of Bergen
- 04-31 BC Freeholders – Ordinances Adopted and Introduced - Informational
- 04-32 BC ADA Coordinator – Request for Comments on Grants – send to Mr. Stefanile
- 04-33 NJ Turnpike Authority – Copy of Correspondence to Bergen County Executive – closed session
- 04-34 NJDOT – Complete Streets Education Workshop – send to Ken Ochab as well
- 04-35 Governor’s Office – NJDOT Complete Streets Policy and Design Workshops – same as 04-34
- 04-36 Ken Ochab – Proposal for Services Re: Redevelopment Plan - Skymark to post funds; put resolution on next meeting for approval of agreement with all documentation needed for pay to play

REPORTS

Commissioner Boyd reported that the Pool Commission would like to increase the pool membership fees by \$5.00; a resolution needs to be placed on the next agenda.

Commissioner Poli reported that the recreation meeting regarding the changes in the summer program was held and no residents attended the meeting.

Commissioner MacNeill no report

Commissioner Anlian no report

Interim Village Clerk Deborah Fehre updated the Commissioners on the status of the Open Public Meetings Act and Open Public Records Act bills in senate committee. The Lobster House Liquor License is in jeopardy of being confiscated by the NJ Division of Taxation.

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HEARING OF CITIZENS

No public present

Mayor Fosdick and Superintendent of Schools, Christopher Onorato arrived at 7:35

SPECIAL REPORTS

Christopher Onorato, Superintendent of Ridgefield Park Schools - School Budget

Mr. Onorato explained the process of creating the school budget from a needs assessment within the means of the municipality to the end result of a budget that meets the needs of the students, stays within the 2% mandated State cap, and allows for population growth and structural improvements. The district would like to keep as many special education students in district by offering the programs needed. This saves on tuition costs to other schools. They are adopting the national standards for curriculum. Among the various improvements cited is the conversion of the swimming pool at Roosevelt school to an all-purpose room.

Mayor Fosdick thanked Mr. Onorato. Mr. Onorato left the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Ridgefield Park Environmental Commission - Use of Overpeck Creek/Lake by New York Rowing Association

Commissioner Anlian introduced Kevin Avery, Peter Garvey, and Jim Ruff of the Environmental Commission as well as Bill Sheehan, River Keeper and Gil Hawkins, Director of Overpeck Preserve.

They attended the meeting as a follow up to a resolution that the Environmental Commission passed opposing the use of Overpeck Creek by the New York Rowing Association. They are concerned with plans for permanent lanes and dredging as indicated on the NYRA website. There is also concern for the bald eagles nesting in that area of the creek. It is believed that the County has jurisdiction of the creek regarding "Waters of State" that border their property. The Mayor and Commissioner Anlian agreed to send a letter to Mr. Kistner, Park Director, with a copy to the County Executive, Freeholder Board, and the surrounding municipalities.

The Environmental Commission Members, Mr. Sheehan and Mr. Hawkins left the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Mayor Fosdick asked about the proposed ordinance change for late fees submitted by Doug Hansen. The Commissioners informed the Mayor that the fee would be increased to \$100.00 by ordinance at a future meeting.

CLOSED SESSION:

On a motion by Commissioner Anlian, seconded by Commissioner Poli 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 (5, 7) Village of Ridgefield Park v. County of Bergen and Ground Lease 85 Challenger Road

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

The Board of Commissioners convened closed session at 9:25 p.m.

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On a motion by Commissioner Anlian, seconded by Commissioner Boyd the Board of Commissioners returned to open session at 9:42 p.m.

Mayor Fosdick reported that FEMA will reimburse the Village for the deductible regarding Hurricane Irene.

DISCUSSION

Grant Coordinator position - Commissioner MacNeill addressed the need to replace Mr. Stefanile, Grant Coordinator, who is retiring. He suggested creating a part time position. Perhaps a resident with a professional background could be trained for the position. It was also suggested to call the surrounding municipalities and inquire who they use to procure grants.

Mayor Fosdick adjourned the meeting at 9:54 p.m.

Commissioner

/s/Margaret R. Boyd
Commissioner

/s/Adam A. MacNeill
Commissioner

/s/ Hugo R. Poli
Commissioner

Mayor

/s/ Deborah L. Fehre
Interim Village Clerk
Approved on May 17, 2012