

COMMISSIONERS MEETING

RIDGEFIELD PARK

September 22 2009

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, 2008 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 MacNeill to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Meeting of September 8, 2009. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted “YEA”.

SPECIAL REPORTS*****

None.

PAYMENT OF BILLS*****

None.

CORRESPONDENCE*****

None.

HEARING OF CITIZENS*****

Ray Ziemba – 101 Overpeck Avenue:

1. Said he dealt with a carting company, the owner of which he had not seen for a while. He explained the owner of the carting company was in a new business ventures – sawdust. The public brings wood to his facility and he makes sawdust and provides it to racetracks, etc. He said our DPW still picks up trash and wood other than on trash days. He believes there is a goldmine in garbage.

2. Fuel – similar to stills, Micro fuel is selling the same idea where you boil your garbage in your home and make fuel. The still cost about \$10,000 but the government will give you \$5,000 in tax credit.

3. Asked about other towns reducing their budgets.

Mayor Fosdick said regarding reducing budgets, it is because of State Aid. He explained we did not go for deferring pension payments, which would have cost a lot more money, and as a result, we did not receive State Aid.

Mr. Ziembra again said we have to cut salaries, benefits, pension costs, etc.

Mayor Fosdick said what Mr. Ziembra said “we do not dispute”. He said the Board of Education’s budget was overwhelmingly passed by the voters. This past weekend the Mayor went to the VFW, a block party on Third Street and on Eight Street and a Midget Football Game. He said no one talks about taxes. Many of the young people at the block party asked about a preschool program. They said they will pay the money to get it. People may complain about taxes, but want more things. He explained 44 years ago, the referendum to build a new high school, the comments were no one could afford to live in Ridgefield Park. The referendum passed and the people stayed and taxes went up.

Commissioner Anlian said what Mr. Ziembra was commenting on was out of our control. He explained that 566 municipalities could be on the brink of bankruptcy because of State Mandates.

Mayor Fosdick commented on an item on tonight’s agenda regarding East Hamtampton. They met their affordable housing obligations, but were told by the State they must build affordable housing.

Commissioner Boyd said the State has asked for resolutions and we have sent them. Health insurance is going up. In certain departments where we had five employees, we now have 4 ½. We do not spend unless it is necessary. Many times, Commissioner Boyd will purchase pens, markers, etc, in the dollar store. We cannot fix the State and there are limitations as to what we can cut. Commissioner Boyd could not cut the budget.

Mr. Ziembra said the secret is simply “take in more than you spend”.

Commissioner Anlian said remember the first Tuesday in November – go out and vote.

Commissioner Poli explained we are only permitted to raise our budget 4% a year, yet the State Health Benefits Plan went up 20%.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS*****

Commissioner Boyd announced that this would have been the time and place for the

Public Hearing on “AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A CODIFICATION AND REVISION OF THE ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; PROVIDING FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF SAID CODE; REPEALING AND SAVING FROM REPEAL CERTAIN ORDINANCES NOT INCLUDED THEREIN; ESTABLISHING A PENALTY FOR ALTERING OR TAMPERING WITH THE CODE AND MAKING

CERTAIN CHANGES IN PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED ORDINANCES”; however, the public hearing was being postponed until October 27, 2009. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted “YEA”.

NEW BUSINESS*****

Commissioner Boyd introduced an “ORDINANCE FIXING COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS & EMPLOYEES OF THE VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK FOR THE YEAR 2009”.

Motion by Commissioner Boyd seconded by Commissioner Poli that the introduction of “ORDINANCE FIXING COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS & EMPLOYEES OF THE VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK FOR THE YEAR 2009” pass its introduction, be duly advertised in the Record and come up for public hearing on October 13, 2009. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted “YEA”.

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 The Cancellation of Other Trust Deposit And Reserve – Sewer Study - \$21,465.00.

Resolution No. 2] Authorizing The Payment Of Tax Court Judgments In The Amount of \$1,503,124.70.

- Resolution No. 3] Authorizing Refund of Tax Court Judgment In The Amount of \$236.20 On Block 141, Lot 13, to Woodrow Page, 45 Maple Street.
- Resolution No. 4] Authorizing Refund Of Overpayment Of Taxes On Block 89, Lot 5, 175 Main Street In The Amount Of \$75.21.
- Resolution No. 5] Authorizing Refund Of Duplicate Payment Of Taxes-Second Quarter Of 2008 In The Amount Of \$2,388.56 On Block 131, Lot 10, 227 Teaneck Road..
- Resolution No. 6] Authorizing The Use Of Both Sides Of Bergen Avenue For St. Francis Feast-October 2nd – October 4th.
- Resolution No. 7] Authorizing Enabling Resolution –Green Acres – Fellowship Park Improvement Project.
- Resolution No. 8] Authorizing the Person to Person Transfer of Plenary Retail Distribution License Nima LLC Located At 85 Central Avenue.
- Resolution No. 9] Requesting State Legislature To Address Inequity In Court Decision Homes of Hope v. Township of Eastampton.
- Resolution No 10] Authorizing Commissioner of Insurance To Enter Into An Agreement To Participate In The New Jersey State Health Benefits Program Act Of New Jersey.
- Resolution No 11] Adopting Provisions Of NJSA 52:14.1738 – Chapter 48 Of Certain Retirees – State Health Benefit Program And Authorizing The Commissioner of Insurance and the Acting Village Clerk To Sign Same.
- Resolution No. 12] Authorizing Payment Of Vouchers With Fire Prevention Dedicated Funds.

Motion by Commissioner Poli, seconded by Commissioner MacNeill 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 Boyd to recess the Commissioner Meeting to go into Closed Session to discuss legal matters. On roll call, Commissioner Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted “YEA”.

s/ John H. Anlian
Commissioner

s/ Margaret R. Boyd
Commissioner

s/ Adam A. MacNeill
Commissioner

s/ Hugo R. Poli
Commissioner

s/ George D. Fosdick
Mayor

s/ Barbara Pettit
Acting Village Clerk