

**COMMISSIONERS MEETING
RIDGEFIELD PARK**

**April 14, 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 21, 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 Poli that the minutes of March 24, 2009 be approved. On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted “YEA”.

Motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Poli to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of March 31, 2009. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted “YEA”.

SPECIAL REPORTS*****

Mayor Fosdick turned the meeting over to Commissioner Poli.

Commissioner Poli announced we had received County recognition Honoring Members of the Ambulance Corps for responding to US Airways Flight 1549’s Crash into the Hudson River.

Commendations were presented to Steven Fernandez, Edith Morales, George Kotzias and Orestis Kotzias, brothers.

Commissioner Poli said it only shows what Ridgefield Park is made of, volunteers who respond.

Mayor Fosdick thanked the members of the Ambulance Corps on behalf of the Board of Commissioners and the people of Ridgefield Park for their dedication and accomplishments and for their service.

Mayor Fosdick said Village Clerk Sarah Warlikowski is retiring at the end of this month after 25 years of service. Since the Mayor will not be at the next public meeting he took this opportunity to commend and thank Sarah for her dedication to the people of Ridgefield Park, and her patience with the Commissioners. He said there will be a dinner to honor Sarah on Saturday, May 30th, at the Elks. Tickets will be available in the Clerk’s Office. He further stated that the Deputy Clerk Barbara Pettit will serve as Acting Village Clerk until completion of the State certification exam.

PAYMENT OF BILLS*****

Motion by Commissioner Boyd seconded by Commissioner MacNeill to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$30,014,564.44. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted “YEA”.

CORRESPONDENCE*****

None.

HEARING OF CITIZENS*****

Cheryl Perrotta, 15 Union Place:

Ms. Perrotta had a couple of questions:

- 1. Concerned about the Fourth of July Fireworks being cancelled.**

Mayor Fosdick explained he had met with the Fireworks Committee and because there were three rainouts in prior years there was not enough money to go forward with the fireworks, even though they solicit donations. He explained the cost of the fireworks usually is \$15, 000 to \$20,000 which does not include overtime amounting to \$40,000 to \$50,000. He said that Ms. Perrotta was the first person to come and say something about it.

- 2. How to make Ridgefield Park a “great town” that other towns would like to emulate? Questioned if the Commissioners had thought of hiring a consultant to make over Main Street.**

Mayor Fosdick said NJ Magazine lists Ridgefield Park one of the Top 100 communities in the State. Our school scores are the same as Tenafly. He said money if the factor. He said they have in the past hired people, Commissioner Anlian also stated that a few years ago, we allocated \$15,000 to the Chamber of Commerce, which went nowhere. Mayor Fosdick said part of the problem is so many absentee landlords on Main Street.

- 3. A reason for people to come here. Ms. Perrotta said she would like to put on a talent show, something similar to American Idol with a grand finale down in the park in April or May. Ms. Perrotta would like to advertise and have neighboring town interested in participating sent us their best talent for the grand finale in Ridgefield Park, perhaps winning a prize.**

Mayor Fosdick said we have summer concerts in the park with different types of music that are poorly attended. He said Ms. Perrotta would have to get public support and awareness. We regularly use RPTV and we have a quarterly Newsletter, as well as the Patriot which is published weekly.

Commissioner Boyd suggested Ms. Perrotta start it, see what happens and let the Commissioners know.

Mayor Fosdick said Overpeck Park will open in this year with parking for 300 cars. He said the kind of event Ms. Perrotta is proposing, is the kind of event that should take place there at the new ampitheater.

Daniel Raftery, 99 Hobart Street:

Regarding Summer concerts, he said the insects and smell at the park are bad, that it would be better at the Football field.

Mayor Fosdick said the field/parks are used constantly. That the mosquito issue had been dealt with, but the smell we can do nothing about.

Maryann Cummings, 98 Laurel Street:

- 1. Asked what happened to the Rialto, that it seems to be at a standstill. She was advised that they ran out of money, and that the AvalonBay project is no more. Commissioner MacNeill said nothing can be done about the Rialto.**

2. Ms. Cummings asked if someone holds a baseball clinic in our town where kids pay, does the town get reimbursed.

Commissioner MacNeill responded “not yet”. We are working on an ordinance to address the situation, hopefully, by next season.

4. Ms. Cummings also said she had lost her garbage can lids during the winter and asked what the DPW workers do with the lids. Mr. O’Grady responded that usually the men flip the lids, but during the winter with heavy winds, some of them blow away. Ms. Cummings said you cannot buy new lids.

4. Asked if Little Stars at the bank site is in addition to one on Mt. Vernon Street. Commissioner MacNeill said it was.

Anita Raferty, 99 Hobart Street:

Asked what is happening with the Federal Stimulus Package.

Mayor Fosdick said we have applied at various levels, that money is going into the states, and the state is disbursing it. He said the school got some money and Commissioner Boyd said in order to receive Stimulus money you have to architect drawings done, yet they are not covering engineering fees. You can spend 18 Billion, but we did not have the money to do All the drawings. The things we have applied for are things we want to do and put in applications for them.

Ms. Raferty asked if there are town employees who follow up. Mayor Fosdick said we use a grantsman.

Noel Cote, 418 Teaneck Road:

Mr. Cote just wanted to say “thank you” to Alan O’Grady and his staff.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS*****

Commissioner Poli announced this was the time and place for the public hearing on the “DPW 2009 Salary Ordinance”. No one wished to be heard. Motion by Commissioner Poli seconded by Commissioner Boyd that the “DPW 2009 Salary Ordinance be approved and be duly advertised in the Record. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted “YEA”.

Commissioner Boyd announced this was the time and place for the public hearing on the “COLA ORDINANCE”. No one wished to be heard. Motion by Commissioner Boyd seconded by Commissioner MacNeill that the “COLA ORDINANCE” be approved and be duly advertised in the Record. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted “YEA”.

NEW BUSINESS*****

Resolution No. 1 - Approval of Local Finance Board Application for Refunding Bond Ordinance Refunding Outstanding Bonds.

Motion by Commissioner Boyd seconded by Commissioner Poli to approve Resolution No. 1. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted “YEA”.

Commissioner Boyd announced the “INTRODUCTION OF REFUNDING BOND ORDINANCE FOR \$2,650,000 FOR OUTSTANDING BONDS” Motion by Commissioner Boyd seconded by Commissioner Poli that the “INTRODUCTION OF REFUNDING BOND ORDINANCE FOR \$2,650,000 FOR OUTSTANDING BONDS” be approved on first reading, be duly advertised in the Record and come up for public hearing on May 26, 2009. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted “YEA”.

Resolution No. 2 - Authorizing First Reading of \$2,650,000 Bond Ordinance.

Motion by Commissioner Boyd seconded by Commissioner Poli to approve Resolution No. 2. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted “YEA”.

Resolution No. 3 - Approval of Local Finance Board application for Refunding Bond Ordinance to Pay Tax Appeals.

Motion by Commissioner Poli seconded by Commissioner Anlian to approve Resolution No. 3 . On roll call Commissioner Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted “YEA”.

Commissioner Poli announced the “INTRODUCTION OF REFUNDING BOND ORDINANCE FOR \$1,870,000 FOR TAX APPEALS”. Motion by Commissioner Poli seconded by Commissioner Anlian that the “REFUNDING BOND ORDINANCE FOR \$1,870,000 FOR TAX APPEALS” be approved on its first reading, be duly advertised in the Record and come up for public hearing on May 26, 2009. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted “YEA”.

Resolution No. 4 - Authorizing First Reading of \$1,870,000 Bond Ordinance.

Motion by Commissioner Poli seconded by Commissioner Anlian that Resolution No. 4 be approved. 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. 5] Authorizing Increase in 2009 Temporary Budget.

Resolution No. 6] Honoring Our Troops and “Support Our Troops Day”.

Resolution No. 7] Authorizing Payment of Voucher With Fire Prevention Dedicated Funds.

Resolution No. 8] Authorizing Issuance of Liquor License to Lobster Restaurant.

Resolution No. 9] Authorizing Removal of Properties No Longer on Tax Rolls.

Resolution No 10] Authorizing Refund of Taxes Due to Duplicate Payment on Block 128, Lot 19.

Resolution No 11] Authorizing Refund of Taxes Due to an Overpayment on Block 46, Lot 14.

Resolution No 12] Authorizing Payment of DCA Fees.

Resolution No 13] Authorizing Contributions to LOSAP.

Motion by Commissioner Anlian 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 meeting at 8:48 PM to go into Closed session to discuss certain matters to come before the Board. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted “YEA”.

**s/ John H. Anlian
Commissioner**

**s/ Margaret R. Boyd
Commissioner**

**s/ Adam A. MacNeil
Commissioner**

**s/ Hugo R. Poli
Commissioner**

Mayor

**s/ Sarah Warlikowski
Village Clerk**