

COMMISSIONERS MEETING
RIDGEFIELD PARK
May 26, 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. Mayor Fosdick requested a moment of silence in honor of Beverly Vigorito who had passed away. Mayor Fosdick said she had been a member of and past president of the Fire Department, the VFW Auxiliary, a member of the EMD, and the Fourth of July Committee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES*****

Motion by Commissioner Boyd seconded by Commissioner MacNeill to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Meeting of May 12, 2009. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

SPECIAL REPORTS*****

None.

CORRESPONDENCE*****

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS*****

Commissioner Boyd announced this was the time and place for the Public Hearing on "REFUNDING BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE REFUNDING OF \$2,294,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF OUTSTANDING BONDS OF THE VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING A SUM NOT EXCEEDING \$2,650,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF NOT EXCEEDING \$2,650,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF REFUNDING BONDS OF SAID VILLAGE TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION".

Mr. Ziemia, 101 Overpeck Avenue, asked if this bond was for tax appeals? Commissioner Boyd explained this was the refunding of old bonds with a savings to the Village. No one else wished to be heard.

Motion by Commissioner Boyd seconded by Commissioner Poli that the "REFUNDING BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE REFUNDING OF \$2,294,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF OUTSTANDING BONDS OF THE VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING A SUM NOT EXCEEDING \$2,650,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF NOT EXCEEDING \$2,2650 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF REFUNDING

BONDS OF SAID VILLAGE TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION” be approved and duly advertised in the record. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted “YEA”.

Commissioner Boyd read Resolution No. 1.

Resolution No. 1] Approving \$2,650,000 Bond Ordinance

Motion by Commissioner Boyd seconded by Commission Poli to approve Resolution No. 1. 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 “REFUNDING BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR PAYMENT OF AMOUNTS OWNING TO OTHERS FOR TAXES LEVIED IN, BY AND FOR THE VILLAGE OF RIDGEFILED PARK IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$1,870,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF AND TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,870,000 OF BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION”. No one wished to be heard.

Motion by Commissioner Boyd seconded by Commissioner Poli that the “REFUNDING BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR PAYMENT OF AMOUNTS OWING TO OTHERS FOR TAXES LEVIED IN, BY AND FOR THE VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$1,879,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF AND TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,879,000 OF BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION” be approved and duly advertised in the Record.

Commissioner Boyd read Resolution No. 2.

Resolution No. 2] Approving \$1,870,000 Bond Ordinance.

Motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Poli that Resolution No. 2 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. 3]. Approving the redemption of Tax Title Lien 08-08 Block 128, Lot 1..

Resolution No. 4]. Authorizing Return Of Letter of Credit #648 for Ridgefield Park Lodging and replacing it with amended Letter of Credit in the amount of \$147,000.00 with approval of Boswell Engineering.

Resolution No. 5] Approving Highland Place Block Party

Resolution No. 6] Approving Refund Of Tax Appeal Judgment on Block 60, Lot 10, 240-246 Main Street.

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”.

HEARING OF CITIZENS*****

Ray Ziemba – 101 Overpeck Avenue

Mr. Ziemba reported we need:

1. Lower property taxes, elimination of wasteful spending.
2. NJ is drowning in debt
3. Need to take back the State and lower taxes
4. Spoke regarding a full-time Mayor or Borough Administrator.
5. This Commission has raised taxes in good times and bad times.
6. Arbitration is too costly
7. Health Care benefits too costly.
8. House values going down

Mayor Fosdick explained how many items are mandated by the State, and the school budget was overwhelmingly approved by the voters. He also explained the Sheriff, the County Clerk and County Surrogate are mandated by the State Constitution. Police consolidation with another town, requires that should there be a consolidation of the Police Department or Fire Department, there can be no reduction in personnel.

Mayor Fosdick left the meeting at 7:45 PM and returned at 8:15 PM.

Commissioner Boyd went on to explain on commercial properties, they were assessed high and with no one in the buildings, the owners are filing tax appeals. Commissioner Boyd said the School Budget, County Taxes, EMT Training, are things we have no control over.

Commissioner Anlain said changes have to start in Trenton. He suggested Mr. Ziemba start with the State Legislators.

Rosemary Collins – 99 Teaneck Road

Mrs. Collins said people who speak at these meetings are not providing their names and addresses. She asked that they do so.

She asked if Mr. Ziemba had ever run for Commissioner? She suggested that perhaps he would like to be part of a committee to work with the commissioners.

Mrs. Collins said she read in the Bergen News a 5.5% increase on real estate taxes. She asked what sort of an increase she could expect.

Commissioner Boyd said on June 9th we will be adopting a budget. The average house will be raised approximately \$162.00.

Cheryl Perrotta, 15 Union Place

Mrs. Perrotta asked Mr. Durkin if we are in better shape than other States financially?

He responded we are in better shape than most States. New Jersey must have a balanced budget

Commissioner Boyd explained the amount of tax appeals we will be paying.

RECESS*****

Motion by Commissioner Anlian, seconded by Commissioner Boyd that

The Commissioners Meeting recess to go into Closed Session to discuss legal matters.

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

s/ John Anlian
Commissioner

s/ Margaret R. Boyd
Commissioner

s/ Adam A. MacNeill
Commissioner

s/ Hugo R. Poli
Commissioner

s/ George D. Fosdick
Mayor

Barbara Pettit
Acting Village Clerk