

COMMISSIONERS MEETING
RIDGEFIELD PARK
June 9, 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 May 26, 2009. On roll call Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA".

SPECIAL REPORTS*****

Mayor Fosdick read a Proclamation for Eagle Scout – Nicholas Cima.

CORRESPONDENCE*****

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS*****

Commissioner Boyd announced that this was the time and place for the public hearing on the 2009 Municipal Budget.

Mr. Ziemba, 101 Overpeck Avenue:

Said he had been down in Trenton, and there will be another Tea Party because the worse thing in NJ is our taxes. He went on to say that there was a state who sells scrap, etc, there are no dumping fees and the money received goes into a food pantry, etc. He said their trucks run on bio-fuel which they make. He said although the school budget is voted on, the members of the Board should be participating in ways to lower the burden on the taxpayer. The police salaries in this economic crisis—we no longer can afford all the benefits.

Mayor Fosdick said in the Bergen Record – March 13th – Municipal property tax in Ridgefield Park was the fifth from the lowest in '07 and '08. He said the problem is the property tax system and mandates from the State. The school budget is submitted to the voters and people support the schools. Their budget was approved 2 ½ to 1. \$100,000 in our budget is \$23.14 on the tax bill. The Mayor explained where the portion of the budget goes – the county, school and municipality. He said the average tax bill of \$8,400 will see an increase of \$192. The village will receive contributions from new employees in the Police Department for health benefits.

The Village did not take the pension deferral because the interest in the years to come would be about 18% plus. Because we did not take pension deferral, we are not getting State Aid.

The Mayor explained that we informally talked about combining the Police Department with the Borough of Bogota. However, under State Law, the Police Department and Fire Department, even if combined, cannot be decreased.

Mr. Ziemba said if everything keeps going up “there is no hope for us”.

Nick Della Fave – 127 Arthur Street

A point on what Mr. Ziemba was saying.

The School budget was not the fault of the Commissioners. What was the percentage of the people who came out to vote? If you do not like what is going on – do something about it.

Cheryl Perrotta 101 Union Place

The Taxpayer is getting creamed. No one is getting raises. Is there something more effective than a Tea Party? Can we pay for a lobbyist?

Mayor Fosdick said we have a lobbyist, the New Jersey League of Municipalities. We receive four to five faxes daily from them.

Commissioner Anlian said laws have to be changed. One of the strongest lobbyists is the unions.

Mayor Fosdick commented on what Commissioner Davis would say. He said – 21 years served on the Board of Commissioners and in the entire time for the budget hearing – no one shows up to comment.

Dieter Lerch – Auditor

Commented on the Budget that it was adopted on April 6th and there were at least 60 days to review it. He said some action is being taken in Trenton. He said he believes this is a sound budget.

Resolution No. 1] Approving adoption of 2009 Municipal Budget.

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”

NEW BUSINESS*****

Commissioner Poli introduced a ‘BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE RESURFACING OF VARIOUS ROADS IN BY AND FOR THE VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$340,000.

Motion by Commissioner Poli seconded by Commissioner MacNeill to approve the introduction of “BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE RESURFACING OF

VARIOUS ROADS IN BY AND FOR THE VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO APPROPRIATE THE SUME OF \$340,000” that it be duly advertised in the Record and come up for Public Hearing on June 23, 2009.

Resolutions No. 2. Approving the first reading of “BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE RESURFACING OF VARIOUS ROADS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$340,000.

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

Resolution No. 3. Approving Capital Budget Amendment.

Motion by Commissioner Poli seconded by Commissioner MacNeill that Resolution No. 3 be approved. On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted “YEA.

Mayor Fosdick announces 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. 4 Approving a Grant Application & Execute Grant Agreement with NJ DOT for Brinkerhoff Street & Hackensack Avenue Project

Resolution No. 5. Approving Grant Application & Execute Grant Agreement with NJ DOT for Safe Street to Transit on Emerson & Challenger Road Project.

Resolution No. 6. Approving Block Party on 8th Street – Saturday September 12, Rain date September 19, 2009.

Resolution No. 7. Approving block Party on Spruce Street Saturday July 4, 2009.

Resolution No. 8 Approving 2009-2010 Liquor Licenses.

Resolution No. 9 Approving the redemption of Tax Title Lien 08-05 – Block 90,, Lot 12 in the amount of \$32,485.46.

Motion by Commissioner Anlian seconded by Commissioner Boyd 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 8:17 to go into Closed session to discuss contractual matters. On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Boyd, MacNeill, Poli and Mayor Fosdick voted "YEA"

/s/ John A Anlian

Commissioner

/s/Margaret R. Boyd

Commissioner

/s/Adam A. McNeill

Commissioner

/s/Hugo R. Poli

Commissioner

/s/ George D. Fosdick

Mayor

Barbara Pettit
Acting Village Clerk