

COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
RIDGEFIELD PARK
January 28, 2025
7:30 PM

Mayor MacNeill 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, 2024 and was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and Village Website.

This agenda is listed as a courtesy and attempt to inform the public of actions being considered by the Village Board of Commissioners. There may be additions and deletions prior to the Board taking final action. Any action may be taken at any meeting, which includes all Caucus and Regular sessions. The Commissioners reserve the right to conduct and/or attend any meetings presently scheduled for the rest of 2025 by a combination of electronic and/or in-person means. Meetings are open to the public.

ROLL CALL

Those present were Commissioners Anlian, Gerken, Mirza, Portorreal and Mayor MacNeill in the chair.

Also, present: Phil Boggia & Chris Chapman, Village Attorney; Joe Rella, Chief of Police; Edward Monroe, DPW Superintendent, Rich Flynn, DPW Asst. Superintendent and Tara O’Grady, Village Clerk.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mayor MacNeill.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Commissioner Gerken, seconded by Commissioner Portorreal to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Regular Meeting of January 14, 2025.

On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Gerken, Mirza, Portorreal and Mayor MacNeill voted “YEA”.

CORRESPONDENCE

Ridgefield Park Fire Department Truck Co. No. 1 - New Member

Ridgefield Park Fire Department Truck Co. No. 2 - New Member

Motion by Commissioner Anlian, seconded by Commissioner Gerken, Aaron Concepcion and Andrew Minaya be accepted as new members of the Village of Ridgefield Park Volunteer Fire Department subject to approval by the New Jersey State Firemen’s Association.

On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Gerken, Mirza, Portorreal and Mayor MacNeill voted “YEA”.

Ridgefield Park Fire Department Truck Co. No. 1 – Resignation

Motion by Commissioner Anlian, seconded by Commissioner Gerken, to accept the resignation of Michael Alberque from the Ridgefield Park Volunteer Fire Department with regret.

On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Gerken, Mirza, Portorreal and Mayor MacNeill voted “YEA”.

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Ridgefield Park Fire Department Truck Co. No. 1 – Removal from Fire Company Roster

Motion by Commissioner Anlian, seconded by Commissioner Gerken, to accept the removal of John Tymon III from the Fire Company Roster with regret.

On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Gerken, Mirza, Portorreal and Mayor MacNeill voted “YEA”.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

Commissioner Gerken announced interviews for the Municipal Judge position will take place tomorrow and Thursday.

The Administrative Compliance Agreement has been signed by the Bergen County Utilities Authority, Borough of Fort Lee, City of Hackensack and the Village of Ridgefield Park with regards to the Long-Term Control Plan with the CSOs.

A CSO Phase 1 project meeting scheduled for Monday.

The DEP could not locate the Geo-tech survey on Fellowship Park from 2004.

A quote for the paving of the IGA lot has been received and will be reviewed.

Boswell Engineering has been in contact with a noise consultant for the Bergen Turnpike issue.

There is a resolution on tonight’s agenda to approve the social media consultants contracts.

Commissioner Anlian advised there is progress in all departments.

Commissioner Mirza advised he is in the last stages of digitalizing the field permit process.

Commissioner Mirza is also in the final stages of recruiting for the Beautification Committee.

Commissioner Portorreal advised Sustainable Ridgefield Park appointed Veronica Hanne as the new Chairperson and Harry Menta as the Vice-Chair.

The Pool Committee will be interviewing for an Assistant Manager position.

Mayor MacNeill advised he met with the 95 Challenger Road developers.

The Mt. Vernon redevelopment will mature next month.

HEARING OF CITIZENS

Natalie Franco, resident, asked if meeting materials can be posted earlier for reviewing purposes.

Adeeb Pasha, resident, stated he has conducted a Ramadan ceremony the past two years and would to permission for this year. With Ramadan starting on March 1st, the ceremony may need to held indoors. Mr. Pasha is also looking to see if high school students may be interested in assisting with the ceremony.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor MacNeill announces that the following business is considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted in one motion. Any item may be removed for separate consideration.

RESOLUTIONS:

2025-13 Approve 2024 Corrective Action Plan

2025-14 Authorize Police Department to Participate in the Defense Logistics Agency,
Law Enforcement Support Office, 1033 Program

2025-15 Authorize Emergency Purchase

2025-16 Authorize Agreement for Public Health Services with the Borough of
Ridgefield

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RESOLUTIONS (cont.)

2025-17 Appoint Planning Board Members
2025-18 Appoint Zoning Board of Adjustment Members
2025-19 Appoint Sustainable Ridgefield Park Member
2025-20 Award Contract for Website and Social Media Consulting Services

Motion by Commissioner Portorreal, seconded by Commissioner Mirza, that the consent agenda be approved.

On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Gerken, Mirza, Portorreal and Mayor MacNeill voted “YEA”.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS

2025-03 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 225 OF THE VILLAGE CODE
ENTITLED “HOUSING STANDARDS”

Mayor MacNeill moved the ordinance be given its first reading. So ordered.

Mayor MacNeill read the said ordinance by title.

Mayor MacNeill moved the ordinance be adopted on first reading, published in the Record Newspaper and posted on the Village Bulletin Board by the Village Clerk. The public hearing will be held on February 11, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Anlian.

On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Gerken, Mirza, Portorreal and Mayor Anlian voted “YEA”.

2025-04 AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK,
COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING
CHAPTER 362 OF THE VILLAGE CODE, ENTITLED “TOWING AND
STORAGE”

Commissioner Anlian moved the ordinance be given its first reading. So ordered.

Commissioner Anlian read the said ordinance by title.

Commissioner Anlian moved the ordinance be adopted on first reading, published in the Record Newspaper and posted on the Village Bulletin Board by the Village Clerk. The public hearing will be held on February 11, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Portorreal.

On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Gerken, Mirza, Portorreal and Mayor Anlian voted “YEA”.

2025-05 ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE APPROPRIATION OF
\$200,000.00 (TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS) WHICH SUM
REPRESENTS THE BALANCE OF FUNDS IN A GRANT RECEIVED
FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR VARIOUS PROJECTS IN
THE VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF
BERGEN, NEW JERSEY, AND APPROPRIATING \$200,000.00 FROM
THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE GRANT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE
GENERAL CAPITAL FUND RESERVE(S) FOR CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENTS OF THE VILLAGE

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Commissioner Gerken moved the ordinance be given its first reading. So ordered.

Commissioner Gerken read the said ordinance by title.

Commissioner Gerken moved the ordinance be adopted on first reading, published in the Record Newspaper and posted on the Village Bulletin Board by the Village Clerk. The public hearing will be held on February 11, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Mirza.

On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Gerken, Mirza, Portorreal and Mayor Anlian voted "YEA".

ORDINANCE PUBLIC HEARING & ADOPTION

2025-01 **ORDINANCE FIXING COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS & EMPLOYEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK FOR THE YEAR 2025**

The clerk presented affidavit of publication, showing that advertisement had been made according to law, which was ordered filed. Mayor MacNeill moved a public hearing be held on the ordinance and was seconded by Commissioner Gerken. So ordered. Mayor MacNeill read the ordinance by title on second reading. Mayor MacNeill then announced that all interested parties would now be given opportunity to be heard for or against the adoption of the ordinance.

Natalie Franco, resident, commented the Board of Commissioners are underpaid.

Mayor MacNeill moved the ordinance be adopted on second reading and final passage, which motion was seconded by Commissioner Gerken and adopted upon a call of the roll.

On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Gerken, Mirza, Portorreal and Mayor MacNeill voted "YEA".

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Gerken, seconded by Commissioner Portorreal to adjourn.

On roll call, Commissioners Anlian, Gerken, Mirza, Portorreal and Mayor MacNeill voted "YEA".

Mayor MacNeill adjourned the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

/s/ John H. Anlian
Commissioner

/s/ William G. Gerken
Commissioner

Absent
Commissioner Mirza

/s/ Wanda C. Portorreal
Commissioner

/s/ Adam MacNeill
Mayor

/s/Tara O'Grady
Approved on February 11, 2025