

Public Session Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ridgefield was held on March 14 , 2011 at 7:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. Meeting was held at the Ridgefield Community Center, 725 Slocum Avenue, Ridgefield, New Jersey.

Mayor Suarez stated that this meeting of the Mayor and Council is being conducted pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of the meeting has been given by publishing notice in The Record. Furthermore, notice was posted in the Borough of Ridgefield Municipal Building.

Roll Call: Mayor Suarez, Councilmen Castelli, Todd, Vincentz, Severino, Acosta and Jimenez were present

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Suarez asked everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence for those residents who have passed away since the last meeting.

Mayor Suarez asked if anyone had comments on tonight's agenda.

Mark Bocchieri (767 Norman Road) stated that he is an employee of Verizon and commented on the resolution on tonight's agenda regarding the Leagues of Municipalities, a bill that's before the senate called S2664 and requested from the Mayor and Council to be given the opportunity to speak to someone in the cable commission before the resolution is passed. He stated that the bill is really an industry bill that's giving the Mayor and Council false information which was provided by the League of Municipalities. Some of that false information deals with a threatening lost of revenue to the municipality in terms of franchise fees and stated that is just untrue. The League of Municipalities also stated that there will be a change in services, but stated what the bill is really about; its lifting the regulation from the Board of Public Utility when Verizon was a monopoly however all that change, this bill really is to support more capital investment, and more jobs into New Jersey and circles around economic growth. He suggested that the Mayor and Council think again if they want to support this bill. Mayor Suarez stated that Mark can go speak to Phil Ganci who is on the commission regarding this matter, Mayor Suarez also made a motion to table 119-2011 Oppose S2664/A3766-Market Competition and Consumer Choice Act; council agrees and 119-2011 is tabled.

Councilman Vincentz posed the question to Mark Bocchieri, if the bill states that it limits the obligation to provide internet connection to all municipal buildings. Mark Bocchieri stating under the current provision of the state wide video franchise, Verizon and the cable companies deliver free drops to the schools and libraries and stated that will continue under the new bill. Councilman Vincentz asked Mark Bocchieri if he prepared a response, something that states it limits certain building to municipal drops. Mark stated that he does have a response prepare highlighting the points he discussed tonight; regarding the municipal drops he stated it limits them to deliveries it at every building, but does drop off at every main building such as police, fire and administration building.

Mayor Suarez commented on correspondence he has received:

Mayor Suarez received documentation from Project Graduation with respect to the April 1<sup>st</sup> 2011 senior class dance and May 7<sup>th</sup> Disco dance which will be held at the Community Center, and is asking for approval for these fundraiser- Approved; received the report from the Municipal Court and the total disbarment is \$65,084.83; the report from the Police Department for the month of February that is available in his office; Poison Prevention week will be held on March 20- 26<sup>th</sup>.

Approval of Minutes of March 22, 2010 Public Session Meeting, April 26, 2010 Public Session Meeting, May 24, 2010 Work Session Meeting, December 13, 2010 Public Session Meeting, January 10, 2011 Public Session Meeting and February 14, 2011 Public Session Meeting – APPROVED (H. Jimenez Abstained from 2010 Minutes)

Proclamation for David Barquin for his efforts on February 6<sup>th</sup> with assisting with the Ridgefield Repel team to help the mutual aid Repel team with a cliff rescue in the borough of Cliffside Park.

#### Roll Call

Councilman Castelli	Yes
Councilman Todd	Yes
Councilman Vincentz	Yes
Councilman Severino	Yes
Councilman Acosta	Yes
Councilman Jimenez	Yes

As advertised, hearing will be held on Ordinance No. 2164 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 75 “POLICE DEPARTMENT” TO MODIFY THE QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT”

Entertain motion to declare the time for the public hearing to be declared open

#### Public Hearing

Entertain motion to declare the time for the public hearing to be declared closed

#### Final Reading of Ordinance

#### Roll Call

Councilman Castelli	Yes
Councilman Todd	Yes
Councilman Vincentz	Yes
Councilman Severino	Yes
Councilman Acosta	Yes

Councilman Jimenez Yes

Introduction of Ordinance No. 2165 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1661 ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE FIXING FEES FOR PROGRAMS OF THE RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT"

First Reading of Ordinance

Roll Call

Councilman Castelli Yes  
Councilman Todd Yes  
Councilman Vincentz Yes  
Councilman Severino Yes  
Councilman Acosta Yes  
Councilman Jimenez Yes

Introduction of Ordinance No. 2166 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE II OF CHAPTER 355 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD ENTITLED PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS"

First Reading of Ordinance

Roll Call

Councilman Castelli Yes  
Councilman Todd Yes  
Councilman Vincentz Yes  
Councilman Severino Yes  
Councilman Acosta Yes  
Councilman Jimenez Yes

PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA:

	Motion:	Second:
119-2011	Mayor Suarez	Oppose S2664/A3766-Market Competition and Consumer Choice Act – TABLED
120-2011	Mayor Suarez	Proclamation-National Start! Walking Day

Roll Call

Councilman Castelli Yes  
Councilman Todd Yes  
Councilman Vincentz Yes

Councilman Severino	Yes
Councilman Acosta	Yes
Councilman Jimenez	Yes

121-2011 Mayor Suarez Proclamation-Poison Prevention Week

Roll Call

Councilman Castelli	Yes
Councilman Todd	Yes
Councilman Vincentz	Yes
Councilman Severino	Yes
Councilman Acosta	Yes
Councilman Jimenez	Yes

122-2011 Councilman Acosta Settlement Agreement-Kettler

Roll Call

Councilman Castelli	Yes
Councilman Todd	No
Councilman Vincentz	No
Councilman Severino	No
Councilman Acosta	Yes
Councilman Jimenez	Yes
*Mayor Suarez	Yes

123-2011 Councilman Jimenez Seventh Annual Clean Up Day

Roll Call

Councilman Castelli	Yes
Councilman Todd	Yes
Councilman Vincentz	Yes
Councilman Severino	Yes
Councilman Acosta	Yes
Councilman Jimenez	Yes

124-2011 Councilman Acosta Liquor License Transfer-Safargar & Sons, LLC

Roll Call

Councilman Castelli	Yes
Councilman Todd	Yes
Councilman Vincentz	Yes
Councilman Severino	Yes

Councilman Acosta Yes  
Councilman Jimenez Yes

125-2011 Councilman Jimenez Large Sewer User Flow Monitoring and Sampling

Roll Call

Councilman Castelli Yes  
Councilman Todd No  
Councilman Vincentz No  
Councilman Severino No  
Councilman Acosta Yes  
Councilman Jimenez Yes  
\*Mayor Suarez Yes

126-2011 Councilman Jimenez Engage Special Auditor to Perform Necessary Functions to Convert from Fiscal to Calendar Year

Roll Call

Councilman Castelli Yes  
Councilman Todd No  
Councilman Vincentz No  
Councilman Severino No  
Councilman Acosta Yes  
Councilman Jimenez Yes  
\*Mayor Suarez Yes

127-2011 Mayor Suarez Proclamation-National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

Roll Call

Councilman Castelli Yes  
Councilman Todd Yes  
Councilman Vincentz Yes  
Councilman Severino Yes  
Councilman Acosta Yes  
Councilman Jimenez Yes

\*Note Mayor Suarez acknowledge contribution to legal defense fund

RESOLUTIONS:

128-2011 Councilman Jimenez Warrants

Roll Call as amended and additions

Councilman Castelli	Yes
Councilman Todd	Yes
Councilman Vincentz	Yes
Councilman Severino	Yes
Councilman Acosta	Yes
Councilman Jimenez	Yes

COMMENTS BY MAYOR:

Mayor Suarez stated that on March 4<sup>th</sup> the Ridgefield Crime Watch meeting was held at the library, March 2<sup>nd</sup> was Dr. Sues day; March 4<sup>th</sup> met with Senator Sarlo regarding assuring that we will receive the money from the Meadowlands Commission and address all boroughs concerns; on March 5<sup>th</sup> the high school presented the play “Bye Bye Birdie” which was a huge success; March 8<sup>th</sup> new members of the Youth Commission were sworn in.

**Raffles License Application:**

Sts. Vartanantz Armenian Apostolic Church Calendar Raffle 725 Slocum Avenue May 1, 2011 – July 17, 2011 – 1:00 p.m.	APPROVED
--	----------

**Coin Toss:**

American Legion Saturday, April 16, 2011 – 9:00 am-2:00 pm Rain Date: Saturday, April 23, 2011	APPROVED
--	----------

COMMENTS BY COUNCILMEN:

Councilman Castelli: No comments

Councilman Todd: commented on “Night Against Crime” event and wished more residents would attend the event; commented on the repairs at the municipal building and as of right now is not ADA compliant and would like to know the main problem, Mayor Suarez stated that right now with the current budget crisis he doesn’t foresee the repairs occurring.

Councilman Acosta: No Comment

Councilman Vincentz: commented on the DARE presentation on March 9<sup>th</sup> and stated that was a huge success and the high school presentation of Bye Bye Biride was a spectacular show to watch; commented on the repairs done at borough hall where the

employees work everyday and believes the work on the office was well needed and the upgrade was well deserve; A new entrance gate for the carnival at Veterans Field to lessen wear and tear on newly installed sod on the girls softball field will be installed by the DPW. CFO will be participating in a conference call to resolve an income tax/unemployment overpayment dispute with the State of New Jersey.

Councilman Severino: commented on all the required repairs that are still needed at borough hall in becoming ADA compatible; Mayor Suarez suggested that the DPW committee look at all the needed repairs and maybe research engineers.

Councilman Jimenez: stated that on April 4<sup>th</sup> the Overpeck cleaning project will take place sponsored by the environmental commission;

COMMENTS BY CITIZENS: (All speakers are limited to five minutes maximum per meeting)

Gus Peek: commented on the elimination of Gary Bonacci, he believes that Gary did a great job especially since he was making half the salary what the previous administrators, stated that Gary has done a great job regarding the neglected repairs at borough hall.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:30 P.M

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda M. Prina  
Acting Borough Clerk