

Public Session of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ridgefield was held on December 23, 2019 at 7:36 p.m. The meeting was held at the Ridgefield Community Center, 725 Slocum Avenue, Ridgefield, New Jersey 07657.

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, Councilman Penabad, Councilman Shim, Councilman Jimenez, Councilman Kontolios and Councilwoman Larkin are present. Councilman Castelli is absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Suarez asked everyone to remain standing in memory of those that have passed away since the last meeting.

Citizens Comment on Agenda: None

Correspondence: Letter from Senator Sarlo regarding \$195,000 DOT grant for Studio Road, letter from Danny Desimone requesting a memorial for his brother, Police Department report for October and November, Municipal Court report for November and letter from Ridgefield Robotics Club

Approval of Minutes of December 9, 2019 Public Session Meeting – APPROVED

Presentation of Certificates to Sophia Popp and Christina Kim for their participation in Macy's All American Marching Band

As advertised, hearing will be held on Ordinance No. 2372 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY APPROVING THE FORM AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH THE BERGEN COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF COUNTY GUARANTEED LEASE REVENUE BONDS (BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD PROJECT) BY THE BERGEN COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY"

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

Public Hearing – No one came forward

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

Final Reading of Ordinance

Roll Call:

Councilman Castelli

ABSENT

Councilman Penabad	YES
Councilman Shim	YES
Councilman Jimenez	YES
Councilman Kontolios	YES
Councilwoman Larkin	YES

As advertising, hearing will be held on Ordinance No. 2374 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 375-52 DESIGNATING HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACES"

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	ABSENT
Councilman Penabad	YES
Councilman Shim	YES
Councilman Jimenez	YES
Councilman Kontolios	YES
Councilwoman Larkin	YES

As advertising, hearing will be held on Ordinance No. 2375 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 375-5, NO PARKING AREAS, OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD"

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	ABSENT
Councilman Penabad	YES
Councilman Shim	YES
Councilman Jimenez	YES
Councilman Kontolios	YES
Councilwoman Larkin	YES

As advertising, hearing will be held on Ordinance No. 2376 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 366 ENTITLED "TOW TRUCKS"

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	ABSENT
Councilman Penabad	YES
Councilman Shim	YES
Councilman Jimenez	YES
Councilman Kontolios	YES
Councilwoman Larkin	YES

As advertising, hearing will be held on Ordinance No. 2377 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE POSITION OF TENANT ADVOCATE IN THE BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY"

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	ABSENT
Councilman Penabad	YES
Councilman Shim	YES
Councilman Jimenez	YES
Councilman Kontolios	YES
Councilwoman Larkin	YES

CONSENT AGENDA:

290-2019	Councilman Castelli	Hire DPW/Sanitation Seasonal Employee-Jackson
291-2019	Councilman Jimenez	Tax Court Settlement-55 Railroad Avenue
292-2019	Councilman Castelli	Authorize to Advertise-RFQs 2020 Professionals
293-2019	Councilman Penabad	Appoint Full-Time Fire Inspector-McLoughlin

Roll Call:

Councilman Castelli	ABSENT
Councilman Penabad	YES
Councilman Shim	YES
Councilman Jimenez	YES
Councilman Kontolios	YES
Councilwoman Larkin	YES

RESOLUTIONS:

294-2019 Councilman Jimenez Transfer of Appropriations

Roll Call:

Councilman Castelli	ABSENT
Councilman Penabad	YES
Councilman Shim	YES
Councilman Jimenez	YES
Councilman Kontolios	YES
Councilwoman Larkin	YES

295-2019 Councilman Jimenez Warrants

Roll Call:

Councilman Castelli	ABSENT
Councilman Penabad	YES
Councilman Shim	YES
Councilman Jimenez	YES
Councilman Kontolios	YES
Councilwoman Larkin	YES; ABSTAIN 99878 AND 99910

COMMENTS BY MAYOR:

Thanked everyone who worked on Winter Wonderland; wonderful event. Thanked all the sponsors. Wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, Happy Kwanza or whichever holiday they celebrate. Wished everyone a Happy New Year. Will be attending the Senior Meeting on January 2, 2020. DMR will be making a picture rendering to hang on the fence by the new municipal building and may be doing a letter to the residents so that everyone is aware of the project. Reorganization and Sine Die Meetings will be held on January 4 beginning 5:45 p.m. Commented on the work the Mayor and Council has accomplished throughout the year. Thanked the Borough Clerk for all the work she has done and always having them well prepared for the meetings and for all the proclamations. Thanked Steve Pellino for all his work he has done all year; appreciates his efforts and hard work. Thanked Ray Ramirez for working hard to balance all the work of Administrator and Recreation Director. Thanked Frank Elenio, CFO and John Hoffman and all the volunteers. Attended Billy Pych, Jr.'s graduation from the Police Academy. Thanked John Larkin for serving on all the boards he serves on.

#### COMMENTS BY COUNCILMEN:

Councilman Penabad wished everyone a Merry Christmas and thanked Mayor Suarez for all the work he does.

Councilman Kontolios commented that this is the last meeting of his 1<sup>st</sup> term and thanked the residents for re-electing him. Commented on the hard work of the Mayor and Council. Thanked Steve and Linda and welcomed Frank aboard.

Councilman Shim stated they will work harder in 2020 than they did in 2019. Commented on the new Borough Hall. Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Councilman Jimenez wished everyone a happy holiday and congratulated Billy Pych. Winter Wonderland was a wonderful event. Commented on all the Mayor's hard work and thanked Steve, Linda and Frank for all the hard work they do.

Councilwoman Larkin thanked Ray Ramirez, the Rec Commission and Anti-Bullying Commission and all the volunteers for the outstanding job they did for the Winter Wonderland. Wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah and Happy New Year. Commented that on January 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm the high school will be hosting a suicide prevention workshop.

#### COMMENTS BY ADMINISTRATOR:

#### COMMENTS BY CITIZENS:

Sean Shilinsky, 764 Abbott Avenue-Commented on the tenant advocate ordinance and what has been going on with the new landlord of Shaler Properties. Commented that he has the chain of events that has been going on with the Rent Leveling Commission that he would like to give to the Borough Attorney and that he emailed it to the Mayor and Council. A brief discussion followed.

Meeting adjourned 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Silvestri,  
Borough Clerk