

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD

A G E N D A

Special Public Session Meeting of the Mayor and Council

Date: March 7, 2011

Open Public Meetings Statement by
Mayor Suarez

Public Session: 8:30 A.M. C.T.O.:
Adjourn:

Pledge of Allegiance

Citizens Comment on Agenda:

ROLL CALL-PUBLIC SESSION

| | PRESENT | ABSENT |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| Mayor Suarez | | |
| Castelli | | |
| Todd | | |
| Vincenz | | |
| Severino | | |
| Acosta | | |
| Jimenez | | |

Discussion pertaining to the State Comptroller's letter regarding the refund of overbilled legal services

RESOLUTIONS:

118-2011 Councilman Jimenez Legal Cost Control-Doyle, Edwards & Caldwell,
and DeCoiitis Law Firm

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

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Prina,
Acting Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD
Bergen County, New Jersey

Meeting March 7, 2011

Presented by Councilman Jimenez

RESOLUTION NO. 118-2011

WHEREAS, in year 2010 the New Jersey Office of the State Comptroller identified overbilling by then Borough Attorney Douglas Doyle, Esq. and the DeCoittis Law Firm; and

WHEREAS, the DeCoittis Law Firm acknowledged billing errors and provided a refund to the Borough in the amount of \$15,890; and

WHEREAS, the Borough did not accept that check because it wished to do further investigation; and

WHEREAS, the Borough was desirous of reaching an amicable resolution with Douglas Doyle and the DeCoittis Law Firm; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the State Comptroller recently directed correspondence, dated March 1, 2011, to the Mayor and Council President questioning what it termed as a delay in addressing the issue, and requesting to know the Borough's plans to address the overbilling; and

WHEREAS, the Borough is desirous of addressing this issue in the most forthright and expeditious manner; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council has explored certain options in terms of completing a thorough and complete audit of those billings; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council has reviewed a proposal by the firm of Legal Cost Control and find them to be experienced in the field of auditing legal bills; and

WHEREAS, it appears that the cost of doing so will be less than \$17,500;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ridgefield

1. The firm of Legal Cost Control be and hereby is engaged to audit the bills of former Borough Attorney Douglas Doyle and Edwards & Caldwell and the DeCoittis Law Firm beginning in January 2007 and extending to January 2011 at a cost not to exceed

\$17,500. Specifically, the Borough agrees to pay a fee of 2% of the total of the bills reviewed.

2. The Borough Attorney be and hereby is authorized and directed to negotiate a form of contract with that firm for execution by the Mayor and Council.

| COUNCIL VOTE | | | | |
|---------------------|------------|-----------|----------------|---------------|
| | YES | NO | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
| Castelli | | | | |
| Todd | | | | |
| Vincentz | | | | |
| Severino | | | | |
| Acosta | | | | |
| Jimenez | | | | |
| Mayor Suarez | | | | |

Approved:

Attest:

Anthony R. Suarez, Mayor

Linda M. Prina,
Acting Borough Clerk