

Public Session of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ridgefield was held on November 12, 2019 at 7:32 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 Castelli, Councilman Penabad, Councilman Shim, Councilman Jimenez, Councilman Kontolios and Councilwoman Larkin are present.

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

Presentation of Italian American Heritage Month Proclamation to Jill Pantaleo.

Correspondence: October 2019 Police Department report, Route 46 off ramp traffic study is being funded through the State, met with Slocum Skewes Robotics Club and they would like to do a handicapped park-Ray Ramirez will speak to grant firm to see if there are any grants available.

Approval of Minutes of October 28, 2019 Public Session Meeting and November 6, 2019 Special Meeting– APPROVED

As advertised, hearing will be held on Ordinance No. 2363 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 29 “ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION” SUBSECTIONS 29-10 “COMMUNITY GARDENS” AND 29-11 “RIDGEFIELD NATURE CENTER” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD”

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	YES
Councilman Penabad	YES
Councilman Shim	YES
Councilman Jimenez	YES
Councilman Kontolios	YES

Councilwoman Larkin YES

As advertised, hearing will be held on Ordinance No. 2364 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 – 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	YES
Councilman Penabad	YES
Councilman Shim	YES
Councilman Jimenez	YES
Councilman Kontolios	YES
Councilwoman Larkin	YES

As advertised, hearing will be held on Ordinance No. 2365 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE V ENTITLED "SEWER CONNECTIONS; MAINTENANCE; WASTE WATER TREATMENT", CHAPTER 333-33, STORMWATER DISCHARGE AND SUMP PUMPS"

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

As advertised, hearing will be held on Ordinance No. 2367 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE XXIII, WILLIS FIELD PARKING LOT AND EVENT OVERFLOW PARKING AREA OF CHAPTER 375 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD"

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

As advertised, hearing will be held on Ordinance No. 2368 entitled, “BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS 2019 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$2,350,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,238,094 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF”

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

As advertised, hearing will be held on Ordinance No. 2369 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 – 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	YES
Councilman Penabad	YES
Councilman Shim	YES
Councilman Jimenez	YES
Councilman Kontolios	YES
Councilwoman Larkin	YES

As advertised, hearing will be held on Ordinance No. 2370 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 341 ENTITLED SMOKING OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD”

Borough Attorney Pellino stated that Councilman Shim requested a minor amendment to the Ordinance which would change the age to purchase from 18 to 21. Borough Attorney Pellino stated that this age requirement is consistent with the State of New Jersey law. Motion made and seconded to amend the Ordinance.

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

As advertised, hearing will be held on Ordinance No. 2371 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 133, ANTI-BULLYING POLICY, PROCEDURES AND PROGRAMS OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD”

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

270-2019	Mayor Suarez	Appoint 2020 RFQ Evaluation Committee
271-2019	Councilman Jimenez	Hire Clerk for Tax/Finance Dept.-Castro-Tobin
272-2019	Councilman Jimenez	Appoint Tax Searcher-Bang
273-2019	Councilman Jimenez	Salary Adjustment Planning Board-Taffaro
274-2019	Councilman Jimenez	Salary Adjustment-Taffaro
275-2019	Councilman Jimenez	Salary Increase-Ramirez

Roll Call:

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

RESOLUTIONS:

276-2019	Councilman Jimenez	Warrants
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Roll Call:

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

277-2019	Councilwoman Larkin	Hire Per-Diem Community Center Attendants
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Roll Call:

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

COMMENTS BY MAYOR:

Thanked Ray Ramirez and his department for the Halloween festivities. Commented on last week of Recreation soccer. Congratulated his running mates and thanked the community for having faith in him. Discussed January 4, 2020 at 6:00 pm as being a date for Reorganization. Thanked all the veterans. Mayor Suarez thanked the Borough Clerk for always coming through in a pinch.

Coin Toss Request:

Ridgefield Elementary PTA
Saturday, November 23, 2019

APPROVED

COMMENTS BY COUNCILMEN:

Councilman Kontolios-Congratulated Mayor Suarez and Councilman Jimenez. Looking forward to starting his 2nd term. Ecumenical worship will be Tuesday, November 26 at 7:00 pm at Old English Neighborhood Church.

Councilman Jimenez-Congratulated Mayor Suarez and Councilman Kontolios. Thanked all the veterans. Made a motion for approval for the Mayor and himself to attend the HMMC December meeting at the Graycliff at \$50.00 per person; approved. Commented on coaching soccer and how he will miss it.

Councilman Larkin-Congratulated Mayor Suarez and Councilmen Jimenez and Kontolios. Thanked Councilman Jimenez for his service. Reminded everyone that Food & Water Watch were doing a “last lap” on Saturday starting at the high school and ending at the community center for a celebration. Commented on the upgrades at Borelli Park and thanked Ray Ramirez. Commented that the Anti-Bullying Committee will be decorating the tree on behalf of the Borough at the County Park. Two students from the high school will be marching with the Macy’s All American Marching Band at the thanksgiving day parade.

COMMENTS BY ADMINISTRATOR:

Tree lighting December 4 at 7:00 pm and Winter Wonderland December 21 from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Recognized Mayor Suarez and Councilman Jimenez as soccer coaches and Greg Anastassatos as Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade soccer coach for 10 years.

COMMENTS BY CITIZENS:

None

Meeting adjourned 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Silvestri,
Borough Clerk