

The public is invited to participate in the public session meeting at 7:00 pm by calling 1 (929) 205-6099
 MEETING ID: 841 0777 8874 or <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84107778874>
 or the Zoom Meeting Link can be accessed from the Borough's Website: www.ridgefieldnj.gov on the Home Page.

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD

A G E N D A

Executive Session and Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council

Date: November 8, 2021

Open Public Meetings Statement by Mayor Suarez

Public Session to Adjourn to Executive Session: C.T.O.: Adjourn:

Mayor Suarez – Adjournment into closed Executive Session in accordance with the “Open Public Meetings Act”

Executive Session: 6:30 P.M. C.T.O.: Adjourn:

Public Session: 7:00 P.M. C.T.O.: Adjourn:

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation

Citizens Comment on Agenda:

Correspondence:

ROLL CALL-PUBLIC SESSION

	Adj. to Ex.		Public	
	Pres.	Abs.	Pres.	Abs.
Mayor Suarez				
Castelli				
Penabad				
Shim				
Jimenez				
Kontolios				
Larkin				

ROLL CALL-EXEC. SESSION

	PRESENT	ABSENT
	Mayor Suarez	
Castelli		
Penabad		
Shim		
Jimenez		
Kontolios		
Larkin		

As advertised, hearing will be held on Ordinance No. 2421 entitled, “BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS CAPITAL EQUIPMENT, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$175,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$166,250 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

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

Final Reading of Ordinance

Roll Call

CONSENT AGENDA:

All items listed are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Borough Council and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Council member(s) so request it, in which case the item(s) will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda. The one motion signifies the adoption of all resolutions and approval of applications and minutes.

276-2021 Councilman Castelli Authorize to Advertise-Community Center Flooring
277-2021 Councilman Jimenez Stipulation of Settlement-55 Railroad Avenue

Coin Toss Request:

Ridgefield Elementary PTA
Saturday, November 20, 2021
Rain Date: Sunday, November 21, 2021

COUNCIL VOTE

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Castelli				
Penabad				
Shim				
Jimenez				
Kontolios				
Larkin				
Mayor Suarez				

RESOLUTIONS:

278-2021 Councilman Jimenez Warrants

COMMENTS BY MAYOR:

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL:

COMMENTS BY ADMINISTRATOR:

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

Agenda subject to change as a result of matters not known at time of printing with the consent of the Mayor and Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Silvestri,
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD
Bergen County, New Jersey

Meeting November 8, 2021

Presented by Mayor Suarez

BE IT RESOLVED, that the regular public meeting be adjourned, and that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ridgefield shall meet in a closed Executive Session following a five minute recess at the termination of this meeting. The purpose of the Executive Session shall be to discuss the following matters:

- _____ Personnel matters in various departments of the Borough.
- _____ Pending and Potential Litigation
- _____ Tax Court Litigation.
- _____ Potential real estate transactions in which the Borough may engage.

COUNCIL VOTE

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Castelli				
Penabad				
Shim				
Jimenez				
Kontolios				
Larkin				
Mayor Suarez				

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as soon as practicable discussion concerning

- _____ Personnel matters
- _____ Potential real estate transactions shall be disclosed to the public.
- _____ And that discussions with the Borough Attorney concerning litigation shall be disclosed when said litigation is terminated.

Adjournment to Closed Session. The Mayor and Council reserve the right to reconvene into Public Session, if necessary, to take action on Closed Session items.

Approved:

Attest:

Anthony R. Suarez, Mayor

Linda M. Silvestri,
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD
Bergen County, New Jersey

Meeting November 8, 2021

Presented by Councilman Jimenez

ORDINANCE NO. 2421

BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough Council of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ridgefield that an Ordinance entitled,

“BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS CAPITAL EQUIPMENT, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$175,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$166,250 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF”

introduced on the 25th day of October, 2021, do now pass a final reading and be adopted, and that the Borough Clerk be and she is authorized and directed to publish once, the aforesaid title, together with a notice of the date of its passage on final reading and approval thereof in The Record, a newspaper circulating in the Borough of Ridgefield.

COUNCIL VOTE

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Castelli				
Penabad				
Shim				
Jimenez				
Kontolios				
Larkin				
Mayor Suarez				

Approved:

Attest:

Anthony R. Suarez, Mayor

Linda M. Silvestri,
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD
Bergen County, New Jersey

Meeting October 25, 2021

Presented by Councilman Jimenez

ORDINANCE NO. 2421

“BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS CAPITAL EQUIPMENT, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$175,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$166,250 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF”

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The improvements or purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are hereby authorized as general improvements or purposes to be undertaken by the Borough of Ridgefield, in the County of Bergen, State of New Jersey (the “Borough”). For the said improvements or purposes stated in Section 3, there is hereby appropriated the sum of \$175,000, which sum includes \$8,750 as the amount of down payment for said improvements or purposes required by the Local Bond Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:2-1 etseq. (the “Local Bond Law”). Said down payment is now available therefor by virtue of a provision or provisions in a previously adopted budget or budgets of the Borough for down payment or for capital improvement purposes.

SECTION 2. For the financing of said improvements or purposes described in Section 3 hereof and to meet the part of said \$175,000 appropriation not provided for by application hereunder of said down payment, negotiable bonds of the Borough are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$166,250 pursuant to the Local Bond Law. In anticipation of the issuance of said bonds and to temporarily finance said improvements or purposes, negotiable notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$166,250 are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to and within the limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

SECTION 3. (a) The improvements hereby authorized and purposes for the financing of which said obligations are to be issued include, but are not limited to, as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Authorization</u>	<u>Down Payment</u>	<u>Useful Life</u>
(i) <u>Public Works Department</u> – Acquisition Of Two (2) Dump Trucks; And	\$155,000	\$147,250	\$7,750	5.00 years
(ii) <u>Recreation Department</u> - Acquisition And Installation, As Applicable, Of Various Park	\$20,000	\$19,000	\$1,000	15.00 years

<u>Description</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Authorization</u>	<u>Down Payment</u>	<u>Useful Life</u>
Equipment Including, But Not Limited To, A Pavilion And Benches.				
TOTALS	<u>\$175,000</u>	<u>\$166,250</u>	<u>\$8,750</u>	

(b) The aggregate estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued for said improvements or purposes is \$166,250.

(c) The aggregate estimated cost of said improvements or purposes is \$175,000, the excess amount thereof over the said estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued therefor is the down payment available for said purposes.

(d) All such improvements or purposes set forth in Section 3(a) shall include, but are not limited to, as applicable, all engineering and design work, surveying, construction planning, preparation of plans and specifications, permits, bid documents, construction inspection and contract administration, and also shall include all work, materials, equipment, accessories, labor and appurtenances necessary therefor or incidental thereto and all in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor on file in the Office of the Clerk of the Borough and available for public inspection and hereby approved.

SECTION 4. In the event the United States of America, the State of New Jersey, the County of Bergen and/or a private entity make a contribution or grant in aid to the Borough, for the improvements and purposes authorized hereby and the same shall be received by the Borough prior to the issuance of the bonds or notes authorized in Section 2 hereof, then the amount of such bonds or notes to be issued shall be reduced by the amount so received from the United States of America, the State of New Jersey, the County of Bergen and/or a private entity. In the event, however, that any amount so contributed or granted by the United States of America, the State of New Jersey, the County of Bergen and/or a private entity, shall be received by the Borough after the issuance of the bonds or notes authorized in Section 2 hereof, then such funds shall be applied to the payment of the bonds or notes so issued and shall be used for no other purposes. This Section 4 shall not apply, however, with respect to any contribution or grant in aid received by the Borough as a result of using funds from this bond ordinance as "matching local funds" to receive such contribution or grant in aid.

SECTION 5. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough, provided that no note shall mature later than one (1) year from its date unless such bond anticipation notes are permitted to mature at such later date in accordance with applicable law. The notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the Chief Financial Officer. The Chief Financial Officer shall determine all matters in connection with the notes issued pursuant to this bond ordinance, and the signature of the Chief Financial Officer upon the notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time in accordance with the provisions of the Local Bond Law. The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the notes from time to time at public or private sale and to

deliver them to the purchaser thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price and accrued interest thereon from their dates to the date of delivery thereof. The Chief Financial Officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the notes pursuant to this bond ordinance is made. Such report must include the principal amount, the description, the interest rate, and the maturity schedule of the notes so sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

SECTION 6. The Capital Budget of the Borough is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this bond ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. In the event of any such inconsistency, a resolution in the form promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended Capital Budget and capital programs as approved by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs will be on file in the office of the Clerk and will be available for public inspection.

SECTION 7. The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

(a) The improvements or purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are not current expenses and are improvements which the Borough may lawfully undertake as general improvements, and no part of the cost thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefited thereby.

(b) The average period of usefulness of said improvements or purposes within the limitations of the Local Bond Law, according to the reasonable life thereof computed from the date of the said bonds authorized by this bond ordinance, is 6.14 years.

(c) The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly made and filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Borough and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the Office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, and such statement shows that the gross debt of the Borough as defined in the Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the bonds or notes provided for in this bond ordinance by \$166,250 and the said bonds or notes authorized by this bond ordinance will be within all debt limitations prescribed by said Local Bond Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$1,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under section 20 of the Local Bond Law is included in the estimated cost indicated herein for the purposes or improvements hereinbefore described.

SECTION 8. The full faith and credit of the Borough are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on the bonds or notes authorized by this bond ordinance. The bonds or notes shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Borough, and the Borough shall be obligated to levy *ad valorem* taxes upon all the taxable real property within the Borough for the payment of the bonds or notes and the interest thereon without limitation as to rate or amount.

SECTION 9. The Borough hereby declares the intent of the Borough to issue the bonds or bond anticipation notes in the amount authorized in Section 2 of this bond ordinance and to use proceeds to pay or reimburse expenditures for the costs of the purposes described in Section 3 of

this bond ordinance. This Section 9 is a declaration of intent within the meaning and for purposes of Treasury Regulations §1.150-2 or any successor provisions of federal income tax law.

SECTION 10. The Borough Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to prepare and to update from time to time as necessary a financial disclosure document to be distributed in connection with the sale of obligations of the Borough and to execute such disclosure document on behalf of the Borough. The Borough Chief Financial Officer is further authorized to enter into the appropriate undertaking to provide secondary market disclosure on behalf of the Borough pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Rule") for the benefit of holders and beneficial owners of obligations of the Borough and to amend such undertaking from time to time in connection with any change in law, or interpretation thereof, provided such undertaking is and continues to be, in the opinion of a nationally recognized bond counsel, consistent with the requirements of the Rule. In the event that the Borough fails to comply with its undertaking, the Borough shall not be liable for any monetary damages, and the remedy shall be limited to specific performance of the undertaking.

SECTION 11. The Borough covenants to maintain the exclusion from gross income under section 103(a) of the Code of the interest on all bonds and notes issued under this ordinance.

SECTION 12. This bond ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

Approved:

Attest:

Anthony R. Suarez, Mayor

Linda M. Silvestri,
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD
Bergen County, New Jersey

Meeting November 8, 2021

Presented by Councilman Castelli

RESOLUTION NO. 276-2021

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ridgefield that the Borough Clerk be and she is hereby authorized and directed to advertise for

“BIDS FOR REPLACEMENT FLOOR FOR THE RIDGEFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER”

COUNCIL VOTE

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Castelli				
Penabad				
Shim				
Jimenez				
Kontolios				
Larkin				
Mayor Suarez				

Approved:

Attest:

Anthony R. Suarez, Mayor

Linda M. Silvestri,
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD
Bergen County, New Jersey

Meeting November 8, 2021

Presented by Councilman Jimenez

RESOLUTION NO. 277-2021

WHEREAS, Michael A. Vespasiano, Esq., representing MAM Realty, LLC. filed a tax appeal challenging the assessment at 55 Railroad Ave., Block 4014, Lot 9, Qual. HM for tax year 2019; and

WHEREAS, the original assessment in issue for the tax years under appeal was:

LAND:	\$ 795,000
IMPROVEMENTS:	\$ 3,638,900
TOTAL:	\$ 4,433,900

WHEREAS, the parties having exchanged discovery have entered into settlement discussions resulting in a proposed settlement to which taxpayer has agreed; and

WHEREAS, in light of the inherent risk and expense of Tax Court litigation, it is deemed to be in the best interest of the Borough to enter into a settlement of the pending tax appeal on the terms set forth below;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing body that it does hereby authorize and approve a proposed settlement as follows:

1. For 2019, the assessment shall be adjusted to:

LAND:	\$ 795,000
IMPROVEMENTS:	\$ 3,305,000
TOTAL:	\$ 4,100,000

2. Taxpayer agrees to waive statutory interest on the refunds due as a consequence of the settlement provided refunds are paid within sixty (60) days of the entry of Tax Court Judgment.
3. Special Tax Attorney is hereby authorized and directed to execute a Stipulation of Settlement for filing with the Tax Court conforming with the terms set forth above.
4. The Tax Collector is hereby authorized and directed, upon receipt of the Tax Court Judgment, to calculate the amount of the refund and cause same to be paid to the taxpayer, without statutory interest, within sixty (60) days from the date of the Tax Court Judgment.

COUNCIL VOTE

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Castelli				
Penabad				
Shim				
Jimenez				
Kontolios				
Larkin				
Mayor Suarez				

Approved:

Attest:

Anthony R. Suarez, Mayor

Linda M. Silvestri,
Borough Clerk

The undersigned, being the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Ridgefield, County of Bergen, New Jersey, and the person charged with the responsibility of maintaining financial records of said Borough in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:4-57 and the rules of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey adopted thereunder, does hereby certify that there are adequate funds available for the payment of the attached list of invoices, duly adopted by said Borough, and which said list indicates the specific line item of said budget to which expenditures shall be charged.

Francis J. Elenio,
Chief Financial Officer

BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD
Bergen County, New Jersey

Meeting November 8, 2021

Presented by Councilman Jimenez

RESOLUTION NO. 278-2021

BE IT RESOLVED, that warrants totaling **\$1,806,622.67**
be drawn on the following accounts:

CURRENT	\$1,749,113.69
TRUST	\$5,651.98
CAPITAL	\$50,145.20
POOL	\$1,711.80
TOTAL	\$1,806,622.67

COUNCIL VOTE

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Castelli				
Penabad				
Shim				
Jimenez				
Kontolios				
Larkin				
Mayor Suarez				

Approved:

Attest:

Anthony R. Suarez, Mayor

Linda M. Silvestri,
Borough Clerk