

Public Session of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ridgefield was held on October 28, 2019 at 7:31 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

Mayor Suarez stated that we were going to take things out of order this evening and that the first order of business was to appoint the new Municipal Court Magistrate.

261-2019 Mayor Suarez Appointment of Municipal Court Magistrate

Roll Call:

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

Swearing in of Judge Choi

Judge Choi addressed the audience and commented on the importance of public service.

Mayor Suarez presented the following Police Commendations:

P.O. Hagop Cigercioglu – Exceptional Duty Award
P.O. Kevin Nebbia – Meritorious Service Commendation
Sgt. Bruno Carbone - Meritorious Service Commendation
P.O. Gregory Anastassatos - Meritorious Service Commendation
P.O. Kyle Ruppert - Meritorious Service Commendation
P.O. Fatih Karabiyik - Meritorious Service Commendation
P.O. Alex Acosta - Meritorious Service Commendation
P.O. Digna Mendez - Meritorious Service Commendation

Presentation of Hispanic Heritage Month Proclamation to Alan Garcia, Italian American Heritage Month Proclamation to John Quaregna, Breast Cancer Awareness Month Proclamation to Mercedes Penabad, and Down Syndrome Awareness Month Proclamation to Kalene Gage.

Mayor Suarez also presented proclamations to Cassandra Worthington, Paula Rogovin and Matt Smith of Food & Water Watch for the work they did in helping defeat the Meadowlands Power Plant.

After a 10 minute break the meeting resumed.

Correspondence: Municipal Court report, upcoming event at the Library, letter from Senator Sarlo about the Meadowlands money.

Approval of Minutes of October 15, 2019 Public Session Meeting – APPROVED [Councilwoman Larkin abstained]

Mayor Suarez asked if there were any questions on the Best Practices Inventory. There were none.

Mayor Suarez stated that there was an issue with the Record publishing some of our ordinances and that six (6) would need to be re-introduced.

Re-Introduction of 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”

First Reading of Ordinance

Roll Call:

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

Re-Introduction of Ordinance No. 2364 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 375-52 DESIGNATING HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACES”

First Reading of Ordinance

Roll Call:

Councilman Castelli	YES
Councilman Penabad	YES
Councilman Shim	YES
Councilman Jimenez	YES

Councilman Kontolios	YES
Councilwoman Larkin	YES

Re-Introduction of Ordinance No. 2365 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE V ENTITLED “SEWER CONNECTIONS; MAINTENANCE; WASTE WATER TREATMENT”, CHAPTER 333-33, STORMWATER DISCHARGE AND SUMP PUMPS”

First Reading of Ordinance

Roll Call:

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

Re-Introduction of 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”

First Reading of Ordinance

Roll Call:

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

Re-Introduction of 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”

First Reading of Ordinance

Roll Call:

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

Re-Introduction of Ordinance No. 2369 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 375-52 DESIGNATING HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACES”

First Reading of Ordinance

Roll Call:

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

Introduction of Ordinance No. 2370 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 341 ENTITLED SMOKING OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD”

First Reading of Ordinance

Roll Call:

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

Introduction of Ordinance No. 2371 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 133, ANTI-BULLYING POLICY, PROCEDURES AND PROGRAMS OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD”

First 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:

262-2019 Mayor Suarez
263-2019 Mayor Suarez

Italian American Heritage Month Proclamation
Appoint Special Counsel

264-2019	Councilman Castelli	Authorize to Advertise for RFQs – 2020 Professionals
265-2019	Councilman Jimenez	Redemption of Tax Lien # 19-008
266-2019	Councilman Castelli	Extend Appointment of Temporary Code Enforcement Officers
267-2019	Councilman Castelli	Calling for Study Commission to Review the Open Public Records Act

Roll Call:

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

RESOLUTIONS:

268-2019	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

269-2019	Councilman Castelli	2019-2020 CDBG Grant Agreement-Pleasantview Terrace Roadway Improvement
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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:

Coin Toss Request:

RMHS Girls Basketball
 Saturday, November 16, 2019
 Rain Date: Sunday, November 17, 2019

APPROVED

COMMENTS BY COUNCILMEN:

COMMENTS BY ADMINISTRATOR:

COMMENTS BY CITIZENS:

Sean Shilinsky – Commented on an issue with a new landlord and his concern about the Rent Leveling Board addressing it properly. Councilman Castelli commented on the Rent Leveling Board and the Board's attorney's ability to handle the issue.

Meeting adjourned 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Silvestri,
Borough Clerk