

Public Session of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ridgefield was held on September 9, 2019 at 7:45 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

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

Citizens Comment on Agenda:

Javier Acosta, 779 Norman Road-Requested that Ordinance No. 2362 be tabled until there is a meeting with all the members of the three firehouses.

Correspondence: Police Department report for August 2019,attended groundbreaking for Toufayan Bakery and received a letter from them thanking the Building Department, Lord Loves Jesus Presbyterian Church annual concert, anonymous letter regarding the streets needing repair.

Approval of Minutes of August 12, 2019 Public Session Meeting - APPROVED

As advertised, hearing will be held on Ordinance No. 2362 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 35 "FIRE DEPARTMENT" OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD"

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

Public Hearing

John Hoffman, 808 Pleasantview Terrace- Chief Hoffman commented that these changes have come through various combined meetings throughout the last 3 years and he is surprised to hear that members didn't know but didn't ask any questions when they saw him. Chief Hoffman explained the reasons behind the changes. If there are issues, they will ask that the ordinance be amended.

Javier Acosta, 779 Norman Road- Commented that we don't have many volunteers and he doesn't want to freeze the ranks. They are not a paid fire department and shouldn't be squeezed. Things have changed. Give them the chance to have the meeting.

Alex Acosta, 779 Norman Road-Concerned that if these rules go into effect he will no longer be able to be a firefighter because as a Police Officer he will not be able to make the percentages. Commented on how he used his firefighting training as a police officer during the house explosion over the summer and that it would be sad if he could no longer be a firefighter.

John Hoffman commented that the ordinance states “can” or “may” be removed and commented on discussions he has had to have with PEOSHA inspectors because of some of the percentages currently being made. Commented that the new percentages are not difficult to make if you go to the meetings, drills and calls when you are off, if you want to make them.

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	NO
Councilman Shim	ABSTAIN
Councilman Jimenez	YES
Councilman Kontolios	YES
Councilwoman Larkin	YES

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

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

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

233-2019	Councilman Castelli	DMR Professional Service Agreement - Oversight Services
234-2019	Councilman Castelli	Appointment to Rent Leveling Commission
235-2019	Councilman Jimenez	Notice of Intent to Award Contract to Sanitation Equipment Corp. Under ESCNJ CO-OP
236-2019	Councilman Jimenez	Lien Redemption Cert. 19-003
237-2019	Mayor Suarez	Appointment of Municipal Court Magistrate
239-2019	Councilman Jimenez	Lien Redemption Cert. 19-009
240-2019	Councilman Castelli	Temporary Code Enforcement Officers
241-2019	Councilman Castelli	Agreement with SF Shaler Properties Owner IV LP, SF Ridgefield Gardens Owner IV LP, and SF Hillside Village Owner IV LP

Roll Call:

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

RESOLUTIONS:

238-2019 Councilman Castelli Authorize Agreement with Bergen County for 911 Dispatching Services

Roll Call:

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

242-2019 Councilman Jimenez Warrants

Roll Call:

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

ABSTAIN 99272

243-2019 Councilman Castelli Authorize the Award of Contract to DMR Architects, PC in Connection with the Next Phase of the Redevelopment Project in the Redevelopment Area Designated as the Western Portions Of Block 905 Lot 1, Block 906 Lot 1, and the Paper Street Virgil Avenue in Accordance with the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 Et Seq.

Roll Call:

Councilman Castelli	YES
Councilman Penabad	YES

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

244-2019 Councilman Castelli Authorize the Award of Contract to Matrix New World in Connection with the Next Phase of the Environmental Remediation of the Redevelopment Area Designated as the Western Portions of Block 905 Lot 1, Block 906 Lot 1, and the Paper Street Virgil Avenue in Accordance with the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 Et Seq.

Roll Call:

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

COMMENTS BY MAYOR:

Mayor Suarez, Councilman Jimenez, Councilman Kontolios, and the Borough Administrator met with the new school Superintendent on August 22; went very well. August 27 was the Last Splash; thanked everyone who helped. Thanked Ray and his staff for the pool season and the summer camp. September 7 was RBAO closing ceremony. September 8 was PBA food truck festival. Has tickets for the Lord Jesus Loves Church concert if any member of the Council would like them. September 11 memorial service will be held at 8:45 am at the Asciak monument; will hold this service every year.

**Raffles License:**

St. Matthew R.C. Church  
 555 Prospect Avenue  
 November 28, 2019 – 10:00 a.m.  
 50/50

APPROVED

**Coin Toss Request:**

Ridgefield Music Parents  
 October 19, 2019  
 Rain Date: October 20, 2019

APPROVED

**New Jersey State Firemen's Association Membership Application:**

Steven Gomez  
1504 79<sup>th</sup> Street  
North Bergen  
Company No. 1

APPROVED

COMMENTS BY COUNCILMEN:

Councilman Castelli - Commented that the milling/paving schedule is on the website and will be on Nixel. Keep this in mind and try to avoid these streets. Appreciates all the volunteers that helped with the last splash and the members of the fire department who cooked.

Councilman Kontolios-Share the paving information with everyone. Have a good fall.

Councilman Jimenez - Hoped everyone had a great summer. Last Splash and food truck festival went very well.

Councilwoman Larkin – Commented on RBAO closing ceremony. Food truck festival was wonderful; PBA did a great job.

COMMENTS BY CITIZENS:           NONE

Meeting adjourned 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Silvestri,  
Borough Clerk