

BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE

MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL

Meeting Date: April 11, 2013

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of High Bridge came to order with Mayor Desire presiding, at 7:30 PM on the above date. "Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of 2013 meeting dates was published in the Hunterdon County Democrat on January 10, 2013 and posted on the bulletin board in Borough Hall. The meeting was held in the Fire House, 7 Maryland Ave., High Bridge, NJ. Action may be taken."

Mayor Desire led those present in the salute to the Flag.

Mayor Desire asked that all remain standing for a moment of silence in memory of Mr. Dennis Trimmer. Mr. Trimmer was a Lieutenant in the Fire Department, member of the Emergency Squad and a forty year employee of Custom Alloy. He will be missed by High Bridge.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Desire
Councilman Flynn
Councilwoman Hughes
Councilwoman Miller
Councilman Rapp
Councilwoman Scarcia

Councilman Stemple was excused.

Attorney Barry Goodman, Municipal Clerk Diane Seals and six members of the general public and news media were also present.

VISITORS: High Bridge Board of Education 2013-2014 Budget Presentation

1. Members of the High Bridge Board of Education, Superintendent Kennedy and Business Administrator/Board Secretary Gail Woicekowski came before Council to give a presentation on the 2013-2014 Budget. The anticipated Budget is \$7,393,475. The Budget will maintain current class size from grades K through 8 as per board policy, continue to support ongoing curriculum and revision, provide adequate teaching supply funds, provide textbook funds for implementation of Common Core Standards in middle school math, continue professional development opportunities for all employees, continue to support and maintain technology needs for the 21st century learners, continue the preventative maintenance/repair program for our facilities, support co-curricular programs at the same level as the current budget, support middle school athletic program at the same level as the current budget, reduce one faculty position, and reduce some para-professional positions.

MOTION TO DISPENSE WITH THE READING OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETINGS:

Councilman Rapp motioned to dispense with the reading of the Regular and Executive Session Meeting Minutes of March 28, 2013. Councilwoman Hughes seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

APPROVAL OR CORRECTION OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:

Councilman Rapp motioned to approve the Regular and Executive Meeting Minutes of March 28, 2013. Councilwoman Miller seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: It is the policy of the Borough Council that all public comments on an issue shall be limited to five (5) minutes per person and no person may make more than one (1) comment per subject. Comments may be made on any subject pertaining to Borough issues. Comments pertaining to Public Hearings should be saved for that portion of the agenda. No debating between residents. Comments should be addressed to Mayor and Council.

Dr. Brenden Coughlin asked if there will be a revaluation next year. As Finance Chair Councilman Stemple was not present, there was no definite answer. Dr. Coughlin went on to ask if there were any answers to his accounting questions. Mayor Desire stated that there are no answers to his repetitive questions.

Richard Montaperto asked for an explanation of service fees charged by the Clinton and High Bridge Rescue Squads.

Councilwoman Scarcia will discuss and get clarification regarding fees charged by the Squads and get back to Mr. Montaperto.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT: No reports.

Councilman Flynn: **PLANNING & ENGINEERING**

Councilwoman Hughes: **PUBLIC HEALTH, ENVIRONMENTAL, SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING, OPEN SPACE**

ENVIRONMENTAL:

PUBLIC HEALTH:

SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING:

Councilwoman Scarcia: **EMERGENCY SERVICES & EDUCATION**

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

EMERGENCY SQUAD:

**OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:
RECREATION: Liaison**

Councilwoman Miller: **INFORMATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, CULTURE & HERITAGE**
**NEWSLETTER/INFORMATION:
CULTURAL & HERITAGE:
Events Committee:
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

Councilman Rapp: **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & RECREATION**
**SWAC:
PUBLIC WORKS:
RECREATION:
BIKE RACE:**

Councilman Stemple: **FINANCE & GOLF**

Mr. Douglas Walker: **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Mayor, Mark Desire: **EXECUTIVE SERVICES**

PUBLIC HEARINGS: 2ND Reading.

**ORDINANCE # 2013-7
ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$400,000 FROM CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR
ROAD IMPROVEMENTS TO CREGAR ROAD, PHASE III, IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF
HIGH BRIDGE, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY.**

Mayor Desire asked for a motion to open the Public Hearing on Ordinance #2013-7.

Councilman Rapp motioned to open. Councilwoman Hughes seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

Questions and Comments.

Councilwoman Miller asked if we had received grants for this section, Phase II and will it be engineered the same as Phase I. Councilman Flynn spoke to the fact that the Borough received a grant and the section is more level so stormwater management shouldn't be such a large factor.

Mayor Desire asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing.

Councilman Rapp motioned to close. Councilwoman Miller seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

Mayor Desire asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance #2013-7 and stated that Ordinance #2013-07 shall be published by title only according to law.

Councilman Rapp motioned to adopt. Councilwoman Miller seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

**ORDINANCE #2013-8
ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$60,000 FROM THE SEWER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT
FUND FOR INFILTRATION STUDY AND IMPROVEMENTS IN THE BOROUGH OF HIGH
BRIDGE, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY.**

Mayor Desire asked for a motion to open the Public Hearing on Ordinance #2013-8.

Councilman Rapp motioned to open. Councilwoman Hughes seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

Questions and Comments.

Councilman Flynn explained that the study and improvements to the sewer system will be to reduce groundwater infiltration.

Mayor Desire asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing.

Councilman Rapp motioned to close. Councilwoman Miller seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

Mayor Desire asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance #2013-8 and stated that Ordinance #2013-8 shall be published by title only according to law.

Councilman Rapp motioned to adopt. Councilwoman Hughes seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

**ORDINANCE #2013-9
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF
HIGH BRIDGE, PUBLIC RECORDS/GENERAL FEE INFORMATION,**

CHAPTER 11. 6, ESTABLISHING NEW FEES FOR SPECIAL EVENTS

Mayor Desire asked for a motion to open the Public Hearing on Ordinance #2013-9.

Councilwoman Miller motioned to open. Councilman Rapp seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

Questions and Comments.

Councilwoman Miller explained that fees, sponsorships, and prizes collected and purchases by the newly formed Events Committee need to be in an Ordinance.

Mayor Desire asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing.

Councilwoman Miller motioned to close. Councilman Rapp seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

Mayor Desire asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance #2013-9 and stated that Ordinance #2013-9 shall be published by title only according to law.

Councilwoman Hughes motioned to adopt. Councilwoman Miller seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

CONSENT AGENDA: All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Borough Council and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

None at this time.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Letter from Heather Baird-Loya regarding her opposition to Ordinance #2013-3, Sewer Priority, from February 28th Council Meeting.
- 2.. Certification of Funds for McManimon & Scotland, LLC.
3. Certification of Funds for Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis, LLC.
4. Certification of Funds for Quest Environmental.
5. Utilities Report for the month of March, 2013.
6. Resolution #R-2013-48 from Township of Readington "Seeking Legislative Support on Abandoned Property Enforcement".
7. Notice from NJTransit Corp. regarding Fiscal Year 2013 Request for Federal Financial Assistance

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None at this time.

NEW ORDINANCES: Introduction 1st reading.

ORDINANCE #2013-10

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$12,000 FROM THE WATER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE WASHINGTON AVENUE WATER MAIN IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY.

Mayor Desire asked for a motion to introduce Ordinance #2013-10.

Councilman Rapp motioned to introduce. Councilwoman Miller seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

Mayor Desire stated that Ordinance #2013-10 shall be published in its entirety in the Hunterdon County Democrat along with the Public Hearing date of April 25, 2013 according to law.

ORDINANCE #2013-11

**BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE, PUBLIC RECORDS/GENERAL FEE INFORMATION, CHAPTER 11. 6, AMENDING RECREATION PROGRAM FEES AND ESTABLISHING NEW FEES FOR SPECIAL EVENTS**

Mayor Desire asked for a motion to introduce Ordinance #2013-11.

Councilwoman Miller motioned to introduce. Councilwoman Scarcia seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

Mayor Desire stated that Ordinance #2013-11 shall be published in its entirety in the Hunterdon County Democrat along with the Public Hearing date of April 25, 2013 according to law.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **RESOLUTION #75-2013:** Councilwoman Hughes motioned to adopt a resolution Authorizing the Environmental Commission to Undertake the Beautification of the Entrance to the High Bridge Police Headquarters, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof these minutes. Councilwoman Hughes seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

2. **RESOLUTION #76-2013:** Councilman Rapp motioned to adopt a resolution Approving Attendance at a Conference for CFO/CTC Fleming at a cost of \$310, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof these minutes. Councilwoman Hughes seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.
3. **RESOLUTION #77-2013:** Councilman Rapp motioned to adopt a resolution Approving Capital Budget Amendment, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof these minutes. Councilwoman Hughes seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.
4. **RESOLUTION #78-2013:** Councilwoman Miller motioned to adopt a resolution Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue Appropriation for Local History Block Grant for \$900, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof these minutes. Councilwoman Scarcia seconded. Councilwoman Miller explained that the matching funds grant came from the County and will be used for a Lecture Series, first lecture to be at the Reformed Church on April 23rd. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.
5. **RESOLUTION #79-2013:** Councilwoman Hughes motioned to adopt a resolution Declaring April as Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof these minutes. Councilman Rapp seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.
6. **RESOLUTION #80-2013:** Councilman Rapp motioned to adopt a resolution Approving North Hunterdon Youth Baseball Off-Premise Raffle to be held on June 4, 2013 from 10:00AM to 5:00PM at One Jericho Rd. Ball fields, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof these minutes. Councilwoman Miller seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: It is the policy of the Borough Council that all public comments on an issue shall be limited to one minute (1) per person and no person may make more than one (1) comment per subject at this second Public Comment section. Comments may be made on any subject pertaining to Borough issues. No debating between residents. Comments should be addressed to Mayor and Council.

Brent Dugan asked about fees charged by the Squad and are unpaid fees reported to Credit Agencies. Councilwoman Scarcia will speak with the Squad and get clarification. Mr. Dugan went on to ask that the parking area at the Dam be looked at. Mayor Desire stated that the parking will be revisited but there should be no parking on the Dam.

Richard Montaperto asked if the recycling and garbage information on the web is up to date regarding leaves in the street and grass clippings. Councilwoman Hughes stated that it is up to date and is in compliance with Stormwater Management Regulations.

Mr. Montaperto went on to ask about OPRA lawsuits, how the Borough handles such possible issues, and when will the new Borough Hall be built. Attorney Goodman said that the Borough is capable of handling OPRA issues. Councilman Flynn said that the Borough is awaiting State approvals for the new Borough Hall.

Adrienne Shipps asked about the height of the landscaping wall in front of Police Headquarters. Councilwoman Hughes said that it will be constructed very low and not obtrusive.

LEGAL ISSUES: Attorney Goodman reported that the Statutes say that as long as the receipt shows a breakdown of charges, the statement in the Golf Rates Ordinance #2013-5 of "All rates include applicable sales tax" was acceptable.

BILL LIST:

Councilman Rapp motioned to approve and direct payment of all vouchers as they appear on the Bill List in the total amount of **\$181,150.57** a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof these minutes. Councilwoman Miller seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None at this time.

Mayor Desire asked if there was any further business. There was none at this time. Mayor Desire declared the meeting closed.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:33 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Diane L. Seals, Municipal Clerk, RMC