

# BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE

# MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL

Meeting Date: June 13, 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.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**  
Mayor Desire  
Councilman Flynn  
Councilwoman Miller  
Councilman Rapp  
Councilwoman Scarcia  
Councilman Stemple

Councilwoman Hughes was excused.

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

**VISITORS:** No one at this time.

**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 May 23, 2013 and Special Meeting and Executive Session Meeting Minutes for June 5, 2013. Councilwoman Miller seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye, Stemple, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

**APPROVAL OR CORRECTION OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:**

Councilman Rapp motioned to approve the Regular and Executive Session Meeting Minutes of May 23, 2013 and Special Meeting and Executive Session Meeting Minutes for June 5, 2013. Councilwoman Miller seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye, Stemple, 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 the Borough was still looking for an Administrator and please consider part time Administrator and CFO. Dr. Coughlin went on to ask why the Water Quality Report was in the newspaper. Municipal Clerk Seals answered that the DEP requires publication annually. Dr. Coughlin stated that he had OPRAed a DEP letter and the 30 day response letter with test site plan, asked what mechanism does Mike Hann have to tell when pressure is 35lbs, and who owns the golf trailer. In 2008 through 2010, Dr. Coughlin stated that the Borough had an opportunity to make more money on the food at the Golf Course and HBHGC owes property taxes on the trailer.

Ron Huttemann asked if the trailer's value will be on the LLC's or the Borough's books. Councilman Stemple said that it is on the books of the Title Co. then the Borough's when it is received.

Sally Ward shared that she was reading a 1927 history book where High Bridge and Union Forge were both mentioned. Union Forge was thought to be, by far, the most important company in the country.

**COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT: Monthly reports June 27, 2013**

*Councilman Flynn:* **PLANNING & ENGINEERING**

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

*Councilwoman Scarcia:* **EDUCATION & MUNICIPAL COURT**  
**EDUCATION:**  
**MUNICIPAL COURT:**  
**RECREATION: Liaison**

*Councilwoman Miller:* **INFORMATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, CULTURE & HERITAGE & EVENTS**  
**NEWSLETTER/INFORMATION:**

**CULTURAL & HERITAGE:**

**Events Committee:**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

*Councilman Rapp:*            **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & RECREATION**  
**PUBLIC WORKS:**  
**RECREATION:**

*Councilman Stemple:*        **FINANCE & GOLF**

*Mayor, Mark Desire:*        **EXECUTIVE SERVICES & EMERGENCY SERVICES**  
**POLICE DEPARTMENT:**  
**FIRE DEPARTMENT:**  
**EMERGENCY SQUAD:**  
**OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS: 2<sup>ND</sup> Reading.**

**ORDINANCE #2013-13**

**AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A CODIFICATION AND REVISION OF THE ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; PROVIDING FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF SAID CODE; REPEALING AND SAVING FROM REPEAL CERTAIN ORDINANCES NOT INCLUDED THEREIN; ESTABLISHING A PENALTY FOR ALTERING OR TAMPERING WITH THE CODE; AND MAKING CERTAIN CHANGES IN PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED ORDINANCES**

Mayor Desire asked for a motion to open the Public Hearing on Ordinance #2013-13.

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

Questions and Comments:

Brent Dugan asked, on Adrienne Shipps behalf, did the Borough initiate the codification, any unauthorized changes and how will the Borough handle unauthorized changes to the Code. The Borough would go to the police or County Prosecutors Office. The Municipal Clerk is the person entrusted to keep the Code and the paper Code is the official version.

Dr. Coughlin asked who overlooks Ordinance and sites differences. Any hacking, differences would be handled by the police or prosecutor's office.

Mayor Desire asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing on Ordinance #2013-13.

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

Mayor Desire asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance #2013-13 and stated that Ordinance #2013-13 shall be published by title only in the Hunterdon County Democrat according to law.

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

**ORDINANCE #2013-14**  
**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, ESTABLISHING NEW FEES FOR SPECIAL EVENTS**

Mayor Desire asked for a motion to open the Public Hearing on Ordinance #2013-14.

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

Questions and Comments:

No questions nor comments were forthcoming.

Mayor Desire asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing on Ordinance #2013-14.

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

Mayor Desire asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance #2013-14 and stated that Ordinance #2013-14 shall be published by title only in the Hunterdon County Democrat according to law.

Councilman Rapp motioned to adopt. Councilwoman Miller seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye; Stemple, 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. Resolution #R-2013-60 from Township of Readington "Opposing Jersey Central Power & Light Company Petition for a Rate Increase".
2. Utilities Report for month of May, 2013.
3. NJTransit "Disadvantaged Business Enterprise" (DBE) Triennial Agency Goal Announcement.
4. Notice for "Household Hazardous Waste Cleanup Day" on July 13, 2013 from 9AM to 1PM from the Hunterdon County Division of Public Health Services, Solid Waste & Recycling Services.
5. Notice for "Computer & Electronics Collection Day" on October 12, 2013, 9AM to 1PM from Hunterdon County Solid Waste & Recycling Services.
6. Resolution #2013-80 from Union Township "Opposing JCP&L Request for Rate Increase."

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None at this time.

**NEW ORDINANCES:** Introduction 1<sup>st</sup> reading. None at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **RESOLUTION #126-2013:** Councilman Rapp motioned to adopt a resolution Approving Appointment of Tax Assessor Ann Marie Obiedzinski effective July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2017 at an annual rate of \$15,800, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof these minutes. Councilwoman Miller seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye; Stemple, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.
2. **RESOLUTION #127-2013:** Councilman Rapp motioned to adopt a resolution Authorizing Refund of Recreation Fees to Orsolya Lake, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof these minutes. Councilwoman Miller seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye; Stemple, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.
3. **RESOLUTION #128-2013:** Councilman Rapp motioned to adopt a resolution Authorizing Redemption of Tax Lien, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof these minutes. Councilwoman Miller seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye; Stemple, 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.

Ron Huttemann asked who owns the mowers. Councilman Stemple stated that at his time the lien holder has the titles since the mowers are leased.

Dr. Brenden Coughlin asked about ADA access to the Dam and a boat launch. Mayor Desire said that at this time there are no plans, still have to pay for the high hazard Dam remediation.

**LEGAL ISSUES:** Attorney Barry Goodman said there are no legal issues

**BILL LIST:**

Councilman Stemple motioned to approve and direct payment of all vouchers as they appear on the Bill List in the total amount of **\$349,991.22** a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof these minutes. Councilwoman Miller seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Miller, aye and abstain on check #1228; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye; Stemple, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes and 1 abstention.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: RESOLUTION #129-2013:** Councilman Rapp motioned amend the Resolution to include Legal advice on ADA and Executive Session rules. Councilwoman Miller seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye; Stemple, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

Councilman Rapp motioned to adopt a resolution as amended allowing for Executive Session to seek legal advice on ADA, Executive Session rules and Personnel, terms of Administrator Position, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof these minutes. Councilwoman Scarcia seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye; Stemple, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

Councilman Rapp motioned to return to Open Session. Councilman Stemple seconded. Roll Call Vote: Flynn, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye; Stemple, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

Mayor Desire asked if there was any further business. There was none at this time. Mayor Desire asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilman Rapp motioned and Councilman Stemple seconded. Vote: 5 ayes. Motion Carried.

**ADJOURNMENT: 8:42 PM**

Respectfully submitted,

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Diane L. Seals, Municipal Clerk, RMC