

UNAPPROVED
BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE

MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL
Meeting Date: September 11, 2014

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of High Bridge came to order with Mayor Desire, at 7:30 PM on the above date. "Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of 2014 meeting dates were published in the Hunterdon County Democrat on January 9, 2014 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 and a moment of silence for 9/11 and those serving world wide.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Desire
Councilwoman Hughes
Councilwoman Miller
Councilman Rapp
Councilwoman Scarcia
Councilman Stemple

Councilman Flynn was excused.

Attorney Barry Goodman, Administrator John Gregory, Municipal Clerk Diane Seals, Deputy Clerk Adam Young, and fifteen members of the general public and news media were also present.

VISITORS: Librarian Terry Steets and Library Board Members. Mayor Desire read **Resolution #185-2014** recognizing the 100th Anniversary of the High Bridge Public Library. Councilwoman Hughes motioned to adopt Resolution #185-2014, copies of which are attached hereto and made a part hereof these minutes. Councilman Rapp seconded. Roll Call Vote: Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye; Stemple, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

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

Councilwoman Hughes motioned to dispense with the reading of the Regular and Executive Session Meeting Minutes for August 14, 2014. Councilman Rapp seconded. Roll Call Vote: Hughes, 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 August 14, 2014. Councilwoman Hughes seconded. Roll Call Vote: Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye; Stemple, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Victoria Miller thanked Emergency Services in recognition to September 11th, 2001.

Brent Dugan commented that he is concerned about the New Jersey Hunting Laws and Wildlife Management laws differing greatly as it pertains to thinning the herd. Administrator Gregory explained that the land is being used within state guidelines.

Laura Rocca was curious to know if they sold as many parking permits on MacDonald St. as there were spots available. Clerk Seals explained that the number of permits given out matches the number of spots available. Mayor Desire also responded by briefly explaining the plans for expanded parking and permitting.

Dr. Brenden Coughlin wanted to know why the contract for hunting was not advertised. Administrator Gregory assured Dr. Coughlin that it was advertised and produced a copy of the printed article from the paper. Dr. Coughlin asked about the details of the contract including bid cost, number of members in the club, how much the club was charging per member, etc. Administrator Gregory answered that the details were in the Resolution, that the number of members and charges to club members is irrelevant to the Borough, and that this contract brings in management to the site. Dr. Coughlin noted a correction to the request for proposal for the Solitude House on page 17. Administrator Gregory assured him that the fix had already been made to the document.

Christina Whited asked if the parking permits were good for parking in any lot. Clerk Seals responded that the permits have always been lot specific. Ms. Whited also has concerns that Ordinance 2014-16, as it pertains to signage, is not written from the mercantile point of view or with mercantile experience. Mayor Desire assured Ms. Whited that the Ordinance was not being decided tonight and that she can also speak at the Planning Board meeting.

Adrienne Shipps wanted to know when the bright blue sign on the Huskies Field snack shack was authorized due to the level of brightness at night. Mayor Desire responded that the appropriate parties representing The Huskies have been notified and that the sign will only be on during the games. Mrs. Shipps offered to distribute the Ordinance 2014-16 to the business owners on Main Street. The Mayor and Administrator confirmed that the document is available online for distribution.

Mike Gronsky asked a question about Resolution 187-2014; if the soil testing revealed structural problems or environmental problems? Administrator Gregory replied that it revealed structural problems. Mr. Gronsky then asked if the site would require deeper footings or pilings. Administrator Gregory replied that micro-pilings were being looked at for use. Mr. Gronsky then asked if there would be an evaluation of the costs involved with the project. Administrator Gregory responded that it depends on what comes in on the bid documents.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT: Reports will be on September 25, 2014

PUBLIC HEARINGS: 2ND Reading.

ORDINANCE #2014-16

AMENDING CHAPTER 145 OF THE CODE OF BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, THE LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE

Mayor Desire asked for a motion to table the Public Hearing for Ordinance #2014-16.

Councilman Rapp motioned to table the Ordinance. Councilwoman Hughes seconded. Roll Call Vote: Hughes, 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.

1. RESOLUTION #186-2014: Amend Salaries for 2014.
2. RESOLUTION #187-2014: Reject Bids for New Borough Hall and Re-bid Project.
3. RESOLUTION #188-2014: Approve Wildlife Management Contract to "Woods and Waters Sportsmen Club".

for Springside and Nassau properties.

4. RESOLUTION #189-2014: Approval of 50/50 Raffle for Fire Dept. on October 11, 2014 at 7 Maryland Ave. High Bridge at 4:00PM.
5. RESOLUTION #190-2014: Approval of \$20.00 Refund for a withdrawn Raffle Application for the Fire Dept.
6. RESOLUTION #191-2014: Authorize Advertising for DPW Part time Laborers.
7. RESOLUTION #192-2014: Authorize Redemption of Tax Lien.
8. RESOLUTION #193-2014: Authorize Refund of Overpayment of Plumbing Fees.
9. RESOLUTION #194-2014: Authorize Refund of Overpayment of Taxes.
10. RESOLUTION #195-2014: Authorize Refund of Escrow Monies.
11. RESOLUTION #196-2014: Amend Professional Service Contract with Hatch Mott MacDonald.
12. RESOLUTION #197-2014: Approve Application for Social Affair Permit for the Califon Fire Co. to be held at the High Bridge Hills Golf Course on October 3, 2014 from 8:00AM to 4:00PM.

Councilman Rapp motioned to adopt Resolutions #186 thru #197, copies of which are attached hereto and made a part hereof these minutes. Councilwoman Miller seconded. Roll Call Vote: Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye; Stemple, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Notice from Comcast regarding Channel Changes.
2. Resolution from Township of Readington "Strongly Encouraging COAH to Keep the Non-Residential Development Fee Standard at 2.5 Percent".
3. Notice from JCP&L Company regarding Filing and Public Hearings for Basic Generation Service Charges Procured by JCP&L Co. on behalf of its Basic Generation Service Customers and Notice of Proposed Recovery through its Basic Generation Service Charges of Costs Resulting from Statewide Auction for Basic Generation Service.
4. NJTransit Public Hearing Notice regarding programs developed pursuant to the Senior Citizens and Disabled Resident Transportation Assistance Act.
5. Utilities Report for Month of August, 2014.
6. Notice from Comcast regarding Channel Changes.
7. Notice from the NJDEP of award of \$440,187.59 from the "Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Fund" for the Solitude Dam.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None at this time.

NEW ORDINANCES: None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS: None at this time.

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 at the public microphone.

Nick Marcarian asked if there is a website with the hunting Ordinance posted. Administrator Gregory said that there is in the Code Book on www.highbridge.org. Mr. Marcarian thanked the Borough for recognizing wildlife management. He asked the council to consider opening up more space for hunting, changing the fee structure, and the implications of taking away access for people walking or cycling through the land. Mr. Marcarian suggested changing the wording on the posted signs for the properties involved with the wildlife managed areas. Administrator Gregory offered explanations of why the signs state what they do. Mr. Marcarian had concerns about the ease of using the Borough website to find the location of this meeting. Council confirmed that it should be listed on the site.

LEGAL ISSUES: Mr. Goodman recommended that the executive session include trademark issues pertaining to The Solitude House.

Mayor Desire asked for a motion to amend the agenda to include legal advice on Memorandum of Agreement regarding the town of Clinton Sewer issue, the PBA Contract, and The Solitude House trademark issues. Councilman Rapp made the motion. Councilman Stemple seconded. Roll Call Vote: Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye; Stemple, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

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 **\$788,780.42** a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof these minutes. Councilwoman Hughes seconded. Roll Call Vote: Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye; Stemple, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: RESOLUTION #198-2014: Legal advice on Memorandum of Agreement regarding town of Clinton Sewer issue, PBA Contract, and The Solitude House trademark issues.

Councilman Rapp motioned to adopt a resolution allowing for Executive Session as amended, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof these minutes. Councilman Stemple seconded. Roll Call Vote: Hughes, aye; Miller, aye; Rapp, aye; Scarcia, aye; Stemple, aye. Motion Carried: 5 ayes.

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

ADJOURNMENT: 8:35 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Young, Deputy Clerk