

# MEETING MINUTES OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF HIGH BRIDGE BOROUGH

**MEETING DATE**            June 11, 2015                    **MEETING TIME**            7:30PM  
**MEETING PLACE**        High Bridge Firehouse        7 Maryland Ave.

**Actual meeting may contain discussion of items not mentioned on the agenda and alternatively any items specifically listed may be omitted.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor calls meeting to order and makes the following statement: “Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of 2015 Meeting Dates was published in the Hunterdon County Democrat on January 1, 2015, Noticed in the Express Times on January 15, 2015, and posted on the bulletin board at Borough Hall. Action may be taken.”

**2. FLAG SALUTE:** Led by Mayor Desire.

**3. ROLL CALL:**

<b>Roll Call Vote</b>										P=Present A=Absent			
<b>Hughes</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Scarcia</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Shipps</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Stemple</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Strange</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Zappa</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Mayor Desire</b>	<b>P</b>

Also present were Administrator John Gregory and Deputy Clerk Adam Young.

**4. READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**MOTION TO DISPENSE WITH THE READING OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES FOR:**

April 23, 2015 & May 14, 2015

Motion to Approve:				Hughes				Second:				Strange			
Roll Call Vote								Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent							
Hughes	Y	Scarcia	Y	Shipps	Y	Stemple	Y	Strange	Y	Zappa	Y				

**MOTION TO APPROVE PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:**

Regular meeting minutes of April 23, 2015 & May 14, 2015

Motion to Amend/Approve:				Hughes				Second:				Strange			
Roll Call Vote								Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent							
Hughes	Y	Scarcia	Y	Shipps	Y	Stemple	Y	Strange	Y	Zappa	Y				

**5. VISITORS:**

A. Ten members of the public were present including press.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS: 5 MINUTE COMMENTS HAVE BEEN MOVED TO ITEM 14**

In an effort to keep items on topic the policy of Borough Council is that all public comments on an issue shall be limited to one minute (1) per person. Comments may be made only on subjects pertaining to current Borough agenda. No debating between residents. Comments should be addressed to Mayor and Council at the public microphone.

John Johnson presented petitions for the takeover of Solitude Water Tower from Solitude residents. He inquired about a final contract for the complete turnover of the water and sewer at Solitude Village. A discussion ensued between John Johnson and Council. Councilman Zappa gave an update on F.E.M.A. generator paperwork. The paperwork had not been sent to F.E.M.A. at this time, but it will be sent to F.E.M.A. Friday, June 12, 2015. John Johnson would like the Borough of High Bridge to purchase the generator once the ninety day mark has passed. Administrator John Gregory and Council explained that if the Borough purchased the generator prior to receiving the grant that this would negate the ability to get the entire grant from F.E.M.A. Council also discussed other sources and a possible backup generator for use in Solitude. Councilman Zappa also requested maintenance records from Solitude. A discussion with Council ensued.

Dr. Brendan Coughlin stated that at the last meeting he gave Council the minutes of the Solitude Village trustees. He claimed that there have been several power outages in Solitude Village, for a duration of three days and up to four times this week. Council was not aware of outages. He asked if the power was reset and Council responded that this was the case. He then congratulated the primary election winners and then critiqued the Borough's handling of the Hoffman road sewer fix. Administrator Gregory explained that the Borough has ordinances in place to deal with such issues. Council also explained the effects on public health and safety that this particular sewage issue would have caused. Dr. Coughlin also recognized Administrator Gregory for being proactive regarding violations on 1 Greenwich. He then asked if Mr. Gregory had contacted the condominium association in this matter. Mr. Gregory responded that he only contacted the homeowner.

**7. 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.

<b><u>RESOLUTION #122-2015</u></b>	<b>Approve the Arbors amended MOU and COAH Funds</b>																
<b><u>RESOLUTION #123-2015</u></b>	<b>Lien Redemption</b>																
<b><u>RESOLUTION #124-2015:</u></b>	<b>Field Use Authorization for Fire Department</b>																
<b><u>RESOLUTION #125-2015:</u></b>	<b>Amendment Professional Service Contract-Maser</b>																
<b><u>RESOLUTION #126-2015</u></b>	<b>Highlands Feasibility Grant</b>																
<b><u>RESOLUTION #127-2015</u></b>	<b>Award of Contract Mine Rd Reclamation</b>																
Motion to Approve Resolutions 122-127:	Strange	Second:						Zappa									
Roll Call Vote						Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent											
Hughes	Y	Scarcia	Y	Shipps	Y	Stemple	Y/A	Strange	Y	Zappa	Y						

Councilman Stemple abstained from Resolution #124-2015.

**8. COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT:**

Reports on June 25, 2015

Councilman Zappa	<b><u>PLANNING &amp; ENGINEERING</u></b>
Councilwoman Hughes	<b><u>PUBLIC HEALTH, ENVIRONMENTAL, SOLID WASTE / RECYCLING, OPEN SPACE, &amp; CULTURAL &amp; HERITAGE</u></b>
Councilwoman Scarcia	<b><u>INFORMATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, EVENTS</u></b>
Councilman Strange	<b><u>EMERGENCY SERVICES, EDUCATION &amp; MUNICIPAL COURT-</u></b>
Councilwoman Shipps	<b><u>DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS &amp; RECREATION</u></b>
Councilman Stemple	<b><u>FINANCE &amp; GOLF</u></b>
John Gregory	<b><u>ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:</u></b>
Mayor Mark Desire	<b><u>EXECUTIVE SERVICES</u></b>

**9. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:**

- A.** County Notice of Violation to 100 West Main St.
- B.** County Notice of Violation to 81 West Main St.
- C.** Women's Group Letter
- D.** NJDEP Notice of Possible Spill
- E.** Zoning Violation Notices

**10. NEW BUSINESS:** None at this time.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None at this time.

12. NEW ORDINANCES – Introduction

A. Mayor Desire asks for a motion to Introduce Ordinance #2015-23

**Ordinance 2015-23**

**Amend Ordinance 2014-15 sub-section 6 (k) to be consistent with Highlands Regulation**

<b>Motion to Introduce:</b>	Hughes				<b>Second:</b>				Strange			
<b>Roll Call Vote</b>								Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent				
<b>Hughes</b>	Y	<b>Scarcia</b>	Y	<b>Shipp</b>	Y	<b>Stemple</b>	Y	<b>Strange</b>	Y	<b>Zappa</b>	Y	

Mayor Desire states that Ordinance #2015-23 shall be published in summary in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat along with the Public Hearing date of June 25, 2015.

B. Mayor Desire asks for a motion to Introduce Ordinance #2015-24

**Ordinance 2015-24**

**SETTING FORTH THE SALARY AND WAGE RANGE OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES**

<b>Motion to Introduce:</b>	Hughes				<b>Second:</b>				Strange			
<b>Roll Call Vote</b>								Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent				
<b>Hughes</b>	Y	<b>Scarcia</b>	Y	<b>Shipp</b>	Y	<b>Stemple</b>	Y	<b>Strange</b>	Y	<b>Zappa</b>	Y	

Mayor Desire states that Ordinance #2015-24 shall be published in summary in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat along with the Public Hearing date of June 25, 2015

C. Mayor Desire asks for a motion to Introduce Ordinance #2015-25

**Ordinance 2015-25**

**Vacate Borough Code Chapter 303 Sewers Article II subsection 303-39 Fees and Charges**

<b>Motion to Introduce:</b>	Hughes				<b>Second:</b>				Shipp			
<b>Roll Call Vote</b>								Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent				
<b>Hughes</b>	Y	<b>Scarcia</b>	Y	<b>Shipp</b>	Y	<b>Stemple</b>	Y	<b>Strange</b>	Y	<b>Zappa</b>	Y	

Mayor Desire states that Ordinance #2015-25 shall be published in summary in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat along with the Public Hearing date of June 25, 2015

D. Mayor Desire asks for a motion to Introduce Ordinance #2015-26

**Ordinance 2015-26**

**Amend Ordinance 2005-36 Section A.1.d, 1 & 2. and 701 A. 3. c. 1 & 2 Development Fee**

<b>Motion to Introduce:</b>	Stemple				<b>Second:</b>				Strange			
<b>Roll Call Vote</b>								Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent				
<b>Hughes</b>	Y	<b>Scarcia</b>	Y	<b>Shipp</b>	Y	<b>Stemple</b>	Y	<b>Strange</b>	Y	<b>Zappa</b>	Y	

Mayor Desire states that Ordinance #2015-26 shall be published in summary in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat along with the Public Hearing date of June 25, 2015

**13. PUBLIC HEARING: 2<sup>ND</sup> READINGS.**

A. None at this time.

**13. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**A.** Burchell - Shared Services Agreement  
Councilman Zappa gave an overview of this discussion item.

**B.** Councilwoman Hughes explained that an O.E.M. drill that will take place on June 23, 2015. This is a practice exercise for the Borough of High Bridge. Local businesses will also be informed, as well as it will be posted on the website.

**14. PUBLIC COMMENTS: 5 MINUTES PER PERSON.**

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 section of the agenda. No debating between residents. Comments should be addressed to Mayor and Council at the public microphone.

Dr. Brendan Coughlin commented on the cross training occurring in Borough Hall, and he questioned the actions of leadership in Borough Hall and critiqued that there is not being enough done to get work completed and caught up on in Borough Hall. Administrator Gregory replied that Borough Hall has been short man hours for some time. Councilwoman Scarcia responded to Dr. Coughlin’s criticism by informing him that Council members have been working together with Borough employees to take on certain tasks such as updating the website.

**15. LEGAL ISSUES:** None at this time.

**16. BILL LIST:**

Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List.

**Total Amount: \$300,404.37**

Motion to Approve:				Hughes				Second:				Strange			
Roll Call Vote								Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent							
Hughes	Y	Scarcia	Y	Shipp	Y/A	Stemple	Y/A	Strange	Y	Zappa	Y				

Councilwoman Shipp approves bill list with abstentions from police related items.

Councilman Stemple approves bill list with abstention from Fire Department related items.

**17. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None at this time.

**18. ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Desire or presiding officer asks if there is any further business. If none,

Motion to Adjourn:				Stemple				Second:				Shipp			
Roll Call Vote								Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent							
Hughes	Y	Scarcia	Y	Shipp	Y	Stemple	Y	Strange	Y	Zappa	Y				

**Next Council Meeting, June 25, 2015 REGULAR MEETING, 7:30PM, Fire House, 7 Maryland Ave., High Bridge, NJ.**

**Adjournment:**

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Respectfully Submitted,

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Deputy Clerk Adam Young

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