

MEETING MINUTES OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF HIGH BRIDGE BOROUGH

MEETING DATE **August 13, 2015** **MEETING TIME** **7:30PM to 9:31PM**
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 or Presiding Officer.
 Mayor Desire asks for a moment of silence for Laura Cregar.

3. ROLL CALL:

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

Administrator Gregory, Deputy Clerk Young, and eight members of the public were present.

Administrator Gregory asks the Mayor to amend the agenda:

Motion to amend agenda to add Resolution 172-2015, supporting the County Chiefs of Police Resolution, to amend Resolution 163-2015 David Gilliam, remove Resolution 161-2015, and remove Ordinance 2015-31 and place it for discussion without first reading.

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

4 ayes, motion passes

4. READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: - None at this time.

5. VISITORS:

A. Jay Palmer, High Bridge Hills – Gave an updated on the 17th hole project at the golf course which will help to eliminate balls from leaving the course by moving tee box and repairing net. Discussion with Council ensues pertaining to nets, cost, and timelines. Pablo Delgado asked questions about moving the box and the golf net. Councilman Stemple explains the situation and explained the method of putting in a claim in the event of damage.

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

Robert Bavricki asked if Section 5 of Cregar Road will be paved this year and when? Administrator Gregory stated that if the bids come in where they need to be, then the contract will be awarded. Council discussed the timing of having this done with the intent of decreasing disruption to schools. Mr. Bavricki asked about getting engine brake signs. Mr. Gregory stated that an ordinance is on the agenda tonight for that issue and

that the Borough will be required to have signs. Mr. Bavricki stated his discontent with the engine braking noise. Council discussed reasons and solutions for this.

Dr. Brenden Coughlin handed a tax rates sheet to Council members and explained the information about taxes per cost of homes. He explained his understanding and concern of the “pilot”, breakouts, and would like further explanation of the “pilot” numbers. Mayor Desire explained how rehabilitation of the building increases the tax base. Councilman Stemple notes that the tax abatement is only on the value of the improvements and that this is a way to help the business in the town to develop Main St. Discussion between Council and Dr. Coughlin ensued.

Michele Schwartz asked if the “pilot” is available for improvements on small businesses. Mr. Gregory explained the details of getting access to “pilots”. Mrs. Schwartz asked to makes the judgement assessing the value. Mr. Gregory answered that it is the Tax Assessor.

Pablo Delgado asked how a “pilot” agreement works. Mr. Gregory explained the general details. Discussion ensued for the explanation. Mr. Delgado asked about the roads Phase 5 and Phase 6 of the road project will cover. Discussion with Council ensued. Mr. Lagato asked if the golf course is generation revenue. Councilman Stemple answered that it is but not enough to pay off the bond.

Christina Whited asked about the time span on the \$25,000.00 “pilot” expenditure. Administrator Gregory answered that it must be a one-time, total cost. Christina asked about the 200 foot list and Administrator Gregory explained the methods of completing this list. Christina gave an overview of the gnome village success.

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.

<u>RESOLUTION #153-2015</u>	Authorizing Shared Service with Hunterdon County										
<u>RESOLUTION #154-2015</u>	Approve Land Use application and fees										
<u>RESOLUTION #155-2015:</u>	Ch 159:Click it or Ticket Grant										
<u>RESOLUTION #156-2015:</u>	Water Utility Connection Refund-159 West Main St										
<u>RESOLUTION #157-2015</u>	Award of Contract-Firehouse Roof										
<u>RESOLUTION #158-2015</u>	Amend Professional Service Agreement-Maser Consulting										
<u>RESOLUTION #159-2015</u>	Refund Overpayment of Taxes – B2 L19										
<u>RESOLUTION #160-2015</u>	Adjustment to Taxes in Lieu of Improvements										
<u>RESOLUTION #162-2015</u>	Ch 159:Plan Conformance Grant-Stormwater Mgmt Plan										
<u>RESOLUTION #164-2015</u>	Approval of Water and Sewer Hook up for Block 37 Lot 16 Elm St										
<u>RESOLUTION #165-2015</u>	Approval of Police Department Fee Schedule										
<u>RESOLUTION #166-2015</u>	Dedication by Rider Donations for Cultural and Heritage										
<u>RESOLUTION #167-2015</u>	Emergency Budget Appropriate for the Water Utility.										
<u>RESOLUTION #168-2015</u>	RFP-for Excavation Services, Auditor, Borough Engineer										
<u>RESOLUTION #170-2015</u>	Approval of Firemen										
<u>RESOLUTION #171-2015</u>	Authorize Wine Tasting and Special Affairs Permit for Paint-out Rain Date										
<u>RESOLUTION #172-2015</u> <u>Added to agenda</u>	Supporting County Chiefs Of Police re: County Jail.										
Motion to Approve Resolutions 153-160, 162, 164-168, and 170-172	Hughes	Second:									
Roll Call Vote	Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent										
Hughes	Y	Scarcia	At	Shippo	Y	Stemple	Y	Strange	At	Zappa	Y

Resolution 163-2015: Accept resignation of David Gilliam and appoint Mike Steinwand from part-time to full-time. Discussion: Councilwoman Shipps explained the resignation of David Gilliam and that David is agreeable to staying on part time to finish out the season for the Borough to continue to have a pesticide and fertilizer licensed individual. Discussion ensued on future plans to cover these licenses.

Motion to amend Resolution 163-2015 to include rate update:	Shipps	Second:	Zappa
Roll Call Vote			Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent
Hughes	Y	Scarcia	At
Shipps	Y	Stemple	Y
Strange	At	Zappa	Y

4 ayes, motion passes;

Motion to approve Resolution 163-2015 as amended:	Shipps	Second:	Zappa
Roll Call Vote			Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent
Hughes	Y	Scarcia	At
Shipps	Y	Stemple	Y
Strange	At	Zappa	Y

4 ayes, motion passes;

Resolution 169-2015: Authorize McDonald St. Parking Lot Mural

Discussion: Councilwoman Hughes explained the details of the mural panels planned for project. Council noted they are very pleased with the plan.

Motion to approve Resolution 169-2015:	Zappa	Second:	Shipps
Roll Call Vote			Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent
Hughes	Y	Scarcia	At
Shipps	Y	Stemple	Y
Strange	At	Zappa	Y

4 ayes, motion passes

8. COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT:

MID-YEAR Update to be given by the Mayor and Councilman Zappa. All others are monthly reports

Councilman Zappa	<u>PLANNING & ENGINEERING</u>
Updates on Cregar Road project, street scape updates, new Borough Hall building updates, explanation of classification of roads, update on Solitude Village water tower grant information	
Councilwoman Hughes	<u>PUBLIC HEALTH, ENVIRONMENTAL, SOLID WASTE / RECYCLING, OPEN SPACE, & CULTURAL & HERITAGE</u>
Councilwoman Scarcia	<u>INFORMATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, EVENTS</u>
Councilman Strange	<u>EMERGENCY SERVICES, EDUCATION & MUNICIPAL COURT-</u>
Councilwoman Shipps	<u>DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & RECREATION</u>
Summer Recreation update that funding plan worked very well	
Councilman Stemple	<u>FINANCE & GOLF</u>
John Gregory	<u>ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:</u>
Administrator gave an update on the Comcast Negotiations, wifi hotspots, Dog Census, Landlord and Vacant Registrations, Board Applications	
Mayor Mark Desire	<u>EXECUTIVE SERVICES</u>
Shared services success related to school board meeting, grant application in for safe routes to school, 100 West Main St. notified and signs put up but waiting for further information, World Trade Center piece picked up	

9. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Month End Tax/Finance Reports

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

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

12. **NEW ORDINANCES:**

A. Amend Land Use Ordinance 405 adding subsection 12

Mayor Desire asks for a motion to introduce Ordinance #2015-29

**ORDINANCE 2015-29
BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

Amend Ordinance 2014-16 Section 405. Regulations for DB, Downtown Business

<u>Motion to introduce</u> 2015-29:				<u>Shipps</u>				<u>Second:</u>				<u>Zappa</u>			
Roll Call Vote								Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent							
Hughes	Y	Scarcia	At	Shipps	Y	Stemple	Y	Strange	At	Zappa	Y				

Mayor Desire states that Ordinance #2015-29 shall be published in summary in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat along with the Public Hearing date of September 24, 2015.

B. Amend Ordinance 244-7 and 244-9 Noise

Mayor Desire asks for a motion to introduce Ordinance #2015-30

**ORDINANCE 2015-30
BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

Amend Chapter 244-7 Section 1 (B) Subsection (2) (c) and 244-9 Section A Enforcement, Violations etc.

<u>Motion to introduce</u> 2015-30:				<u>Shipps</u>				<u>Second:</u>				<u>Zappa</u>			
Roll Call Vote								Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent							
Hughes	Y	Scarcia	At	Shipps	Y	Stemple	Y	Strange	At	Zappa	Y				

Mayor Desire states that Ordinance #2015-30 shall be published in summary in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat along with the Public Hearing date of September 10, 2015.

13. **PUBLIC HEARING: 2ND READINGS.** None

14. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:** Added

A. ORDINANCE 2015-31 Amend Chapter 74 Police Department adding Section 74-5 Special Police Officers. Chief Bartman discussed the details and purpose of using a special officer and answered questions from Council and the public pertaining to cost, shift coverage, and expected duties.

15. **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. No debating between residents. Comments should be addressed to Mayor and Council at the public microphone.

Sally Ward noted a crack on Wilson Road. Administrator Gregory noted that it is on the list for repair. Sally reminded everyone that the last concert event is on Saturday.

Robert Bavricki suggested Main Street alternate side parking. Council commented that the merchants are against that measure. Mr. Bavricki suggested lines be painted on West Main and Council agreed.

16. LEGAL ISSUES: None at this time.

17. BILL LIST:

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

Total Amount: \$ 1,275,650.57

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

Councilwoman Shipps abstains from anything Police related.

Councilman Stemple abstains from anything Fire Department related.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION: None at this time.

19. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Desire or presiding officer asks if there is any further business. Mention of a Possible August 27 meeting depending on the bids for Cregar Rd. Notice will be “Sunshined” at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting in accordance with the law.

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

Next Council Meeting, September 10, 2015 REGULAR MEETING, 7:30PM, Fire House, 7 Maryland Ave., High Bridge, NJ.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS: (space for members of council and clerk to take notes on each item)