

# MEETING MINUTES OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF HIGH BRIDGE BOROUGH

**MEETING DATE**      **October 22, 2015**      **REGULAR COUNCIL**      **7:30 PM to 8:38 PM**  
**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:**

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

Two members of the public were present including press. Also present were Attorney Barry Goodman, 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:**

Regular Meeting Minutes of: August 13, 2015; August 27, 2015; September 10, 2015; October 8, 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	AT	Strange	Y	Zappa	Y		

**MOTION TO APPROVE PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:**

Regular Meeting Minutes of: August 13, 2015; August 27, 2015; September 10, 2015; October 8, 2015

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

**5. VISITORS:** None.

**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.

Sally Ward thanked Deputy Clerk Young for separating the website agenda from the supporting documents.

**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.

RESOLUTION #	TITLE	PURPOSE
204-2015	Accept FEMA Grant	Grant for Generators at various wells
205-2015	Extension of Contracts	Renewal of current contracts as authorized by LPCL
Motion to Approve Resolutions 204 – 205:		Scarcia
Roll Call Vote		Second: Strange
		Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent
Hughes	Y	Scarcia Y Shippo Y/A Stemple At Strange Y Zappa Y

Councilwoman Shippo approves the consent agenda with abstention from resolution 205-2015 as it pertains to police related items.

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

<u>Governing Body Member or Appointed Official</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>
Councilman Zappa	Planning & Engineering
Borough Hall minor plan updates, DOT update on street scapes	
Councilwoman Hughes	Public Health, Environmental, Solid Waste / Recycling, Open Space, & Cultural & Heritage
Thanked Key club for rabies clinic help, Mural painting in progress, Garbage stickers and how to place them on bags, Solitude House production, Cultural and Heritage with Veteran’s Day event,	
Councilwoman Scarcia	Information, Economic Development, Events
Oct. 30 <sup>th</sup> pumpkin carving and Halloween parade, Trick or Treating from 5pm to 8pm	
Councilman Strange	Emergency Services, Education & Municipal Court-
42 alarms for the Fire Department between August and September, 188 calls, Police Department minor vehicle issues resolved, Operation Take-back done to properly dispose of old medications, P.D. attended a webinar for body-worn cameras. P.D. budget submitted, P.D. working with Administrator on the municipal court fine schedule	
Councilwoman Shippo	Department Of Public Works & Recreation
Recreation; Bonnie is working on billing for field use, Cult and Heritage Civil War talk, winterizing Solitude House, update info on road referendum, call the P.D. if vandalism is found to any Borough property, replacing DPW truck, meter reader repair update,	
Councilman Stemple	Finance & Golf
John Gregory	Administrator’s Report:
FEMA mitigation grant signed, RFP on the street for professionals, 3 year dog licenses, safety meeting with the Jif, most claims are weather related, sign up for email alerts, oil tank removed in Springside, archiving of destructible documents	
Mayor Mark Desire	Executive Services
FEMA grant signed, Huskies board projects update, Watershed/rail/Comcast commercial and the Mayor would like to attend, attended “Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying” seminar, a group of contractors to assist EDC and other committees, referendum feedback	

**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 – Introduction of Ordinances**

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

- A.** Mayor Desire asks for a motion to ReOpen Public Hearing on Ordinance #2015-30 Reopen, Councilman Zappa to amend and introduce the amendment proposed at the October 8, 2015 Council meeting.

Purpose	<u>Amend Noise ordinance making it less restrictive but easier to enforce regarding engine braking</u>											
Motion to continue hearing at the November 12, 2015 meeting:	Zappa				Second:				Strange			
<b>Roll Call Vote</b>						Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent						
Hughes	Y	Scarcia	Y	Shipp	Y	Stemple	At	Strange	Y	Zappa	Y	

Questions and Comments: **Public Hearing will continue on November 12, 2015**

- B.** Mayor Desire asks for a motion open public hearing on Ordinance #2015-31

Purpose	<u>Provide increased overnight parking opportunities without permit but require removal of cars during snow events.</u>											
Motion to open:	Strange				Second:				Zappa			
<b>Roll Call Vote</b>						Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent						
Hughes	Y	Scarcia	Y	Shipp	Y	Stemple	At	Strange	Y	Zappa	Y	

Questions and Comments: Council believes it is great as long as people cooperate.

Sally Ward asked if this was just for Main Street or the whole Borough. Administrator Gregory confirmed that it is for the whole Borough. Discussion ensued about how signage will be implemented and the cost involved.

Mayor Desire asks for a motion to close the Public Hearing on Ordinance # 2015-31

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

Mayor Desire asks for a motion to adopt Ordinance# 2015-31.

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

Mayor Desire states that Ordinance # 2015-31 is adopted shall be published by title only in the Hunterdon County Democrat and/or Express Times according to law.

- C.** Mayor Desire asks for a motion Open Public Hearing on Ordinance #2015-32

Purpose	<u>Renew Cable Franchise Agreement for 15 years for the Borough of High Bridge</u>											
Motion to Open:	Scarcia				Second:				Shipp			
<b>Roll Call Vote</b>						Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent						
Hughes	Y	Scarcia	Y	Shipp	Y	Stemple	At	Strange	Y	Zappa	Y	

Questions and Comments: None at this time.

Mayor Desire asks for a motion to close the Public Hearing on Ordinance # 2015-32

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

Mayor Desire asks for a motion to adopt Ordinance# 2015-32.

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

Mayor Desire states that Ordinance # 2015-32 is adopted shall be published by title only in the Hunterdon County Democrat and/or Express Times according to law.

**D.** Mayor Desire asks for a motion Open Public Hearing on Ordinance #2015-33

<b>Purpose</b>		<i><u>Purchase truck for Water Utility Work and Maintenance due to catastrophic engine failure</u></i>										
<b>Motion to Open:</b>		Strange				<b>Second:</b>			Zappa			
<b>Roll Call Vote</b>						Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent						
Hughes	Y	Scarcia	Y	Shipps	Y	Stemple	At	Strange	Y	Zappa	Y	

Questions and Comments: Councilman Zappa gives an overview of the truck issues. Administrator Gregory explains the mechanical issues as well. Council discussed the truck status, year, mileage, and operational procedures, and replacement options. Dennis Ferrerra asked about the cost of plows for the Borough and discussion ensued.

Mayor Desire asks for a motion to close the Public Hearing on Ordinance # 2015-33

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

Mayor Desire asks for a motion to adopt Ordinance# 2015-33.

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

Mayor Desire states that Ordinance# 2015-33 is adopted shall be published by title only in the Hunterdon County Democrat and/or Express Times according to law.

**14. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- A.** Resolution# 196-2015 Authorization to sign Solitude Village Water Takeover Agreement  
Mr. Gregory had a meeting with the Access Management company.

**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.

Mr. Zappa, speaking as a resident, stated that the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts collected 3,000 pounds of food for the food pantry.

**16. LEGAL ISSUES: None**

**17. BILL LIST:**

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

**Total Amount: \$2,286,764.20**

Questions and Comments: Councilwoman Scarcia commented that item 2103, field maintenance for mowing by Brian Shipp, needs a tax I.D. for the check to be released

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

Councilwoman Shipp approves bill list with abstention from police and bill list item 2103 related items.

**18. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**Motion to amend the agenda for executive session item “COAH Attorney Client” to “COAH legal advice”**

Motion: Hughes; Second: Strange

Vote: Hughes, yes; Scarcia, yes; Shipp, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes;

5 ayes, 1 absent; motion passes

**RESOLUTION # 204E-2015: Litigation Solitude Village, COAH legal advice**

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

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

**19. ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Desire or presiding officer asks if there is any further business.

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

**Next Council Meeting, November 12 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)

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Adjournment:

Respectfully submitted,

John Gregory, Acting Clerk

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