

MEETING MINUTES OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF HIGH BRIDGE BOROUGH

MEETING DATE **March 26, 2015** **MEETING TIME** **5:00 P.M.**
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 the amended March 26, 2015 Meeting Dates was Noticed to the Hunterdon County Democrat and the Express Times on March 17, 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 A=Absent					
Hughes	P	Scarcia	P	Shipps	P	Stemple	p	Strange	P	Zappa	P	Mayor Desire	P

4. VISITORS: Eight members of the public were present including press. Also present were Attorney Barry Goodman, Deputy Clerk Young and Chief Bartman.

5. 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.

Ken Ryan expressed concerns regarding the water tower and pump at Solitude village. Mayor Desire updated him on the progress the Borough is making in this matter. Mayor Desire and Councilman Zappa also discussed a F.E.M.A. grant and how it will be used to acquire a generator for Solitude Village.

Dr. Brendan Coughlin asked a question regarding if the generator will be made permanent. A discussion between Council and Dr. Coughlin ensued.

John Johnson asked Council to take over the water system at Solitude Village now and not wait for F.E.M.A.. Councilman Zappa responded that he would call in for an update about F.E.M.A.. A discussion about the specifics of the Solitude water take over ensued.

Cathy Kuna asked how much for the generator. Councilman Zappa responded \$56,000.

6. 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.

Questions and comments: Councilman Stemple asked a question regarding the times for the Soap Box Derby and the Solitude house Theater project. Discussion with Council regarding times ensued.

RESOLUTION #85-2015	Approve North Hunterdon Youth Baseball Parade up Arch St. on April 11
RESOLUTION #86-2015	Approve Fire Department Raffles
RESOLUTION #87-2015:	Approve Fire Department Special Affairs permit
RESOLUTION #88-2015:	Hunterdon County Interlocal Agreement Public Health
RESOLUTION #89-2015	Approve new hire Barbara Kinsky
RESOLUTION #90-2015	Approval of Soap Box Derby
RESOLUTION #91-2015	Reject Bids Borough Hall
RESOLUTION #92-2015	Approval of Solitude House Theater Project and Fund Raiser
RESOLUTION #93-2015	Lien Redemption

Motion to Adopt Resolutions 85, 87-91 and 93:					Hughes	Second:			Stemple		
Roll Call Vote						Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent					
Hughes	Y	Scarcia	Y	Shipp	Y	Stemple	Y/A	Strange	Y	Zappa	Y

Councilman Stemple abstained from Resolutions #86 and #87 as they pertain to the fire department.

Motion to amend Resolutions to correct titles on Resolutions 86 and 92 as shown in Agenda.					Hughes	Second:			Strange		
Roll Call Vote						Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent					
Hughes	Y	Scarcia	Y	Shipp	Y	Stemple	Y	Strange	Y	Zappa	Y

7. COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT: Reports on March 26, 2015

Councilman Zappa	<u>PLANNING & ENGINEERING – Liaison to Planning Board/Board of Adjustment</u>
Councilwoman Hughes	<u>PUBLIC HEALTH, ENVIRONMENTAL, SOLID WASTE / RECYCLING, OPEN SPACE, & CULTURAL & HERITAGE – Solid Waste/Recycling Liaison to State & County</u>
Councilwoman Scarcia	<u>INFORMATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, EVENTS – Liaison to OEM, Municipal Court & Recreation</u>
Councilman Strange	<u>EMERGENCY SERVICES, EDUCATION & MUNICIPAL COURT- Liaison to Cultural & Heritage & Events</u>
Councilwoman Shipp	<u>DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & RECREATION</u>
VACANT	<u>FINANCE & GOLF</u>
John Gregory ABSENT	<u>ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT</u>
Mayor Mark Desire	<u>EXECUTIVE SERVICES</u>

8 WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

a. Tax and Finance Reports

9. Discussion Items:

Appointment of John Gregory as Acting Clerk.

Motion to Adopt Resolution 33-2015:					Stemple	Second:			Strange		
Roll Call Vote						Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; At=Absent					
Hughes	Y	Scarcia	Y	Shipp	Y	Stemple	Y	Strange	Y	Zappa	Y

10. 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. 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.

Alan Schwartz asked what the plans are for the future bid for Borough Hall, and if using the current Borough Hall is an option and if a cost analysis was done. Mayor Desire commented that they are looking at a new architect and considering a smaller building and no cost analysis has been done at this time. Mayor Desire and Council discussed reasons for not using current building and mentioned that we do have a grant to offset the construction of a new Borough Hall. Further Council discussion ensued regarding the future use of the current Borough Hall building.

John Johnson asked if Council considered using the new office on Main Street for the new Borough Hall. Councilman Zappa responded that it would be too small.

Alan Wilcox commented that he supports that the town take over the water system at Solitude Village right away. Mayor Desire and Council explained that we are waiting for F.E.M.A. funds for a generator because the law requires this. Council suggested that letters be written to Congressman Lance to help minimize wait time.

John Johnson asked a question regarding the budget that the generator would come from. Councilman Stemple responded it would come from the utility budget.

11. LEGAL ISSUES:

12. BILL LIST: Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List.

Total Amount: \$350,047.12

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

Councilwoman Shipps approves bill list with abstention from police related items.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION: None at this time.

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

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

Next Council Meeting- APRIL 9, 2015 REGULAR MEETING, 7:30PM, Fire House, 7 Maryland Ave., High Bridge, NJ.
