

# **BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE - COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Date: July 14, 2016, 7:30 p.m. - Location: High Bridge Firehouse, 7 Maryland Ave.

---

Please note: This meeting may contain discussion of items not mentioned on the agenda and, alternatively, any items specifically listed may be omitted.

## **CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor calls meeting to order and makes the following statement: "Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of 2016 Meeting Dates was published in the Hunterdon County Democrat and Express Times on December 24, 2015, and posted on the bulletin board at Borough Hall. Action may now be taken.

**FLAG SALUTE:** Led by Mayor or presiding officer

## **ROLL CALL:**

Councilman LoIacono, present; Councilwoman Adrienne Shipps, present; Councilman Michael Stemple, present; Councilman Stephen Strange, present; Councilman Chris Zappa, present; Council President Lynn Hughes, present, Mayor Mark Desire, present.

Five members of the public were present including press. Also present were Attorney Barry Goodman, Chief Bartman, Administrator Mike Pappas, and Acting Clerk Young.

**READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Regular and executive minutes – June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016

Mayor asks if any corrections necessary or for a motion to dispense with the reading of the prior meeting(s) minutes.

Motion to dispense with the reading of the June 9<sup>th</sup> minutes: Hughes; Second: Strange

Roll call vote: LoIacono, abstain: Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, abstain; Hughes, yes;

Four ayes, two abstentions, motion passes.

Motion to approve the June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 minutes: Hughes; Second: Shipps

Roll call vote: LoIacono, abstain: Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, abstain; Hughes, yes;

Four ayes, two abstentions, motion passes.

Motion to amend the agenda to include visitors Nancy Hunt and Pablo Delgado: Hughes; Second: Strange

Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes: Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes;

Six ayes, motion passes.

## **VISITORS:**

Nancy Hunt of 103 Fairview Ave spoke on behalf of the Cultural and Heritage Committee. Nancy presented information on documents generated for use in utilizing the solitude house for events, the criteria on which the documents were generated. Council discussed the possible need for having hot and cold running water, certified volunteers doing construction work for Borough projects.

Pablo Delgado spoke to creation of a new mountain bike trail between Cregar Road and the Commons/Main St. Discussion ensued about limitations with the New Jersey Water Authority, a revised plan for the trail, looking into wildlife management details in the area, bringing related business and riders to High Bridge with the planned expanded trail offerings, responsible trail use on past projects,

**PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS:** None

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS: 5 minutes per person**

Eric Desanto of 8 West Main is interested in bringing bike rentals, services, bike maintenance training, etc. to the town and coordinating with the EDC with these services. Discussion ensued about presentation needs, future plans for a structure, and a review meeting.

Michele Schwartz, 18 Thomas St. - Question on Resolution 171-2016. Michele asked about the 20% increase against the total of the contract? Discussion ensued about the use of the foundry dirt and asked about the burned foundation of the old Pe King Wok site.

Discussion ensued on the status of the owner's holdings and the Borough's plan for it.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**A.** Borough property letters of interest - Borough Property letters of interest. Administrator Pappas spoke about the property assessment values as merged lots, administration of the process, costs to process these sales, the possible bidding processes available.

**B.** Cregar Road truck traffic - Mayor Desire gave an update on the information found about possibilities of truck restrictions, speed of trucks on the road, the possible future of the road with increased truck traffic. Council will keep this item open for discussion at the next meeting.

**C.** Amend Ordinance 390-2 to include trailers and inoperable motor vehicles – Council discussed getting more information from the Chief of Police.

**D.** New Borough Trail Plan – Discussed in visitor section.

**E.** Sewer Hookup – 32 Silverthorne Rd. - Discussed the requested sewer capacity, the current calculation and the present actual sewer capacity available, the possibility of the resident having other options to install another septic system, the hook-up cost verses the cost of a replaced system. Council discussed and decided to table the issue to find more information to make a decision.

**F.** Solitude House & Grounds Application Reservation – Discussed in visitor section

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS / NEW ORDINANCES:**

**A. Ordinance 2016-23** – An Ordinance providing for a special emergency appropriation in the amount of \$7,000.00 by the Borough of High Bridge to fund revision and codification of Ordinances

Motion to introduce Ordinance 2016-23: Hughes; Second: LoIacono  
 Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes;  
 Six ayes, motion passes.

Mayor Desire states that Ordinance 2016-23 shall be published in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat along with the Public Hearing date of August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

**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>RESOLUTION #</b>	<b>TITLE</b>
Resolution 56-2016	Retroactive appointment, and completion of probation, Thomas Silvia, Zoning Officer
Resolution 171-2016	New Borough Hall change order exceeding 20%
Resolution 172-2016	Hazardous discharge acceptance
Resolution 173-2016	Summer recreation refund
Resolution 174-2016	Veteran deduction repayment
Resolution 175-2016	Non-profit organization refund of permit fee

Resolution 176-2016	2016 Salaries
Resolution 177-2016	Professional service contract award
Resolution 178-2016	41 Center St Recycling and Trash Agreement
Resolution 179-2016	Authorizing Saturday work on Cregar Rd improvements

Motion to remove Resolution 171-2016 and Resolution 173-2016 from the consent agenda: Strange;  
 Second: Shipps  
 Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes;  
 Six ayes, motion passes

Motion to approve the consent agenda items (add “as amended” if needed): Hughes Second: Strange  
 Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes;  
 Six ayes, motion passes.

Motion to approve Resolution 171-2016: Motion: Strange, Second: Zappa  
 Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, no; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes;  
 Five ayes, motion passes.

Motion to amend Resolution 173-2016 to \$60 instead of \$90 and approve: Shipps; Second Strange  
 Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes;  
 Six ayes, motion passes.

**COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT:**

Mayor, member, or official	Department
Councilman Zappa	Planning , Engineering, & Public Works
New Borough Hall finishing up, gas hookup, Cregar Road proceeding with phase 5 using money from phase 6 to cover the difference, Street Scape report needs more information for the Department of Transportation, walking path, County paving Rt. 513, Department of Works has been rebuilding storm water basins, DPW reading meters, cutting fields, pot holes, equipment repairs, trash pickup, recycling, getting ready for leaf pickup, PSA sign ups	
Councilwoman Hughes	Public Health, Environmental, Solid Waste / Recycling, & Open Space
Estimates for slate roof at Solitude House, C&H attending talks about preservation, Historic talks continuing, broken windows and a volunteer is available to fix them with supervision, Environmental Committee thanked for flower pots and getting certified, lost water jugs, Green Team award given for Hunterdon Sustainable New Jersey, 3000lbs shredded at document shredding event	
Councilman LoIacono	<del>Economic Development &amp; Cultural/Heritage</del>
Attended the Emergency Planning meeting, thanked Nancy for putting together the information for C&H, visited Lot 32 to visit residents	
Councilman Strange	Emergency Services, Municipal Court, & Recreation
F.D. statistics reviewed, hydrants being inspected, F.D. golf outing planned, P.D. statistics reviewed, misc. repairs completed, preventative maintenance completed, body worn cameras continue to be set up and grants sought for this, leaking air conditioning and mold testing has been repaired, summer recreation program ending with good success,	
Councilwoman Shipps	Golf and Special Events
No statistics for golf course at this time, Events Committee meeting held and Salsa Night has been rained out but will be rescheduled, movies in the park was a success, concert in the park had over 500 people, folk fest at the end of the month, Oz Mania and 5k in the future, 2016 Economic Development Committee goals, bike vendor, updating the website, solicitation brochure updates, newsletter planning for end of year and two newsletters for next year, RFP out for website vendor, newsletter cost and implementation	
Councilman Stemple	Finance, Utilities, & Education
Sale of water system, august 15th is limit to get question about sale of water system on to the ballot to be treated as a binding referendum	
Michael Pappas	Administrator
Water pre-bid meeting, Cregar Road pre-construction meeting attended, attended the meetings of EDC and Events	
Mayor Mark Desire	Executive Services
Final copy of the staffing study discussed, Cregar Road phase 5, Community Day	

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:**

- A. Finance Recycling Tonnage Report
- B. Sewer hookup request – 32 Silverthorne Rd.
- C. Solitude House Reservation Application (draft) and Fee schedule (draft)

- D.** ALNA Construction communication
- E.** Phoenix Advisors proposal communication
- F.** Veteran's property tax deduction letter
- G.** SoilSafe invoice
- H.** CDM Smith communication – 100 W Main soil and groundwater letter
- I.** County Engineer letter – bridge replacement

**PUBLIC COMMENTS: 1 minute per person - None**

**LEGAL ISSUES: None**

**BILL LIST:**

Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List. **Total Amount: \$2,609,870.72**

Motion to approve bill list: LoIacono, Second: Strange

Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes;

Councilwoman Shipps abstains from any Police Department related items.

Councilman Stemple

Six ayes, motion passes

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: None**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Motion to adjourn: Hughes, Second: LoIacono

Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes;

Six ayes, motion passes.

---

**Next Council meeting: August 11, 2016, 7:30 pm - Fire House, 7 Maryland Ave., High Bridge, NJ.**

---