

# BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE - COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: May 12, 2016, 7:30 p.m. - Location: High Bridge Firehouse, 7 Maryland Ave.

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Please note: This 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 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.

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

**3. 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, (arrived at 7:53 p.m.) Mayor Mark Desire, present.

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

**4. APPOINTMENT OF PLANNING BOARD/BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT ALTERNATE:**

A. Pablo Delgado appointed

**5. READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Regular minutes April 28, 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 April 28<sup>th</sup> minutes: Zappa, Second: Shipps

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

Five ayes, one absent, motion passes.

Motion to approve the April 28<sup>th</sup> minutes: LoIacono Second: Zappa

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

Five ayes, one absent, motion passes.

**6. VISITORS:** None

**7. PROCLAMATION:**

A. Proclamation 10-2016 – Click it or ticket

**8. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** 5 minutes per person

Mr. Brent Dugan stated a property complaint and asked a question about soliciting.

Dr. Brendan Coughlin had concerns regarding paving, the street sweeper, new Borough Hall dirt and golf cart value. Councilman Zappa responded to the comment concerning the street sweeper and a brief discussion ensued.

**9. PUBLIC HEARINGS:** – Second readings

A. Resolution 134-2016 – Stating the law has been met to allow to be read by title only

Motion to adopt Resolution 134-2016: Stemple, Second: LoIacona

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

Five ayes, one absent, motion passes

Resolution 128-2016 – Resolution to budget amendment

Motion to adopt Resolution 128-2016: Stemple, Second: LoIacono

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

Five ayes, one absent, motion passes

Motion to open Public Hearing for the Budget: Stemple, Second: LoIacono

Roll call vote: LoIacono , yes; Shipps , yes; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes, yes.  
Six ayes, motion passes.

Public hearing: Councilman Stemple gave an overview of the budget. Michelle Schwartz asked how the surplus amount is grown. Mr. Stemple explained.

Motion to close Public hearing for the budget. : Stemple, Second: LoIacono

Roll call vote: LoIacono , yes; Shipps , yes; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes, yes.  
Six ayes, motion passes.

**Resolution 89-2016** – Budget as amended

Motion to adopt the budget as amended: Zappa, Second: Shipps

Roll call vote: LoIacono , yes; Shipps , yes; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes yes,  
Six ayes, motion passes.

**B. Ordinance 2016-09** – Amendment appropriating \$225,000.00 from capital improvement fund for road improvements to Cregar Road, phase 5

Motion to open public hearing: Shipps Second: LoIacono

Roll call vote: LoIacono , yes; Shipps , yes; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes, yes;  
Six ayes, motion passes.

Motion to amend Ordinance 2016-09 to replace phase 6 with phase 5 and keep public hearing open to May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016: Shipps, Second: LoIacono

Roll call vote: LoIacono , yes; Shipps , yes; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes, yes;  
Vote results: Six ayes, motion passes.

**C. Ordinance 2016-12** - Amend Ordinance 261-5 (12) to include the removal of historic artifacts

Motion to reopen public hearing: Hughes, Second: Stemple

Roll call vote: LoIacono , yes; Shipps , yes; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes , yes;  
Six ayes, motion passes.

Questions and Comments: Nancy Hunt spoke about the importance of not removing artifacts from where they are found. Pablo Delgado spoke about club involvement with archaeological groups.

Motion to close public hearing: Stemple Second: LoIacono

Roll call vote: LoIacono , yes; Shipps , yes; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes , yes;  
Vote results: Six ayes, motion passes.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-12: no motion. Vote fails.

**D. Ordinance 2016-13** – Appropriating \$60,000 from capital improvement fund for site work, soil removal, and furnishings for the new Borough Hall

Motion to open public hearing: Strange Second: Hughes

Roll call vote: LoIacono , yes; Shipps , yes; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes, yes;  
Six ayes, motion passes.

Motion to close public hearing: LoIacono Second: Hughes

Roll call vote: LoIacono , yes; Shipps , yes; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes, yes;  
Six ayes, motion passes.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-13: Zappa Second: Hughes

Roll call vote: LoIacono , yes; Shipps , no; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes, yes;

Five ayes, one nay, motion passes.

Mayor Desire states that Ordinance 2016-13 is adopted and shall be published by title in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat in accordance with the law.

**E. Ordinance 2016-14** – Amend chapter 112-7, club licenses and social affair licenses, to have a set fee rather than an arbitrary fee range with no criteria for selecting fee

Motion to open public hearing: LoIacono Second: Shipps

Roll call vote: LoIacono , yes; Shipps , yes; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes, yes; Six ayes, motion passes.

Motion to close public hearing: Stemple Second: LoIacono

Roll call vote: LoIacono , yes; Shipps , yes; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes, yes; Six ayes, motion passes.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-14: Stemple Second: Zappa

Roll call vote: LoIacono , yes; Shipps , yes; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes, yes; Six ayes, motion passes.

Mayor Desire states that Ordinance 2016-14 is adopted and shall be published by title in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat in accordance with the law.

**F. Ordinance 2016-15** – Authorizing tax exemption and payment in lieu of taxes in connection with construction improvements at 41 Center Street, Block 29.02, Lot 12

Motion to open public hearing: Zappa Second: Hughes

Roll call vote: LoIacono , yes; Shipps , yes; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes, yes; Six ayes, motion passes.

Questions and Comments:

Pablo Delgado made comments regarding tax abatement application. A discussion ensued.

Motion to close public hearing: Stemple Second: LoIacono

Roll call vote: LoIacono , yes; Shipps , yes; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes, yes; Six ayes, motion passes.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-15: Stemple 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 2016-15 is adopted and shall be published by title in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat in accordance with the law.

**G. Ordinance 2016-16** – Amend Chapter 184-7 Schedule 6: Trucks Over Certain Weights Excluded

Motion to open public hearing: Zappa Second: Shipps

Roll call vote: LoIacono , yes; Shipps , yes; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes, yes; Six ayes, motion passes.

Motion to close public hearing: Zappa Second: LoIacono

Roll call vote: LoIacono , yes; Shipps , yes; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes, yes; Six ayes, motion passes.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-16: Zappa Second: Strange

Roll call vote: LoIacono , yes; Shipps , yes; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes , yes; Six ayes, motion passes.

Mayor Desire states that Ordinance 2016-16 is adopted and shall be published by title in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat in accordance with the law.

**H. Ordinance 2016-17** – Amend Chapter 120-6, Keeping of animals or fowl; coops and enclosures, subsection A.

Motion to open public hearing: Hughes Second: LoIacono

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

Motion to close public hearing: LoIacono Second: Shipps

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

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-17: Stemple 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 2016-17 is adopted and shall be published by title in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat in accordance with the law.

**I. Ordinance 2016-18** – Appropriating \$88,000 from capital improvement fund and \$45,000 from the capital fund surplus for Borough Hall modular building change orders

Motion to open public hearing: Zappa Second: Strange

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

Six ayes, motion passes.

Motion to close public hearing: Zappa Second: Strange

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

Six ayes, motion passes.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-18: Zappa Second: LoIacono

Roll call vote: LoIacono , yes; Shipps , no; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes, yes

Five ayes, one nay, motion passes.

Mayor Desire states that Ordinance 2016-18 is adopted and shall be published by title in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat in accordance with the law.

**10. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**A. Resolution 135-2016** – Authorization to Issue Request for Proposal for Street Sweeping Service

Motion to adopt Resolution 135-2016: LoIacona Second: Stemple

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

Six ayes, motion passes.

**11. OLD BUSINESS:** None

**12. NEW BUSINESS:** None

**13. NEW ORDINANCES:**

**A. Ordinance 2016-20** – Amending Chapter 12-2 of the High Bridge Borough Code Book, claims

Motion to amend wording of Ordinance 2016-20 to switch the second and third sentence and add “or Mayor, as applicable”; Zappa, Second: Strange

Roll call vote: LoIacono , yes; Shipps , yes; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes, yes  
Six ayes, motion passes.

Motion to introduce Ordinance 2016-20 amendment: Shipps Second: Strange

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- 20 shall be published in summary in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat along with the Public Hearing date of May 28, 2016.

**14. 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>
<b><u>Resolution 136-2016</u></b>	Change of public hours for Borough Hall
<b><u>Resolution 137-2016</u></b>	Utility refund – 44 Taylor St.
<b><u>Resolution 138-2016</u></b>	Lien redemptions
<b><u>Resolution 139-2016</u></b>	Adjustment for garbage charges – 23 Chestnut St.
<b><u>Resolution 140-2016</u></b>	Enter County co-op and agreement for chip sealing

Motion to approve the consent agenda items (add “as amended” if needed): Hughes, Second: Shipps

Roll call vote: LoIacono , yes; Shipps , yes; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes, yes  
Six ayes, motion passes.

**15. COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT:** End of month items

**16. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:** None

**17. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** 1 minute per person

Pablo Delgado made comments regarding the sale of the street sweeper and the transit lot.

Michelle Schwartz made comments regarding a sidewalk going down Route 513 and West Main Street.

**18. LEGAL ISSUES:**

Mr. Goodman updated Council that arbitration still continues with the town of Clinton. The CTSA has filed a motion to dismiss the lawsuit and compel the town of Clinton to arbitrate their claims in the same arbitration initiated by High Bridge. Discussion ensued.

**19. BILL LIST:**

Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List. **Total Amount: \$573,791.51**

Motion to approve bill list: Hughes Second: Stemple

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

Six ayes, and Councilwoman Shipps abstained from any police related items and Councilman Stemple abstained from any fire department related items.

**20. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Legal advice regarding golf course cart lease and the sale of Borough Hall

Motion to amend the agenda to add legal advice for the sale of Borough Hall, 71 Main St. to the agenda:

Motion: Zappa, Second: LoIacono

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

**RESOLUTION # 5E-2016** - Motion to move into executive session: Lolocono Second: Shipps  
Roll call vote: Lolocono , yes; Shipps , yes; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes, yes  
Six ayes, motion passes.

Motion to move into open session: Zappa, Second: Lolocono  
Roll call vote: Lolocono , yes; Shipps , yes; Stemple , yes; Strange , yes; Zappa , yes; Hughes, yes;  
Vote results: six ayes, motion passes.

**21. ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Motion to adjourn: Zappa, Second: Strange  
Voice vote: all ayes  
Vote results: Six ayes, motion passes

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Next Council meeting: May 26, 2016, 7:30 pm - Fire House, 7 Maryland Ave., High Bridge, NJ.

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