

BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE - COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: June 23, 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, absent; Councilwoman Adrienne Shipps, present; Councilman Michael Stemple, present; Councilman Stephen Strange, present; Councilman Chris Zappa, absent; Council President Lynn Hughes, present, Mayor Mark Desire, present.

Fifteen members of the public were present including press. Also present were Attorney Barry Goodman, Chief Bartman, Administrator Mike Pappas, Planning Board Chairman Steve Dhein and Deputy Clerk Young.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular and executive minutes – June 9, 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 9th minutes: Hughes; Second: Strange

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

Motion to approve the June 9th, 2016 minutes: Hughes; Second: Strange

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

VISITORS: None

PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS:

A. Proclamation P10-2016 – Ruth Alpaugh – 100th Birthday, Ruth was presented with an award

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 5 minutes per person

Alan Schwartz asked for due diligence regarding the area in need of redevelopment as it pertains to eminent domain and cleanup.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: Second readings

A. Ordinance 2016-19 – Amending zoning map and land use ordinance to extend boundaries of R-4 high density residential zone to include additional lots

Motion to re-open public hearing: Strange, Second: Stemple

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

Discussion of the Planning Board's action to table the Ordinance review ensued.

Motion to continue public hearing at the August 11, 2016 Council Meeting: Shipps; Second: Strange

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

Four ayes, motion passes

B. Ordinance 2016-22 – Amendment to Ordinance 2016-1, salary and wage ranges

Motion to open public hearing: Hughes; Second: Strange

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

Four ayes, motion passes

Steven Dhein expressed the need for well compensated positions to keep salaries competitive and employees long term in High Bridge.

Motion to close public hearing: Stemple, Second: Strange

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

Four ayes, motion passes

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-22: Strange; Second: Shipps

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

Four ayes, motion passes

Mayor Desire states that Ordinance 2016-22 is adopted and shall be published by title in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat in accordance with the law.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Borough property letters of interest were discussed. The Administrator will find out the property values and report to Council.

B. Cregar Road truck traffic - Chief Bartman discussed statistics of road usage

C. Amend Ordinance 390-2 to include trailers and inoperable motor vehicles

Discussion regarding inoperable vehicles and trailers. Chief Bartman spoke to current ordinances and suggested a time limit regarding unhitched trailers. Further information will be gathered.

D. Block 19, Lot 32 – The Borough addressed the concern to ensure spot zoning is not being done. Resident martel Welendziewski suggested having the lot split for purchase. Council discussed that need to bid on the property as it is not undersized.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

NEW ORDINANCES: None

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
Resolution 161-2016	Authorization for Police vehicle maintenance
Resolution 162-2016	Clean communities - Resolution Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue Appropriation NJS 40A:4-87
Resolution 163-2016	Authorize plenary license - Circa
Resolution 165-2016	Authorize temporary food concession
Resolution 166-2016	High Bridge resolution accepting area in need of redevelopment
Resolution 167-2016	Soil Witness Fees - PERC test escrow
Resolution 168-2016	Certification of the 2015 Annual Audit
Resolution 169-2016	Authorize planning commons multipurpose trail
Resolution 170-2016	Approval to attend class

Motion to remove Resolution 166-2016 and Resolution 169-2016 from the consent agenda: Shipps;
 Second: Strange
 Roll call vote: LoIacono, absent: Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, absent; Hughes, yes;
 Four ayes, motion passes

Motion to approve Resolutions 161-2016 to 165-2016 and Resolutions 167-2016, 168-2016, and Resolution 170-2016: Hughes; Second: Strange
 Roll call vote: LoIacono, absent: Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, absent; Hughes, yes;
 Four ayes, motion passes

Motion to adopt Resolution 166-2016: Stemple; Second: Hughes
 Roll call vote: LoIacono, absent: Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, absent; Hughes, yes;
 Four ayes, motion passes

Questions and Comments: Council discussed that the current site of this is being addressed by the DEP, the contaminants are being flushed, and that time must degrade some of the contaminants.
 Council discussed future processes and the options the Borough may have to deal with the property. Council discussed the use of eminent domain, that the Council has no intention of taking on a piece of property to manage, and that eminent domain is simply a tool to be used by the Borough in future negotiations if need be.

Motion to adopt Resolution 169-2016: Hughes; Second: Strange
 Roll call vote: LoIacono, absent: Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, absent; Hughes, yes;
 Four ayes, motion passes
 Questions and Comments:
 Discussion ensued regarding the long time goal to build this trail, the volunteers, and grant to make it.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT:

Mayor, member, or official	Department
<i>Councilman Zappa</i>	<i>Planning, Engineering, & Public Works</i>
New Borough Hall, Cregar Road, Mill street grant, street scapes and DPW report	
<i>Councilwoman Hughes</i>	<i>Public Health, Environmental, Solid Waste / Recycling, & Open Space</i>
Health notices, Thank you from Eileen Bohnacci, asking to donate benches, document shredding event, lecture series is still going	
<i>Councilman LoIacono</i>	<i>Economic Development & Cultural/Heritage</i>
N/A	
<i>Councilman Strange</i>	<i>Emergency Services, Municipal Court, & Recreation</i>
Summer recreation, Fire Department April and May: 47 alarms, 2 drills, 89 calls – P.D. vehicle maintenance, building maintenance, New Star program in schools, soap box derby help is appreciated, body cam system being set up, fingerprint scanner is being fixed	
<i>Councilwoman Shipps</i>	<i>Golf and Special Events</i>
Awaiting golf report – Event wrap up on Soap Box Derby, Pooch Parade, Borough signs, concert series, EDC meeting with the HBBA	
<i>Councilman Stemple</i>	<i>Finance, Utilities, & Education</i>
Finalizing plans for RFP on the water system, working on corrective action to audit	
<i>Administrator Michael Pappas</i>	<i>Administrator</i>
New Borough Hall projects such as railings, meeting with staff, residents, and officials, information on current Borough Hall sale	
<i>Mayor Mark Desire</i>	<i>Executive Services</i>
Discussion of Block 19, Lot 32, 100 West Main St., OEM meeting attended, Cregar as a truck route, attended Library meeting	

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

- A.** Corrective action plan
- B.** Redevelopment Study - Determination of need
- C.** Monthly Tax/Finance Reports

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 1 minute per person

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.

Terry Woods: Alerted Council to Nassau Road pot-hole condition and grass cutting alongside Nassau and Springside.
Pablo Delgado: Supports the trail resolution and believes it will be a great project and help to the Borough.

LEGAL ISSUES: Updated Council that the Clinton Town Sewerage Authority has started to participate in arbitration.

BILL LIST:

Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List. **Total Amount: \$302,550.79**

Motion to approve bill list: Stemple, Second: Strange

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Resolution E8-2016 – Executive session – Appointment of Adam Young to Acting Clerk position

Motion to move into executive session: Stemple , Second: Strange

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

Motion to move into open session: Strange, Second: Hughes

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

Motion to amend Resolution 164-2016 – Set salary to \$46,000 and add a onetime stipend of \$4000

Motion: Hughes, Second: Strange

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

Resolution 164-2016 : Appointment of Adam Young to Acting Clerk position as amended

Motion to adopt Resolution 164-2016: Stemple, Second: Strange

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

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Motion to adjourn: Strange, Second: Hughes

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

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Young, Acting Clerk

Next Council meeting: July 14, 2016, 7:30 pm - Fire House, 7 Maryland Ave., High Bridge, NJ.
