

BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE - COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: August 11, 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; Councilman Strange, present; Councilwoman Shippis, present; Councilman Zappa, present; Councilman Stemple, present; Council President Hughes, present; Mayor Desire, present. Also present were Acting Clerk Adam Young, Borough Attorney Barry Goodman, Administrator Michael Pappas, and Finance Assistant Jennifer Harrington. Fifteen members of the public and press were present.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular minutes – July 14th, 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 July 14th, 2016 minutes: Hughes, Second: Strange
Roll call vote: LoIacono, absent, Shippis, yes, Stemple, yes, Strange, yes, Zappa, yes, Hughes, yes.
Vote results: Motion passes. Five ayes

Motion to amend and approve the July 14th, 2016 minutes to reflect Councilwoman Shippis' vote of "no" on Resolution 171-2016: Hughes, Second: Shippis,
Roll call vote: LoIacono, absent, Shippis, yes, Stemple, yes, Strange, yes, Zappa, yes, Hughes, yes.
Vote results: Motion passes. Five ayes

VISITORS: None

PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS:

A. 2015 Awards - Gary Mills – Volunteer of the Year. An award was presented and Field 3 will now be known as "Mills Field" via Proclamation P10-2016.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 5 minutes per person – None at this time.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

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 open public hearing: Hughes, Second: Strange
Roll call vote: LoIacono, absent, Shippis, yes, Stemple, yes, Strange, yes, Zappa, yes, Hughes, yes.
Vote results: Motion passes, five ayes.

Councilman Stemple explained that this item should be put onto the 2017 budget. Discussion ensued about the payment being spread over five years and the need to codify Ordinances going back 2.5 years.

Motion to close public hearing: Zappa, Second: Hughes
Roll call vote: LoIacono, absent, Shippis, yes, Stemple, yes, Strange, yes, Zappa, yes, Hughes, yes.
Vote results: Motion passes, five ayes

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-23: Zappa, Second: Strange

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

Vote results: Motion fails. Four no, one yes

B. **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: Hughes, Second: Strange

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

Vote results: Motion passes. Five ayes

Motion to close public hearing: Shipps, Second: Strange

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

Vote results: Motion passes. Five ayes

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-19: Hughes, Second: Shipps

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

Vote results: Motion passes. Five ayes

Mayor Desire states that Ordinance 2016-19 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 – Administrator Pappas is getting the assessed value as well as the price per lot information together for the next meeting.

B. Cregar Road truck traffic – Cregar is in the process of being repaired currently.

C. Amend Ordinance 390-2 to include trailers and inoperable motor vehicles – Councilwoman Shipps is drafting some Ordinance language to be reviewed by Chief Bartman.

D. New Borough Trail Plan - Contacted NJ Water Authority to set a meeting to present the trail plan.

E. Sewer Hookup – 32 Silverthorne Rd. – Working on getting an accurate sewer calculation.

F. Solitude House & Grounds Application Reservation - Councilmembers and the Administrator met with Nancy Hunt to review and strengthen the document. Council discussed consideration being given for a resident pertaining to a usage fee, other public entity fee structure, the importance of not waving fees for some individuals and not others, the pricing structure for hourly usage, and the possibility of raising the security deposit required.

Motion to amend the agenda to include Resolution 200-2016, Approve Solitude House and Grounds

Reservation Application form: Hughes, Second: Shipps

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

Vote results: Motion passes. Five ayes

Resolution 200-2016, Approve Solitude House and Grounds Reservation Application form:

Motion to table to next meeting: Hughes, Second: Shipps

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

Vote results: Motion passes. Five ayes

G. Emergency Services Access – Council discussed amending the zoning application to include a form allowing access to Planning Board/Board of Adjustment members, as well as Emergency Services, and having Emergency Services able to submit findings to the Planning Board/Board of Adjustment for consideration.

H. Street Sweeping – Council discussed time needed to sweep the streets, the possible use of rental services to sweep the Borough when needed, the possible need to sweep the streets currently, how often the streets may need sweeping, the current state of the sweeper, repair and maintenance costs, and bid costs expected for sweeping projects.

Resolution 199-2016, vehicle repair. Motion to table to next meeting: Stemple, Second: Hughes
 Roll call vote: Lolocono, absent, Shipps, yes, Stemple, yes, Strange, yes, Zappa, yes, Hughes, yes.
 Vote results: Motion passes. Five ayes

Resolution 180-2016, street sweeping service. Motion to approve: Stemple, Second: Strange
 Roll call vote: Lolocono, absent, Shipps, yes, Stemple, yes, Strange, yes, Zappa, yes, Hughes, yes.
 Vote results: Motion passes. Five ayes

I. Water Connection Request – 92 Cregar Rd. - Council discussed the assessment provided by Michael Hann of the Department of Works

Resolution 181-2016, water connection. Motion to approve: Zappa, Second: Strange
 Roll call vote: Lolocono, absent; Shipps, no; Stemple, no; Strange, no; Zappa, no; Hughes, no.
 Vote results: Motion fails. Five nays

J. Water System bids – Council spoke about the criteria for a utility sale not being met for this year. Discussion of future timelines ensued for moving ahead with the sale and offering information to voters. The Mayor opened the floor to the public. Kevin Watts from American Water talked about the ballot question and the education campaigns available. Nick Aselta from Aqua recommended setting up an education process for the public early in the coming year.

Resolution 182-2016, to reject all bids. Motion to approve: Stemple, Second: Zappa
 Roll call vote: Lolocono, absent; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes.
 Vote results: Motion passes. Five ayes

Resolution 183-2016, non-binding referendum on ballot. Motion to approve: Zappa, Second: Strange
 Roll call vote: Lolocono, absent; Shipps, no; Stemple, no; Strange, no; Zappa, no; Hughes, no.
 Vote results: Motion fails. Five nays

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS / 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 184-2016	Recreation fee adjustment – popcorn machine
Resolution 185-2016	Special event fees – workshop added
Resolution 186-2016	Final bond refunding
Resolution 187-2016	HBYS field reservation request
Resolution 188-2016	Temporary food handler permit – BBQ competition
Resolution 189-2016	Fireman approval – Jonathan Leili
Resolution 190-2016	Click it or ticket
Resolution 191-2016	Codification of Ordinances
Resolution 192-2016	Dam report
Resolution 193-2016	Award of Contract – Truck body
Resolution 194-2016	Award of Contract – Academy Street overlay
Resolution 195-2016	Award of Contract – Vehicle Maintenance
Resolution 196-2016	Award of Contract – Excavation
Resolution 197-2016	Award of Contract – Website maintenance
Resolution 198-2016	Award of Contract – Newsletter production

Motion to remove Resolutions 191-2016, 197-2016, and 198-2016 from the agenda for discussion.
Motion: Zappa, Second: Strange
Roll call vote: LoIacono, absent; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes.
Vote results: Motion passes. Five ayes

Resolution 191-2016, motion to approve emergency codification of Ordinances: Zappa, Second: Strange
Roll call vote: LoIacono, absent; Shipps, no; Stemple, no; Strange, no; Zappa, no; Hughes, no.
Vote results: Motion fails. Five nays

Resolution 197-2016 and **Resolution 198-2016**, award contract of website and newsletter
Motion to table resolutions to next meeting: Strange, Second: Shipps
Roll call vote: LoIacono, absent; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes.
Vote results: Motion passes. Five ayes.

Motion to approve the consent agenda as amended: Strange Second: Zappa
Roll call vote: LoIacono, absent; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes.
Vote results: Motion passes. Five ayes

COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT:

Councilman Zappa – Planning, Engineering, and Public Works – spoke about:
New Borough Hall carpet, paving, DPW sewer connection, installation of new gas line, Cregar Road paving, Street-scape project, completing road reclamation, overlay of Academy Rd and rest of roads getting double chip-steal, DPW doing sewer readings, water maintenance, field maintenance, DPW assisted with water system bids, DPW getting equipment ready for fall leaf pickup, sign up for public service announcements

Councilwoman Hughes – Public Health, Environmental, Solid Waste/Recycling, Open Space, Cultural and Heritage – spoke about:
C&H speaker series being a success, using picture of the falls for mural, animal control reports, Hunterdon County recycling event, attended the HART awards, grass clipping announcement

Councilman LoIacono – absent

Councilman Strange – Emergency Services, Municipal Court, and Recreation – spoke about:
Police vehicles received preventative maintenance and repairs, inoperable exterior light, repairs/remediation of damaged AC unit, LEAD program is getting set up for the coming school year, server for body worn cameras is still pending, physical addresses assigned to parks. Fire Department stats, annual picnic and fundraiser, grant for \$150,000.00 recently received.

Councilwoman Shipps – Golf, Special Events, Economic Development Committee, and Newsletter – spoke about:
Truck fine updates. EDC, concerts ongoing, movie night feedback, possible ABC permit information is being collected, bike rental setup in the Commons park and presentation of a business plan, newsletter and website call for articles sept 15th deadline, review of newsletter/website proposals. Golf financial report and impact of the tee time websites.

Councilman Stemple – Finance, Utilities, and Education – spoke about:
Finance and utilities, negotiation of the police contract, details of getting current Borough Hall up for sale with projections of value and then out to bid with bid criteria, putting together a budget timeline for 2017.

Administrator Pappas – Administrative issues – spoke about:
Issues with parking at the Commons and McDonald Street parking lots, playground equipment handout and discussion

Mayor Desire – Executive issues – spoke about:
Start of Parks and Rec. subcommittee formation, met with Dan Van Volkenburgh, second alternate for Planning Board, water utility information from other towns, Main Street deliveries

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

- A.** Certificate of Determination and Award
- B.** Cregar Road Phase 5 Department of Community Affairs correspondence
- C.** 100 West Main Department of Community Affairs correspondence
- D.** 92 Cregar water connection request response from High Bridge Department of Works
- E.** Bloomingdale Borough request for support of Resolution 2016-7.7
- F.** Planning Board Resolution concerning Ordinance 2016-19
- G.** Tax and Finance report

- H.** 32 Silverthorne sewer connection request
- I.** 92 Cregar Water and Sewer application
- J.** JCP&L communication
- K.** League of Municipalities registration
- L.** Street sweeper reference documents
- M.** Board of Education executive session announcement
- N.** Senior citizen transport assistance communication

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.

LEGAL ISSUES: None

BILL LIST:

Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List. **Total Amount: \$1,499,345.52**

Motion to approve bill list: Stemple, Second: Strange

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

Vote results: Motion passes. Five ayes

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Motion to adjourn: Hughes, Second: Shipps

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

Vote results: Motion passes. Five ayes

Next Council meeting: September 8th, 2016, 7:30 pm – Fire House, 7 Maryland Ave., High bridge, NJ

Respectfully Submitted,

Adam Young, Acting Clerk