

BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE – COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: February 9, 2017 – 7:30 p.m. – Location: 97 West Main Street, High Bridge, NJ 08829

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 states: “Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of 2017 Meeting Dates was published in the Hunterdon County Democrat and Express Times on December 16, 2016, 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, Councilman Strange, present, Councilwoman Shipps, present, Councilwoman Hughes, present, Councilman Stemple, present, Council President Zappa, present, Mayor Desire, present. Also present were Attorney Barry Goodman, Administrator Michael Pappas, Acting Clerk Adam Young, Chief Bartman and five members of the public and press.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MINUTES – JANUARY 26TH , 2017

Motion to dispense with the reading of the January 26th, 2017 minutes: Zappa, Second: Hughes
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, abstention; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Vote results: 5 ayes. 1 abstention. Motion passes.

Motion to approve the January 26th, 2017 minutes: Zappa, Second: Hughes
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, abstention; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Vote results: 5 ayes. 1 abstention. Motion passes.

VISITORS:

A. Peter Morrow – Mr. Morrow spoke about his available services with fundraising, grant writing, and consulting for events and projects. Discussion ensued about the possible types of work with the Economic Development Committee and municipal involvement in the process.

PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS:

A. Loss Control Award – Presented by the Administrator

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 5 MINUTES PER PERSON - NONE

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. Ordinance 2017-02: Wildlife management Ordinance amendments

Motion to open the public hearing for Ordinance 2017-02: Hughes, Second: LoIacono
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes.

Council discussed the minimum age requirement by the state as compared to the proposed High Bridge Ordinance.

Motion to close the public hearing for Ordinance 2017-02: LoIacono, Second: Strange
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-02: Shipps, Second: Zappa
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes

B. Ordinance 2017-03: Emergency Squad background checks

Motion to open the public hearing for Ordinance 2017-03: Strange, Second: LoIacono
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes.

Emergency Squad background discussed by Council to simplify the background check process to be handled through the High Bridge PD

Motion to close the public hearing for Ordinance 2017-03: Strange, Second: Zappa

Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes.

Motion to adopt **Ordinance 2017-03**: Strange, Second: Hughes

Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes

C. Ordinance 2017-04: Recreation volunteer background checks

Motion to open the public hearing for **Ordinance 2017-04**: Strange, Second: Zappa

Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes.

Council discussed the proposed changes to the Ordinance as it pertains to the definition of "volunteer", Michelle Lee asked about gun safety at Borough events.

Motion to close the public hearing for **Ordinance 2017-04**: LoIacono, Second: Shipps

Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes.

Motion to adopt **Ordinance 2017-04**: LoIacono, Second: Zappa

Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Motion to add an item to Discussion Items, E. February 23rd Council meeting details: Zappa, Second: Strange

Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes

- A.** Painted fire hydrants - Council discussed the painted fire hydrants request, locations requested, the need for written permission from the Fire Chief and the amount of hydrants requested.
- B.** Additional Planning Board alternate positions - Council discussed the possibility of changing an Ordinance to utilize four planning board alternates.
- C.** Easement connecting the Commons Park to 71 Main property - Council discussed the possibility of utilizing an easement to connect the Commons park to Main St along the 71 Main Borough property prior to the sale of the Borough Hall
- D.** Administrator's request for educational programs - The Administrator's request for educational programs as it pertains to Zoning and Administration was discussed
- E.** February 23rd Council meeting details - Coming February 23rd meeting details and attendees were discussed by Council.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS / ORDINANCES:

A. Ordinance 2017-05: Charitable solicitation on roadways

Motion to amend proposed **Ordinance 2017-05** to remove the definition of state highway, section 269-3 C, and 269-5 D: LoIacono, Second: Strange

Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes.

Motion to introduce **Ordinance 2017-05**: Strange, Second: Zappa,

Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes.

Mayor Desire states that the **Ordinance 2017-05** shall be published in summary in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat along with the Public Hearing date of February 23, 2017.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT: GOALS

Councilman Zappa, Councilwoman Hughes, and Councilman Strange shared their presentations for goals for the coming year.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion to add **Resolution 069-2017** to the consent agenda: Strange, Second: Shipps

Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes

RESOLUTION #	TITLE
Resolution 062-2017	Raffle permit fees
Resolution 063-2017	Lien redemptions
Resolution 064-2017	Amend professional service contract – Maser
Resolution 065-2017	Part-time clerical assistant – Gabrielle Oliver
Resolution 066-2017	Rejection of Bids – Solitude House Caretaker
Resolution 067-2017	Educational programs
Resolution 069-2017	Volunteer firefighter approval – Cornelius Arnett

Motion to approve the consent agenda items (add “as amended” if needed): LoIacono, Second: Zappa, Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes; Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Proposal – Highlands historic preservation plan element

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 1 MINUTE PER PERSON - NONE

LEGAL ISSUES:

A. Summons - Attorney Goodman updated Council about a summons for a filed lawsuit.

BILL LIST:

Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List. **Total Amount: \$414936.56**
 Motion to approve bill list pending to make sure the P.D. propane charge is accurate by the administrator: Zappa, Second: Strange
 Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
 Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes
 Councilwoman Shipps abstains from anything Police Department related.
 Councilman Stemple abstains from anything Fire Department related.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: LEGAL ADVICE, TOWN OF CLINTON LITIGATION

Resolution 068-2017 – No motion made

ADJOURNMENT: PRESIDING OFFICER ASKS IF THERE IS ANY FURTHER BUSINESS.

Motion to adjourn: Zappa, Second: LoIacono
 Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
 Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes

Next Council Meeting: February 23, 2017 - 7:00 pm – Fire House, 7 Maryland Ave., High Bridge, NJ

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Young
 Acting Municipal Clerk

Mark Desire
 Mayor