

BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE – COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: April 27, 2017 – 7:30 p.m. – Location: 97 West Main Street, High Bridge, NJ 08829

CALL TO ORDER: MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY THE MAYOR

FLAG SALUTE: LED BY MAYOR

ROLL CALL:

Councilman LoIacono, present; Councilwoman Shipps, present; Councilman Strange, present; Councilwoman Hughes, present; Councilman Stemple, absent; Council President Zappa, present; Mayor Desire, present. Also present were Attorney Barry Goodman, Administrator Michael Pappas, Acting Clerk Adam Young, Police Chief Bartman, and thirty-one public and press.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MINUTES – APRIL 13, 2017

Motion to dispense with the reading of the April 13, 2017 minutes: Strange; Second: LoIacono;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

Motion to approve the April 13, 2017 minutes: Strange; Second: LoIacono;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

VISITORS:

- A.** Susan Oldroyd, Shannon Oldroyd-Ericson, and Todd Lambrix – Shop E - Council and the visitors discussed the possible use and logistics for Shop E as an art and music venue/collective. Discussion ensued.

PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS: NONE

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 5 MINUTES PER PERSON - NONE

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- A.** **Ordinance 2017-10:** Golf rates

Motion to open the public hearing for **Ordinance 2017-10:** LoIacono; Second, Strange;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent
Council discussed the proposed changes to the golf rates and the ability to set the rates by Resolution in the future.

Motion to close the public hearing for **Ordinance 2017-10:** Zappa; Second, Strange;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

Motion to adopt **Ordinance 2017-10:** Strange; Second, Shipps;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Motion to amend the agenda to move discussion item G to become discussion item A and add discussion item B, Frisbee golf, to the agenda: Strange; Second: Zappa;

Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

- A.** Bike trail/track by Shop E building - Pablo Delgado updated the Council and public on the Pfauth trail progress, the proposed name of the trail, and a concept for a family bike park. Council discussed maintenance, overall design, and general logistics for construction, buffer areas, and insurance requirements. Kevin Watkinson spoke on the local bike team efforts, scholastic ride programs, and the use of High Bridge trails in the future.
- B.** Frisbee golf - Councilman Strange discussed the game of Frisbee golf and the proposal to find a location in High Bridge to implement the sport. Discussion ensued about steps to move forward with fact finding.
- C.** 275th Event - Council discussed the parade route planned, marketing of the event, fundraising of the event, and vendor logistics.
- D.** Easement connecting the Commons Park to 71 Main Street - Administrator Pappas spoke to an adjacent property owner to 71 Main Street who indicated a willingness to consider an easement. Discussion ensued about drainage concerns with the park.
- E.** Painted fire hydrant - Administrator Pappas asked the applicant for a resubmitted, orange bonnet fire hydrant plan.
- F.** Approval of Solitude House caretaker bid specifications and advertising - Administrator Pappas updated Council on the changes and corrections to the plan.

Resolution 094-2017 – Amending and approval of the Solitude House caretaker bid specification and advertising

Motion to take **Resolution 094-2017** from the table and reopen discussion: LoIacono; Second: Zappa;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

Motion to adopt **Resolution 094-2017** as amended: Zappa; Second: LoIacono;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

- G.** Water utility - Administrator Pappas updated Council on a meeting pertaining to the timeline necessary to move forward, logistics of the project, and the meetings to educate people about the sale of the system.

Resolution 117-2017 – Authorization to advertise for a request for proposals of the sale and operation of the Borough water utility

Motion to amend the agenda to include **Resolution 117-2017**, authorization to advertise for a request for proposals of the sale and operation of the Borough water system: Zappa; Second: LoIacono;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

Motion to approve **Resolution 117-2017**, authorization to advertise for a request for proposals of the sale and operation of the Borough water system: Zappa; Second: LoIacono;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

- H.** Request to waive vacant property registration - Attorney Goodman updated Council on the vacant property Ordinance requirements, the current standing of the request, logistics of a requested waiver, the possible need to adjust the Ordinance based on the current Statute. Discussion ensued pertaining to the language in the Ordinance about a property being actively marketed.

Resolution 118-2017 – Request to waive vacant property registration

Motion to amend the agenda to include **Resolution 118-2017**, request to waive vacant property registration:
Hughes; Second: LoIacono;
Roll call vote: LoIacono,yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent.

Motion to approve **Resolution 118-2017**: Strange; Second: LoIacono;
Roll call vote: LoIacono,yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

- I.** Vacant crossing guard position – Police Chief Bartman spoke to the vacant crossing guard position and the need for coverage with the retirement of a crossing guard.

Resolution 113-2017 – Appointment of Crossing Guard

Motion to amend **Resolution 113-2017**, a consent agenda item, from a position of full-time to temporary, full-time: Zappa; Second: LoIacono;
Roll call vote: LoIacono,yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent.

- J.** Raffle Ordinance - Chief Bartman spoke on the proposed raffle Ordinance and items within to assist with streamlining the process for the applicants in the future.

- K.** Vacant property Ordinance – Mr. Pappas spoke to Council about possible changes to the vacant property Ordinance as it pertains to registration renewals. Discussion ensued pertaining to other logistics of the vacant property Ordinance.

- L.** Sale of goods on Borough property - Councilwoman Shipps spoke on the current restriction for sale of goods on Borough property and the unique situation of having the sale of goods on Borough property. Attorney Goodman recommended a one-time waiver of this restriction due to the nature of the request.

Resolution 119-2017 – Request to waive the restriction of the sale of goods on Borough property

Motion to amend the agenda to include **Resolution 119-2017**, request to waive the restriction of the sale of goods on Borough property: Shipps; Second: Hughes;
Roll call vote: LoIacono,yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent.

Motion to approve **Resolution 119-2017**: Zappa; Second: Hughes;
Roll call vote: LoIacono,yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

- M.** Playground equipment - Council discussed the possibility of adding, and replacing, new and worn playground equipment in the parks.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

- A.** **Ordinance 2017-11**: Chapter 118. Games of chance, raffle, and bingo licenses

Motion to introduce **Ordinance 2017-11**: Zappa; Second, LoIacono
Roll call vote: LoIacono,yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

Mayor Desire states that the **Ordinance 2017-11** shall be published in whole or summary in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat along with the Public Hearing date of May 11, 2017.

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: END OF MONTH

Mayor, member, or official	Department
Councilman Zappa	Planning , Engineering, Department of Public Works
Awaiting DoT approval to go out to bid for roads, Hill Street drawings reviewed, Hillcrest repair design in progress, sewer capacity report completed by Borough Engineer, DPW brush and leaf pickup, DPW Expo	
Councilwoman Hughes	Public Health, Environmental, Solid Waste / Recycling, & Open Space
River cleanup, electronics recycling, free tree delivered, thanks to trail builders, mural dedication, grant opportunities	
Councilman Lolocono	Golf, Recreation
Preliminary reports show golf fiscal numbers are up, rebuilding the Recreation committee, Shop E, summer recreation program, field use requests, possible sports camp proposal	
Councilman Strange	Emergency Services, Municipal Court, Cultural and Heritage
Lights fixed in P.D., 275th planning, Solitude House repairs to be done, Historic Preservation Committee initial meeting, Old Tyme picnic	
Councilwoman Shipps	Special Events, Economic Development, Newsletter, Website
Soap Box Derby, parent meetings available, Pooch Parade, Easter Egg hunt went well, trail signage, planning 275th, newsletter article call is out	
Councilman Stemple	Finance, Utilities, & Education
Absent	
Michael Pappas	Administrator
Success with property maintenance issues, document scanning, estimates for Emergency Squad appliance conversion	
Mayor Mark Desire	Executive Services
Attended County fire meeting, weddings completed, 71 Main interested party had a meeting, Shop E presentation meeting, meeting to discuss old debt, Selena Gomez filming in High Bridge, exploring the possibility of building a modern sewerage plant and funding opportunities	

CONSENT AGENDA:

RESOLUTION #	TITLE
Resolution 112-2017	Appoint fund commissioners
Resolution 113-2017	Appointment of Crossing Guard
Resolution 114-2017	Outside duty refund - Rubin
Resolution 115-2017	Creation of a County Daytime Fire Dept. to Support our Volunteer Fire Companies
Resolution 116-2017	Authorization for Social Affairs Permit - High Bridge Fire Department

Motion to approve the consent agenda items: Zappa; Second: Strange;
 Roll call vote: Lolocono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
 Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

- A.** Finance end of month report
- B.** Solitude House certificate of eligibility

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: \$2,025,596.24**

Motion to approve bill list: Zappa; Second: Strange;

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

Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

Councilwoman Shipps abstained from anything Police related.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: NONE

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

Motion to adjourn: LoIacono; Second: Zappa;

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

Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

Next Council Meeting: May 11, 2017 - 7:30 pm – 97 West Main Street, High Bridge NJ, 08829

Adam Young
Acting Municipal Clerk

Mark Desire
Mayor