

BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE – COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: January 12, 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: THE MAYOR CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:30 PM.

FLAG SALUTE: LED BY MAYOR DESIRE.

At this time the Mayor asked for a moment of silence for the passing of Barbara Repka.

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, three members of the Emergency Squad, and nine members of the public and press. Councilman Strange and Councilman LoIacono entered at 7:09 p.m.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MINUTES – DECEMBER 12TH, 2016 AND JANUARY 5TH, 2017

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 December 12th, 2016 minutes: Hughes, Second: Strange
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes;
Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes.

Motion to approve the December 12th, 2016 minutes: Hughes, Second: Shipps
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes;
Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes.

Motion to dispense with the reading of the January 5th, 2017 minutes: LoIacono, Second: Strange
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes;
Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes.

Motion to approve the January 5th, 2017 minutes: Shipps, Second: Strange
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes;
Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes.

VISITORS:

- A.** Brian Luteran – High Bridge Emergency Squad Presentation – Spoke to the changes in Emergency Squad coverage.
- B.** Nicole and Adam from Scout's – Discussed an organized skating event

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 5 MINUTES PER PERSON

Todd Honeycutt spoke on behalf of the School Board about an upcoming meeting on Tuesday, January 31st at 7pm to discuss the school, businesses, residents, and emergency services working together for the future vision of the school.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- A.** TORT claim - Council discussed the request of Ms. Whited's TORT claim, the issue of setting precedent, and the need for further discussion.
- B.** Emergency Squad background check Ordinance - Council discussed the versions of the document created and the plan to move forward at the next meeting pending information from Chief Silliman.
- C.** Wildlife management Ordinance - Attorney Goodman updated Council about researching aspects of the State statues vs. changing our permits and Ordinances. Chief Bartman spoke to the possible changes necessary as it pertains to age, fee structure, background checks, as well as the Borough's ability to regulate hunting on Borough property.
- D.** Recreation background check Ordinance - Chief Bartman updated council on the proposed changes pertaining to the definition of "unsupervised" in the Ordinance.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS / ORDINANCES:

A. Resolution 058-2017 - Motion to add Resolution 058-2017 – Approve request for proposal for Solitude House caretaker: Zappa, Second: LoIacono
 Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipp, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes;
 Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes.

Motion to adopt Resolution 058-2017 – Approve request for proposal for Solitude House caretaker:
 Shipp, Second: Hughes
 Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipp, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes;
 Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes.

B. Mayor Desire updated Council and the public about a future meeting in February with some of the Freeholders to discuss the promotion of businesses in High Bridge.

CONSENT AGENDA:

RESOLUTION #	TITLE
Resolution 048-2017	Award of Contract – Borough Engineer – Maser, William Burr
Resolution 049-2017	Award of Contract – Borough Planner – Maser Consulting, Darlene Green
Resolution 050-2017	Award of Contract – Environmental Engineer – Quest Environmental
Resolution 051-2017	Borough Hall payment – Alna Construction
Resolution 052-2017	Ice Skating Rules and Regulations
Resolution 053-2017	Planning Board Professional Contracts
Resolution 054-2017	Utility Refund – 31 Mill Street
Resolution 055-2017	Award of Contract – Borough Risk Manager - Balkin
Resolution 056-2017	Award of Contract – Borough Auditor - BKC
Resolution 057-2017	Amend professional contract - Maser

Motion to approve the consent agenda items as amended: LoIacono, Second: Zappa,
 Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipp, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes;
 Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes

A. Motion to remove Resolution 052-2017 from the consent agenda for discussion: Zappa, Second: LoIacono
 Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipp, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes;
 Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes.

Council discussed the use of evening hours for the skating rink, the addition of a designee with the title “Lord of the Rink”, and Borough events regulations.

Motion to adopt Resolution 052-2017, Ice skating rules: Hughes, Second: Shipp
 Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipp, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes;
 Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Finance Department End of Month Reports

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 1 MINUTE PER PERSON

Nancy Hunt asked Council to consider how background checks may affect Cultural and Heritage Committee activities.

Pablo Delgado thanked Councilman LoIacono and other volunteers for their hard work with the skating rink.

Bruce Myhre discussed the caretaker lease and the possible need to bring the document up to date as it pertains to repairs on the Solitude House.

LEGAL ISSUES: NONE

BILL LIST:

Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List. **Total Amount: \$247,555.92**
 Motion to approve bill list: Zappa, Second: Hughes
 Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipp, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Zappa, yes; Hughes, yes;
 Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes.

Councilwoman Shipp abstained from any Police Department related items.
 Councilman Stemple abstained from any Fire Department related items.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: NONE

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

Motion to adjourn: LoIacono, Second: Shipps

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

Vote results: 6 ayes. Motion passes.

Next Council Meeting: January 26th, 2017 - 7:30 pm – Borough Hall, 97 West Main St., High Bridge, NJ