

BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE – COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: April 13, 2017 – 7:30 p.m. – Location: 7 Maryland Ave., 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: BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT ZAPPA

FLAG SALUTE: LED BY PRESIDENT ZAPPA

ROLL CALL:

Councilman LoIacono, present; Councilwoman Shipps, present; Councilman Strange, present; Councilwoman Hughes, present; Councilman Stemple, present; Council President Zappa, present; Mayor Desire, absent. Also present were Attorney Barry Goodman, Administrator Michael Pappas, Acting Clerk Adam Young, Police Chief Bartman, Chief Financial Officer Bonnie Fleming and thirteen members of the public and press. Councilwoman Hughes arrived at 7:57 pm.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MINUTES – MARCH 23, 2017

Mayor asks if any corrections are necessary or for a motion to dispense with the reading of the prior meeting(s) minutes.

Motion to dispense with the reading of the March 23, 2017 minutes: Strange; Second: LoIacono;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, absent; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes

Motion to approve the March 23, 2017 minutes: LoIacono; Second: Strange;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, absent; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes

APPOINTMENTS:

A. Appointment of Galadriel Fernandez to the Board of Health

Resolution 100-2017 - Motion to adopt **Resolution 100-2017** - Appoint Galadriel Fernandez
Term expires 12/31/2019 - Motion: LoIacono; Second: Shipps;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, absent; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes

B. Appointment of Damian Rigatti to the Board of Health

Resolution 101-2017 - Motion to adopt **Resolution 101-2017** - Appoint Damian Rigatti
Term expires 12/31/2018 - Motion: LoIacono; Second: Shipps;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, absent; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes

C. Appointment of Tom Wescoe to Planning Board Alternate #2

Resolution 102-2017 - Motion to adopt **Resolution 102-2017** - Appoint Tom Wescoe
Term expires 12/31/2017 - Motion: Strange; Second: LoIacono
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, absent; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes

PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS: NONE

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 5 MINUTES PER PERSON

Nancy Hunt suggested edits to the Solitude House lease.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: AMEND AND ADOPT BUDGET

A. Motion to open the public hearing on budget **Resolution 075-2017**

Motion to open public hearing on budget **Resolution 075-2017**: LoIacono; Second: Strange;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, absent; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes

A budget presentation was shown by Councilman Stemple. Rich Refallo commented about the real assessment to real home value to Council.

Motion to close the public hearing on budget **Resolution 075-2017**: LoIacono; Second, Strange;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, absent; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes

Motion to adopt **Resolution 103-2017** amending the budget: Strange; Second: Shipps;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, absent; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes

Motion to adopt budget **Resolution 075-2017** the budget: Stemple; Second: Shipps;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 6 yes

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Motion to amend the agenda to add discussion item H. Letter thanking Chief Bartman for assistance.
Motion: Shipps; Second: LoIacono;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, absent; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes

- A.** 275th Event - Chief Bartman spoke about the request for road closures for the 275th event and the posting of signage for the event. Nancy Hunt spoke about the portions of the event covered by the HBBA and local business involvement being expected
- B.** Easement connecting the Commons Park to 71 Main Street - Administrator Pappas spoke to the adjacent property owners about the possibility of an easement on their property.
- C.** Painted fire hydrant - Councilman Zappa and Administrator Pappas updated the Council and public of an update to the previously proposed fire hydrant bonnet color from red to orange due to the color being an indicator to emergency services.
- D.** Borough sponsored events list - Administrator Pappas spoke on the need to designate Borough and non-Borough events. Councilwoman Shipps spoke about the need to organize information for different events and event types for better utilization by event organizers.
- E.** Approval of Solitude House caretaker bid specifications and advertising - Councilwoman Shipps suggested a series of changes for the bid specifications. Council discussed who bears the cost of bringing the Solitude House up to code to get a C.O.

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

Motion to table **Resolution 094-2017** to the April 27th, 2017 meeting: Shipps; Second: LoIacono;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 6 yes

- F.** Water utility - Councilman Stemple spoke about meeting to talk with interested companies about the sale of the water utility, the possible need for development of an Ordinance that specifies how roads are

repaired as it pertains to the water utility, the long term administrative efforts of running a water utility, and the process for proceeding to sale of the system.

- G.** Request to waive vacant property registration – No update as we are awaiting contact from the requestor.
- H.** Letter thanking Chief Bartman for assistance – The letter of thanks was read aloud

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

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

Motion to introduce Ordinance 2017-10: LoIacono; Second: Shipps;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Mayor Desire states that the Ordinance 2017-10 shall be published in whole or summary in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat along with the Public Hearing date of April 27, 2017.

CONSENT AGENDA:

RESOLUTION #	TITLE
Resolution 104-2017	Approval of PTO raffle
Resolution 105-2017	Award of Contract RBZ enterprises
Resolution 106-2017	Recycling grant and recycling coordinator final
Resolution 107-2017	Utility rates
Resolution 108-2017	Self-examination of budget
Resolution 109-2017	Volunteer tuition credit program
Resolution 110-2017	Salary and wages
Resolution 111-2017	JTG –final payment

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

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

- A.** Bid package for Solitude House
- B.** ISO Public Protection Classification letter
- C.** Hunterdon County Agriculture Development Board letter
- D.** Maser letter – Improvements to Cregar Road

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 1 MINUTE PER PERSON

Nancy Hunt asked that Cultural and Heritage programs be considered during the development of procedures for permitting.

LEGAL ISSUES: NONE

BILL LIST:

Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List. **Total Amount: \$253,617.23**

Motion to approve bill list: LoIacono; Second: Shipps;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, yes; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 6 yes

EXECUTIVE SESSION: NONE

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

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

Next Council Meeting: April 27, 2017 - 7:30 pm – 97 West Main Street, High Bridge NJ, 08829

Adam Young
Acting Municipal Clerk

Mark Desire
Mayor