

BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE – COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Date: August 17, 2017 – 7:30 p.m. – Location: 7 Maryland Ave., High Bridge, NJ 08829

CALL TO ORDER: MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

FLAG SALUTE: LED BY MAYOR OR PRESIDING OFFICER

ROLL CALL:

Councilman LoIacono, present; Councilwoman Shipps, present; Councilman Strange, present; Councilwoman Hughes, present; Councilman Stemple, absent; Council President Zappa, present; Mayor Desire, absent. Also present were Attorney Barry Goodman, Chief Brett Bartman, Administrator Michael Pappas, Acting Clerk Adam Young, Tax Assessor Anna Maria Obiedzinski, Borough Planner Darlene Green, and Borough Bond Counsel Ed McManimon, and forty-five public and press.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MINUTES – JULY 13 & JULY 20, 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 July 13 & July 20, 2017 minutes: Zappa; Second: Hughes;
Roll call vote: LoIacono yes for July 13, abstains for July 20th, Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;

Motion to dispense with the reading of the July 13 minutes: 4 yes, 1 abstain, 1 absent. Motion passes.

Motion to dispense with the reading of the July 20 minutes: 4 yes, 1 abstain, 1 absent. Motion passes.

Motion to approve the July 13 & July 20, 2017 minutes: Strange; Second: Zappa;

Roll call vote: LoIacono yes for July 13, abstains for July 20th, Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;

Motion to approve the July 13 minutes: 4 yes, 1 abstain, 1 absent. Motion passes.

Motion to approve the July 20 minutes: 4 yes, 1 abstain, 1 absent. Motion passes.

PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS:

A. Awards – Summer Recreation Volunteers – Awards were presented by Mayor and Council.

Motion to amend the agenda to add FOP awareness Proclamation: Hughes; Second: Shipps;

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

Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent.

B. Proclamation for FOP awareness presented by Mr. Gary Whyte – Read by the Mayor

VISITORS:

A. Borough Tax Assessor – Anna Maria – Presentation give about taxes, tax abatements, exemptions, the process of assessing, and inspecting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 5 MINUTES PER PERSON

Gary Whyte - 289 Old Tote Road, Mountainside - Asked Council to consider adopting a proclamation on FOP. He explained initiatives he has taken for awareness.

Paul Lipani - Addressed issues with a received email about the sewer utility.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. **Ordinance 2017-15:** Appropriating \$41,600.00 from the capital improvement fund for the purchase of a 12” capacity brush chipper

Motion to take **Ordinance 2017-15** from the table: LoIacono; 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 open the public hearing for **Ordinance 2017-15**: LoIacono; Second, Strange;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

Councilman Zappa spoke on the size, age, and research done on a used chipper. Council spoke on renting a chipper but found this option to be prohibitive in price, and commended the DPW on record keeping.

Motion to close the public hearing for **Ordinance 2017-15**: 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 2017-15**: Zappa; Second, Strange;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

B. **Ordinance 2017-18**: Appropriating \$10,000 from the capital improvement fund for general improvements to the Police building

Motion to open the public hearing for **Ordinance 2017-18**: 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 and Chief Bartman explained that this money will be used to repair the sidewalks to ensure water is not encouraged to enter the building and mold remediation repair.

Motion to close the public hearing for **Ordinance 2017-18**: LoIacono; 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 2017-18**: Strange; Second, LoIacono
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

C. **Ordinance 2017-19**: Appropriating \$38,000 from the capital improvement fund for the purchase of a Ford sedan police interceptor and related equipment

Motion to open the public hearing for **Ordinance 2017-19**: Strange; Second, LoIacono;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

Council explained the purpose of this Ordinance being for fleet maintenance and replacement scheduling to save money.

Motion to close the public hearing for **Ordinance 2017-19**: LoIacono; 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 2017-19**: Strange; Second, Hughes;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

D. **Ordinance 2017-20**: Accepting bid and providing for sale of water system

Motion to open the public hearing for **Ordinance 2017-20**: Zappa; Second, Shipps;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

Council explained the purpose of this Ordinance to accept the bid from American Water, the importance of planning education campaigns, and meeting dates proposed.

Margaret Lipani - Asked about the other vendor, Aqua. Council explained the bidding process which necessitated using American Water.

Motion to close the public hearing for **Ordinance 2017-20**: LoIacono; Second, Shipps;
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 2017-20**: Strange; Second, Zappa;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

E. Ordinance 2017-21: Appropriating \$40,000 from the capital improvement fund for general improvements for the purchase of a 4-ton asphalt hot-patcher

Motion to open the public hearing for **Ordinance 2017-21**: Zappa; Second, Hughes;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

Council and Richard Roll of the High Bridge Department of Works explained the use of an asphalt hot patcher, the benefits of having the time to do quality patching the possibility of shared services.

Motion to close the public hearing for **Ordinance 2017-21**: 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 adopt **Ordinance 2017-21**: Zappa; Second, Strange;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- A.** Easement connecting the Commons Park to 71 Main Street – No update for this topic.
B. Proposed special meeting dates and locations - American Water proposed dates for informational meetings and Council proposed using the school for a location. Council discussed the proposed dates and the logistics of planning the coming meetings.

Motion to amend the agenda to include Resolution 183-2017:
Motion: Shipps; 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 adopt Resolution 183-2017:
Motion: LoIacono; Second, Strange;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

- C.** Fire official – No update for this topic.
D. Solitude House caretaker bid specifications – No update for this topic.
E. Sale of old Borough Hall – 71 Main St. - Council discussed the process of receiving bids for the Old Borough Hall and the easement being in place prior to sale,

- F.** OPRA fee structure - Administrator Pappas and Attorney Goodman explained the Statute for charging fees for OPRA requests and the intent to set a standard as guidance for future OPRA requests.
- G.** Redevelopment plan - Council explained the use of a redevelopment plan for 100 West Main Street and the plan for getting input for this project with a committee.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES: NONE

COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: END OF MONTH

Mayor, member, or official	Department
Councilman Zappa	Planning , Engineering, Department of Public Works Spoke on the gas main on Cregar Road along with paving being done with the use of grant money, final phase set to being on September 6th, work progressing on Hillcrest, DPW has been doing maintenance, leaf bags will be available,
Councilwoman Hughes	Public Health, Environmental, Solid Waste / Recycling, & Open Space Thanks to volunteers for watering Main St. planters, McDonald Street park tree is being managed
Councilman LoIacono	Golf, Recreation Golf had a successful Resident Appreciation day, soccer is starting soon, new playground equipment has been ordered
Councilman Strange	Emergency Services, Municipal Court, Cultural and Heritage Cultural and Heritage received a grant from the Freeholders, plans for the 275th are continuing, workshop for in-kind donations, speaker series, in September the Historic Preservation Element report will be coming out, Fire Department picnic went well, Fire Department statistics were read, Police Department will assist with the resident appreciation day, 275th, surveying for access control, mold remediation wrapping up, rifles being serviced, further parking assessment being done, preventative maintenance report is being read
Councilwoman Shipp	Special Events, Economic Development, Newsletter, Website Events committee working on Community Day and asking for organizations to attend, spoke on Salsa Night, PaintOut information given, EDC working on information, organization being done with 275 th celebration, working with Custom Alloy to repaint float, newsletter will contain info for sale of the water system
Councilman Stemple	Finance, Utilities, & Education Absent
Michael Pappas	Administrator Digitization of building permits has been completed with a demo pending, branding by Kean University
Mayor Mark Desire	Executive Services 100 West Main updated on meetings and Committee being formed, Lake Solitude Dam restoration team coming out to assess the dam, Coffee with the Mayor spoke about retaining wall on Main St., Water Utilities, Tax questions, and Mill Street questions, Community Day kick-off, concerned citizen comments led the Mayor to investigate the issues in the Commons which were found to have occurred years ago

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion to amend the consent agenda to include Resolution 184-2017, committee appointments: LoIacono; Second, Shipp;
 Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipp, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
 Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

Motion to amend the consent agenda to include Resolution 185-2017, amending Resolution 168-2017, sponsorship information: LoIacono; Second, Shipp;

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

Motion to amend the consent agenda to include Resolution 186-2017, appointment of Michelle Winzenried to return to part-time crossing guard position: LoIacono; Second: Hughes;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

RESOLUTION #	TITLE
Resolution 172-2017	Amend professional contract - Maser
Resolution 173-2017	Amend professional contract – Maser – Mill St
Resolution 174-2017	Appointment – Sandy Banks – full-time crossing guard
Resolution 175-2017	Chapter 159 - Click It or Ticket
Resolution 176-2017	Chapter 159 - DWI
Resolution 177-2017	Acceptance of Hunterdon County contract for surface treatment
Resolution 178-2017	Lien redemption
Resolution 179-2017	OPRA special service charges
Resolution 180-2017	Utility refunds
Resolution 181-2017	Approve Highlands redevelopment plan of 100 West Main St.
Resolution 184-2017	Appointment of a committee for 100 West Main redevelopment
Resolution 185-2017	Amending Resolution 168-2017 – Sponsorship information
Resolution 186-2017	Appointment of Michelle Winzenried to part-time crossing guard

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

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

- A.** End of month Tax and Finance reports
- B.** Department of Transportation Grants
- C.** Hunterdon County Surface Treatment Award
- D.** Historic Grant Award
- E.** Highlands Wastewater Management Plan proposal
- F.** Highlands Wastewater Management Plan mapping updates letter

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 3 MINUTES PER PERSON: NONE

LEGAL ISSUES: NONE

BILL LIST:

Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List. **Total Amount: \$1429989.73**
Motion to approve bill list: Strange ; Second: Hughes ;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

EXECUTIVE SESSION: LEGAL ADVICE – TOWN OF CLINTON ARBITRATION & LEGAL ADVICE WITH REGARD TO GOLF COURSE

Resolution 182-2017 - Motion to move into executive session: LoIacono; 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 move into open session: Zappa ; Second: Strange ;
Roll call vote: LoIacono, yes; Shipps, yes; Stemple, absent; Strange, yes; Hughes, yes; Zappa, yes;

Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

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

Motion to adjourn: LoIacono ; Second: Zappa ;

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

Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 absent

Adjourned at 11:05 p.m.

Next Council Meeting: September 14, 2017 - 7:30 pm – 97 West Main Street, High Bridge NJ, 08829

Adam Young
Acting Municipal Clerk

Mark Desire
Mayor