

BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE – COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: June 14, 2018 – 7:30 p.m. – Location: 97 West Main St., 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 MAYOR DESIRE

FLAG SALUTE: LED BY MAYOR

COUNCIL ROLL CALL:

Councilman Columbus present	Councilman LoIacono present	Mayor Desire present
Councilwoman Ferry present	Councilman Strange present	
Councilwoman Hughes present	Councilman Zappa present	

Attorney Barry Goodman, Administrator Michael Pappas, Acting Clerk Adam Young, Department of Work laborer Rick Roll, and eight other public and press attended the meeting.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to dispense with the reading of the regular May 24, 2018 minutes: Motion / Second: Zappa / Hughes
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Motion to approve the May 24, 2018 regular minutes: Motion / Second: Strange / Ferry
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Motion to approve the May 24, 2018 executive minutes: Motion / Second: Strange / Hughes
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Motion to approve the April 26, 2018 executive minutes: Motion / Second: Zappa / Strange
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, abstain ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 abstention

Motion to add Proclamation 005-2018 – LGBTQI pride Month to the agenda: Strange / Zappa
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes
Proclamation read by Councilwoman Natalie Ferry

Motion to add discussion item, Solitude House Annex lease agreement: Motion / Second: Strange / Zappa
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Motion to amend the agenda to add executive session, Resolution 172-2018: Motion / Second: Zappa / Strange
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

APPOINTMENTS:

A. Resolution 156-2018 – Updated Committee appointments

Motion to adopt Resolution 156-2018: Motion / Second: Hughes / Strange

Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;

Motion passes: 6 yes

AWARDS:

A. Volunteer of the Year Award – presented to Nancy Hunt

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 5 MINUTES PER PERSON

Doug Walker spoke about having a golf committee meeting, asked about the B.A.N listed on the agenda, the reduction in the insurance costs with the JIF, and commented on the agendas being closed for additions on Fridays. Council spoke about an outline describing the B.A.N., the outline the Borough has for the costs of the JIF, and handling agendas on Fridays. Theresa Woods spoke about the paving and grass issues on Nassau Road. Council spoke about the condition of the grass on the road, the priority of the road for repairs, DPW cutting and other solutions to the mowing needed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. Ordinance 2018-023: Amending Borough Code, Chapter 303-7, C.(7), Sewer deduction for filling pool

Motion to open the public hearing for Ordinance 2018-023: Motion / Second: LoIacono / Hughes

Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;

Motion passes: 6 yes

Doug Walker asked why the Borough is considering the sewer deduction, stated that other water uses are going on during the pool fill, and that it should be considered a cost of owning a pool. Council discussed other methods of handling a pool liner change and methods of proof for the fill amount.

Motion to close the public hearing for Ordinance 2018-023: Motion / Second: LoIacono / Zappa

Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;

Motion passes: 6 yes

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-023: Motion / Second: Zappa / Columbus

Roll call vote: Columbus, Abstain ; Ferry, No ; Hughes, Abstain ; LoIacono, No ;

Strange, No ; Zappa, No ;

Motion does not pass: 4 no, 2 abstentions

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Landlord registration – Council spoke about the handling of landlord registration late fees in previous years, hardships this year, and the idea of give 50% of late fees back as relief.

B. Solitude House Annex lease – Council discussed the topic of the Solitude House Annex lease, the intent of the use of the property, and the request for some changes to the lease. Michael Darmstadt spoke about the want to have an architect view the space. Discussion ensued.

Motion to add Resolution 173-2018 to consent agenda, accepting the amended lease agreement with Union Forge Spirits : Motion / Second: Columbus / Hughes

Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;

Motion passes: 6 yes

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

A. Ordinance 2018-024: Chapter 145, Affordable housing regulations

Motion to introduce: Motion / Second: Strange / Zap

Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;

Motion passes: 6 yes

The presiding officer states that Ordinance 2018-024 shall be published in whole or summary in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat with the public hearing date of June 28, 2018.

B. Ordinance 2018-025: Chapter 145, Developer fee

Motion to introduce: Motion / Second: Strange / LoIacono

Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;

Motion passes: 6 yes

The presiding officer states that Ordinance 2018-025 shall be published in whole or summary in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat with the public hearing date of June 28, 2018.

C. Ordinance 2018-026: Chapter 145, Article 4, District regulations

Motion to introduce: Motion / Second: Strange / Zappa

Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;

Motion passes: 6 yes

The presiding officer states that Ordinance 2018-026 shall be published in whole or summary in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat with the public hearing date of June 28, 2018.

D. Ordinance 2018-027: Mason dump truck

Motion to introduce: Motion / Second: Zappa / Hughes

Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;

Motion passes: 6 yes

The presiding officer states that Ordinance 2018-027 shall be published in whole or summary in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat with the public hearing date of June 28, 2018.

CONSENT AGENDA:

RESOLUTION #	TITLE
Resolution – 157 - 2018	Authorization to go out to bid – Washington Ave.
Resolution – 158 - 2018	Authorize electronic third party receipts
Resolution – 159 - 2018	Award of contract – JTG – Hillcrest Lane
Resolution – 160 - 2018	Award of contract – Fire House improvement
Resolution – 161 - 2018	Landlord refund for overpayment
Resolution – 162 - 2018	Lien redemption
Resolution – 163 - 2018	Plenary license approval – Smoking Gun Enterprises, LLC.
Resolution – 164 - 2018	Plenary license approval – High Bridge Restaurant, LLC.
Resolution – 165 - 2018	Plenary license approval – Riverside Liquors
Resolution – 166 - 2018	Release of executive session minutes
Resolution – 167 - 2018	Sewer utility adjustment
Resolution – 168 - 2018	Solicitor permit approval – HBBA Farmer’s Market
Resolution – 169 - 2018	Municipal support for responsible pet ownership
Resolution – 170 - 2018	Safe routes to school
Resolution – 171 - 2018	Landlord refund for late fees
Resolution – 173 - 2018	Approve amended Solitude House Annex lease

Motion to approve the consent agenda items except Resolution 167-2018 and Resolution 171-2018:
Motion / Second: LoIacono / Hughes
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Resolution 167-2018 and Resolution 171-2018 removed for discussion.

Discussion of Resolution 167-2018: Council discussed the location of the leak after the meter, removal of the sewer usage, still paying the water portion of the bill, the amount of the leak, and the request by Council to check the meter.

Motion to table Resolution 167-2018 to the next Council meeting: Motion / Second: LoIacono / Columbus
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Discussion of Resolution 171-2018: Council discussed the prior notices being sent to residents, the fee structure, and prior refunds having been given for this issue.
Motion to approve Resolution 171-2018: Motion / Second: LoIacono / Zappa
Roll call vote: Columbus, no ; Ferry, no ; Hughes, no ; LoIacono, no ; Strange, no ; Zappa, no ;
Motion does not pass: 6 no

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Certificate of determination of award – B.A.N. – Councilman Zappa discussed portions of the B.A.N. note.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 3 MINUTES PER PERSON

Nancy Hunt spoke about the duties of Cultural and Heritage to oversee the history and buildings of the Borough, spoke about the Annex's history, doing archaeology on the surrounding grounds of the Annex. Council spoke that the Annex would not be affected, and that Council will seek input for the collaboration of the project.

LEGAL ISSUES:

Attorney Goodman updated the public about the history of the current litigation, the overcharging of improper items to High Bridge which should have been paid by the Town of Clinton, and the current stay of arbitration.

BILL LIST:

Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List. **Total Amount: \$603,198.99**

Council discussed item 320 - Thompson Reuters, item 1135, and 2383 for irrigation. Acting Clerk Adam Young spoke about the Thompson Reuters pocket parts for code books. Administrator Pappas spoke about the irrigation items which were approved in a Capital Ordinance last year.

Motion to approve bill list: Motion / Second: Zappa / Strange
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

EXECUTIVE SESSION: LEGAL ADVICE FOR TOWN OF CLINTON ARBITRATION

Resolution 172-2018 - Motion to move into executive session: Motion / Second: Zappa / Strange
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes. Action may now be taken.

Motion to move into open session: Motion / Second: Zappa / Strange

Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

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

Motion to adjourn: Motion / Second: Columbus / Zappa

Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Next regular meeting: June 28, 2018 – 7:30 pm – 97 West Main Street, High Bridge, NJ

Respectfully,



Adam Young
Acting Municipal Clerk



Mark Desire
Mayor