

BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE – COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: September 27, 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: LED BY THE MAYOR

FLAG SALUTE: LED BY THE 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	

Also present were Administrator Michael Pappas, Attorney Barry Goodman, Acting Clerk Adam Young, Police Chief Brett Bartman, and eight (8) members of the public and press.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to dispense with the reading of the regular September 13, 2018 minutes:

Motion / Second: Hughes/LoIacono

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

Motion to approve the September 13, 2018 regular minutes: Motion / Second: Hughes / LoIacono

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

Motion to approve the September 13, 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

APPOINTMENT:

A. Appointment of Clerk – Adam Young

Motion to adopt Resolution 226-2018, Appointment of Clerk: Motion / Second: Zappa / Columbus

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

VISITOR:

A. Fire Chief Jeff Smith spoke about the fire hydrant testing program, statistics from the testing, aspects of how the testing was done, and actions taken to correct issues. Monthly report items were also read for the Fire Department, including items eligible via grants such as thermal imaging equipment and SCOT packs, increasing public programs, shared service programs to help with shortage of volunteers.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 5 MINUTES PER PERSON

Michele Lee asked about the Borough Engineer's AMP report and asked about the moving of tables for the Environmental Commission and general Borough information table at Community Day. Administrator Pappas stated that the report is still being prepared and will be presented as soon as it is ready. Council discussed that the Borough information table being moved was not planned, that some members did not know that the table was present, and discussion of the production of the event map was discussed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. **Ordinance 2018-033:** Appropriating an additional \$10,000 from the Water Capital Improvement Fund for a water main bypass on Mine Rd.

Motion to open the public hearing for Ordinance 2018-033: Motion / Second: Columbus / Strange
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Councilman Strange asked where the bypass will be located for the project. Council discussed the intended location of the bypass, the material of the bypass pipe, and future N.J. Transit bridge repairs.

Motion to close the public hearing for Ordinance 2018-033: 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 adopt Ordinance 2018-033: Motion / Second: Strange / Zappa
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

B. **Ordinance 2018-034:** Appropriating \$15,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund for preliminary engineering for McDonald St. road improvements

Motion to open the public hearing for Ordinance 2018-034: Motion / Second: Hughes / Strange
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Council spoke about the specifics of the grant, support from the State and County for this project, the need to fix McDonald Street, and old brick pipes being used on or near this site. Pablo Delgado asked if all of McDonald is being fixed. Council responded that it is all being fixed. Tom Wescoe asked about the amount for the project, if sidewalks and curbs will be included for repair, and if deterioration at the bottom of McDonald was made worse by the addition of parking spaces. Discussion ensued about the gas piping near the project possibly starting an issue, the timeline of changes to the area, and that the project is bonded.

Motion to close the public hearing for Ordinance 2018-034: Motion / Second: LoIacono / Columbus
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-034: Motion / Second: LoIacono / Zappa
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

C. **Ordinance 2018-035:** Appropriating \$60,000 from Current Capital Improvement Fund for surveillance equipment and installation

Motion to open the public hearing for Ordinance 2018-035: Motion / Second: Hughes / LoIacono
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Council discussed generalities of the system, versatility of the system, and that there is not a need for an emergency appropriation.

Motion to amend Ordinance 2018-035 to strike section 3 as the statement is not necessary and has not amount listed: Strange / LoIacono

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

Pablo Delgado asked if there is maintenance of the system. Chief Bartman stated that there is no upkeep to the system and that it was purchased on state contract. Discussion ensued of directly replacing items if needed.

Motion to close the public hearing for Ordinance 2018-035: Motion / Second: LoIacono / Columbus
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-035: Motion / Second: Strange / Hughes
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

D. **Ordinance 2018-036**: Salary and wage range of officers and employees

Motion to open the public hearing for Ordinance 2018-036: Motion / Second: LoIacono / Strange
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Council stated that the change is to add the Clerk's position to the Ordinance.

Motion to close the public hearing for Ordinance 2018-036: Motion / Second: Zappa / Strange
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-036: Motion / Second: LoIacono / Strange
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

E. **Ordinance 2018-037**: Reduce the speed limit for Cregar Rd., zone 2 to the 25 M.P.H

Motion to open the public hearing for Ordinance 2018-037: Motion / Second: LoIacono / Strange
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Council discussed having two different speed limits on Cregar Rd. and the intent to make the 30 m.p.h. section 25 m.p.h. Councilman LoIacono spoke about talking to residents in that area and stated that the residents were in favor of the change. Discussion of a sign being put up on East Main and West Main ensued as well as the cost for traffic studies being at no cost to the Borough.

Motion to close the public hearing for Ordinance 2018-037: Motion / Second: LoIacono / Strange
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-037: Motion / Second: Strange / Columbus
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

DISCUSSION ITEMS: NONE AT THIS TIME

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES: NONE AT THIS TIME

COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

Official	Department
Councilman Zappa	Engineering, Department of Public Works – Spoke about the Department of Works brush pickup being completed, the Fairview Ave. water main break, preparing for leaf pickup, the retirement of Michael Hann, the replacement of fire hydrants, the progression of road projects, the Mine Road bypass, the Cregar Rd. bridge, McDonald St. and Washington Ave. project progression.
Councilwoman Hughes	Environmental, Solid Waste / Recycling, Public Health & Open Space – spoke about the Borough Hall greenscaping, the mini-park on Main St. getting a new tree and some upkeep, Community Day with an Environmental game, application for grants and grants received, the name change of goHunterdon from HART, and awards received.
Councilman Lolocono	Education, Finance, Emergency Services – spoke about the surveillance camera Ordinance benefits, read Police Department statistics.
Councilman Strange	Economic Development Committee, Recreation – spoke about recent recreation meetings planning for Community Day, Community Day activities, recreation brochures being produced, the High Bridge Adventure Race logistics coming together, Economic Development event discussions about “For High Bridge”, old Borough Hall and library provisions, N.J. Transit options for the train station, the dog park and bike park progress being slow due to weather, a County tourism survey, High Rail Brewing coming to town, wayfinding signage, budget for the future year for grants, publicizing areas in High Bridge, composting of leaves, attending the SWAC meeting.
Councilwoman Ferry	Cultural and Heritage, Events – spoke about the Speaker Series talk about the Fire Department, the For High Bridge event, an open house at the Solitude House, Community Day setup and events, work at the Annex, speaker series on Oct. 22, Events doing Bubble Ball, shirts being sold and given away, thanking sponsors, Salsa Night coming this weekend, Halloweekend update of activities, and PaintOut.
Councilman Columbus	Golf – spoke about the golf course statistics, a memorial event held at the course
Michael Pappas	Administrator – spoke about the Department of Works tasks, the retirement of Michael Hann.
Mayor Mark Desire	Executive Services – spoke about a good job done by JCP&L, the Town of Clinton sewer mediation, a new business proposal for a corporate building, appointment of the water and sewer operators, business recruitment day.

CONSENT AGENDA:

RESOLUTION #	TITLE
Resolution – 227 - 2018	Approval of Social Affair permit – Califon Fire Company golf outing
Resolution – 228 - 2018	Amending Resolution 156-2018 - Recreation Committee appointments
Resolution – 229 - 2018	Appointment of temporary Water operator
Resolution – 230 - 2018	Appointment of temporary Sewer operator

Motion to approve the consent agenda items: Motion / Second: Lolocono / Columbus

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. End of month Tax and Finance reports
- B. Town of Clinton Sewer Audit 2017

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 3 MINUTES PER PERSON

Michele Lee stated that Community Day was good, spoke about social media issues and posts, and social media administration. Discussion ensued.

LEGAL ISSUES: NONE

BILL LIST:

Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List. **Total Amount: \$261,374.13**

Motion to approve bill list: Motion / Second: LoIacono / Zappa

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 MEDIATION

Resolution 231-2018 - Motion to move into executive session: Motion / Second: LoIacono / Columbus

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: LoIacono / Columbus

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 / Strange

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

Next regular meeting: October 11, 2018 – 7:30 pm – 97 West Main Street, High Bridge, NJ

Respectfully submitted,



Adam Young
Acting Municipal Clerk



Mark Desire
Mayor