

BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE – COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: December 13, 2018 – 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: MAYOR DESIRE CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER

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		

Also present were Attorney Alan Pralgaver, Administrator Michael Pappas, Director of the Department of Works Rick Roll, Chief of Police Brett Bartman, Clerk Adam Young and thirty-four members of the public and press.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to dispense with the reading of the regular November 29, 2018 minutes: Hughes / Zappa
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, abstain ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 abstention

Motion to approve the November 29, 2018 regular minutes: Hughes / Strange
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, abstain ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 abstention

Motion to approve the November 29, 2018 executive minutes: Strange / Zappa
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; LoIacono, abstain ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 abstention

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 5 MINUTES PER PERSON

Josh Kinsky spoke about his support for Mayor Mark Desire and thanked him for his service.

Lisa Desire spoke about her family, and her family's history, with Mark serving as Mayor and thanked him for his service.

Matt Curtin thanked Mark Desire for his service over the years, asked for relief of having the leaves on his property picked up with the leaf vac by the Department of Works, spoke about logistics of the bridge being short and not having to hold all of the leaf vac equipment. Council discussed the logistics of fixing the bridge and finding a solution for leaf pickup.

Coleen Conroy thanked Mark and Keir for their service and spoke about all of the time spent by Mark helping at the schools.

Jeremy Groover spoke as the President of High Bridge Youth Basketball, spoke about the current status of background checks for individuals getting background checks. Council spoke with Chief Brett Bartman about the Ordinance requirements for proving background checks have been done to meet compliance with the Ordinances, and the coaches needing flexibility.

Chief Bartman spoke about the cycle of fingerprinting and the timing set by Ordinance.

Jason Morales thanked Mark and Keir for their service.

Councilman Zappa presented awards to Mark Desire and Keir LoIacono and thanked them for their service and recounted stories of their service.

Mayor Desire spoke about his time spent serving as Mayor, thanked all of the professionals he has served with, the goals met over the years, and the residents of the Borough who stepped up to assist in the community.

Councilman Zappa spoke about the Mayor's efforts to create an A.D.A. accessible Borough Hall and proposed the following Resolution.

Motion to amend the agenda to add Resolution 282-2018 naming Borough Hall the Mayor Mark Desire Borough Hall:

Zappa / LoIacono

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

Motion to approve Resolution 282-2018: Zappa / LoIacono

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. **Ordinance 2018-038:** Appropriating \$25,000 from the sewer capital improvement fund for improvements to the sewer pump station

Motion to open the public hearing for Ordinance 2018-038: LoIacono / Columbus

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

Councilman Zappa spoke about what the Ordinance will address as it pertains to repairs at a sewer pump station as well as the logistics required.

Motion to close the public hearing for Ordinance 2018-038: Columbus / Strange

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-038: Strange / Columbus

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

B. **Ordinance 2018-039:** Appropriating \$245,000 from the Capital Improvement fund for McDonald Street Road improvements

Motion to open the public hearing for Ordinance 2018-039: Strange / Columbus

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

Motion passes: 6 yes;

Councilman Zappa spoke about the money being appropriated for repairing McDonald Street.

Motion to close the public hearing for Ordinance 2018-039: Columbus / Strange

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-039: LoIacono / Columbus

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Personnel Policies, Positions, and Compensation - Administrator Pappas spoke about the updates to the personnel policy concerning sick time updates, proposed changes for personal and vacation time, the use of pooled time off, and the handling of long term employee's compensation of time. Council discussed the possible creation of a contract for Chief Brett Bartman which addresses items for the Chief which are standard in the P.B.A. contract for other Officers, and the logistics of introducing and adopting an Ordinance in 2019.

Motion to adopt **Resolution 268-2018:**

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES: NONE

COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

Official	Department
Councilman Zappa	Engineering, Department of Public Works No report at this time.
Councilwoman Hughes	Environmental, Solid Waste / Recycling, Public Health & Open Space Spoke about the weeping cherry tree planted for President George. H. W. Bush and thanked the volunteers who assisted, working on the Roots for Rivers grant, thanked Mark Desire for his service to the community and spoke about shared successes.
Councilman LoIacono	Education, Finance, Emergency Services Spoke about the Fire Department's dedication to their job, read the Fire Department statistics, no report for E.M.S. and the P.D., spoke about the lean finance decisions, spoke about his recovery, and thanked Mark and Administrator Pappas for his service.
Councilman Strange	Economic Development Committee, Recreation Spoke about EDC, advertising for new membership, an Economic Development grant opportunity, the HC Park website for promotions on events, High Rail Brewing showing swag at Circa, fasteners on wayfinding signs, the dog park/pump track status, Division of Parks and Recreation offered to assist with construction of a place for setting up a rink and sand court, the Recreation Committee submitting articles to the newsletter and a P.S.A. on the website, redoing their section of the website, rescheduling the HBAR event for June 2019, tree lighting went well, status if the ice rink setup, and meeting once at the end of the year. Councilman Strange thanked Mark Desire for his service.
Councilwoman Ferry	Cultural and Heritage, Events Spoke about the last open house for Solitude House with model trains; spoke about a leather working demonstration, Menger shirts for sale, Events Committee preparing sponsorship packets.
Councilman Columbus	Golf Spoke about golf statistics, weather issues, rounds being down, and postponement of the drainage on hole three project, the sale of memberships and passes. Thanked Mark Desire for his time given to the community.
Michael Pappas	Administrator Spoke about a call for the sale of Old Borough Hall which sounds promising, the expiration of the listing of Old Borough Hall, the intent to address this again in 2019, and thanked Mark and Keir for their time and service.
Mayor Mark Desire	Executive Services Spoke about the status of the Town of Clinton and 100 West Main Street interest by a developer to make a bid to build on the property.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion to remove Resolution 269-2018 from the consent agenda for discussion: LoIacono / Columbus

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

Council discussed the desire to have the Reorganizational meeting at the Fire House rather than Borough Hall to accommodate anticipated seating needs for the public.

Motion to amend Resolution 269-2018 to reflect the Reorganizational meeting of 2019 to be held at the Fire House: Zappa / Ferry

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

Motion to adopt Resolution 269-2018 as amended: LoIacono / Columbus

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

RESOLUTION #	TITLE
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Resolution – 269 - 2018	Annual 2019 meeting dates
Resolution – 270 - 2018	Amend professional service contract – Maser
Resolution – 271 - 2018	Amend professional service contract – Maser - Planner
Resolution – 272 - 2018	Amend professional service contract – McManimon, Scotland, and Baumann
Resolution – 273 - 2018	Approve volunteer hold harmless agreement Ver 2018 including minors
Resolution – 274 - 2018	Authorize petty cash fund for Police Department
Resolution – 275 - 2018	Award of Contract – Tilcon – Asphalt price adjustment
Resolution – 276 - 2018	Cancel Capital appropriation balances
Resolution – 277 - 2018	End of year transfers
Resolution – 278 - 2018	Final payment for Hillcrest Lane
Resolution – 279 - 2018	Refund of Tax overpayment
Resolution – 280 - 2018	Refund for HBAR event

Motion to approve the consent agenda items: LoIacono / Strange

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Draft hold harmless agreement

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 3 MINUTES PER PERSON

Chief Brett Bartman spoke about clarification for the background check process moving forward, the use of a state issued number to begin the 2-week grace period for background checks, and the request to have clarification on the handling of his time off.

LEGAL ISSUES: NONE AT THIS TIME

BILL LIST:

Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List. **Total Amount: \$903,927.82**

Motion to approve bill list: LoIacono / 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 MEDIATION

Resolution 281-2018 - Motion to move into executive session: 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: LoIacono / Hughes

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

Motion to add Resolution 283-2018, authorizing the sewer utility term sheet to be submitted to the Town of Clinton and Clinton Township Sewerage Authority: LoIacono / Hughes

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: LoIacono / Strange

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

Next regular meeting: January 3, 2019 – 7:30 pm – 7 Maryland Ave., High Bridge NJ, 08829