BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE
COUNCIL REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

Date: January 3, 2019 – 7:30 p.m. – Location: High Bridge Firehouse, 7 Maryland Ave.

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: CALLED TO ORDER BY BOROUGH CLERK ADAM YOUNG

FLAG SALUTE: LED BY CLERK YOUNG

SWEARING IN OF ELECTED OFFICIALS:

A. Mayor Michele Lee - Term expiring 12/31/2022 was sworn in
B. Councilwoman Leigh Moore - Term expiring 12/31/2021 was sworn in
C. Councilman George Columbus - Term expiring 12/31/2021 was sworn in

ROLL CALL:

Councilman Columbus	present	Councilwoman Moore	present	Mayor Lee	present
Councilwoman Ferry	present	Councilman Strange	present		
Councilwoman Hughes	present	Councilman Zappa	present		

Also present were Attorney Barry Goodman, Chief of Police Brett Bartman, Director of the Department of Works Rick Roll, Administrator Michael Pappas, and Clerk Adam Young along with fifty-three members of the public and press.

COMMENTS OF COUNCIL:

Mayor Michele Lee thanked the residents for their support, thanked the newly elected Council people, thanked Mayor Mark Desire for his contributions to the Borough, and stated that working across partisan lines is her message going forward.
Councilman Zappa and Councilwoman Hughes congratulated the new Mayor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 5 MINUTES PER PERSON

Pablo Delgado wished Council Happy New Year, congratulated the Mayor, thanked Mark Desire for his support, and stated that he looks forward to working with the Mayor and Council in the future.
Mark Desire gave congratulations to the Council, looks forward to the new year and being at future meetings.
Mayor Lee thanked everyone for their support and invited everyone to Circa after the meeting.

NEW ORDINANCES:

A. **Ordinance 2019-001**: Salary and Wage Ranges

Motion to introduce **Ordinance 2019-001**: Zappa/Hughes
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Mayor Lee states that the **Ordinance 2019-001** shall be published in its entirety in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat along with the public hearing date of January 24, 2019.

B. **Ordinance 2019-002**: Sale of Old Borough Hall, 71 Main Street

Motion to introduce **Ordinance 2019-002**: Zappa/Strange
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;

Motion passes: 6 yes

Mayor Lee states that the **Ordinance 2019-002** shall be published in its entirety in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat along with the public hearing date of January 24, 2019.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Nomination and Election of Council President – Mayor Lee asks for nominations. Councilwoman Hughes nominates Councilman Zappa. Councilman Columbus seconds the motion.

Resolution 001-2019 - Motion to approve nomination of Councilman Zappa and adopt **Resolution 001-2019**: Hughes/Columbus
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

B. Temporary Budget

Resolution 002-2019 – Motion to adopt the temporary budget: Strange/Hughes
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Motion to amend the agenda to include Discussion Item A. Frenchtown Police Department: Strange/Columbus
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

A. Frenchtown Police Department: Councilman Strange gave an overview of the currently very small Frenchtown Police Department, their intent to hire a new Officer, the possibility of utilizing a shared service agreement to train a new Officer in Frenchtown, and the short timeline for Council review of this issue. Police Chief Brett Bartman spoke about the overview of the Frenchtown Police Department and the initial steps of opening communication with the Town and Borough Attorneys.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion to remove the following Resolutions from the agenda for discussion: Strange/Zappa
Resolution 003-2019, Resolution 035-2019, Resolution 036-2019, Resolution 049-2019, Resolution 050-2019, Resolution 051-2019, Resolution 054-2019, and Resolution 056-2019.
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Motion to amend Resolution 036-2019, Resolution 050-2019, Resolution 051-2019, Resolution 054-2019 to include the High Bridge Adventure Race on June 9th, 2019 at 12 p.m. with a rain date of June 23rd, 2019 and move the open house for Cultural and Heritage from June 9th, 2019 to June 15th, 2019. Strange/Zappa
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Motion to adopt Resolution 036-2019, Resolution 050-2019, Resolution 051-2019, Resolution 054-2019 as amended: Columbus/Zappa
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Discussion of Resolution 049-2019 ensued about fees for the use of other parks and recreational spaces and how to institute a fee for the use of those spaces. Council decided to review this further before making changes.
Motion to adopt Resolution 049-2019 as written: Strange/Zappa
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;

Motion passes: 6 yes

Discussion of Resolution 003-2019 with Mayor and Council ensued about a Mayor appointed position and the decision to move John Moskway to Alternate 2. Both Mayor and Council members have spoken to Mr. Moskway about the decision and it was decided by the Mayor to utilize the Resolution as it stands.
Motion to adopt Resolution 003-2019 as written: Zappa/Ferry
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Discussion of Resolution 056-2019 was concluded as there were not questions.
Motion to adopt Resolution 056-2019 as written: Strange/Zappa
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Discussion of Resolution 035-2019 ensued about the reason for the rate to be set to $145 as a base fee and $5.38 per unit fee when the previous Resolution stated the per unit fee to be $0.00. Council discussed the need to look at the finances of the decision that the Borough is hoping litigation on this issue will be concluded before the next billing cycle, and that there are available meetings to set the fee prior to the next billing cycle.
Motion to adopt Resolution 035-2019 as written: Zappa/Hughes
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

RESOLUTION #	TITLE
Resolution 003-2019	Boards and Committees
Resolution 004-2019	Annual 2019 meeting dates
Resolution 005-2019	Borough newspapers
Resolution 006-2019	Tax and utility delinquencies
Resolution 007-2019	Cancel small balances
Resolution 008-2019	Tax appeals
Resolution 009-2019	Depositories and cash management plan
Resolution 010-2019	Pay-to-play – non-fair and open process for professional contracts
Resolution 011-2019	Signatures on checks
Resolution 012-2019	General Borough Appointments
Resolution 013-2019	Council Committee assignments
Resolution 014-2019	Adopt personnel policy
Resolution 015-2019	Animal control
Resolution 016-2019	Appointment of annual Assessment Officer
Resolution 017-2019	OPRA hours
Resolution 018-2019	Authorization to bid
Resolution 019-2019	Authorize purchases from memberships
Resolution 020-2019	Authorizing professional memberships
Resolution 021-2019	Adopt green purchasing policy
Resolution 022-2019	Dog license late date and fees
Resolution 023-2019	Duplicate tax certificate
Resolution 024-2019	Professional contracts – Fair and open professional awards
Resolution 025-2019	Newsletter rates
Resolution 026-2019	NSF check charge
Resolution 027-2019	Police rules and regulations
Resolution 028-2019	Commissioner assignment resolution
Resolution 029-2019	Risk management agreement – 2019
Resolution 030-2019	Morris County co-op
Resolution 031-2019	Municipal alliance
Resolution 032-2019	Soil witness Fees – PERC
Resolution 033-2019	Shared services agreement
Resolution 034-2019	Appointment of full time Director of the Department of Public Works
Resolution 035-2019	Utility rates

Resolution 036-2019	Cultural and heritage events 2019
Resolution 037-2019	Designation of Municipal Humane Law Enforcement Officer
Resolution 038-2019	Volunteer tuition credit program
Resolution 039-2019	Appoint temporary water operator
Resolution 040-2019	Appoint temporary sewer operator
Resolution 041-2019	Annual tree board
Resolution 042-2019	NJ wildlife
Resolution 043-2019	Recycling grant
Resolution 044-2019	Rigid plastic, shredding, and electronics recycling events
Resolution 045-2019	Water conservation
Resolution 046-2019	Tree city re-certification
Resolution 047-2019	Planning Board / Board of Adjustment fees
Resolution 048-2019	Meter charges
Resolution 049-2019	Recreation fees
Resolution 050-2019	Special event fees
Resolution 051-2019	Sponsorship packages 2019
Resolution 052-2019	Property assessment program authorization
Resolution 053-2019	Setting Hourly Rate for School Crossing Guards
Resolution 054-2019	Borough Special Events 2019
Resolution 055-2019	Extension of contract for Borough Professionals, 30-days – Attorney and Auditor
Resolution 056-2019	Municipal court appointment - Judge Eric Perkins

Motion to approve the consent agenda items as amended: Zappa/Strange
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

A. High Bridge Police Department Rules and Regulations
B. Public Works Manager successful completion letter – Rick Roll

BILL LIST:

Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List. **Total Amount: $288,826.50**
Motion to approve bill list: Hughes/Strange
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 3 MINUTES PER PERSON: NONE

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

Councilman Columbus asked why the Resolution for the naming of Borough Hall was removed from the meeting agenda. Mayor Lee responded that she did not feel it was appropriate for this meeting and that it can be discussed for a future meeting.

Motion to adjourn: Zappa/Strange
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;
Motion passes: 6 yes

Next Council Meeting: January 10, 2019, 7:30 pm - Borough Hall, 97 West Main Street, High Bridge, NJ