

# BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE – COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: March 7, 2019 – 7:30 p.m. – Location: 7 Maryland Ave., High Bridge, NJ 08829

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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: MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE MAYOR

## FLAG SALUTE: LED BY MAYOR

## COUNCIL 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 Department of Public Works Director Rick Roll, Attorney Barry Goodman, Administrator Michael Pappas, Clerk Adam Young, Chief of Police Brett Bartman, and four members of the public and press.

## READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to dispense with the reading of the regular February 21, 2019 minutes: Hughes / Strange  
Roll call vote: Columbus, abstain ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;  
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 abstention

Motion to approve the February 21, 2019 regular minutes: Hughes / Moore  
Roll call vote: Columbus, abstain ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;  
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 abstention

Motion to approve the February 21, 2019 executive minutes: Hughes / Strange  
Roll call vote: Columbus, abstain ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;  
Motion passes: 5 yes, 1 abstention

At 7:36 p.m. Administrator Michael Pappas enters.

## VISITOR/AWARDS:

**A.** Bill Burr – Borough Engineer – Presenting the asset management plan: Bill Burr and Sue Brasfield presented the asset management plan as it has been prepared to date. They spoke about the history of the Water Quality Accountability Act, a description of the current system, the asset management plan goals, the items of the system evaluated, recommended improvements in the report, the prioritization of items outlined in the report, the effect replacement of water meters would have to capture lost water due to old meters reading low over time, discussed funding options with grant money, low interest loans, and zero interest loans. Council discussed how the funding of small versus large projects may work, initial discussion on what items to do first and when action may be taken, and how the project may progress with D.E.P. Administrator Pappas and Mr. Burr spoke about passing a Resolution at the next meeting to send to the D.E.P. Council discussed passing the Resolution tonight to send the plan to the D.E.P. for comment.

Motion to amend the agenda to include Resolution 114-2019 for Maser to submit the current version of the asset management plan to the Department of Environmental Protection for comments: Strange / Hughes  
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;  
Motion passes: 6 yes

Motion to approve Resolution 114-2019: Hughes / Strange  
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;  
Motion passes: 6 yes

**B.** Volunteer of the Year Award: Award held for later meeting.

## **PROCLAMATION:**

**A.** Red Cross Month: Mayor Lee read the Proclamation

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS: 5 MINUTES PER PERSON: NONE**

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**A.** **Ordinance 2019-006:** Amending background checks

Motion to open the public hearing for Ordinance 2019-006: Strange / Zappa

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

Mayor Lee and Councilman Strange spoke about the change to clarify the dates by which people would need to get fingerprinted.

Motion to close the public hearing for Ordinance 2019-006: Strange / Zappa

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-006: Strange / Moore

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**A.** Dog park rules – Council discussed the proposed Ordinance for establishing the dog park rules

**B.** Park hours - Council discussed the possible need to enact park hours due to vandalism, the need to keep the basketball court open, that specific parks can have certain hours based on different criteria, and how enacting a rule may work.

**C.** Social media policy - Council and the Mayor discussed the drafting of a policy for the use of social media, the possible use of open or closed commenting, and the value of communication on multiple platforms. Discussion ensued with the challenges of archiving the created public documents under State regulations, the need to get information out to the public, what items the policy would interact with in relation to posting or removing posts, how Committees and designees may work within the policy, and that the policy is a Council decision. Attorney Goodman suggested checking to see if insurance would cover the use of social media.

## **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

**A.** **Ordinance 2019-007:** Bond Ordinance amending in its entirety Bond Ordinance numbered 2018-013 of the Borough of High Bridge, in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey, finally adopted May 10, 2018, in order to increase the appropriation amount to \$100,000, to increase authorization amount to \$100,000 and to increase section 20 cost to \$100,000

Motion to introduce Ordinance 2019-007: Zappa / Moore

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 2019-007 shall be published in its entirety in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat along with the public hearing date of March 21, 2019.

**B.** **Ordinance 2019-008:** Dog park

Motion to introduce Ordinance 2019-008: Strange / 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 2019-008** shall be published in its entirety in the Express Times and/or the Hunterdon County Democrat along with the public hearing date of March 21, 2019.

### COUNCIL COMMITTEE GOALS:

Official	Department
Councilwoman Moore	Events / Finance - Councilwoman Moore presented the Events Committee 2018 goals presentation. Councilwoman Hughes asked about movies in the park and if that will still be happening. Councilwoman Ferry said that they will be happening.

### CONSENT AGENDA:

RESOLUTION #	TITLE
Resolution – 109 - 2019	Appointment of full-time Department of Works laborer with CDL
Resolution – 110 - 2019	Reject website and newsletter bid with re-advertisement
Resolution – 111 - 2019	Special events fees
Resolution – 112 - 2019	Filming on Borough Fields

Motion to remove Resolution 109-2019 from the consent agenda: Strange / Zappa  
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;  
Motion passes: 6 yes

Motion to approve Resolution 109-2019: No motion / No second  
No roll call.

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

### WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

- A.** Letter - Bee keeping regulations - Council spoke about the communication of bee keeping, relevance to the current new regulations, and the need to discuss the issue for next meeting.
- B.** Letter - Amendment to keep 911 fees - Council spoke about the letter, the intent of the original program to fund the 911 system, and the hope to take action at the next meeting.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS: 5 MINUTES PER PERSON: NONE

Mayor Lee spoke about making good progress with having a term sheet signed between the Town of Clinton and High Bridge, needing to still have an operations agreement put into place, and moving forward hopefully by the second quarter.

### LEGAL ISSUES: NONE

### BILL LIST:

Approval of Bills as signed and listed on the Bill Payment List. **Total Amount: \$209,388.28**  
Motion to approve bill list:  
Roll call vote: Columbus, yes ; Ferry, yes ; Hughes, yes ; Moore, yes ; Strange, yes ; Zappa, yes ;  
Motion passes: 6 yes

### EXECUTIVE SESSION: LEGAL ADVICE FOR TOWN OF CLINTON MEDIATION

**Resolution 113-2019** - Motion to move into executive session: No Motion / No Second  
No executive session held.

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

Motion to adjourn: Zappa / Columbus

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

Motion passes: 6 yes

**Next Council Meeting:** March 21, 2019 - 7:30 pm – Fire House, 7 Maryland Ave., High Bridge, NJ