

**MINUTES OF THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL**  
**May 5, 2014      COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

The Township Council of the Township of Bridgewater, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, convened in a regular session on Monday, May 5, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers in the Municipal Complex, Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807.

Council President Moench read the following announcement:

**Notice of Meeting**

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting was provided on January 7, 2014 by sending written and electronic notice to the Courier News and the Star Ledger, posting on the Township website and on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building, and filing with the Township Clerk.

On call of the roll, the following Council members were present:

Allen Kurdyla  
Howard V. Norgalis  
Filipe Pedroso  
Christine Henderson Rose  
Council President Matthew C. Moench

Also Present:      James T. Naples, Township Administrator  
William B. Savo, Township Attorney  
Natasha, Director of Finance  
Robert C. Bogart, Director of Municipal Services  
Thomas Forsythe, Deputy Director of Municipal Services  
Grace Karanja, Deputy Township Clerk

Council President Moench led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Closed Session**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Bridgewater Township Council that this body will now hold a closed meeting to discuss contract negotiations.

When and if the matters discussed become public record, this will be made known to the public at that time.

The public is excluded from said meeting and further notice thereof is dispensed with all in accordance with Sections 8 and 4a of the Open Public Meetings Act.

On the motion of Councilman Kurdyla, seconded by Councilwoman Rose, Council convened in closed session at 7:35 p.m.

A copy of resolution #14-05-05-108 is appended to the official minutes.

On the motion of Councilwoman Rose, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the meeting reconvened to open session at approximately 7:50 p.m.

### Minutes for Approval

On Motion of Councilwoman Rose, second by Councilman Pedroso, the following minutes were approved on a unanimous vote of those present and eligible to vote:

- Regular Session - April 7 and April 21, 2014
- Closed Session - April 7 and April 21, 2014

### Council Reports

Councilman Kurdyla reported he attended the Bradley Gardens Little Loop opening day.

Councilwoman Rose reported she attended the Bradley Garden little loop opening day, Township sponsored Arbor Day celebration, Eco-Blast Fair and "Strive for Five K run". She also attended a board meeting of the animal shelter.

Councilman Norgalis reported as follows:

- Attended the Central Jersey Housing Resource Center meeting along with Freeholders Peter Palmer, Bob Zaborowski and Assemblyman Ciattarelli. This meeting honored Rev. Dr. DeForest Soaries, Premier Development, and Valley Brook Village for their affordable housing initiatives.
- Attended the retirement party for Candy Taylor a 27 year veteran of the Bridgewater Administration and a very nice lady.
- Attended the Bradley Gardens Little Loop (baseball) season's kick-off.
- Attended the Township Arbor Day celebration.
- Attended the Art Display presented by the Creative Arts Committee chaired by Stephanie Moench.
- Attended a meeting to review a legal settlement on over billing by the Sewerage Authority.
- Attended the County Business Partnership Citizen of the Year celebration honoring Ken Bateman, President and CEO of Somerset Hospital. He advised that Councilwoman Rose was so honored in 2000.
- Attended the township sponsored "Strive for Five K run" at Duke Island Park
- Passed to administration various resident housing issues involving a group home on Helfreds Landing and two vacant homes on Claire Dr.
- Attended the Township Eco-Blast Fair at Kid Street next to the Administration building.

Councilman Pedroso attended the Somerset County Federation of Republican Women social event and also hosted the Creative Arts first event of the year.

Council President Moench reported as follows:

- Attended a special Planning Board meeting where the Al-Falah application continued
- Attended a regular meeting of the Planning Board where an application to install solar panels at the Finderne Industrial Site was heard and approved with conditions
- Attended the Creative Arts Committee first event of the year. He invited everyone to visit their Face Book page for a preview of some of the talent that was featured during the event
- Attended Bradley Garden little loop opening day
- Attended the Eco-Blast Fair
- Reminded Council to attend the Somerset County Governing Officials meeting where Senator Chiesa will be the speaker and encouraged everyone to attend
- Advised the public of the upcoming Memorial Day celebrations and Flag Day event and encouraged them to participate. More details will be communicated at a later time.

## **Mayor's Report**

Township Administrator Naples had nothing new to report.

## **Presentation**

### **SOMERSET REGIONAL ANIMAL SHELTER**

Council President Moench advised the purpose of this presentation is to gather facts about the shelter in order to make an informed decision moving forward in light of the recent decision by Somerville Borough to pull out of any commitment to the shelter. Council will not be voting or making a decision tonight.

Councilwoman Rose, a council liaison to the Somerset Regional Animal Shelter stated this presentation will allow Council to hear firsthand the many changes that have occurred at the shelter in order to be in a position to have as much information as possible as it considers what route it wishes to take for its animal control services going forward.

Nikki Dawson, Executive Director of the Somerset Regional Animal Shelter and Sheri Lynne of Manville, president of the Board of Directors were present to conduct the presentation.

A copy of the presentation is appended to the official minutes as schedule A

Following the presentation, the hearing was opened up to Council for any questions and/or further discussion.

Council further discussed a number of issues including:

- Ways the shelter proposes to bridge the gap financially following the loss of support from Somerville Borough - a decrease in services is projected; more donations are expected following the high level of service that is now experienced.
- Adoption policies - the application process has been streamlined to allow for faster and effective adoptions
- Microchipping installation - although offered at inexpensive prices, the shelter is recovering its cost
- Life release rate is higher now than it was in the past

**Public  
Comment**

On motion of Councilwoman Rose, seconded by Councilman Pedroso, the meeting was opened to the public.

Members of the public wishing to address the Council on any matter will be allowed two minutes to speak, unless there are unusual circumstances.

The following residents were present and spoke in favor of keeping the Somerset Regional Animal Shelter in Bridgewater.

1. Janice Schocklin, 1127 Concord Drive, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
2. Melissa Neiss, 1753 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Piscataway, NJ 08854
3. Geri Staub, 10 Braemar Place, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
4. Ron Thronson, 669 Thompson Avenue, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
5. Donna Lee Zeitlin, 1163 Colonial Way, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
6. Kathleen Healey, 514 Jackson Avenue, Manville, NJ 08835
7. Lori Moog, 27 Stella Drive, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
8. Paula Heacock, 49 Highland Avenue, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
9. Hope Valenti, 66 Hillside Avenue, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
10. Jacquelyn Wallace, 791 Star View Way, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
11. Anne Narang, 30 Totten Drive, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
12. Georgette 540 Garrteson Road , Bruidgewater
13. Madak, 540 Garretson Road, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
14. Gail Madak, 540 Garretson Road, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
15. Gerie Madak, 540 Garretson Road, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
16. Ellie Hogan, 319 Hannah Way, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
17. Jennifer Feeney, 78 Morton Street, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
18. Sherri Hayes, 38 Bedford Drive, Skillman, NJ 08858
19. Leena Roy, 9 Lewis Drive, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
20. Carolyn Zhao, 7 Decker Lane, Bridgewater, NJ 08807

- 21. David Rollis, 447 Steeple Chase Lane, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
- 22. Victoria Kante, 210 Brookside Lane, Hillsborough, NJ 08844

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilwoman Rose, the public comment session was closed.

Council President Moench called for a 5-minute recess at approximately 9:30p.m. The meeting resumed at 9:35p.m. with all members present as before.

**Discussion**

**ADVANCE REALTY - BRIDGEWATER HOLDINGS, LLC**

Jeffrey B. Lehrer, Esq. attorney for Bridgewater Holdings was present for this discussion. Township Attorney Savo explained the request of Bridgewater Holdings noting their request is for Council to adopt a resolution allowing the Planning Board to undertake a preliminary investigation to determine whether the Former Sanofi-Aventis Property (Block 483 Lots 17, 18, 19) is an area in need of redevelopment.

Township Attorney Savo explained that if Council so chooses, he will prepare a resolution authorizing the Planning Board to conduct the investigation. The Planning Board will then provide Council a report of their findings. It will then be up to the governing body to decide how they would like to proceed.

Council was in consensus that Attorney Savo should prepare the resolution for the governing body to vote on.

**Public  
Hearing &  
Final Action  
Ordinances**

**BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$517,000 FOR VARIOUS PUBLIC WORKS EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING AN 8 YARD DUMP TRUCK WITH SNOW PLOW, HOTBOX, BACKHOE, PICK-UP TRUCK WITH SNOW PLOW, 28 SEAT PASSENGER BUS, PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AND INSTALLATION OF MEETING ROOM PARTITIONS, IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$491,150 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING PART OF THE APPROPRIATION**

On motion of Councilwoman Rose, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the meeting was opened to the public.

No one wished to speak.

On motion of Councilwoman Rose , seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the public comment portion was closed.

It was agreed that the title of this Ordinance should be revised to indicate the

meeting room partition improvements will be conducted at the library. The title was revised as follows:

**BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$517,000 FOR VARIOUS PUBLIC WORKS EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING AN 8 YARD DUMP TRUCK WITH SNOW PLOW, HOTBOX, BACKHOE, PICK-UP TRUCK WITH SNOW PLOW, 28 SEAT PASSENGER BUS, PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AND INSTALLATION OF MEETING ROOM PARTITIONS AT THE LIBRARY, IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$491,150 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING PART OF THE APPROPRIATION.**

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilwoman Rose, the foregoing Ordinance was proposed as amended. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Councilwoman Rose	Aye
Council President Moench	Aye

**THE ORDINANCE WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution #14-05-05-109 is appended to the official minutes.

**BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$2,440,000 FOR VARIOUS SEWER UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING RELINING OF SEWER MAINS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS INCLUDING BRADLEY GARDENS AREA, FINDERNE AREA AND SOMERVILLE ROAD AREAS, ACQUISITION OF PICKUP TRUCKS WITH SNOW PLOWS AND ACQUISITION OF A VAC-CON TRUCK, IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,440,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING PART OF THE APPROPRIATION**

On motion of Councilwoman Rose, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the meeting was opened to the public.

No one wished to speak.

On motion of Councilwoman Rose, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the public comment portion was closed.

On motion of Councilwoman Rose, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the foregoing Ordinance was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Councilwoman Rose	Aye
Council President Moench	Aye

**THE ORDINANCE WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution #14-05-05-110 is appended to the official minutes.

**BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$3,219,350 FOR VARIOUS ROAD IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$3,058,382 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING PART OF THE APPROPRIATION**

On motion of Councilwoman Rose, seconded by Councilman Pedroso, the meeting was opened to the public.

No one wished to speak.

On motion of Councilwoman Rose, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the public comment portion was closed.

On motion of Councilwoman Rose, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the foregoing Ordinance was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Councilwoman Rose	Aye
Council President Moench	Aye

**THE ORDINANCE WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution #14-05-05-111 is appended to the official minutes.

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 62 ENTITLED "BUILDING CONSTRUCTION," ARTICLE I ENTITLED "GENERAL PROVISIONS," SECTION 62-3 (CONSTRUCTION FEE SCHEDULE) OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER, FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCREASING THE CONSTRUCTION FEE SCHEDULE, SECTION 7, ELEVATOR FEES, WHERE REASONABLY APPROPRIATE, SO THAT SUCH FEE SCHEDULE IS CALCULATED TO REASONABLY COVER THE MUNICIPAL COSTS OF ENFORCING THE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION**

**CODE REGULATIONS, ALL IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.A.C. 5:23-4.17 OF THE UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE**

On motion of Councilwoman Rose, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the meeting was opened to the public.

No one wished to speak.

On motion of Councilwoman Rose, seconded by Councilman Pedroso, the public comment portion was closed.

On motion of Councilwoman Rose, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the foregoing Ordinance was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Councilwoman Rose	Aye
Council President Moench	Aye

**THE ORDINANCE WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution #14-05-05-112 is appended to the official minutes.

**Resolutions**

**AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1/FINAL CHANGE ORDER IN THE SUM OF \$11,447.97, INCREASING THE AMENDED CONTRACT PRICE FROM THE ORIGINAL CONTRACT PRICE OF \$322,121.33 TO \$333,630.90, WHICH IS A 3.55% INCREASE FROM THE ORIGINAL CONTRACT PRICE, AND FINAL PAYMENT TO TOP LINE CONSTRUCTION CORP., AND AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROJECT AND RELEASE OF THE PERFORMANCE BOND AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE MAINTENANCE BOND FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RELATED TO THE ROAD REPAVING, CURB, DRAINAGE AND INCIDENTAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR VAN HOLTEN ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT - SECTION 1 (MEADOW ROAD TO THE SCHOOL DRIVEWAY) BY TOP LINE CONSTRUCTION CORP.**

On motion of Councilman Kurdyla, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Councilwoman Rose	Aye
Council President Moench	Aye



**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution #14-05-05-113 is appended to the official minutes

**AWARD OF CONTRACT TO DESANTIS CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR THE HILLCREST ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, PHASE I THE SUM OF \$315,407.87**

Township Administrator Naples advised this was a 2013 Capital Improvement Project what will be conducted in three phases.

On motion of Councilman Kurdyla, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Councilwoman Rose	Aye
Council President Moench	Aye

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution #14-05-05-114 is appended to the official minutes

**NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY APPLICATION FOR FY 2014 HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY GRANT "CLICK IT OR TICKET" IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4000**

Township Administrator Naples advised that our new Chief Borden would like to join law enforcement officers across the state by participating in the "Click it or Ticket" program during May 19 through June 1, 2014, to ensure all motor vehicle occupants are buckled up to reduce the risk of injury and death caused by traffic accidents. A report following this program will be provided to Council to show citations issued and specific location where they occurred.

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Rose, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Councilwoman Rose	Aye
Council President Moench	Aye

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution #14-05-05-115 is appended to the official minutes

**Closed  
Session**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Bridgewater Township Council that this body will now hold a closed meeting to discuss contract negotiations and Litigation.

When and if the matters discussed become public record, this will be made known to the public at that time.

The public is excluded from said meeting and further notice thereof is dispensed with all in accordance with Sections 8 and 4a of the Open Public Meetings Act.

On the motion of Councilman Kurdyla, seconded by Councilwoman Rose, Council convened in closed session at 10:03 p.m.

A copy of resolution #14-05-05-116 is appended to the official minutes.

On the motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Pedroso, the meeting reconvened to open session at approximately 11:05 p.m.

On the motion of Councilwoman Rose, seconded by Councilman Pedroso, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda J. Doyle, RMC  
Municipal Clerk

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Matthew C. Moench  
Council President