

MINUTES OF THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
APRIL 13, 2017 COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Township Council of the Township of Bridgewater, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, convened in a regular session on Thursday, April 13, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers in the Municipal Complex, Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807.

Council President Kurdyla 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 9, 2017 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:

Matthew C. Moench
Howard Norgalis
Filipe Pedroso (absent)
Council Vice President Christine Henderson Rose
Council President Allen Kurdyla

Also Present: James T. Naples, Township Administrator
Christopher Corsini, Deputy Township Attorney
Linda Doyle, Township Clerk

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

Minutes

MARCH 30, 2017 - AGENDA SESSION
APRIL 3, 2017 - REGULAR SESSION

These minutes will be considered for approval at the regular session meeting on Monday, April 17, 2017.

Council Reports

Councilman Moench

- Nothing new to report.

Councilman Norgalis:

- Attended the Spring Fling at the Imperia in Somerset where former Governor Tom Kean was the guest speaker and shared his thoughts on government service.

- Attended the 25th Annual Awards Luncheon sponsored by the Central Jersey Housing Resource Center. Bridgewater Township was recognized for being the award winner in 1994, the late Councilman Charles Harrison in 2005 and Bill and Kathy Savo for their efforts in 2008. Michael Camerino, formerly of Mauro, Savo, Camerino, Grant and Shalk was recognized as the 2016 award recipient of the "Outstanding Achievement in Affordable Housing Award".
- Attended the Somerset County Governing Officials meeting where the guest speaker was Kerry Kirk Pflugh, Director, Office of Local Government Assistance for the NJ Department of Environmental protection. Her message was simple, "call me and I will help you through the torturous path in working with DEP".
- The Fair Share Housing Center brief sent to Judge Miller in support of our COAH agreement conveys to the Court, in the strongest possible terms, the reasonableness of Bridgewater's efforts, over many years, to provide housing opportunities to those who are financially disadvantaged. Our attorney, Alex Fischer deserves high praise for his continued efforts in working with the Fair Housing organization. On that vane, today's Courier News announced the passing of Linda the owner of Linda's Farm Stand which is the site Hovnanian wants to build homes.

Councilwoman Rose:

- Attended a Planning Board meeting this week. Following a presentation from the sewerage authority, a number of the neighbors on Dutch Lane expressed their concerns over the proposed plans especially the plant's close proximity to their homes.
- There is a Planning Board application for an adult day center behind the childcare center on the corner of Monroe and Union Ave. They have returned to the Planning because they discovered the FAR (Floor Area Ratio) in their original application was calculated incorrectly and have therefore returned to correct that. Neighbors expressed significant concern over the large trucks that run up and down Monroe and the impact this will have.
- Met with representatives from the Board of Education. A lot of exciting things are happening and there is a lot of discussion about the future of the schools in terms of curriculum and facilities. There were concerns that the high school is a wide open campus and plans are underway on how to keep the staff and students safe.
- Installation of a roof for the Lane-Brokaw House is on hold at the moment as we are in need of a structural engineer.

Council President Kurdyla:

- Attended the GMIT conference at The Palace in Somerset last week. One of the sessions was a presentation by Verizon about the new style of home transmitters that will soon replace cell towers.
- Attended the Bridgewater Township Chinese Cultural Day where Professor Chow was honored for his artwork. It was a great day of music, dance and martial arts.
- Attended the initial meeting for the community block grant program for the County and found out the actual action meeting will be held on May 10th.

Mayor's Reports

Mr. Naples reported the Mayor has announced the return of the Bulky Trash dates which are May 6th, 13th and 20th. The location is 15 Polhemus Lane from 8am-2pm.

BUDGET

2017 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

- a) PRESENTATION CHIEF NICARETTA, POLICE DEPARTMENT (4-17)
- b) 2017 MUNICIPAL BUDGET - PUBLIC HEARING (4-17)
- c) INTRODUCTION - RESOLUTION TO AMEND BUDGET (4-17)

It was Council's consensus that the above items will be considered/discussed at the regular session meeting on Monday, April 17, 2017.

Discussion

Council President Kurdyla stated he received a letter from a resident regarding a request for the governing body to consider two things:

- a) In the event a resident is a 100% disabled veteran, the sewer utility bills should be cut in half - from \$400 to \$200
- b) Seniors should also be subject to the same reduction if they are on social security.

Council President Kurdyla advised that in Bridgewater, we currently have 55 homes with veterans who receive 100% exemption from paying taxes. We have an additional 890 veterans who get a \$250 reduction in taxes. In this case, the \$250.00 is reimbursed by the State. Council President Kurdyla added that senior citizens in financial distress can apply to have their taxes frozen. Qualification is based on income level.

Council President Kurdyla requested feedback from the governing body about the resident's concern at the next council meeting. Township Administrator Naples will investigate how much of our population this will affect.

**Public
Comment**

On motion of Councilwoman Rose, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, 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.

No one wished to be heard.

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

**Introduction
of
Ordinances**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 94 ENTITLED "FEES," SECTIONS 94-2 ENTITLED "SCHEDULE OF FEES" TO REMOVE OBSOLETE LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL FEES FROM SUBSECTION A THEREOF, TO ADJUST LICENSING FEES FOR DOGS AND CATS AS FOUND IN SUBSECTION B THEREOF, AND TO ADJUST THE GAMES OF CHANCE APPLICATION FEES AS FOUND IN SUBSECTION B THEREOF AND AMENDING CHAPTER 79 ENTITLED CAT LICENSING, SECTION 79-3, REMOVAL OF SUBSECTION G

There was no discussion on this Ordinance.

Resolutions

Council President Kurdyla read the following resolutions by title and called for discussion/questions.

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT FUND \$ 8,586,909.35

AWARD OF CONTRACT TO GET CLEAN INC. OF BOUND BROOK FOR CUSTODIAL SERVICES FOR THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, POLICE , PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING AND THE SENIOR CENTER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$45,840.00

Township Administrator Naples stated that "Get Clean" is the lowest bidder and is a change from the current provider which we look forward to. Although they do not clean in any of the surrounding towns, they meet all the bid requirements.

AWARDING A CONTRACT TO ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON HEALTH NETWORK, INC. ON A COMPETITIVE CONTRACTING BASIS FOR THE SOMERSET AMBULANCE SHARED SERVICES AGENCY (SASSA) FOR DAYTIME WEEKDAY AMBULANCE SERVICES, AT \$0 PER YEAR, FOR THE YEARS 2017, 2018 AND 2019

Township Administrator Naples stated Robert Wood is the current provider. Over the years, we have become the largest user of these services as we had

over 900 calls last year. They continue to provide good service and administration recommends the approval of this contract. Bridgewater will be the lead agency for Somerset Ambulance Shared Services Agency whereas in the past, Manville was the lead agency.

AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF THE PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 31,320.00, ACCEPTANCE OF THE SITE IMPROVEMENTS AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE CASH MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 3,915.00 FOR HUNTERDON HEALTHCARE, BLOCK 559, LOT 3, ALSO KNOWN AS 1125 ROUTE 22 WEST, BRIDGEWATER, NJ

There was no discussion on this resolution

REJECTING ALL BIDS FOR THE CONTRACT ENTITLED COUNTRY CLUB ROAD IMPROVEMENTS, SECTION VII (TALAMINI ROAD TO LYME ROCK ROAD)

Township Administrator Naples stated based on the reasons stated on the resolution, it is best to re-bid this project:

WHEREAS, subsequent to the unsealing of the aforementioned bids, a defect was discovered in the bid specifications which was material in nature; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned defect has violated the provisions and purposes of the Local Public Contracts Law and, accordingly, the Township now seeks to revise the specifications for this project to correct the material defect;

ACCEPTING THE QUALIFICATION OF VARIOUS PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AND RELATED SERVICE CONSULTANTS FOR 2017 WITH AN OPTION TO EXTEND THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR ANOTHER YEAR

Township Administrator Naples stated we have had success using the nineteen (19) providers listed and look forward to another year of using these professionals.

CHANGE OF CORPORATE STRUCTURE LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER FOR ARBER CORPORATION T/A FRATELLI'S LICENSE NO 1806-33-008-004 LOCATED AT 1979 WASHINGTON VALLEY ROAD, MARTINSVILLE NJ TO MARTINSVILLE TAVERNA NEW LIQUOR LICENSE NO. 1806-33-008-005

There was no discussion on this resolution

Motion to Set Agenda

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilwoman Rose, the agenda was set for the April 17, 2017 Township Council regular meeting.

Adjourn

On the motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilwoman Rose, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda J. Doyle, RMC
Municipal Clerk

Allen Kurdyla
Council President