MINUTES OF THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
MARCH 1, 2018  COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Township Council of the Township of Bridgewater, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, convened in a work session on Thursday, March 1, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers in the Municipal Complex, Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807.

Council President Rose 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, 2018 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 Norgalis
    Filipe Pedroso
    Council Vice President Matthew C. Moench
    Council President Christine Henderson Rose

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

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

Minutes

Council President Rose noted the minutes for February 22, and closed session for February 5, 2018 will be considered for approval on Monday, March 5, 2018 during the regular session.

Council Reports

Council President Rose offered the reports will be presented during the regular session on March 5, 2018.

Mayor’s Reports

Mr. Naples had no report.

Discussion

WIRELESS COMMUNICATION

Councilman Pedroso advised the Governing Body that residents have contacted him over the past few years to discuss recommendations to change the current
Cell Tower ordinance. He noted being on the Zoning Board for 10 years, he would like the applicants to be heard by the Zoning Board instead of the Planning Board which offers the public more opportunity to be heard. He distributed a copy of the changes he would like incorporated into the ordinance already in effect. These changes affected certain sections of the ordinance including Chapter 126-3415C (4) General Requirements, 126-341.5E (2) Wireless Communication Facilities as a permitted use, 126-341.5G Dimensional Standards and Section 126-341.5K pertaining to Township owned land. Councilman Pedroso offered to review these changes with the other members and asked they consider modifying the ordinance.

Councilman Moench offered new technologies may divert the use of cell towers in the future and supported the changes suggested.

Councilman Kurdyla and Councilman Norgalis did not support the changes adding no one has made an application and the changes don’t seem necessary.

Council President Rose asked Councilman Pedroso how many applications have come before the Board of Adjustment since 2012.

Councilman Pedroso offered to get more data on the applications and readdress at a future date.

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

Council President Rose offered these ordinances were discussed during introduction on February 22, 2018. Council had no further questions and will take action during the regular session.

ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK FOR THE 2018 CALENDAR YEAR (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER TO RENEW A
LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE MARTIN LUTHER KING YOUTH CENTER OF SOMERVILLE MANOR, INC. FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY IN THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER BLOCK 515 LOT 4 (FORMERLY KNOWN AS BLOCK 4430 LOTS 532, 533 AND 542 THROUGH 548) KNOWN AS 1298 PRINCE RODGERS AVENUE FOR FIVE YEARS (FROM MARCH 1, 2018 TO FEBRUARY 28, 2023) AT AN ANNUAL RENTAL OF $1.00 PER YEAR

Council President Rose asked whether Council had any comments on the resolutions listed below.

AUTHORIZING BUDGET TRANSFERS FOR APPROPRIATION RESERVE IN THE AMOUNT OF $385,100.00

Council will discuss the transfers on Monday.

APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE 2017 HIGHWAY SAFETY FUND (SAFE CORRIDORS GRANT) IN AN AMOUNT UP TO $46,014.48 FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) FULLY EQUIPPED, MARKED BLACK & WHITE 2017 FORD INTERCEPTOR SEDAN AWD POLICE VEHICLE AND ONE (1) LAPTOP COMPUTER WITH CASE

Councilman Norgalis commented that he confirmed the car was marked.

NOTIFICATION OF APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2018 SOMERSET COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT BY THE FOLLOWING NONPROFITS WITH INTENDED PROJECTS WITHIN BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP: COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES (CASA) OF SOMERSET, HUNTERDON, AND WARREN COUNTIES, VISIONS AND PATHWAYS, MIDDLE EARTH, THE PEOPLECARE CENTER AND INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK

WAIVER OF FIRE PERMIT FEE IN THE AMOUNT OF $50.00 FOR BRIDGEWATER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH LOCATED AT 651 COUNTRY CLUB ROAD TO USE THEIR FIRE PIT FOR THE PURPOSE OF HOLDING AN EASTER SUNRISE OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE ON APRIL 1, 2018

Council had no objection to this request for waiver.

Motion to Set Agenda

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Pedroso, the agenda was set for the March 5, 2018 Township Council regular meeting.

On the motion of Councilwoman Rose, seconded by Councilman Pedroso the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:05 p.m.
Respectfully Submitted,

Linda J. Doyle, RMC
Municipal Clerk

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Christine Henderson Rose
Council President