

**MINUTES OF THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL**  
**JANUARY 31, 2013 COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

The Township Council of the Township of Bridgewater, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, convened in an Agenda session on Thursday, January 31, 2013, at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers in the Municipal Complex, Bridgewater, New Jersey.

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 8, 2013 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  
Matthew C. Moench  
Howard V. Norgalis  
Filipe Pedroso  
Christine Henderson Rose

Also Present: Daniel J. Hayes, Mayor  
James T. Naples, Township Administrator  
Robert Bogart, Director of Municipal Services  
Alan Grant, Township Attorney  
Linda Doyle, Township Clerk

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

**Minutes for Approval**

The regular session minutes of January 17, 2013, and closed session minutes of January 17, 2013 will be presented for approval at the next session.

**Council Reports**

Councilman Norgalis reported he attended the Somerset County Employer Legislative Committee meeting sponsored by the Somerset Country Business Partnership. He noted Lieutenant Governor Kim Guadagno was the guest speaker and did a great presentation.

Councilman Norgalis reported he attended the Green Knoll Installation Dinner along with Mayor Hayes.

Councilman Norgalis reported the Planning Board this week memorialized the Lange Application - (17 lots on Foothill Road) and the Somerset County Educational Services Commission Career Center which he noted is a County project thus the Planning Board reflects on and memorialized support for. Councilman Norgalis added there were also two land use issues discussed: Somerset County Senior Wellness Nutrition Center which is also a County project and will be located next to the Senior Day Care Center and the Bridgeway Care had a minor change for nine parking spots,

Councilman Moench reported he received a few calls from residents with regard to the “no right hand turn” sign at the traffic light on Mine Road. He added it seems to be causing backups not being able to turn.

Bob Bogart said he also has received some call and is looking into it.

Councilman Moench reported during the Raritan Valley Rail Coalition the implementation of the proposed One Seat Ride Service was discussed. He added the Raritan Valley Rail Coalition has advocated for this proposal since 1998.

Councilman Moench reported the Somerset County Governing Officials dinner will be held at Alfonso’s in Somerville and Freeholder Deputy Director Peter Palmer will be the guest speaker.

Councilman Moench offered Assemblyman Jay Weber of Morris Plains sponsor’s each year a “Reagan Day”, dinner he noted it not a fund raiser but a non-partisan event which will be held in Parsippany on February 8th. He offered to get more information if anyone is interested to attend.

Councilman Kurdyla attended the Somerset County Business Partnership together with Councilman Norgalis. He noted Lieutenant Governor Kim Guadagno provided an update on the Administrative activities.

Mr. Hayes reported he participated in the Annual Installation Events for Volunteer Fire Departments and Rescue Squads included Martinsville and Green Knoll Rescue, Green Knoll Fire, Bradley Gardens Fire, Finderne Fire Department and North Branch. He added he is always impressed by the number of responses by those members.

Mayor Hayes reported he attended the Community Breakfast at Blessed Sacrament Church. Mayor Hayes added during this event he presented their award for public service to Bob Forsythe of the Martinsville Fire Department for

## Mayor’s Report

his lengthy service and Bridgewater Detective Jim Rice for contributions to the community.

Mayor Hayes reported he met with Freeholder Director Peter Palmer to discuss programs and opportunities important to Bridgewater.

Mayor Hayes hosted his first “Evenings with Dan” and has the schedule for this year on the website.

Mayor Hayes thanked Council for adding a session to reconsider the County’s offer for workers under the Sandy Relief Program. He noted that same day Bridgewater requested eight workers and accepted the remaining three available.

Mayor Hayes stated the yard waste and pick-up continues utilizing those workers as well as the township non-overtime staff.

Council President Rose offered the County is trying to recruit more people for this program.

## **Municipal Budget**

Mayor Hayes presented the 2013 Municipal Budget and Spending Plan for the year. He offered the budget provides the resources to continue to meet our goals without the need to increase taxes. The budget supports four main goals including the following:

1. Keeping the Tax Rate one of the lowest in Somerset County
2. Remaining Vigilant on Land Use Issues
3. Delivering Essential Services
4. Improving Township Infrastructure

Mayor Hayes communicated the zero tax increase budget is not without risk assuming state aid wild remain flat and advised any reduction in revenue sources will be felt directly in tax inxrease pressure.

Mayor Hayes recognized the staff for delivering and remaining charged to reduce costs and find ways to provide services for others at reduced costs.

Mayor Hayes left the meeting after presenting the 2013 Municipal Budget to Council.

## **Discussion - Bridgewater Commons**

Council President Rose introduced Kevin Coakley, Esq representing Bridgewater Commons Mall Redevelopment Agreement.

Mr. Coakley spoke on the proposed amendment to the Redevelopment Agreement for the Bridgewater Commons Mall. He advised the Township and Redeveloper desire to modify the Phase I expansion and provided a detailed summary of the proposed changes to the Commons Mall and Life Style Center.

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

**Public  
Comment**

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 speak.

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

**INTRODUCTION  
OF NEW  
ORDINANCES**

**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 1408 PRINCE RODGERS AVENUE FOR FIVE YEARS AT AN ANNUAL RENTAL OF \$1.00 PER YEAR EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2013**

Mr. Naples advised the ordinance renews the lease agreement with the Martin Luther King Center for an additional five years.

**Resolutions**

**AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE CONSOLIDATED PHASE I PROPERTY REDEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN BRIDGEWATER COMMONS MALL II, LLC, BRIDGEWATER COMMONS MALL DEVELOPMENT, LLC AND THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER**

Mr. Naples stated the resolution memorializes the amendment discussed in detail with Kevin Coakley, Esq., which amends the consolidated agreement for the Phase 1 expansion.

**AUTHORIZATION APPROVING FINAL LIST OF VOLUNTEER MEMBERS OF THE BRIDGEWATER FIRST AID AND RESCUE SQUADS WHO QUALIFY FOR CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER THE TOWNSHIP LOSAP PROGRAM IN THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER, COUNTY OF SOMERSET**

Mr. Naples stated the resolution authorizes the final list from the four first aid and rescue squads of volunteer members who qualify for credit under the award

program.

**AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1/FINAL CHANGE ORDER DECREASING THE PRICE FROM \$348,377.90 TO \$345,311.65, A DECREASE OF \$3,066.25 OR 0.88% DECREASE, AND FINAL PAYMENT, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,906.23 TO S. BROTHERS, INC., AND AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROJECT AND RELEASE OF THE PERFORMANCE BOND, BOND NUMBER 4-140-318 , ISSUED BY THE OHIO CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$348,377.90 AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE MAINTENANCE BOND, BOND NUMBER 4-140-318, ISSUED BY THE OHIO CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$53,178.19 FOR THE ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT OAK STREET (NORTH), SYCAMORE STREET TO PERRY DRIVE PROJECT**

Mr. Bogart advised this is a final change order decreasing the final contract amount \$3,066.25, he recommends acceptance of the project, releasing the performance bond and acceptance of the maintenance bond for the Oak Street road improvement project.

**ACCEPTING A GRANT FROM THE HAZARDOUS DISCHARGE REMEDIATION FUND PUBLIC ENTITY PROGRAM THROUGH THE NEW JERSEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AND THE DEPARTMENT ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$115,525.11 FOR REMEDIAL ACTION INCLUDING REPORT PREPARATION FOR THE FORMER SITE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS MUNICIPAL GARAGE**

Mr. Naples reported the Township applied and has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$115,525.11 from the Hazardous Discharge Remediation Fund Municipal Grant Program through the Department of Environmental Protection. The resolution accepts the grant and authorizes the Township to execute the grant documents on behalf of the township.

On motion by Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Moench, the agenda was set for Monday, February 4, 2013.

On the motion of Councilman Norgalis, the meeting was adjourned at 8.35 p. m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda J. Doyle, RMC  
Municipal Clerk

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Christine Henderson Rose  
Council President