

**MINUTES OF THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL**  
**May 16, 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, May 16, 2013 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 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            (arrived at 7:41)  
Matthew C. Moench  
Howard V. Norgalis  
Filipe Pedroso          (arrived at 8:30)  
Council President Christine Henderson Rose

Also Present:          James T. Naples, Township Administrator  
                              Alan B. Grant, Township Attorney  
                              Robert C. Bogart, Township Engineer  
                              Grace Karanja, Deputy Township Clerk

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

**Minutes for Approval**

Minutes for approval will be presented to Council at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

**Council Reports**

Council will provide their reports at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

**Mayor's Report**

Township Administrator Naples reported the scheduled T-Mobile tests for Saturday May 4, 2013 and May 11, 2013 were cancelled due to high winds. The test has been rescheduled for Saturday May 18, 2013 from 9:00am-11:00am, weather permitting.

## **Resolutions**

### **REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF POLICE AND PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEE COSTS OF APPROXIMATELY \$2,400 FOR SERVICES RENDERED DURING AND AFTER THE BRIDGEWATER-BOUND BROOK ROTARY STREET FAIR JUNE 1, 2013**

A representative of the Bridgewater-Bound Brook Rotary Club was present. He stated they are looking to have a street fair/music festival on 6/1/2013 from 11am to 5pm. They have a permit from the County to close the main road in front of the ball park on Main Street to Cole Drive from 7am to 7pm. This fair is expected to attract a lot of business with approximately 100 vendors. Two (2) police officers are required on the two ends to close off the streets. DPW personnel will also be needed for cleanup after the fair. The request of Bridgewater-Bound Brook Rotary is for Council to waive the fees and cost associated with having the two (2) police officers; approximately \$1,800 and \$600 for three (3) DPW personnel.

Council expressed concern with precedence noting if this is approved, they would be obligated to offer the same courtesy to other none profit organizations. Since the street involved is a County Road there may also be a union issue regarding Bridgewater employees cleaning up a County owned street. It was also suggested that the applicant contact the County for support. Council was in consensus to review this request further and vote on it at the next regular meeting.

## **Discussion**

### **A DISCUSSION ON THE GREEN KNOLL GRILLE LIQUOR LICENSE**

Pasquale Marago, Esq., Attorney for Green Knoll Grille (“GKG”) and Green Knoll’s Manager, Justin, were present for the presentation. Attorney Marago discussed their request as follows:

GKG has an outdoor patio that represents the majority of its business between Memorial Day and September 30<sup>th</sup> of any given year. Previously, Council placed certain restrictions on outdoor music on the patio as part of GKG’s license renewal. At this time GKG requests modification of some of the previous outdoor music restrictions. He specifically noted the restriction on amplified music is threatening the existence of the business as GKG depends on the summer business to carry it financially through the rest of the calendar year. He added that historically, summer business is difficult in and of itself as local businesses must compete with the businesses at the Shore and with local residents vacationing outside of the local area. At the present, GKG’s summer business is also threatened by businesses outside of Bridgewater that allow outdoor music. He further noted GKG’s current and past customers routinely relate that the environment of the Stage House Tavern in Somerset, NJ is preferable to the GKG because of the ambience and environment created by the

outdoor music.

Attorney Marago expressed GKG is not requesting to modify the current time restrictions. Their request is to modify the current music restrictions as they do not permit music that is able to be heard by the customers on the outdoor patio. They propose providing reggae-type music by a three-piece band to its customers. That type of music is not only requested and preferred by the customer base, but is mellow and unlikely to cause any disturbance to residents in the local area. GKG will direct the music as mandated by the current time restrictions. Further, GKG is committed to invest in sound blankets, designed and manufactured by an acoustical engineering company that will hang on a partition set-up behind the band which will absorb most if not all of the sound that would normally travel in the direction behind the band and toward any residential area. Attorney Marago provided literature on the sound blankets that it is committed to purchasing.

After an extensive discussion, Council did not offer an opinion on this issue as there may be construction issues that may require building code reviews. In the event this issue passes zoning rules and there are substantiated noise complaints at the GKG, Township Attorney Grant advised that Council would then either revoke or suspend their liquor license. Council also asked that GKG approach the Planning Department to ascertain the temporary barrier they are proposing does not violate zoning laws.

**PUBLIC  
HEARING &  
FINAL ACTION  
ORDINANCES**

**BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$183,587 FOR VARIOUS PUBLIC WORKS EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING AN 8 YARD DUMP TRUNK WITH SNOW PLOW, AERA-VATOR WITH RACK ROLLER, SEED BOX, SHAFT -3 POINT HITCH AND LIFT, IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$174,404 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING PART OF THE APPROPRIATION**

Councilman Moench opined we should look into ways of financing our needs without the need for bonds. Township Administrator Naples confirmed the title of this Ordinance has been revised per last meeting's comments.

**BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$1,800,000 FOR VARIOUS SEWER UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDING REALIGNMENT OF SEWER MAINS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS INCLUDING BRADLEY GARDENS AND FINDERNE AREAS, GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS), REHABILITATION OF MIDDLE BROOK PUMP STATION, EXTERIOR PUMP STATION FOR SENIOR CENTER ON SOMERVILLE ROAD, ACQUISITION OF PICK-UP TRUCK WITH SNOW PLOW AND ACQUISITION OF BOOM FLAIL MOWER, IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF**

**BRIDGEWATER, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY AND  
AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,800,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE  
TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING PART OF THE APPROPRIATION**

Councilman Moench opined we should look into ways of financing our needs without the need for bonds. Township Administrator Naples confirmed the title of this Ordinance has been revised per last meeting's comments.

**BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$3,467,000 FOR  
VARIOUS ROAD IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER,  
IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE  
OF \$3,151,650 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING PART OF  
THE APPROPRIATION**

There was no further discussion on this Ordinance.

**AN ORDINANCE VACATING PORTIONS OF PLAINFIELD AVENUE, AND BRUNSWICK  
AVENUE AND ALL OF DUNELLEN AVENUE SITUATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF  
BRIDGEWATER, SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

There was no further discussion on this Ordinance.

**AN ORDINANCE TO SET THE COMPENSATION OF THE MAYOR, TOWNSHIP  
COUNCIL MEMBERS, DEPARTMENT HEADS AND CERTAIN OTHER MUNICIPAL  
EMPLOYEES PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 374 OF THE PUBLIC LAWS OF 1985;  
N.J.S.A. 2A: 8-13; N.J.S.A. 40A: 9-146; N.J.S.A. 40A: 9-165, AND CHAPTER  
95 OF THE PUBLIC LAWS OF 1996**

There was no further discussion on this Ordinance.

**Resolutions**

**RATIFYING AND MEMORIALIZING APPROVAL OF THE BRIDGEWATER MUNICIPAL  
EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (BMEA) AGREEMENT FOR THE PERIOD FROM  
JANUARY 1, 2012 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2014**

There was no discussion on this resolution.

**2013 REGIONAL CENTER PARTNERSHIP OF SOMERSET COUNTY PLANNING  
ASSISTANCE GRANT APPLICATION**

There was no discussion on this resolution.

**AUTHORIZING AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING/SURVEYING/  
INSPECTION SERVICES CONTRACT FOR THE VOSSELLER AVENUE ROAD**

**IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, SECTION II TO THE REYNOLDS GROUP, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$45,100**

Township Administrator Naples discussed minor changes to this resolution. The changes were found to be acceptable.

**AWARD OF CONTRACT TO LUCAS CONSTRUCTION GROUP FOR THE BUENA PARKWAY - SANITARY SEWER AND ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, IN THE SUM OF \$249,577**

Township Engineer Bogart confirmed that although the Township has not had prior dealings with Lucas Construction Group, Thomas Forsythe, Deputy Director of Municipal Services has worked with them in the past and the references they provided checked out.

**AUTHORIZING AN AWARD OF CONTRACT TO APPRAISAL SYSTEMS, INC. TO PERFORM PROFESSIONAL APPRAISAL INSPECTIONS AND RELATED SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE TOWNSHIP REASSESSMENT PROGRAM FOR 2013 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$74,240**

Township Administrator Naples confirmed that last year's contract was higher than this year's.

**APPOINTMENT TO THE LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD OF CINDY CULLEN 16 LINBERGER DRIVE, BRIDGEWATER, NJ 08807**

There was no discussion on this resolution.

**2013 COPS HIRING PROGRAM (CHP) GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$201,461.87**

Township Administrator Naples advised that this grant will allow us to hire a police officer and provide up to 75% funding of the approved entry-level salary and fringe benefits for a period of three (3) years. The grant stipulates that the Township would have to commit to keeping officers hired under this grant employed for one (1) full year after the three (3) year grant period ends.

Council was in consensus to utilize this grant if it is awarded to us with the option to facilitate the headcount addition via ordinance only for the length of the grant period.

**AUTHORIZATION FOR THE FIREWORK DISPLAY AT THE RARITAN VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB, 747 STATE ROUTE 28, BRIDGEWATER, NJ 08807 - JULY 4, 2013**

There was no discussion on this resolution.

**REQUEST FROM THE SOMERSET COUNTY 4-H ASSOCIATION FOR WAIVERS OF FIRE, BUILDING AND ANY OTHER NECESSARY PERMIT IN CONNECTION WITH THE SOMERSET COUNTY 4-H FAIR BEING HELD AUGUST 7,8,9, 2013 AT THE SOMERSET COUNTY 4-H FAIRGROUNDS ON MILLTOWN ROAD IN BRIDGEWATER**

There was no discussion on this resolution.

**REQUEST FROM BRIDGEWATER BASEBALL & SOFTBALL FOR WAIVER OF FIRE PERMIT FEES IN CONNECTION WITH 12U SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT ON SATURDAY, MAY 18-19, 2013 AT NORTH BRIDGE STREET SOFTBALL FIELDS FROM 8 AM TO 6 PM**

There was no discussion on this resolution.

**Public  
Comment**

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.

Bill Metz, 45 Shanon Rd. was present. He asked about the percentage of interest in the bonds we will be utilizing. Township Administrator Naples will provide an approximate number at the next meeting. On question of Mr. Metz concerning the above grant application resolution with the Regional Center partnership (RCP), he was advised RCP is making available up to \$26,000 per municipality in Planning Assistance grant funding to help Bridgewater, Raritan and Somerville complete the remaining Plan Endorsement "Action Plan" work items prescribed by the State Office of Planning Advocacy as the final step for achieving Plan Endorsement for the Somerset Regional Center.

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

**Motion to Set  
the Agenda**

On motion of Councilman Kurdyla, seconded by Councilman Moench, the agenda was set for the May 20, 2013 Township Council meeting.

On the motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Moench, the meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda J. Doyle, RMC  
Municipal Clerk

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Christine Henderson-Rose  
Council President