

**MINUTES OF THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL**  
**OCTOBER 3, 2019 COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

The Township Council of the Township of Bridgewater, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, convened in a regular session on Thursday, October 3, 2019 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 9, 2019 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 (Absent)  
Filipe Pedroso (7:35)  
Christine Henderson-Rose  
Council Vice President Howard Norgalis  
Council President Matthew C. Moench

Also Present:           Natasha Turchan, Acting Township Administrator  
David Battaglia, Township Engineer and Director of Municipal Services  
Christopher Corsini, Township Attorney  
Linda J. Doyle, Township Clerk

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

**Minutes**

The August 19, and September 5, 2019 regular session minutes were presented for approval. On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Present Moench, the minutes were approved. All were in favor.

**Council Reports**

Councilwoman Rose:

- The township was awarded \$250,000 for the Lane Voorhees house. She noted this was a significant amount not usually awarded which demonstrates the County's commitment to the property.
- Attended the September 11, 2019, Memorial Ceremony.
- Attended the Lifetime Magazine Opening on September 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Attended the Martinsville Community Center Fall Festival and worked the Friends of History Booth.
- Attended the Friends of History Committee meeting held in September.

Councilman Pedroso:

- Nothing new to report.

Councilman Norgalis:

- Attended the Sanofi annual “open house” at their 55 Corporate Drive location which was jointly sponsored by the Business Partnership. Sanofi has invested millions of dollars in upgrading this facility which continues to house an R&D wing.
- On Sept. 23, the Planning Board heard three hours and twenty minutes of testimony on the COE. The court room was standing room only with overflow TV coverage from the adjacent conference room. The project is carried until Monday Oct 28<sup>th</sup>.
- On Sept 25<sup>th</sup> attended the Quarterly Somerset County Planning Forum where the main speaker was a representative from the Energy Council taking about conserving energy.
- The Somerset County Health Dept. will host a free flu shot clinic at the Patriot Stadium parking lot on Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> from 9am to noon.
- Attended the monthly ELC meeting where a representative of DEVCO, the New Brunswick Development Corporation spoke about creative financing for that towns projects. The corporation also claims responsibility for more than \$1 billion of real estate projects in other parts of NJ.
- The new parameters for mail in ballots are causing no end of grief where the legislature mandated that anyone who used an absentee ballot in 2017. 18 or 19 will now automatically get a mail ballot. Residents are getting ballots in the mail and not reacting to them.
- Attended the Somerset County Alliance for Action meeting where representatives from RVCC spoke on their hands on training program, Vic Viscomi from PSE&G, Carol Bianchi from JCP&L spoke on plans and reliability and County Engineer Matt Loper discussed County Projects.

Council President Moench:

- Introduced Tom Branch of Stavola to speak to the public regarding a controversial blast on September 13 at 10:15 am. Mr. Branch explained that although he was not in the State that particular day, he addressed the blast that raised concern for some of the parents and children at the Middle School.

The Police department and Chip Mills, Township Quarry Master received complaints the blast sound and subsequent dust cloud seemed suspicious

and the school children outside for gym class were concerned and were rushed back inside.

Mr. Branch read the report filed by John Jordan, Quarry Inspector who was on site. The report detailed the blast was 2 decibels higher than usual (132, standard 130) but the dust cloud initially thought to be a part of the blast coincidentally blew up from a renovation project taking place on the school property at the track field.

Council President Moench asked Tom Branch to be sure the B-R Middle School is on the blast Notice distribution list and he assured he would call to verify they are.

**Mayor's  
Reports**

Natasha Turchan, Acting Administrator:

- Nothing new to report.

**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.

Tim Ring, 17 Lawton Road stated with the advances in technology, Bridgewater should consider broadcasting the Council meetings to afford the upmost in transparency and give all residents the opportunity to know the most current matters.

Councilman Norgalis supports the idea of broadcasting the township meetings.

Councilman Pedroso supports broadcasting and in addition would support the meeting agenda to have links to the agenda items.

Jeffrey Brookner, 16 Nicole Terrace stated broadcasting and transparency has been an issue he has been bringing up for awhile and noted the BOE has done this for years. He added Feb, 2019 there was a land swap no one knew of and in Jan, 2016 the public would have been aware the Center of Excellence redevelopment project was a consideration. He also noted he opposes the two minute time limit for public comments. He feels it is restrictive and many other towns affords the public more time.

Patti Selikoff, 16 Gibson Terrace stated she has three children and has begun recording the meetings for her own use over the past 4 months. She feels her recordings started this conversation and she should be awarded credit as this is what the public wants.

Cathy Franco , 766 Weemac Road had four comments as follows:

1. Jan, 2017 there were 3 Ad Hoc Committees formed. Did they ever provide a report and are these groups still in effect?
2. Camp Cromwell change order adding \$42,000 to contract. How much has the township invested in this project and when the trails will be open to the public.
3. Pay to Plug - Car Chargers - will there be a cost to the public for usage
4. Transparency - Resolutions and reports should be available to the public/ social media wants access. Acknowledged on a few occasions, Councilman Norgalis gave her copies from his packet to review.

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

#### Resolutions

**PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE 2019 BUDGET PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948) MUNICIPAL AID-COUNTRY CLUB V \$385,000.00**

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

Councilman Kurdyla	Absent
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Councilwoman Rose	Absent
Council Vice-President Norgalis	Aye
Council President Moench	Aye

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-10-03-205](#) is appended to the official minutes.

**PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE 2019 BUDGET PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948) CLEAN COMMUNITIES \$103,948.33**

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

Councilman Kurdyla	Absent
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Councilwoman Rose	Aye
Council Vice-President Norgalis	Aye
Council President Moench	Aye

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-10-03-206](#) is appended to the official minutes.

**PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE 2019 BUDGET PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948) IT PAYS TO PLUG \$12,000.00 FOR THE PROVISION OF ELECTRIC CAR CHARGING STATIONS**

Councilman Pedroso asked where these charging stations will be located and whether there will be a fee for usage.

Ms. Turchan explained there are two locations one at the municipal building and one at the library. Each has two charging bays and there will be no charge for usage to date.

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

Councilman Kurdyla	Absent
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Councilwoman Rose	Aye
Council Vice-President Norgalis	Aye
Council President Moench	Aye

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-10-03-207](#) is appended to the official minutes.

**PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE 2019 BUDGET PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948) BULLETPROOF VEST \$7,942.07**

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

Councilman Kurdyla	Absent
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Councilwoman Rose	Aye
Council Vice-President Norgalis	Aye
Council President Moench	Aye

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-10-03-208](#) is appended to the official minutes.

**AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF THE PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE, ACCEPTANCE OF THE SITE IMPROVEMENTS, ACCEPTANCE OF THE MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE FOR WASHINGTON VALLEY ESTATES, LLC, 2141 WASHINGTON VALLEY ROAD, BLOCK 907, LOT 68.02**

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

Councilman Kurdyla	Absent
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Councilwoman Rose	Aye
Council Vice-President Norgalis	Aye
Council President Moench	Aye

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-10-03-209](#) is appended to the official minutes

**AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF THE PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE, ACCEPTANCE OF THE SITE IMPROVEMENTS, WAIVING OF THE MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE FOR SCHENKMAN/KUSHNER-DELOREAN AFFILIATES, 685 ROUTE 202/206, BLOCK 476 (3501), LOT 25 (24)**

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

Councilman Kurdyla	Absent
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Councilwoman Rose	Aye
Council Vice-President Norgalis	Aye
Council President Moench	Aye

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-10-03-210](#) is appended to the official minutes.

**AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 / FINAL INCREASING THE ORIGINAL CONTRACT PRICE FROM \$132,300 TO \$174,955, WHICH IS AN INCREASE OF 32.24% OR \$42,655 FROM THE ORIGINAL CONTRACT AMOUNT TO WILD HEART INDUSTRIES, LLC (1524 MILLSTONE RIVER ROAD, HILLSBOROUGH, NJ 08844) FOR THE DEMOLITION OF STRUCTURES AT CAMP CROMWELL TO BE FUNDED THROUGH THE OPEN SPACE FUND**

Council asked for an update on the current demolition efforts at Camp Cromwell.

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

Councilman Kurdyla	Absent
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Councilwoman Rose	Aye

Council Vice-President Norgalis	Aye
Council President Moench	Aye

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-10-03-211](#) is appended to the official minutes.

**AUTHORIZING A GRANT/LOAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000 TO GAYLE KLEINE, RESIDING AT 3 CAIN COURT, LOT 105, BLOCK 530.01, BRIDGEWATER, NEW JERSEY 08807 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP CONDOMINIUM FEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNITS, CHAPTER 126-SECTION 321.4Q**

Councilman Norgalis would like an update on the affordable assistance program and if anyone has defaulted on their obligations.

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

Councilman Kurdyla	Absent
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Councilwoman Rose	Aye
Council Vice-President Norgalis	Aye
Council President Moench	Aye

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-10-03-212](#) is appended to the official minutes.

**AWARD THE 2019-2020 SNOW REMOVAL SERVICE TO K & J TREE SERVICE, LLC, 16 STONY BROOK ROAD, BRANCHBURG, NEW JERSEY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$75,000.00**

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

Councilman Kurdyla	Absent
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Councilwoman Rose	Aye
Council Vice-President Norgalis	Aye
Council President Moench	Aye

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-10-03-213](#) is appended to the official minutes

**AWARD OF CONTRACT TO T. R. WENIGER, INC. (1900 NEW BRUNSWICK AVENUE, PISCATAWAY, NJ 08854) FOR THE CAMP CROMWELL STRUCTURE DEMOLITION II, IN THE SUM OF \$100,000.00, FUNDED THROUGH THE OPEN SPACE FUND**

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

Councilman Kurdyla	Absent
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Councilwoman Rose	Aye
Council Vice-President Norgalis	Aye
Council President Moench	Aye

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-10-03-214](#) is appended to the official minutes.

**EXTENDING SUNDAY HOURS OF OPERATION FOR PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LICENSES INCLUDING WEGMANS MARKETS, SPIRITS OF THE VALLEY, KRISHA BEVERAGE AND BUY BEST WINE AND LIQUORS FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, AND SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2019**

Councilwoman Rose made motion to table this resolution. The motion was defeated as there was no second motion to table.

Councilman Norgalis motioned the resolution for action; there was no second and no consensus to vote. The resolution was not approved.

**THE RESOLUTION WAS NOT ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-10-03-215](#) is appended to the official minutes

**AMENDING THE SOMERSET REGIONAL ANIMAL SHELTER CONTRACT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER AND THE BOROUGH OF MANVILLE**

Nancy of the Shelter was in the audience and will provide Council an update on the shelters understandings in the contract regarding the discard of animals 100 lbs and over.

On motion of Councilwoman Rose, seconded by Council President Moench the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kurdyla	Absent
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Councilwoman Rose	Aye
Council Vice-President Norgalis	Aye



Council President Moench

Aye

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-10-03-216](#) is appended to the official minutes.

**REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF FIRE PERMIT FEE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$60 FOR PIONEER FAMILY SUCCESS CENTER, 34 W. MAIN STREET, SUITE 201, SOMERVILLE, NJ IN CONNECTION WITH THE FAMILY CAMPFIRE AT THE BRIDGEWATER YMCA AT 601 GARRETSON ROAD, BRIDGEWATER ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2019**

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

Councilman Kurdyla	Absent
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Councilwoman Rose	Aye
Council Vice-President Norgalis	Aye
Council President Moench	Aye

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-10-03-217](#) 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 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 Councilwoman Rose, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, Council convened in a closed session at approximately 8:33 p.m. to discuss contract litigation. All were in favor.

A copy of resolution [#19-10-03-218](#) is appended to the official minutes

**Adjournment**

On the motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Pedroso, the meeting reconvened to open session at approximately 8:45 pm and adjourned immediately thereafter.