

**MINUTES OF THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL**  
**NOVEMBER 7, 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, November 7, 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  
Filipe Pedroso  
Christine Henderson-Rose  
Council Vice President Howard Norgalis  
Council President Matthew C. Moench

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

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

**Minutes**

The October 21, 2019 regular session minutes were presented for approval. On motion of Councilwoman Rose, seconded by Councilman Kurdyla, the minutes were approved. All were in favor. The October 21, 2019 closed session minutes were passed around for approval.

**Council Reports**

Councilman Kurdyla:

- Congratulated Mayor Elect Matthew Moench on his win during Tuesday's election.
- Is looking forward to Veteran's Day on Monday noting he will be part of the ceremony in Martinsville.

Councilwoman Rose:

- She echoed everyone's congratulatory comments and noted she is leaving the Council and the governing officials of Bridgewater Township in good order.

Councilman Pedroso:

- Congratulated Mayor Elect Matthew Moench on his big win on Election Day. He also congratulated the residents of Bridgewater Township for their participation during the general election as this year had the largest voter turnout for the Mayoral race.

Councilman Norgalis:

- Congratulated the now Mayor Elect Matthew Moench as he won a big victory in Tuesday's Election. Kudos also to his running mates, Michael Kirsh and Tim Ring who were equally successful on Election Day. He stated the Township reorganization meeting is tentatively scheduled for noon on January 1, 2020 here in the Court Room. Due to a delay at the County in handling the absentee results, the Final Certification is delayed until November 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Planning Board update:
  - The next Center of Excellence hearing will be on Tuesday November 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm here in the Court Room. The traffic consultant and the township's environmental consultant are both scheduled to attend. While no firm schedule has been set for future hearings, Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday the 26<sup>th</sup> of November are both candidates for special meetings.
  - PSE@G intends to come before the Board with plans to replace all 28 Bridgewater high voltage towers, all of which are 50 years old, with new monopoles in the future.
- Attended the monthly legislative update meeting in which Tom Kean was the guest speaker talking about NJ Transit, home affordability and taxes. Also speaking that day was Frank Robinson for the NJ Business and Industry Group talking about the perils of business ownership in NJ.
- Attended the Somerset County quarterly Planning Board meeting where they discussed the various major planning issues for the next several months.
- Attended the Somerset Patriots "Next 20 Years Program" seminar where he represented Bridgewater as a panelist on the part that the ballpark stadium plays in the life of Bridgewater. Other panelist included Freeholder Levine, Manager Emeritus of the Patriots Sparky Lyle, Major Baseball Chief Baseball Officer and former Yankee Manager Joe Torre and members of the Kalafer Family.
- Attended the Bridgewater Woman's Club Annual Fund Raiser where he was honored to give the Invocation.
- At our last Council meeting, Maureen Beck, 557 Rolling Hills Rd came before the governing body because of airplane noise issues at her home. As of today, it is still a concern and she will try to get Councilman Norgalis details on the offending planes.

Council President Moench

- Thanked his Council colleagues adding it has been an honor to serve on the Council. He thanked the residents of Bridgewater for their trust in him. He also thanked his running mates Timothy Ring and Michael Kirsh adding they will be a great addition to the Council when they take over. Council President Moench recognized Jeffrey Brooker who ran against him noting he ran an enthusiastic campaign and thanked him for his work and service on the Board of Education.

**Mayor's Reports**

Township Administrator Naples

- Congratulated Mayor Elect Matthew Moench and added that administration stands ready for a smooth transition of power. Also congratulated Councilmen Elect Ring and Kirsh on their win.

**Public Comment**

On motion of Councilman Kurdyla, 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.

Jeffrey Brookner, 16 Nicole Terrace was present. He congratulated Mayor Elect Matthew Moench and Councilmen Elect Ring and Kirsh on their win this past Tuesday during the elections. He stated there was lots of criticism during the election but stated very little of it was personal in nature. He thanked Councilman Moench for publicly calling on one of his supporters to take down an offensive, inaccurate and inflammatory video. That request fell on deaf ears and instead was spread as widely as possible. Mr. Brookner however opined that Councilman Moench should have done more.

Mr. Brookner added that he supports the township and this Council as its elected leaders. While he does not support what this Council has done in the last handful of years, he is an incurable optimist

Mr. Brookner stated that three (3) members of the governing body indicated an intention to better transparency. He stated he is disappointed to see that nothing has been accomplished so far. He also expressed that the 2-minute set time to address the Council is ridiculously short. He expressed disappointment as the documents that will be considered tonight are not on the internet noting there are no technological barriers to doing so as indicated by many other documents that are on the township website. Mr. Brookner also stated that the Council agenda should state "None" under those headings that have no item to be addressed.

Being that the Council expressed interest in broadcasting their meetings live, Mr. Brookner suggested the installation of small cameras around the room all feeding

into a production board operated by a laptop. He suggested that students can be solicited for this work as they also obtain media experience

Mr. Brooker further suggested having very detailed presentations at almost every meeting. For instance, he suggested that during the months of January and February, the Council should bring in the directors of every township department to give a PowerPoint presentation on their component of the budget. Other presentations could include what roads are in need of repair and how the township is approaching its debt etc

Mansoor Moussavi of 337 Greenfield Road spoke in favor of banning leaf blowers in the township due to noise pollution.

Cathy Franco, 766 Weemac Road in Bridgewater was present. She congratulated the now Mayor Elect Matthew Moench and Councilmen Elect Ring and Kirsh on their win. She expressed concern that the public is not able to review documents before they are addressed by the governing body. She then addressed/reviewed the Ordinances and resolutions listed on the agenda.

Jessie Havens of Somerset County was present. She spoke in favor of the Ordinance concerning historical preservation that is on tonight's agenda and congratulated the governing body on its attempt to take action concerning historical properties.

Alex Stamato of 10 Urvin Drive was present. He also spoke in favor of the Ordinance concerning historical preservation that is on tonight's agenda.

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

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 4 ENTITLED "ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION," ARTICLE XIV ENTITLED "DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY," OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER, SECTION 4-83 PROMOTIONS, A (6) SO AS TO ELIMINATE THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE CHIEF OF POLICE SHALL RESIDE WITHIN A TWENTY-FIVE MILE RADIUS OF THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

Council President Moench stated he requested that this Ordinance be prepared because where the chief resides should not be a factor in selecting a Police Chief. He added that while this restriction does not apply to the two (2) captains of the Chief, two-thirds of the time, those captains are the officers in charge of the Township.

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

Introduction  
of  
Ordinances

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

**THE ORDINANCE WAS INTRODUCED**

A copy of resolution [#19-08-19-225](#) is appended to the official minutes

Linda J. Doyle, Township Clerk read the following report:

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the said pending ordinance be passed on first reading and advertised as required by statute fixing the 25<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2019, at 7:30 p.m. prevailing time on said day as the time and the Bridgewater Township Municipal Court Chambers at 100 Commons Way in said Township as the place for hearing and final action.

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Township Clerk shall forthwith post on the bulletin board in the Township Municipal Building at 100 Commons Way, a true copy of said ordinance and make copies available to members of the general public and spread the same upon the minutes of the meeting.

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 206 ENTITLED “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC” TO CREATE A NEW SECTION 206-6.1 ENTITLED “RESTRICTED PARKING IN ELECTRIC VEHICLE DESIGNATED LOCATIONS”**

Township Administrator Naples stated that this Ordinance will allow for the insertion of a section in the code book concerning restricted parking in electric vehicle designated locations. He added these parking spots are currently under construction both at the municipal building and at the library.

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

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

**THE ORDINANCE WAS INTRODUCED**

A copy of resolution [#19-08-19-226](#) is appended to the official minutes

Linda J. Doyle, Township Clerk read the following report:

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the said pending ordinance be passed on first

reading and advertised as required by statute fixing the 25<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2019, at 7:30 p.m. prevailing time on said day as the time and the Bridgewater Township Municipal Court Chambers at 100 Commons Way in said Township as the place for hearing and final action.

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Township Clerk shall forthwith post on the bulletin board in the Township Municipal Building at 100 Commons Way, a true copy of said ordinance and make copies available to members of the general public and spread the same upon the minutes of the meeting.

**AN ORDINANCE CREATING A NEW CHAPTER 19 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER ENTITLED “HISTORIC PRESERVATION” FOR THE PURPOSES OF CREATING THE OFFICE OF TOWNSHIP HISTORIAN AND A LOCAL HISTORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Councilwoman Rose stated that this Ordinance creates a local history advisory committee with the Mayor making the appointment with the advise and consent of the Council. Council was in consensus to table this Ordinance to allow them additional time to readdress the language in the Ordinance.

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, second by Councilman Pedroso, the foregoing Ordinance was tabled. The vote was as follows:

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

**Resolutions**

**AWARD OF STATE CONTRACT FOR ONE 2020 F450 EXTENDED CAB & CHASSIS TO WINNER FORD CHERRY HILL NEW JERSEY APPROVED CAPITAL PURCHASE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$71,157.00 FOR USE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

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

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

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-11-07-227](#) is appended to the official minutes.

**AWARD OF CONTRACT STATE CONTRACT FOR TWO 2020 MASON DUMPS WITH PLOWS TO ROUTE 23 AUTOMALL 1301 ROUTE 23 OF BUTLER, NEW JERSEY APPROVED CAPITAL PURCHASE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$178,202.50**

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

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

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-11-07-228](#) is appended to the official minutes.

**AUTHORIZING A PROGRAM TO PURCHASE EXTENSIONS OF AFFORDABILITY CONTROLS ON CERTAIN FOR-SALE AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNITS AT \$10,000 PER UNIT USING FUNDS FROM THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER'S AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND PURSUANT TO THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER'S APPROVED AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND SPENDING PLAN**

Township Administrator Naples explained that this resolution will allow the township to obtain affordability extensions for approximately 95-affordable housing units.

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

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

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-11-07-229](#) is appended to the official minutes.

**AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A POLICE SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE BRIDGEWATER-RARITAN BOARD OF EDUCATION PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 ET SEQ. AUTHORIZING THE PLACEMENT OF A SECOND SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER AT THE BRIDGEWATER-RARITAN HIGH SCHOOL WITH THE TOTAL COST OF SUCH OFFICER TO BE PAID BY THE BOARD OF**

**EDUCATION**

This agreement will authorize an agreement for the services of an additional School Resource Officer to be paid for by the Board of Education. The amount of compensation for the SRO officer is based on the actual compensation and cost of miscellaneous support items such as uniform, firearm etc. to the officer assigned those duties in compliance with PBA salary guide.

On motion of Councilman Kurdyla, second by Councilman Pedroso, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

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

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-11-07-230](#) is appended to the official minutes.

**AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER AND BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP SUPERIOR OFFICERS’ ASSOCIATION (SOA) EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2019 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022.**

Township Administrator Naples explained this is a very good four (4) year contract.

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

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

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-11-07-231](#) is appended to the official minutes.

**AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A PROPOSAL FROM HORIZON BLUE CROSS OF NEW JERSEY TO PROVIDE MEDICAL, PRESCRIPTION, DENTAL AND VISION INSURANCE TO THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER FOR A TOTAL ANNUAL PREMIUM OF \$7,895,118.00 FOR THE YEAR 2020**

Township Administrator Naples explained our current provider, Qualcare, is exiting the business in New Jersey. With the assistance of a health consultant, it was determined that Horizon Blue Cross has the best plan for the township in terms of cost and provision.

On motion of Councilman Pedroso, second by Councilman Kurdyla, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

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

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-11-07-232](#) is appended to the official minutes.

**AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE TO THE CONTRACT FOR SCOTT C. MITZNER TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL DEFENDER**

Township Administrator Naples explained that Scott C. Mitzner has exceeded his contractual amount which is \$20,000.00. This resolution will authorize encumbrances in the amount of \$9,000.00 through December 31, 2019

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

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

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-11-07-233](#) is appended to the official minutes.

**AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2 BRIDGEWATER/RARITAN MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE REQUEST FOR APPLICATION WITH SOMERSET COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$69,875.25**

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

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

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-11-07-234](#) is appended to the official minutes.

**AMEND THE MINUTES FROM APRIL 15, 2019, RESOLUTION NO. 19-04-15-106 ENTITLED, “AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER AND THE BRIDGEWATER-RARITAN BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR 2018-2019 HAZARDOUS BUSING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$241,429.00”**

Council President Moench explained that this resolution will allow the proper roll call vote to be reflected on the April 15, 2019 Council minutes.

On motion of Councilman Pedroso, second by Councilman Kurdyla, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

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

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-11-07-235](#) is appended to the official minutes.

**AUTHORIZING AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING/SURVEYING/ INSPECTION SERVICES CONTRACT FOR THE BWT-6 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT WHICH INCLUDES TULLO ROAD (WASHINGTON VALLEY ROAD TO MALLARD DRIVE) AND SOUTH KNOB (ENTIRE LENGTH) TO KELLER & KIRKPATRICK, INC., (301 GIBRALTAR DRIVE, SUITE 2A, MORRIS PLAINS, NJ 07950) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$39,000.00, FUNDED THROUGH THE 2019 CAPITAL BOND**

**AUTHORIZING AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING/SURVEYING/ INSPECTION SERVICES CONTRACT FOR THE HOFFMAN ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (ENTIRE LENGTH) TO KELLER & KIRKPATRICK, INC. (301 GIBRALTAR DRIVE, SUITE 2A, MORRIS PLAINS, NJ 07950) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$43,800.00, FUNDED THROUGH THE 2019 CAPITAL BOND**

**AUTHORIZING AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING/SURVEYING/ INSPECTION SERVICES CONTRACT FOR THE TWIN OAKS ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PHASES I**

**AND II TO PENNONI ASSOCIATES, INC., (1900 MARKET STREET, SUITE 300, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103) PHASE I TWIN OAKS ROAD (FOOTHILL ROAD TO MORNINGSIDE DRIVE) PHASE II TWIN OAKS ROAD (MORNINGSIDE DRIVE TO STEELE GAP ROAD) AND STEELE GAP ROAD (TWIN OAKS ROAD TO NEWMANS LANE) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$75,000.00, FUNDED THROUGH THE 2019 CAPITAL BOND**

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, second by Councilman Kurdyla, the foregoing resolutions were proposed. The vote was as follows:

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

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

Copies of resolution [#19-11-07-236 thru #19-11-07-238](#) are appended to the official minutes.

**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 COST TO BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP PER YEAR FOR THE YEARS 2020, 2021 AND 2022**

Township Administrator Naples explained that Robert Wood Johnson has successfully provided these services in the past and recommended the award.

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

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

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-11-07-239](#) 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**

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

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

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#19-11-07-240](#) is appended to the official minutes.

**Adjournment**

On the motion of Councilwoman Rose, seconded by Councilman Kurdyla the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda J. Doyle, RMC  
Municipal Clerk

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Matthew Moench  
Council President