

MINUTES OF THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
JANUARY 16, 2020 COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Township Council of the Township of Bridgewater, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, convened in a regular session on Monday, January 16, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers in the Municipal Complex, Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807.

Council President Norgalis 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 3, 2020 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:

Councilman Michael Kirsh
Councilman Allen Kurdyla
Councilman Timothy Ring
Council Vice President Filipe Pedroso (absent)
Council President Howard V. Norgalis

Also Present: Matthew C. Moench, Mayor
 Michael Pappas, Township Administrator
 Christopher Corsini, Township Attorney
 Linda J. Doyle, Township Clerk

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

Minutes

DECEMBER 19, 2019 - REGULAR SESSION
JANUARY 1, 2020 - REORGANIZATION SESSION
JANUARY 6, 2020 - REGULAR SESSION

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Kurdyla, the Dec 19, 2019 were moved for approval and passed with only Councilman Kurdyla and Norgalis able to vote.

On motion of Councilman Ring, seconded by Councilman Kirsh the Jan. 1 and Jan 6, 2020 minutes were approved by Council.

Council Reports

Councilman Kirsh

- The Board of Education has confirmed that Jackie Barlow is the new

President. Councilman Kirsh has connected with Steven Singer, who is the liaison to the Township Council. Next meeting is 1/21 with discussion of change in school start times.

- The Planning Board Reorganized on 1/14. Several returning members included Beth Powers, Tricia Casamento, and Urvin Pandya (Alternate). New members are Mayor Matthew Moench, Administrator Mike Pappas, Alan Fross, Henry Wang, and himself. New alternate is Maurizio Vescio. Alan Fross was elected chairman. Mark Peck is the board attorney. William Burr is the Board Engineer. Scarlett Doyle is the Board Planner. Next meeting is 1/28.
- The Zoning Board will reorganize on 1/21 with the new members that Township Council has (and will) appoint.
- He will provide regular reports of progress on the Census 2020 initiative. Bridgewater is not likely to have a sizeable portion of its population that have typically provided challenges for a full count, but we will still make sure that all of our residents are accounted for. There will be a training session on 2/1 in Edison of which Councilman Kirsh will attend. There are a considerable number of jobs available, which have been publicized on the town's social media.
- Will attend, along with Councilman Ring, the League of Municipalities training for new elected officials.

Councilman Kurdyla:

- Is looking to have an Open Space meeting on Monday, January 27th.
- He would like to participate in some capacity in the township hazardous mitigation plan.

Councilman Ring

- There will be a training session to be scheduled in the Conference Room here in the municipal complex for elected officials on February 20th at 6PM. This meeting is open to all elected officials.

Council President Norgalis:

- With a lot of help from Clerk Linda Doyle and participation by Deputy Administrator Wells Winegar we have met one of the Transparency issues he talked about several weeks ago. Linda actually thought up the solution of creating a two tier drop box, one showing all of the agenda gory details for Council members and one for the public showing the salient documents to be voted on. It is accessed through the Council agenda on

the website.

- While he is no longer the Planning Board representative he attended the Planning Board reorganization meeting on January 4th. Best wishes to the new members. It was nice to sit in the back of the room.
- He, along with Administrator Pappas, at his suggestion, will routinely meet both before and after Council meetings to discuss how we did and how can we improve the Council/Administration relationship. What a splendid change from prior years.
- Attended along with Councilman Ring the Somerset County Governing Officials meeting. The guest speaker was retiring NJ League of Municipalities Executive Director Michael Darcy talking about the Leagues importance in tracking legislative items.

Mayor's Reports

Matthew C. Moench

- Attended the Planning Board reorganization and was pleased to have new attorney Mark Peck on Staff.
- Attended the Martinsville fire department and the FINDERNE Fire Department events.

Public Comment

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

Public Hearing & Final Action Ordinances

AN ORDINANCE CREATING A NEW SECTION 94-2(N) IN THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER, COUNTY OF SOMERSET, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, IN CHAPTER 94 ("FEES") TO BE ENTITLED "ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS" TO SET A FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE USAGE OF ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS OPERATED ON TOWNSHIP PROPERTY

On motion of Councilman Ring, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the meeting was opened to the public.

No one wished to be heard.

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

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

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Ring	Aye
Council Vice President Pedroso	Absent
Council President Norgalis	Aye

ORDINANCE [#20-02](#) WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#20-01-16-045](#) is appended to the official minutes

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 52 (ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES), ARTICLE I (GENERAL PROVISIONS), SECTIONS 52-1 AND 52-6 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER ENTITLED “PURPOSE” AND “CERTAIN SALES PROHIBITED” SO AS TO REMOVE CERTAIN OBSOLETE PROVISIONS

Township Attorney Corsini acknowledged Alex Fisher, Esq. for finding obsolete provisions in this Ordinance. He advised that his office will from time to time review the municipal code to update antiquated regulations.

On motion of Councilman Ring, seconded by Councilman Kurdyla, the meeting was opened to the public.

No one wished to be heard.

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

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

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Ring	Aye
Council Vice President Pedroso	Absent
Council President Norgalis	Aye

ORDINANCE [#20-03](#) WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#20-01-16-046](#) is appended to the official minutes

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CHAPTER 13 (ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICER) OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER

Council noted this section will be repealed due to certain members of new staff having expertise on this position.

On motion of Councilman Kurdyla, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the meeting was opened to the public.

No one wished to be heard.

On motion of Councilman Ring, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the public comment portion was closed.

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

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Ring	Aye
Council Vice President Pedroso	Absent
Council President Norgalis	Aye

ORDINANCE [#20-04](#) WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#20-01-16-047](#) is appended to the official minutes

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 126 (LAND USE), PART 2 (PLANNING BOARD), ARTICLE II (ESTABLISHMENT), SECTIONS 126-4 (COMPOSITION) AND 126-5 (TERMS OF OFFICE; VACANCIES) OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER SO AS TO INCREASE THE PLANNING BOARD'S MEMBERSHIP FROM SEVEN (7) TO NINE (9).

There was a brief discussion noting that even some of the smaller communities have a nine member board to afford diversity in thought and ensure there is a quorum in meetings.

On motion of Councilman Ring, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the meeting was opened to the public.

No one wished to be heard.

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Ring, the public comment portion was closed.

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

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Abstain
Councilman Ring	Aye
Council Vice President Pedroso	Absent
Council President Norgalis	Aye

ORDINANCE [#20-05](#) WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#20-01-16-048](#) is appended to the official minutes

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 4 (ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATIONS), ARTICLE XIV (DEPARTMENT OF POLICE), SECTION 4-83 (PROMOTION) OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER SO AS TO AMEND AND CLARIFY THE PROCEDURE FOR OFFICER PROMOTION.

Township Attorney Corsini advised there is an amendment to this Ordinance that will be presented for introduction at the next Council meeting.

On motion of Councilman Kurdyla, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the meeting was opened to the public.

No one wished to be heard.

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

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

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Ring	Aye
Council Vice President Pedroso	Absent
Council President Norgalis	Aye

ORDINANCE [#20-01](#) WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#20-01-16-049](#) is appended to the official minutes

Resolutions

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TO ACCEPT FUNDS FROM NEW JERSEY STATE POLICE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SUBGRANT AWARD OF THE

CFDA #97.042 FY 19 OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000.00 IN FEDERAL FUNDS AND PROVIDING APPROPRIATE MATCH OF \$10,000.00

Council briefly discussed this resolution and was in support of this program as it has been awarded in years past.

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

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Ring	Aye
Council Vice President Pedroso	Absent
Council President Norgalis	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#20-01-16-050](#) is appended to the official minutes

REQUESTING THE ADMINISTRATION STUDY ALTERNATIVES FOR SHARED SERVICES WITH THE SOMERSET COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Council was in support of the initial review to see if shared services would benefit the community.

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

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Nay
Councilman Ring	Aye
Council Vice President Pedroso	Absent
Council President Norgalis	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#20-01-16-051](#) is appended to the official minutes

APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT - REGULAR MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES: JEFFREY FOOSE, REGULAR MEMBER, DANIEL AHERN, ALTERNATE #1, DONNA KELLY, ALTERNATE #2, ANDREW FRESCO, ALTERNATE #3 AND GARY LASPISA, ALTERNATE #4

Gary LaSpisa was added as a 4th alternate to the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

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

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Ring	Aye
Council Vice President Pedroso	Absent
Council President Norgalis	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#20-01-16-052](#) is appended to the official minutes

Adjournment

On the motion of Councilman Ring, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda J. Doyle, RMC
Municipal Clerk

Howard Norgalis
Council President