

**MINUTES OF THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL**  
**MARCH 2, 2020 COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

The Township Council of the Township of Bridgewater, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, convened in an agenda session on Monday, March 2, 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  
Council President Howard V. Norgalis

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

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

**Minutes**

**JANUARY 30, 2020 - SPECIAL SESSION**

On motion of Councilman Ring, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the January 30, 2020 minutes were moved for approval and passed. Councilman Pedroso abstained.

**Council Reports**

Councilman Kirsh:

- Regarding the School Board, the School Superintendent has submitted his letter of resignation. The school will soon commence a search for a new superintendent. The Board also continues its quest, through an ad hoc committee to determine options regarding school start times.
- Regarding our land use boards, they continue to meet and each has had at least one relatively minor application.

Councilman Kurdyla:  
No Report

Councilman Ring:  
No Report.

Councilman Pedroso  
No Report.

Council President Norgalis:

- Participated in the first quarter 2020 Bridgewater Emergency Services Planning Committee.
- Attended the Opening Night for Uncle Julio's restaurant which replaced McCormick & Schmick at the mall.
- Attend, along with Mayor Moench, the Business Networking Group breakfast sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren.
- Attended, along with Council Vice President Pedroso, a 2020 budget coordinating meeting moderated by Administrator Pappas and CFO Natasha Turchan.

## Mayor's Reports

Matthew C. Moench

- Thanked the Council budget subcommittee for their work on the Budget that will allow us to continue operations in a way that is fiscally responsible. He added he intends to have department heads make presentations before the governing body regarding budgets for their departments.
- The Township was a sponsor at the JCC Winter Carnival & Christine Madrid, Director of Human Services was present to hand out teddy bears & greet people on behalf of the Township.
- The memorializing resolution for the Center of Excellence was approved by the Planning Board. We continue to be in litigation because they do not like the language that is on the resolution.
- Administration is looking to hire consultants who will conduct a township wide road assessment. The idea is to make a true assessment of the condition of our roads and from there create a long-term roadway plan that will be publicized on our website for the residents. More information on this will follow.

## Proclamation

### **PROCLAMATION BY MAYOR MOENCH, BRIDGEWATER WOMAN'S CLUB**

The following women from the Woman's Club were recognized:  
Loretta Harback

Barbara Sweeney  
Carole Fresca  
Mary Monaghan  
Joan Galay  
Janet Etsch  
Christine Phillips  
Helen Horun  
Barbara Lubrani  
Diane Considine  
Dee Papp  
Kathy Jepson  
Gerrie Gora

Mayor Moench read the following proclamation:

**WHEREAS**, American women of every race, class, and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our Nation in countless recorded and unrecorded ways; and

**WHEREAS**, American women have played and continue to play critical economic, cultural, and social role in every sphere of the life of the Nation by constituting a significant portion of the labor force working inside and outside of the home; and

**WHEREAS**, American women have played a unique role throughout the history of the Nation by providing the majority of the volunteer labor force of the Nation; and

**WHEREAS**, American women were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic, and cultural institutions in our Nation; and

**WHEREAS**, American women of every race, class, and ethnic background served as early leaders in the forefront of every major progressive social change movement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bridgewater Woman's Club was founded in 1976 in order to honor, exemplify, preserve and fulfill the legacy of the great American women who came before; and

**WHEREAS**, the Club has donated their time and resources to a myriad of local and national causes including; the Somerset Animal Center, Somerset County Food Bank, Home Sharing, Lions Club, Make a Wish Foundation, Operation Jersey Cares, RWJ Somerset Medical, Ronald McDonald House, Visions and Pathways, Operation Smile, Raptor Trust, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Salvation Army, Seeing Eye, UNICEF and many more worthy causes and organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Club has given scholarships to local students at both the Bridgewater-Raritan High School and Somerset County Vocational School; and

**WHEREAS**, the women of the Bridgewater Woman’s Club, through their many acts of service to our community, provide a constant example of civic responsibility and leadership to us all; and

**WHEREAS**, it is crucial to the future of our community that the women of the Club continue to fearlessly advance their legacy on behalf of the girls of today and women of tomorrow; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I do hereby proclaim** March as **Women’s History Month** and honor the **Bridgewater Woman’s Club** for their years of service to the Bridgewater community.

Oath of Office

**KATHERINE E. HOWES, J.M.C.**

Mayor Moech recognized the accomplishments of Judge Howes who will be the first female Judge to have worked in Bridgewater. Judge Howes works in various surrounding municipalities and is well known and respected in her field.

Following the approval of the below resolution, Judge Howes took the Oath of Office, administered by Township Attorney Corsini.

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE HONORABLE KATHERINE E. HOWES, J.M.C., OF PEAPACK-GLADSTONE, NEW JERSEY AS THE ALTERNATE MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER.**

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

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

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#20-03-02-075](#) is appended to the official minutes.

Public  
Comment

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Kurdyla, 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.

Michelle Smith of Foothill Road in Bridgewater was present. She spoke about what a veteran advisory committee can do and how the Council and administration can do to get involved.

Kathy Healey of Weemack Road in Martinsville was present. She questioned the outcome of the meeting with Judge Miller regarding the Center of Excellence and asked that this information be posted on the website for the residents to see. Ms. Healey further asked that the resolution appointing Thomas Genova as director of Municipal Services be amended to show the correct duration of his appointment which is 2020 thru 2023. She also asked that the health department post information on the importance of getting the flu vaccine and hand washing.

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

**Public  
Hearing &  
Final Action  
Ordinances**

**CREATING A NEW CHAPTER 19 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER ENTITLED “VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE” TO SUPPORT, RECOGNIZE, AND HONOR THE SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN OF ALL BRANCHES OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Mayor Moench offered this Ordinance will allow us to support veteran and their families and to allow them to get involved in their community.

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

No one wished to be heard.

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

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

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

**ORDINANCE #20-08 WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#20-03-02-076](#) is appended to the official minutes

Introduction of Ordinances

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 4 (ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATIONS), ARTICLE XII (DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL SERVICES) AND ARTICLE XVIII (DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS MAINTENANCE) OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER SO AS TO FURTHER AMEND AND CLARIFY THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF BOTH DEPARTMENTS**

Mayor Moench said this ordinance was created in order to better match the current structure of operations in these departments.

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

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

**THE ORDINANCE WAS INTRODUCED.**

A copy of resolution [#20-03-02-077](#) 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 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020, 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.

Resolutions

**AUTHORIZING BUDGET TRANSFERS FOR APPROPRIATION RESERVE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$366,512.00**

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

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye

Councilman Ring	Aye
Council Vice President Pedroso	Aye
Council President Norgalis	Aye

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#20-03-02-078](#) is appended to the official minutes

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING CHRISTINE PHILLIPS OF 143 CANDLEWICK LANE AND GERALDINE STAUB OF 10 BRAEMAR PLACE TO THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD**

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

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

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#20-03-02-079](#) is appended to the official minutes

Geraldine Staub and Christine Phelps were sworn in by Township Attorney Corsini.

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING THOMAS GENOVA DIRECTOR OF MUNICIPAL SERVICES FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER**

It was noted that Mr. Thomas Genova has been acting director of municipal services all year and continues to do a stellar job.

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

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

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#20-03-02-080](#) is appended to the official minutes

**AUTHORIZING QUALIFIED FIRMS FOR PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES FOR**

**LEGAL MATTERS REQUIRING A SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP FOR THE YEAR 2020**

Mayor Moench stated this list will be utilized when we need specialized Council. Township Attorney Corsini can draw from this list of vetted attorneys when and if the need arises.

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

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

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#20-03-02-081](#) is appended to the official minutes

**AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER AND THE BRIDGEWATER-RARITAN BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR 2019-2020 HAZARDOUS BUSING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 256,153.00**

Council President Norgalis advised students who live less than 2 miles are not bussed so without sidewalks or clear non hazardous roadways this busing is offered. The Board of Education tracts this together with our Police department by student and mile.

Mayor Moench stated that administration will be looking into ways that this cost can be avoided.

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

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

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#20-03-02-082](#) is appended to the official minutes

**NOTIFICATION OF APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2020 SOMERSET COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT BY THE FOLLOWING NONPROFITS**



**WITH INTENDED PROJECTS WITHIN BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP: COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES (CASA) OF SOMERSET, HUNTERDON, AND WARREN COUNTIES, MARTIN LUTHER KING YOUTH CENTER, THE SHIMON AND SARA BIRNBAUM JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER, VISIONS AND PATHWAYS AND MIDDLE EARTH**

This resolution is done each year in collaboration with the Somerset County Community Block Grant program.

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

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

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#20-03-02-083](#) is appended to the official minutes

**APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW JERSEY STATE LIBRARY UNDER THE NEW JERSEY STATE LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION BOND ACT FOR PHASE 1 AND 2 OF THE HVAC SYSTEM REPLACEMENT PROJECT AT THE BRIDGEWATER LIBRARY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,517,036**

Councilman Kurdyla offered he has worked on this at the request of the Library Committee. He offered this resolution supports the submission to apply for a grant to install a new HVAC System at the Library.

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	Aye
Council President Norgalis	Aye

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#20-03-02-084](#) is appended to the official minutes

**AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A DEVELOPER'S AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER AND R.I. HERITAGE INN OF BRIDGEWATER, LLC**

**AND S.S. HERITAGE INN OF BRIDGEWATER, LLC FOR A HOTEL, RESTAURANT, AND MEDICAL OFFICE FACILITY LOCATED (FORMERLY KNOWN AS 1260 ROUTE 22, DAY'S INN) NO CURRENT ADDRESS ASSIGNED ON BLOCK 222, LOTS 3, 4 AND 5 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER**

It was noted that Developer's Agreements give us enforcement capabilities.

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

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

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#20-03-02-085](#) is appended to the official minutes

**AWARD OF CONTRACT TO WELDON MATERIAL, INC. 1 NEW PROVIDENCE ROAD, WATCHUNG, NEW JERSEY FOR HIGH PERFORMANCE HOT PATCH IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,000**

Council President Norgalis noted hot patch is a necessity to fill the potholes as a bridge before the roads are slated for improvements.

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

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

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#20-03-02-086](#) is appended to the official minutes

**AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT FOR 2020 WITH THE SOCCER CENTERS LOCATED AT 300 MEMORIAL DRIVE SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY AND TOWNSHIP RECREATION DEPARTMENT FOR THE SPRING AND FALL TRAVEL PROGRAMS. SOCCER CENTERS WILL PROVIDE THE USE OF TURF FIELDS, REFEREES AND TRAINERS AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$115,840**

Councilman Kurdyla asked about disparity in the rates for trainers. Township

Administrator Pappas stated special programs including travel programs charge a higher fee. For the vast majority, the fee is lower.

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	Aye
Council President Norgalis	Aye

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#20-03-02-087](#) is appended to the official minutes

**RESOLUTION AMENDING THE SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF RARITAN AND THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER FOR ELECTRIC SUBCODE OFFICIAL/INSPECTOR SERVICES AND SUBCODE/INSPECTOR ELEVATOR SERVICES**

Mr. Pappas noted this agreement for shared service already exists and this amendment reflects Raritan paying the overtime costs to cover the Township's associated costs.

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

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

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#20-03-02-088](#) is appended to the official minutes.

**CANCELLATION OF CAPITAL BOND ORDINANCES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,453,444.28**

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	Aye
Council President Norgalis	Aye

**THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.**

A copy of resolution [#20-03-02-089](#) is appended to the official minutes.

**Adjournment**

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda J. Doyle, RMC  
Municipal Clerk

---

Howard V. Norgalis  
Council President