

MINUTES OF THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
OCTOBER 19, 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, October 19, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. via electronic communication.

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.

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT OF NEW JERSEY, ADEQUATE NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS PROVIDED ON JANUARY 3, 2020, WITH A SUBSEQUENT MEETING NOTICED ON OCTOBER 12, 2020, IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 ET SEQ. AS AMENDED TO PERMIT PUBLIC BODIES AS THEREIN DEFINED TO CONDUCT PUBLIC MEETINGS BY MEANS OF COMMUNICATION OR OTHER ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT, AND WITH WRITTEN NOTICE AND ELECTRONIC NOTICE PROVIDED TO THE COURIER NEWS AND THE STAR LEDGER POSTING ON THE WEBSITE AND 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: Michael Pappas, Township Administrator
 Wells Winegar, Deputy Township Administrator
 Christopher Corsini, Township Attorney
 Grace Njuguna, Deputy Township Clerk

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

Minutes

OCTOBER 5, 2020 - REGULAR SESSION

On motion of Councilman Ring, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the October 5, 2020 regular session minutes were moved for approval and passed unanimously on a voice call vote.

Council Reports

Councilman Kirsh

- Was present at the viewing of the Tullo Road project. He added the pavement was still warm during the viewing and it was good to see such great progress.
- Acknowledged the passing of George Harlan noting it is a considerable loss to our community and recognized his many years of service to Bridgewater. Councilman Kirsh sent his condolences to George Harlan's family.
- Schools are open and the return to relative normalcy is great.
- Acknowledged the Census did in fact end on October 15th. He thanked the residents for their corporation during this process noting that Bridgewater continued to be among the top two (2) municipalities in Somerset County in census reporting adding we came very close to full count.
- The General election is exactly 2-weeks from tomorrow. Councilman Kirsh encouraged everybody to vote and advised this election is predominantly vote-by-mail. He added there is limited accommodation for in person voting at the five (5) locations in Bridgewater where provisional voting is allowed. Councilman Kirsh encouraged residents to return their mail-in ballots at the drop-box located outside the municipal building parking lot.

Councilman Kurdyla:

- Was at the viewing of the Tullo Road construction project.

Councilman Ring:

- On October 6TH, he joined the other Council members in viewing the now completed Tullo Road construction project.
- Later that evening attended a police prayer service for our police officers at Town hall that was sponsored by the knights of Columbus.
- Has received a lot of letters/emails from constituents with questions about school reopening given COVID. Councilman Ring stated he referred all concerns to the superintendent of schools.

Council Vice-President Pedroso:

- Councilman Pedroso acknowledged the passing of George Harlan noting his death is a tremendous loss to our Community. George Harlan served on the Zoning Board for 30-years both in Bridgewater and in Somerville. Councilman Pedroso stated he served with George on the Zoning Board for

ten of those years and expressed what a role model he was adding he was extremely professional, had a handle on all the applications and was always prepared. What stood out about George Harlan was his demeanor and approach to the public because he was such a gentlemen and addressed the public with great care, concern and respect. Councilman Pedroso stated George was very valuable to the Township and will be dearly missed. He sent his best wishes to George Harlan's family.

Council President Norgalis:

- Two more losses of prominent Bridgewater residents. George Michael Harlan's passing leaves a legacy of public service to not only Bridgewater, but also to Somerville as well the entire County of Somerset. He was recognized twice by the Freeholders for his public service.
- The Reverend Doctor John Stephenson also passed after many years of involvement in County volunteer activities.
- Attended the Somerset County virtual Governing Officials meeting where retiring County Administrator Michel Amoroso was the guest speaker. After 46 years of public service he intends to spend a lot of time with his grandchildren. His indelible message for the newly minted Freeholders is, "respect the county workers whether they empty cans or run departments".
- The last Fall bulky trash day has come and gone. 59 30 yard dumpsters were filled during the three day drop off. That may not be a record but the ability for our residents to drop off household items was really appreciated. One resident said he is already putting items aside for next Spring's collection.
- Early this year, the Tax Collector's office was moved to the first floor in the Administration Building. Many residents like the opportunity to make their tax payments without having to take the elevator to the second floor.
- Stopped at the Lane Brokow House on Milltown Rd to see how the mothballing work authorized by the Council in January is going. The new roof is on and outside foundation work has been done. Other than mothballing the building, the Council and Administration have no plans to perform inside restoration work.
- Attended a virtual Power Restoration workshop sponsored by JCP&L which included Office of Emergency Management personnel and elected officials

from numerous Somerset County locations.

Mayor's Reports

Township Administrator Michael Pappas for Mayor Matthew C. Moench

- Township Administrator Pappas stated Mayor Hayes has sent his regrets for being unable to attend tonight's meeting.
- Police Chief Payne has undertaken the establishment of a Chaplain program and over the last two (2) months has hosted, along with the Mayor and his Captains, meetings with religious leaders. Two (2) Clergymen were enrolled and undertook a two day training through a Chaplain Program that the Chief had researched and recommended. Administrator Pappas stated Administration is pleased with how this is moving forward and will continue to report to Council on progress in coming months.
- There is a request for the Council to take action to approve a slight revision to the proposed agreement with Hillsborough for shared services with code enforcement noting there are some requirements that the State Department required in the language that we were not originally aware of. The amendment does not change the essence of the agreement but rather some wording amendments as required by DCA.
- There is also a proposal to get into a services agreement with the County for a driver feedback sign on Washington Valley Road. This was passed on from the previous administration.
- There is a rock salt resolution that has been undertaken many times in past years. In previous years, the amount proposed has been approved.
- The Council and Mayor attended an event a week ago where a resident had organized an effort to show support for the police department. He was acknowledged by the mayor for this efforts.
- Participated on a call with JCPL where Council President Norgalis was an active participant. This aids in continuing an open communication with this important utility that services Bridgewater Township.
- We continue to undertake additional road improvement programs, more will be coming soon.
- Township Administrator Pappas stated he met George Harlan in 1984 when he was still living in Somerville. He added George was a fine gentleman, has a great family and will be dearly missed. George

Stevenson was a County official and a dedicated volunteer who served for decades in various capacities and was very organized. His death is a great loss and he will also be dearly missed.

PREGNANT AND INFANT LOSS MONTH

Proclamations

Michael Pappas, Township Administrator read the Proclamation as follows:

WHEREAS, Each and every child is of inestimable worth and has inherent human dignity; and

WHEREAS, The loss of a child—in utero or just after birth—is a source of unfathomable pain and grief not just for his or her parents, but for their families, their friends and for the wider community; and

WHEREAS, According to the World Health Organization, as of 2017 and despite a decline of more than 50% in the past 30 years, there are still approximately 4.4 million infants who die during or around childbirth annually across the globe; and

WHEREAS, Each of these deaths is a unique tragedy, both because a human being was deprived of their right to live, and because we will never know the person they might have become in this world, or how they might have left their mark on it;

WHEREAS, The Township of Bridgewater, on behalf of the people of this community extend our deepest sympathies—inadequate though they may be—to parents and families, who grieve the loss of a child;

WHEREAS, October 15th is acknowledged all over the world to be a day on which we mourn the loss of these children, and together stand in support of those they left behind; and

NOW THEREFORE, I, Matthew C. Moench, Mayor of Bridgewater Township, do hereby proclaim October 15th to be

National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day

And urge all the citizens of the Township to recognize and reflect on this day of remembrance, and to be of what comfort they can to those who may find themselves stricken with such deep grief that can be difficult to put into words.

IN HONOR OF GEORGE HARLAN

Michael Pappas, Township Administrator read the Proclamation as follows:

HONORING THE LIFE OF FORMER ZONING BOARD CHAIRMAN GEORGE M.

HARLAN AND HIS CONTRIBUTION TO BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP

WHEREAS, George Michael Harlan was born in Baltimore, Maryland, on June 5, 1935, the son of Paul and Katharine Harlan; and

WHEREAS, upon his graduation from the University of Delaware in 1957, George settled in New Jersey, beginning a distinguished career at Union Carbide in Piscataway. George retired from Union Carbide in 1997 as a Senior Development Associate after four decades of distinguished service in research and development, having received numerous patents for his work and serving as the founding president of the American Society of Testing and Materials' Committee on Degradable Plastics; and

WHEREAS, George settled in Somerville in 1961 and moved to Bridgewater in 1984 where he enjoyed many happy occasions with friends and family, especially his wife, the former Marsha Soriano, his son Michael Harlan, his grandchildren, Victoria and Jack, and his daughter-in-law, the late Sharon Harlan; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his devotion to his family and his friends, George was dedicated to preserving and improving the quality of life for Bridgewater and Somerset County residents, serving as a diligent, thoughtful, and conscientious advocate for his community; and

WHEREAS, George's contributions to his community included long service on both the Somerville (1973 to 1979 and 1981 to 1984) and Bridgewater (1986 to 2010) Zoning Boards of Adjustment, serving as chair of the latter until his retirement in 2010; and

WHEREAS, George's further contributions included his service on the Advisory Council for the Somerset County Office on Aging, where he served as a volunteer Medicare counselor for twenty-three years, the last twenty of which as coordinator of the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (S.H.I.P.), having been recognized twice by the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders for his volunteer service to Somerset County's senior citizens and having been named as one of the top ten Medicare counselors in the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, George also served his county in the United States Air Force Reserve as a member of the Critical Skills unit from 1959 until 1966; and

WHEREAS, in every endeavor of his life, George Harlan had as his top priority the well-being and prosperity of his family, friends, and community, and all Bridgewater residents owe him a debt of gratitude; and

WHEREAS, to the regret and sorrow of all who knew him, George Harlan passed away

on October 10, 2020; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Mayor Matthew C. Moench, Council President Howard Norgalis, Council Vice President Filipe Pedroso, Councilman Alan Kurdyla, Councilman Michael Kirsh, and Councilman Timothy Ring express, in their individual capacities and on behalf of all residents of the Township of Bridgewater, past, present, and future, their gratitude and deepest sympathy to the Harlan Family and join them in celebrating the life and achievements of one of Bridgewater Township's finest residents.

Public Comment

On motion of Councilman Pedroso, 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 to provide public input via electronic transmission with all comments to be read into the record, unless there are unusual circumstances.

Wells Winegar, Deputy Township Administrator advised the public on the various ways they can be heard as follows:

- ⇒ Link for Public Comment Submission:
<https://bridgewaterocr.typeform.com/to/wtbqHzqr>
- ⇒ Use raise hand feature to give audio comments
- ⇒ Use Q&A feature for written comments
- ⇒ Text 908-912-4247 for written comments

There was a four (4) minute recess to allow the public additional time to submit public comment via the various ways discussed above.

Following recess, on the call of the roll by Grace Njuguna, Deputy Township Clerk, 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

Patti Selikoff 16 Gibson Terrace, Bridgewater, NJ 08807 addressed the governing body with a statement as follows:

Dear Town Council:

It has come to my attention that our elected Mayor Matt Moench has decided to

use his position to weigh into an election that is not “partisan”. I would like to read the leaked email that was sent by him on Friday, October 9th, 2020 titled Board of Education Races.

All-

While Board of Education races are not “partisan,” the board of education plays a larger role in impacting our community, our taxes, and our children. This year four candidates are running for two positions. Two of those candidates are Republicans - Barry Walker and JP Leven. The other two are democrats, and one has a series of Facebook posts criticizing and promoting far left policies. I believe that it is important to elect Republicans at all levels of government and I ask that you consider these facts when you vote for BOE this year.

Any questions, you can reach out to me by email or phone.

Matt

Then Mayor Moench participated in a Robo call that went out to all the Republicans in town and announced he was the Mayor of Bridgewater and at this point there was no confusion that he using his position to influence the BOE election.

Due to his involvement in the race, I started a petition to remove political partisan from our BOE election race on October 16, 2020 as I felt this was a wonderful platform for others to be able to have their voices heard and start a conversation about the issue. I also felt, as a parent with children in school system believed that the best-qualified elected person should be making decisions and not just those on a party line.

This was also an opportunity for “our” mayor to listen to town concerns, instead he double downed and on October 17, 2020 Mayor Moench writes an editorial for endorsing the 2 candidates.

I am extremely disappointed that a mayor that is supposed to represent “all” of us and would decide to use his position to endorse and influence a non-partisan race. I am not asking to limit his freedom of speech but I do think as public elected officials should try to stay out these non-partisan races.

I am submitting the 178 people who have signed the petition and I hope the council will consider introducing an ordinance that is similar to the one they adopted that limited redevelopers giving campaign contributions. Even our own Mayor Moench, who was a councilman voted yes for it and said that “The ordinance promotes good government”. Councilman Filipe Pedroso said “I don’t

see anything negative with the ordinance”.

I am coming to you to uphold the same for yourselves and continue to promote good government and encourage the council to introduce and pass an ordinance an ordinance to not influence or endorse non-partisan races. I think you owe it to our town to let them decide who the best qualified candidate to win and not use and abuse your position to influence the election.

If I have time I would like to read the reasons for people signing the petition.

Ms. Selikoff was advised she has extended her time and was requested to forward the petitions to the Clerk for forwarding to the governing body.

No one else wished to be heard.

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

Councilman Pedroso thanked Ms. Selikoff for her comments.

Councilman Pedroso opined that Mayor Moench wrote an email to an internal group to provide his opinion. He added that the Mayor has a right to provide an opinion on who is best suited to represent him on the Board of Education. Councilman Pedroso further stated the Board of Education is a political organization and the Board of Education members are politicians who campaign, door knock and do everything that politicians do to get votes.

In Bridgewater Township, the Board of Education budget is approximately 4-times larger than the municipal budget. When it comes to Bridgewater, the most significant tax is the Board of Education tax which means the Board of Education representatives are very significant to the community because they control the spending of the taxpayer and have the role of the oversight of the education of our children. They are an elected body and are subject to scrutiny. Because Mayor Moench is Mayor, his opinion matters and those that voted for him look for his endorsements and guidance. Councilman Pedroso opined that being able to express your opinion and endorsement is a personal right that is fundamental to our government and democracy.

Public
Hearing &
Final Action
Ordinances

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC SALE OF PROPERTY CONSISTING OF 7.641 ACRES AND KNOWN AS LOTS 36 AND 37 IN BLOCK 653 ON THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP TAX MAP AND LOCATED AT 1475 MOUNTAIN TOP ROAD, PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A: 12-13 (a)

Council President Norgalis stated this Ordinance concerns the former Redwood Inn property. Administrator Pappas stated this Ordinance will allow for the public sale of the property adding there is a bidding process we will have to adhere to and the approval for action is the first of that process.

It was confirmed there was no public comment provided during the public comment section of this meeting.

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

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

ORDINANCE #20-19 WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#20-10-19-248](#) is appended to the official minutes

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$200,000.00 FOR DEMOLITION OF EXISTING BUILDING LOCATED AT 1475 MOUNTAIN TOP ROAD, BLOCK 653 LOTS 36 AND 37, IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$190,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING PART OF THE APPROPRIATION.

Township Administrator Pappas stated the approval of this Ordinance will provide funding for the demolition of structures on the property. He added that ten (10) firms have confirmed interest in bidding. Proceeds from the sale of this property will be used to address the bond that will be payable within 1-year or less if possible.

It was confirmed that taking care of this property before selling it is beneficial because there are a number of environmental issues that we are aware of and taking care of those is responsible and allows for faster process in making this property ready for residential use. Selling as is would lengthen the amount of time to make the property usable and the sale price would be substantially low.

Councilman Pedroso stated he will abstain in his vote in order to be consistent as he has always felt this lots should have been zoned R-50.

It was confirmed there was no public comment provided during the public

comment section of this meeting.

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	Abstain
Council President Norgalis	Aye

ORDINANCE #20-20 WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#20-10-19-249](#) is appended to the official minutes

Introduction
of
Ordinances

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 4 (ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATIONS), ARTICLE XIV (DEPARTMENT OF POLICE), SECTION 4-84 (“CHIEF OF POLICE”) OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER SO AS TO CREATE THE OFFICE OF POLICE CHAPLAIN

Township Administrator Pappas explained Chief Payne is recommending this because if a Chaplin is on the scene, it will help address liability issues that may occur.

Councilman Kirsh read a memo prepared by Police Chief Payne that confirmed that the Chaplain position is a volunteer role.

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	Aye
Council President Norgalis	Aye

THE ORDINANCE WAS INTRODUCED.

A copy of resolution [#20-10-19-250](#) is appended to the official minutes

Grace Njuguna, Deputy 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 5TH day of November, 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.

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:809; N.J.S.A. 2A:8-13; N.J.S.A. 40A:9-165; N.J.S.A.40A:9-135; N.J.S.A. 40A:9-146, AND CHAPTER 95 OF THE PUBLIC LAWS OF 1996

Township Administrator Pappas explained this is an ordinance that is customarily approved every year and entails increases in compensation. Employees who are newly hired as of January 1, 2020 will not receive additional compensation.

Council President Norgalis explained the non-union employees will receive a 1% raise, retroactive from January 1st. Newly appointed employees have no raise and continue to receive compensation at what they were hired. Township Administrator Pappas will received additional compensation for his role as CFO.

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>COMPENSATION</u>
Mayor	\$15,000.00
Township Council President	\$8,000.00
Township Council	\$7,000.00
Township Clerk	\$110,035.01
Director of Administration	\$176,000.00.
Director of Finance/Chief Financial Officer	\$ -0-
Tax Assessor	\$127,612.55
Director of Municipal Services	\$133,712.43
Director of Human Services	\$111,000.00
Director of Law	By Contract
Municipal Judge	\$57,986.51
Court Clerk/Administrator	\$76,919.34
Prosecutor	By Contract
Public Defender	(session) \$600.00
Chief of Police	\$172,933.70

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, 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 [#20-10-19-251](#) is appended to the official minutes

Grace Njuguna, Deputy 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 5TH day of November, 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

PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE 2020 BUDGET PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948) ALCOHOL EDUCATION REHABILITATION \$1,333.66

PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE 2020 BUDGET PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948) CLEAN COMMUNITIES \$93,722.91

PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE 2020 BUDGET PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948) DRUNK DRIVING ENFORCEMENT \$8,551.65

PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE 2020 BUDGET PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948) EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT \$20,000.00

PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE 2020 BUDGET PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948) RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT \$44,639.49

Township Administrator Pappas stated these resolutions are for special revenue

insertions. We typically apply for grants for these various services and this is the formal way that we insert the monies into the approved budget.

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 RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED.

Copies of resolutions [#20-10-19-252 thru #20-10-19-256](#) are appended to the official minutes

AUTHORIZING UP TO \$45,000 FOR FLORIO, PERRUCCI, STEINHARDT, CAPPELLI, TIPTON & TAYLOR, LLC, 235 BROUBALOW WAY, PHILLIPSBURG, NJ 08865 FOR PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES IN THE CALENDAR YEAR 2020 FOR LAND USE LITIGATION IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$45,000.00

Township Administrator Pappas explained the increase in the budget is for litigation expenses, primarily for the center of excellence.

RESOLUTION APPOINTING ANDREW KINSEY OF FLORIO, PERUCCI, STEINHARDT & CAPELLI OF PHILLIPSBURG, 235 BROUBALOW WAY, PHILLIPSBURG, NJ 08865 AS SPECIAL LEGAL COUNSEL REPRESENTATION FOR CERTAIN TAX APPEAL MATTERS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$7,020.00 AND AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 20-01-01-006 TO DECREASE THE AMOUNT CERTIFIED BY \$3,000 WITH SAID CERTIFIED AMOUNT BEING REDUCED FROM \$40,000 TO \$37,000

Township Administrator Pappas explained this for special counsel for Tax appeals.

Councilman Kirsh requested that “Not to exceed the total amount of \$45,000” be added to the title of this resolution for consistency with the body of the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the foregoing resolutions were 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 RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED.

Copies of resolutions [#20-10-19-257 thru #20-10-19-258](#) are appended to the official minutes

AUTHORIZING PAYMENTS FOR ROAD SALT FOR THE 2020-2021 WINTER SEASON TO THE SOMERSET COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE DIVISION NOT TO EXCEED \$75,000.00

This will allow us to purchase road salt for the winter season.

On motion of Councilman Ring, 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 [#20-10-19-259](#) is appended to the official minutes

APPROVING PERSON TO PERSON TRANSFER OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSE NO. 1806-33-014-009 FROM HOP BRIDGEWATER, LLC TO HOULIHAN'S BRIDGEWATER, LLC D/B/A/ HOULIHAN'S LOCATED AT 1288 ROUTE 22 EAST, BRIDGEWATER, NJ 08807 - NEW LICENSE NO. 1806-33-014-010

This is necessary due to a bankruptcy. The franchisee that operated the facility went bankrupt and Houlihan's corporate took over.

On motion of Councilman Ring, 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 [#20-10-19-260](#) is appended to the official minutes

AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF THE PERFORMANCE BOND AND ACCEPTANCE OF A SUBSTITUTE PERFORMANCE BOND FOR LTF REAL ESTATE COMPANY, INC., AT 2902 CORPORATE PLACE, CHANHASSEN, MN 55317 ON THE SUBDIVISION OF BLOCK 41 LOT 39.07 ON COMMONS WAY

This release is for the Life Time Fitness Center. We are releasing the bond due to Lifetime changing companies.

On motion of Councilman Kurdya, 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 [#20-10-19-261](#) is appended to the official minutes

AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF THE PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,616.00, AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE SITE IMPROVEMENTS, FOR BLOCK 111, LOT 12, 49 MORRIS STREET, BRIDGEWATER, NJ

Reason for the bond was for the demolition of an existing home and construction of a new home. Improvements have been completed and the performance guarantee can be released. Council President Norgalis indicated that the property is owned by Andrew Damico and is located at the confluence of the North and South Branches of the Raritan River. The NJ State proposal of many years ago to build the Confluence Reservoir at that location never happened.

On motion of Councilman Ring, 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 [#20-10-19-262](#) is appended to the official minutes

SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP FOR A DRIVER FEEDBACK SIGN ON WASHINGTON VALLEY ROAD (CR616) APPROXIMATELY 600 FEET EAST OF THE CHIMNEY ROCK ROAD INTERSECTION

This was an agreement that was agreed to by the previous administration. The sign is already in place.

Councilman Pedroso expressed his disappointment with this agreement noting the County should be paying for this on their own.

On motion of Councilman Ring, 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 [#20-10-19-263](#) is appended to the official minutes

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT FOR UNIFORMED CONSTRUCTION CODE INSPECTIONS SERVICES WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSBOROUGH PURSUANT TO THE UNIFORMED SHARED SERVICES ACT, N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 ET SEQ. IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,500.00 FROM 2020 CURRENT FUND

Minor wording changes were required by DCA. This resolution and agreement codify those changes.

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 [#20-10-19-264](#) is appended to the official minutes

REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF APPLICATION FEE FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING YOUTH CENTER, INC., 1298 PRINCE RODGERS AVENUE, BRIDGEWATER, ASSOCIATED WITH ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT APPLICATION #20-029-ZB FOR A SIGN VARIANCE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500.00

Council President Norgalis explained the sign being requested of the Zoning Board was for a telephone number to be placed on their sign which is not permitted by our Ordinances. Council is permitted to waive township application fees for 501(C)3 organizations.

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 [#20-10-19-265](#) is appended to the official minutes

REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FEES IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$191.00 FOR THE GREEN KNOLL VOLUNTEER FIRE CO. NO. 1 , INC., 606 NORTH BRIDGE STREET, P.O. BOX 6004, BRIDGEWATER, NJ 08807

It was confirmed that it is customary for the Council to waive township fees for 501(C)3 organizations.

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 [#20-10-19-266](#) is appended to the official minutes

Adjournment Councilman Kurdyla made motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:51pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda J. Doyle, RMC
Municipal Clerk

Howard Norgalis
Council President