MINUTES OF THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL JANUARY 4, 2021 - VIRTUAL MEETING

REORGANIZATION MEETING

The Township Council of the Township of Bridgewater, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, convened in a regular session and reorganization meeting on Monday, January 4, 2021, at 7:00 p. m. via electronic communication.

Councilman 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 DECEMBER 21, 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.

Roll Call

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 Township Administrator

Christopher Corsini, Township Attorney

Thomas Genova, Director of Municipal Services Christine Madrid, Director of Human Services

Linda J. Doyle, Township Clerk

Grace Njuguna, Deputy Township Clerk

Pledge of Allegiance

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Invocation

Invocations were presented by:

-Rabbi Dan Selsberg of Temple Sholom

-The Hindu Pujari - Sri Venkateswara Temple

Recognitions

Council President Norgalis recognized the following attendees:

Linda Doyle, RMC - Township Clerk

Grace Njuguna, RMC - Deputy Township Clerk

Krista Gaffney - Clerk's Office Secretary Michael Pappas, Township Administrator

Paul Payne, Police Chief

Thomas Genova, Director of Municipal Services

Christopher Corsini, Township Attorney

Council

President

Outgoing Address

Council President Norgalis gave his outgoing address:

The address is appended to the official minutes. (Schedule A)

Selection of Council President

SELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Councilman Norgalis nominated Councilman Pedroso to serve as Council President for the year 2021. Councilman Kurdyla seconded the motion. The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows:

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

Selection of Council Vice-President

SELECTION OF COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

Council President Pedroso nominated Councilman Kurdyla to serve as Council Vice-President for the year 2021. Councilman Norgalis seconded the motion. The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows:

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

President's Message

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PEDROSO'S MESSAGE

The message is attached to the official minutes. (Schedule B)

State of the Township Address

MAYOR MATTHEW C. MOENCH STATE OF THE TOWNSHIP ADDRESS

The address is appended to the official minutes. (Schedule C)

MAYOR APPOINTMENTS WITH ADVICE AND CONSENT (Staff)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PEDROSO READ THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS:

APPOINTMENT OF QUALIFIED PURCHASING AGENT ROSE WITT AS 2021 PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER

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

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

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED.

A copy of resolution #20-01-04-001 is appended to the official minutes.

AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE FEE SCHEDULE FOR PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES FOR CHRISTOPHER M. CORSINI, ESQ. AND THE LAW FIRM OF SAVO, SCHALK, GILLESPIE, O'GRODNICK & FISHER, P.A., IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$460,000 FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2021 TO DECEMBER 31, 2021

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

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

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED.

A copy of resolution #20-01-04-002 is appended to the official minutes.

AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL COLLINS, ESQ., OF THE LAW FIRM OF ARCHER GREINER, LLC, AS CONFLICT MUNICIPAL ATTORNEY FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM COMMENCING ON JANUARY 1, 2021 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000

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

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

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED.

A copy of resolution #20-01-04-003 is appended to the official minutes.

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MICHAEL J. PAPPAS AS ACTING CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER THROUGH AUGUST 16, 2021 AND ACTING DIRECTOR OF FINANCE FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2021

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

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

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED.

A copy of resolution #20-01-04-004 is appended to the official minutes.

AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM H. BURR, P.E. OF MASER CONSULTING, PA. AS TOWNSHIP ENGINEER FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM COMMENCING ON JANUARY 1, 2021 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$120,000.00

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

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

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED.

A copy of resolution #20-01-04-005 is appended to the official minutes.

AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF SCARLETT DOYLE TOWNSHIP PLANNER AND AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$60,000 FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM COMMENCING ON JANUARY 1, 2021

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

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

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED.

A copy of resolution #20-01-04-006 is appended to the official minutes.

AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF MATTHEW GIACOBBE, ESQ., OF THE LAW FIRM OF CLEARY, GIACOBBE, ALFIERI & JACOBS, LLC, AS LABOR COUNSEL FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM COMMENCING ON JANUARY 1, 2021 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$120,000

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

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

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED.

A copy of resolution #20-01-04-007 is appended to the official minutes.

AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES: CHIEF MUNICIPAL PROSECUTOR JOHN LANZA, ESQ. IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$80,000

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

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

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED.

A copy of resolution #20-01-04-008 is appended to the official minutes.

AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES: MUNICIPAL PUBLIC DEFENDER TO BRITT J. SIMON, ESQ. FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM IN AN AMOUNT

NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000

On motion of Councilman Ring, second of Councilman Kirsh, the foregoing resolutions were proposed. The vote was as follows:

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

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED.

A copy of resolution #20-01-04-009 is appended to the official minutes.

AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES: FIRST ALTERNATE MUNICIPAL PUBLIC DEFENDER TO SCOTT C. MITZNER, ESQ. FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM COMMENCING ON JANUARY 1, 2021 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,400

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

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

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED.

A copy of resolution #20-01-04-010 is appended to the official minutes.

AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES: SECOND ALTERNATE MUNICIPAL PUBLIC DEFENDER TO DARYL J. KIPNIS, ESQ. FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM COMMENCING ON JANUARY 1, 2021 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,400

On motion of Councilman Ring, second of Councilman Kirsh, the foregoing resolutions were proposed. The vote was as follows:

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

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED.

A copy of resolution #20-01-04-011 is appended to the official minutes.

AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO GIBBONS, P.C. AS BOND COUNSEL FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2021

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

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

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED.

A copy of resolution #20-01-04-012 is appended to the official minutes.

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS WITHOUT ADVICE AND CONSENT

THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS WERE READ BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT PEDROSO:

APPOINTMENTS TO THE LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

- i. Howard Norgalis
- ii. Wells Winegar
- iii. James Edwards
- iv. Chris Corsini
- v. Timothy Ring
- vi. Stephen Rodzinak
- vii. Christine Madrid
- viii. Paul Payne
- ix. Richard Shimp
- x. John Auger
- xi. Daniel Fonder
- xii. Thomas Scalera

APPOINTMENT TO THE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

i. James Tumminelli - Environmental Representative

APPOINTMENT OF PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS

- i. Class I Thomas Genova
- ii. Class II Michael Pappas
- iii. Class IV Maurizio Vescio
- iv. Class IV Kimberly Forino (Environmental Representative)
- v. Class IV (Alt #1) Lauren Zarro

APPOINTMENT OF JOINT IINSURANCE FUND COMMISSIONERS

- i. Michael Pappas
- ii. Thomas Genova (Alternate)

APPOINTMENTS TO THE 2021 SOMERSET COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CONSORTIUM

- i. Wells Winegar
- ii. Michael Pappas (Alternate)
- iii. Allen Kurdyla
- iv. Timothy Ring (Alternate)

APPOINTMENT TO THE SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

i. Thomas Genova

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS WITH ADVICE AND CONSENT (Boards & Committees)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PEDROSO READ THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS:

APPOINTMENTS TO CREATIVE ARTS COMMITTEE

- i. Stephanie Moench
- ii. Neha Limaye
- iii. Michael Fackelman
- iv. Jessica Skakum

APPOINTMENTS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

- i. Kimberly Forino Planning Board Representative
- ii. James Tumminelli
- iii. Patricia Casamento
- iv. Steven Skakum

APPOINTMENTS TO THE GREEN BROOK FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION

- i. Thomas Genova
- ii. Timothy Ring
- iii. Michael Kirsh (Alternate)

APPOINTMENTS TO THE HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

i. Stanley Stellakis

APPOINTMENTS TO THE RARITAN AND MILLLSTONE FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION

- i. Thomas Genova
- ii. Wells Winegar (Alternate)
- iii. Allen Kurdyla

APPOINTMENTS TO THE RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

- i. Jennifer Loughran
- ii. Urvin Pandya

APPOINTMENTS TO THE REGIONAL CENTER PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

- i. Mayor Matthew C. Moench
- ii. Michael J. Pappas
- iii. Andrew Fresco
- iv. Filipe Pedroso
- v. Timothy Ring (Alternate)

APPOINTMENTS TO THE SHADE TREE BOARD

- i. Diane Marconi
- ii. Barbara Ronca

APPOINTMENTS TO THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- i. John Manna
- ii. Daniel Caola

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

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

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTIONS WERE APPROVED.

Copies of resolutions <u>21-01-04-013 thru 21-01-04-021</u> are appended to the official minutes.

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS (Staff)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PEDROSO READ THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS:

APPOINTMENT OF ASSESSMENT SEARCH OFFICER

i. Linda J. Doyle

APPOINTMENT OF TAX SEARCH OFFICER

i. Darrow Murdock

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY TOWNSHIP CLERK

i. Grace Njuguna

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

i. SUPLEE CLOONEY & COMPANY, 308 EAST BROAD STREET, WESTFIELD, NJ 07090-2122 IN A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$60,000

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

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

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTIONS WERE APPROVED.

Copies of resolutions <u>21-01-04-022 thru 21-01-04-025</u> are appended to the official minutes.

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS (Boards & Committees)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PEDROSO READ THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS:

APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

- i. John Fallone Regular member
- ii. Daniel Ahern Regular member
- iii. Andrew Fresco Alternate member #1
- iv. Gary LaSpisa Alternate member #2
- v. Kevin Wrobel- Alternate member #3
- vi. Bruce Bongiorno Alternate member #4

APPOINTMENT TO THE PLANNING BOARD

i. Michael Kirsh - Class III

OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

i. Toni Hoffman

APPOINTMENT TO THE SOMERSET REGIONAL ANIMAL SHELTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- i. Willem Rijksen
- i. Toni Hoffman
- ii. Filipe Pedroso
- iii. Robert Devnani

APPOINTMENT TO THE SOMERSET VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

i. Howard Norgalis

APPOINTMENT TO THE SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

i. Howard V. Norgalis

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

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

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTIONS WERE APPROVED.

Copies of resolutions <u>21-01-04-026 thru 21-01-04-029</u> are appended to the official minutes.

RESOLUTIONS

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE READ BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT PEDROSO BY TITLE:

GENERAL BUSINESS

The General Business resolution sets certain rates, designates the Courier News as the Township Official Newspaper for all legal Notices and The Breeze as the online newspaper it also names certain department heads specific authorities to operate in 2021.

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

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

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED.

A copy of resolution #20-01-04-030 is appended to the official minutes.

2021 TOWNSHIP COUNCIL SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

The Schedule of Meetings set the 2021 Township Council Meeting Dates throughout the year; they are also posted on the website.

AUTHORIZING BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP ENGINEER WILLIAM H. BURR, IV, ACTING TOWNSHIP ENGINEER TO EXECUTE NJDEP, NJDOT, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND SOMERSET COUNTY PERMITS ON BEHALF OF THE TOWNSHIP

It is required to name by resolution and authorizes William Burr, P.E. as Township Engineer to sign permits from NJDOT, NJDEP, State of New Jersey and Somerset County on behalf of the Township.

EXTENDING BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP'S LOCAL ENFORCEMENT GUIDELINES FOR EXECUTIVE ORDER 150 (MURPHY) AND SR-2020-10 (NJ ABC, AS AMENDED BY SR-2020-21) CONCERNING OUTDOOR DINING, OUTDOOR RETAIL SALES, AND SPECIAL COVID-19 EXPANSION PERMIT LIQUOR LICENSES

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

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

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTIONS WERE APPROVED.

Copies of resolutions <u>21-01-04-031 thru 21-01-04-033</u> are appended to the official minutes.

TEMPORARY BUDGET - CURRENT FUND - \$11,355,713.20

The Current Fund Temporary Budget is set not to exceed 26.25% of the 2020 year's budget to meet obligations and payments due prior to approval of the budget for 2021.

TEMPORARY BUDGET - SEWER FUND - \$3,031,303.80

The Sewer Fund Temporary Budget is set not exceed 26.25% of the 2020 year's budget to meet obligations and payments due prior to approval of the 2021 budget

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

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

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTIONS WERE APPROVED.

Copies of resolutions <u>21-01-04-034 thru 21-01-04-035</u> are appended to the official minutes.

ESTABLISHING CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN AND NAMING OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES

The Cash Management Plan is prepared pursuant to the provisions of NJSA 40A 5-14 in order to set forth the basis for deposits and investments and name certain depositories for Township funds.

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

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

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED.

A copy of resolution $\frac{#20-01-04-036}{}$ is appended to the official minutes.

Meeting Open to Public

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.

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

- ⇒ 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 two (2) 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 Township Clerk Doyle, the following Council members were present:

Councilman Michael Kirsh
Councilman Allen Kurdyla
Councilman Howard Norgalis
Councilman Timothy Ring
Council President Filipe Pedroso

Wells Winegar, Deputy Township Administrator read the following comment into the record:

JP Levin, 491 Knollwood Drive, Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Happy New Year to Mayor Moench, Council members, Administration and staff. Best of Luck and well wishes to you all towards healthy and successful 2021 Bridgewater. Thank you for your service. Cheers, JP

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Ring, the public portion of the meeting was closed.

Benediction

Shaykh Yasir Fahmy of the Al-Falah Center

Rev. Ian T. Rankine of the Pluckemin Presbyterian Church

Adjournment

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Ring, the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:28 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda J. Doyle, RMC Municipal Clerk

Filipe Pedroso Council President