# MINUTES OF THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL JUNE 23, 2022 COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Township Council of the Township of Bridgewater, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, convened in a regular session on Thursday, June 23, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers in the Municipal Complex, Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807 & via Live Online Broadcast.

Council President Kurdyla 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 7, 2022, BY SENDING WRITTEN NOTICE AND ELECTRONIC NOTICE 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. A SUBSEQUENT NOTICE WITH LIVESTREAM INFORMATION WAS PROVIDED ON JUNE 20, 2022.

On call of the roll, the following Council members were present:

Councilman Michael Kirsh Councilman Howard V. Norgalis Councilman Filipe Pedroso (absent)

Councilman Timothy Ring

Council President Allen Kurdyla

Also Present: Matthew C. Moench, Mayor

Michael Pappas, Township Administrator

Wells Winegar, Deputy Township Administrator

Christopher Corsini, Township Attorney

Linda J. Doyle, Township Clerk

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

#### **Minutes**

APRIL 4 & 21, 2022 - REGULAR SESSION APRIL 4, 2022 - CLOSED SESSIONS 1 & 2

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Ring, the above referenced minutes were moved for approval and passed unanimously on a voice call vote.

# Council Reports

Councilman Kirsh

- Acknowledged and congratulated all the successful graduates.
- Acknowledged the work done by Township Clerk Linda Doyle and Deputy

Clerk Grace Njuguna on successfully conducting the Primary Election. Councilman Kirsh stated this being a Primary Election, there were 72 different elections that occurred within our borders including 36 voting districts and both Republican and Democrat County Committees. Getting through this process without much guidance from the Board of Elections and County Clerk and being able to successfully close that and certify the winners was no small thing. Councilman Kirsh congratulated Linda and Grace for getting this right and ensuring all details were followed.

• Councilman Kirsh stated he will have extensive comment with regard to the budget as the meeting progresses

# Councilman Norgalis:

- Happy summer to everybody.
- Happy Father's Day to those men who are or plan to be Fathers. In the United States, Father's Day was founded by Sonora Smart Dodd, and celebrated on the third Sunday of June for the first time in 1910.
- Attended the Centerbridge Senior Center picnic. As a member of the Board of Directors for Centerbridge Building 1, I am proud of Bridgewater's long-term commitment to affordable and safe senior housing.
- Congratulations to Councilman Kirsch who completed 4 years as Chairman of the Bridgewater Republican Municipal Committee

#### Councilman Ring:

- Attended the press conference related to the center of excellence.
- There was a recent report concerning a woman attempting to start a home-based cookie business. Councilman Ring congratulated those, who may years ago, had the foresight to allow home based businesses in Bridgewater.

#### Council President Kurdyla

- Attended the press conference for the Center of Excellence.
- Has been overjoyed as he attended different graduation ceremonies.

# Mayor's Reports

#### Mayor Matthew C. Moench

 Administration continues to monitor the situation with GKG following the last Council meeting as there were several complaints from the residents.  Mayor Moench offered it is his position that the schools should not have armed private security officers in the school system. Although we have armed police officers who are there now, administration proposes to make more officers available in the schools.

Mayor Moench offered he feels confident about this decision after having been advised as such by Police Chief Payne and Captain Mitzak. Mayor Moench offered Sworn Police Officers (both SROs and Class III officers) have different qualifications and requirements than do private security personnel. Our police officers sign an oath to protect our teachers and students when they need it; This is not a part time side security job. Mayor Moench added it is his unwavering position that anything less than Bridgewater police officers in the school districts is unacceptable. He further stated administration is willing to work with the Board of Education on all other matters but is not willing to put our officers at risk with having a separate competing group of individuals, armed in our school system who do not report to the Chief of Police and that command structure. Mayor Moench stated we will continue to talk about this issue because it is an opinion based on the information we have received from our law enforcement experts.

Mayor Moench advised that those that do not like armed police in our school system should know they are already there but are not enough to cover every student, every day. The plan provided by the school district doesn't do that either. Every student should be protected, every minute of every day and the people doing it should be those with the highest level of background, psychological testing, weapons training as these are the safest for everybody.

#### Presentation FRIENDS OF BRIDGEWATER HISTORY

Former Councilwoman Christine Henderson Rose was present and made presentation as follows:

Friends of Bridgewater History is very appreciative of the Township council in allowing us to "display" our 3-2-3-2-3 flag, (describing the layout of the stars) previously called a Hopkinson flag, in a place where it can be seen by members of the community. We came into possession of the flag last November at the estate sale at the home of Herb Patullo, a well know historian in the Bridgewater and Bound Brook communities.

A significant donation to Friends allowed us to purchase the flag and ensure that it would remain available for public view as opposed to placement in a private collection.

Ross Rapoport, one of our members, has done rather extensive work in trying to trace the history of the flag, but we have come to a place where Friends does not have the means to take the next steps which include taking it out of the frame and removing it from the board that holds it. Based on Ross' preliminary work, we believe that the flag dates back to 1890 and was hung indoors, perhaps in a Daughters of the American Revolution meeting room.

This hand sewn flag was a group effort at a time where patriotism ran high, and organizations banded together for the good of the country; all stars are hand sewn and hand sewn by different people. We will continue to explore the history of the flag with our counterparts in other County historic groups.

Friends of Bridgewater History continues its work in preserving and promoting the history and cultural heritage of Bridgewater Township. Although our budget is very small, we have used our time and expertise since we were formed, in August of 2016, to partner with other organizations on different events and activities around the Township. As examples, our second annual Tour of Festive Lights will be held again this December. We have sponsored two revolutionary war scavenger hunts and one World War scavenger hunt in Bridgewater and Raritan. We are supporting a direct descendant of the Lane family in her efforts to complete extensive repairs to the Lane Cemetery on Shields Lane. This is the family cemetery where the people who lived on the Lane Voorhees farm were laid to rest. We partnered with the Township and the Washington Campground Association to explore the eastern section of the Township for evidence of the Middlebrook Encampment and are prepared to assist with the archeological dig on the Association's property on Middlebrook Road in partnership with Monmouth University. All at no cost to the township with a goal of making Bridgewater a better and more interesting place to live.

We spend a good deal of our limited resources on liability insurance as we understand that this is needed before we can access any of the Township's historic properties, including the Lane Voorhees House and the Hancock Preserve property on Foothill Road. We look forward to working hand in hand in a collaborative way with Township government in preserving and protecting our history. Perhaps this is a first step.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to display our special flag in this meeting room so that members of the community will be able to enjoy it.

#### Resolutions

AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH FRIENDS OF BRIDGEWATER HISTORY (FoBH) TO DISPLAY A HISTORIC ARTIFACT KNOWN AS A "HOPKINSON FLAG" IN THE TOWNSHIP'S MUNICIPAL COMPLEX FOR NOMINAL CONSIDERATION

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

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

#### THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution #22-06-23-180 is appended to the official minutes

#### Proclamation

#### MICHELLE SMITH

Councilman Ring read the following proclamation on behalf of the Mayor and Council:

WHEREAS, Michelle Smith was born and raised in Highlands, NJ, and eventually moved to Bridgewater where she has resided for nearly 25 years; and

WHEREAS, Michelle Smith served in the United States Marine Corps for 6 years, where she was the first female to lead an honor guard at Arlington National Cemetery, and achieved the rank of Sergeant before her honorable discharge; and

WHEREAS, Michelle Smith continued to serve her fellow veterans in the United States Veterans Administration for 34 years, working as a counselor for mental health inpatient unit, a women's treatment unit, and as a supervisor for a Veterans vocational rehab program; and

WHEREAS, Michelle Smith in her role at the VA became a national resource for the care and treatment of female veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder due to military sexual trauma, and served on national committees as both a member and as a chairperson; and

WHEREAS, Michelle Smith has served on the VA New Jersey Veteran Advisory Council since its inception, as well as Veterans Integrated Service Network 3, the National Veteran Mental Health Council, and is a founding member of Bridgewater's own Veterans Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, Michelle Smith was responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of a Drop-In Center for Veterans with mental health diagnoses, which was named as a best practice for the VA System; and

WHEREAS, Michelle Smith was recognized for her tremendous contributions to our country and service to her fellow veterans at this year's Somerville Elks Flag Day Ceremony; and

**WHEREAS,** Michelle Smith is a patriot and a great member of our Bridgewater family; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Matthew C. Moench and the Bridgewater Township Council do hereby proclaim Michelle Smith and express our appreciation for her contributions to Bridgewater, our nation, and our nation's veterans

# 2022 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

#### PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2022 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

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

No one wished to be heard.

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

On motion of Councilman Ring, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the 2022 Municipal Budget public hearing was set. The vote was as follows:

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

#### THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution #22-06-23-174 is appended to the official minutes

#### RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2022 INTRODUCED BUDGET

Council President Kurdyla read the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Local Municipal Budget for the year 2022 was approved on the 16th day of May 2022: and

WHEREAS, the public hearing on said budget has been held as advertised: and

WHEREAS, it is the desire to amend said approved budget; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Council of the Township of Bridgewater, County of Somerset that the following amendments to the approved budget of 2022 be made:

CURRENT FUND BUDGET DEDICATED REVENUES:	FROM	ТО
Current Fund Surplus Anticipated	7,433,200.00	7,435,404.00
Garden State Trust	6,286.00	4,082.00
Total Current Fund Revenues	5,911,041.58	5,911,041.58
CURRENT FUND BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS:	FROM	ТО
	FROM 582,992.50	TO 524,992.50
APPROPRIATIONS:  Payment of Bond Anticipation		

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that two certified copies of this resolution be filed forthwith in the Office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for his certification of the Local Municipal budget so amended.

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the foregoing resolution to amend the 2022 introduced budget was proposed. The vote was as follows:

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

#### THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution #22-06-23-175 is appended to the official minutes

#### ADOPTION OF 2022 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Municipal Operating Expense: \$47,736,817.18

Sewer Utility Expense: \$11,006,150.00

Councilman Kirsh stated they were presented a responsible budget by Mayor Moench. The budget is an important statement about the priorities of the community and what was introduced was a very strong starting point. For the last several weeks, as a member of the Budget committee, he met repeatedly with the Mayor, township administrator and Joe Sarno of the Finance Department and went over various details. He added we are in a period of economic uncertainty where certain decisions will still need to be made through out this year and this budget allows for such flexibility in order to provide for our needs and have considerable surplus. We are paying down a considerable amount of debt; way above the minimum. We also have certain capital improvements that have been specifically identified such as improvements in the courtroom in order to effectively communicate with each other and with the public.

This budget shows we continue to take in revenue. Public safety needs are being addressed by ensuring we have the right size police force for our needs and that we can meet the budgetary requirements. The possibility of increase in budget in order to improve school security has also been factored in.

This budget, with the proposed adjustments, is the right size for Bridgewater for this year as it gives us sufficient flexibility to get through this period of uncertainty and will not only serve us well this year but also set us up for success in the future. As much as it is important to have a tight budget, it is also important to offer consistency, reliability, stability.

Council was in consensus in appreciating the work that went into preparing this budget and commended all involved in the process including the Mayor, Administrator, Finance, Budget Committee and Council.

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the 2022 Municipal budget was proposed as amended. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh Aye
Councilman Norgalis Aye
Councilman Pedroso Absent

Councilman Ring Aye
Council President Kurdyla Aye

## THE 2022 MUNICIPAL BUDGET WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution #22-06-23-176 is appended to the official minutes

# Public Comment

Members of the public wishing to address the Council on any matter will be allowed two minutes to speak unless there are unusual circumstances.

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Ring, the meeting was opened to the public for comment.

# Victor Caliman, 79 Village Court, Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Stated he was present at a previous Council meeting where he shared the concerns of residents residing at the Crossroads Community which nears the Green Knoll Grille (GKG). He stated GKG has a disregard for the guidelines established by this Council when it comes to playing music outdoors. He asked that Council consider revoking the ability of the GKG to play music outdoors due to the 31-families that have now signed a petition against them.

# Jennifer Feigley, 1600 Vosseller Ave, Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Offered that Council has recognized so many different parts of our community during their traditional heritage months which is commendable. So far this month, the LGBTQ+ community has not been recognized during Pride month and requested that they too be acknowledged.

## David Cassidy, Esq. attorney for the GKG was present

Stated there were a few comments made about infractions with regard to the GKG. Attorney Cassidy stated they have been vigilant and proactive and have spoken to the Police Department about the noise issue. Nothing has changed as GKG abides by the times allowed. There are no infractions and no citations as GKG ensures compliance. Attorney Cassidy offered the restrictions imposed are bordering on disparaging the success of local businesses.

# Julie Caliman, 79 Village Circle, Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Expressed concern that the police officers are not all aware of the noise restrictions that have been imposed on the GKG and expressed frustration as she has had to live with noise emanating from the GKG most days of the week.

# Michelle Smith, 662 Foothill Road, Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Made comment with regard to school security noting the entire community will be impacted if there is a tragedy at the schools. Ms. Smith offered every citizen has the right to be protected in any emergency and fully supports that our Police Department are the ones that take this on and have the responsibility to ensure everyone is safe.

# Carolyn Joyer, 1402 Bailey Court, Bridgewater, NJ 08807

She questioned what the conclusive results were with regard to the mall incident. Ms. Joyer was advised we do not have the results of the investigation and it would be improper for Council to offer comment in that regard until the results are forthcoming.

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

# Public Hearing & Final Action Ordinances

# AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 175 (SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL) IMPLEMENTING REVISED SEWER FEES AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE

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

No one wished to be heard.

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

Council was in consensus this Ordinance will allow us to operate the sewer efficiently. They commended all involved in getting this done and for keeping the rates lower than was previously recommended and in line with what other municipalities are doing.

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

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

# ORDINANCE #22-10 WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution #22-06-23-177 is appended to the official minutes

# Introduction of Ordinances

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 TO ELIMINATE THE TIME IN GRADE REQUIREMENT

Mayor Moench explained Chief Payne is retiring and there are a lot of important decisions to be made moving forward about how to handle the Police Department leadership. This ordinance allows us to eliminate the time in grade requirement in order to have a great candidate pool and the ability to hire the right fit to replace Police Chief Payne.

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

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

## THE ORDINANCE WAS INTRODUCED.

A copy of resolution #22-06-23-178 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 7<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2022, 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 4 (ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATIONS), ARTICLE XIV (DEPARTMENT OF POLICE), SECTION 4-83 (PROMOTIONS) OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER TO PERMIT TEMPORARY EXTENSIONS OF THE PROMOTION ELIGIBILITY LIST ON AN ASNEEDED BASIS

Mayor Moench explained this is an additional piece to the previous Ordinance. Since we are not sure when we will hire a Police Chief replacement, this

Ordinance is permissive in that it will permit as-needed, temporary extensions of the effective date of the promotion eligibility lists.

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

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

# THE ORDINANCE WAS INTRODUCED.

A copy of resolution #22-06-23-179 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 7<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2022, 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 AN AWARD OF CONTRACT TO REHABCO, INC. OF 44 EAST WATER STREET, TOMS RIVER, NJ 08753 TO SERVE AS THE TOWNSHIP'S ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND PROVIDE HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM SERVICES FOR A SIX-MONTH PERIOD COMMENCING ON JULY 1, 2022 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$90,000.00 PAID FROM THE TOWNSHIP'S AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND

AUTHORIZING AN AWARD OF CONTRACT TO COMMUNITY GRANTS, PLANNING & HOUSING, LLC OF 1249 SOUTH RIVER ROAD, SUITE 301, CRANBURY, NJ 08512 TO SERVE AS THE TOWNSHIP'S ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND PROVIDE HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM SERVICES FOR A TWO-MONTH PERIOD COMMENCING ON JUNE 1, 2022 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$51,703.78 PAID FROM THE TOWNSHIP'S AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND

AWARD OF CONTRACT TO ADG CONTRACTING CORP. T/A CROSSROADS PAVING (386 SOUTH STREET, SUITE 169, NEWARK, NJ 07105) FOR THE 2022 ROADWAY PREPARATION PROJECT, WHICH INCLUDES THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF BELLACONE STREET, BUXTON ROAD, CENTRAL AVENUE, CHARLES STREET, CHESHIRE ROAD, COLE STREET, CROYDEN ROAD, FAIRMOUNT AVENUE, RECTOR ROAD, SHERWOOD ROAD, THOMAS STREET, TIMBER LANE, AND A PORTION OF BLOSSOM DRIVE, IN THE SUM OF \$632,695.60, FUNDED THROUGH THE 2022 CAPITAL ROAD FUND

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER, BOROUGH OF MANVILLE, AND BOROUGH OF SOMERVILLE CONCERNING WORKER'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE PERSONNEL

AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER TO ACCEPT THE AWARD NUMBER 21-BWC-067, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$187,496.00, FROM THE SFY-21 BODY WORN GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE PURCHASE OF BODY WORN CAMERAS AS DESCRIBED IN THE GRANT APPLICATION. THE GRANT COVERS THE ENTIRE COST OF THE PURCHASE.

REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF FIRE PERMIT FEE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$430.00 AND THE SPECIAL EVENT FEE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100.00 FOR THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$530.00 AND AUTHORIZATION FOR FIREWORKS DISPLAY FOR THE SOMERSET COUNTY PARK COMMISSION, 355 MILLTOWN ROAD, BRIDGEWATER, NJ ON MONDAY, JULY 4, 2022

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

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

#### THE RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED.

Copies of resolution #22-06-23-181 thru #22-06-23-185 and #22-06-23-187 are appended to the official minutes

PERSON TO PERSON PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER FROM TRANSFEROR, PRASADA RAJU INDUKURI LICENSE NUMBER 1806-44-044-002 CURRENTLY HELD IN INACTIVE STATUS TO TRANSFEREE, WINE OUTLET BRIDGEWATER, LLC, NEW LICENSE NUMBER 1806-44-044-003

Councilman Ring explained this is the liquor license that we sold last year. A year later, the owner is selling it to another entity.

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

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

#### THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution #22-06-23-186 is appended to the official minutes

Consent
Agenda2022-2023
Liquor
License
Renewals

2022-2023 RENEWAL OF TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSES

2022-2023 RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LIQUOR LICENSES FOR SQUIRES CORNER LIQUORS, INC. t/a SPIRITS OF THE VALLEY, KRISHA BEVERAGE t/a BRIDGEWATER WINE & SPIRITS WEGMANS FOOD MARKETS, INC. AND RAMARAM, INC., t/a BUY BEST WINE & LIQUORS

2022-2023 RENEWAL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER CLUB LIQUOR LICENSES FOR FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES, SOMERVILLE LODGE OF ELKS, RARITAN VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB AND GERALD ABREGO POST AMERICAN LEGION

2022-2023-RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE HOTEL/MOTEL EXCEPTION FOR THE HYATT HOUSE OF BRIDGEWATER, HILTON GARDEN INN, HAMPTON INN AND SUITES AND AC MARRIOTT BRIDGEWATER

2022-2023 RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE CAFÉ EMILIA, INC. WITH SPECIAL CONDITION

2022-2023 RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE HOTEL/MOTEL EXCEPTION MARRIOTT HOTEL SERVICES, INC WITH CONDITIONS

2022-2023 RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION INACTIVE LIQUOR LICENSE A. PEARL, INC. LOCATED AT 600 EAST MAIN STREET, BRIDGEWATER WITH SPECIAL RULING N.J.S.A. 33:1-12.39 APPROVALS FOR TWO LICENSING TERMS 2022-2023 AND 2023-2024

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

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

#### THE RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED.

Copies of resolution #22-06-23-188 thru #22-06-23-194 are appended to the official minutes

2022-2023 RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE NUMBER 1806-33-021-009, FOR MISH-J.O. INVESTMENT CORP. T/A GREEN KNOLL GRILLE

Councilman Norgalis and Councilman Ring offered that based on the complaints from the residents, they would support renewing the liquor license if the provision for outdoor music is eliminated.

Police Officer Van Darren provided council with a breakdown of incidences at the Green Knoll Grille (GKG) noting there have been 18 calls for service, 5 were noise complaints from two families, only one of those complaints was substantiated. David Cassidy, attorney for GKG offered due to lack of video evidence, the complaints are absolute speculation and removing the outdoor music provision will cripple their business because outdoor music is GKG's competitive business strategy.

Councilman Kirsh and Council President Kurdyla offered they needed additional evidence to substantiate the need to eliminate all outdoor music. In the meantime, GKG will file an ad-interim which will allow their liquor license to be valid for an additional 90-days until this matter is brought back before the governing body for consideration.

# Closed Session

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Bridgewater Township Council that this body will now hold a closed meeting to discuss contract negotiations and potential litigation.

When and if the matters discussed become public record, this will be made known to the public at that time.

The public is excluded from said meeting and further notice thereof is dispensed

with all in accordance with Sections 8 and 4a of the Open Public Meetings Act.

On the motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Ring, Council convened in closed session at approximately 9:40 p.m.

A copy of resolution #22-06-23-195 is appended to the official minutes.

On the motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Ring, the meeting reconvened to open session at approximately 10:32 p.m. and adjourned immediately thereafter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda J. Doyle, RMC Municipal Clerk

Allen Kurdyla Council President