

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

A meeting of the Bridgeton City Council was held on Tuesday, August 4, 2015 at 6:30 p.m., City of Bridgeton Police and Municipal Court Complex, 330 Fayette Street, Bridgeton, New Jersey in Council Chambers.

The meeting was called to order by President Surrency.

The Statement of Meeting Notice was read by Deputy Municipal Clerk, Jeanne Hitchner, "Adequate notice of this meeting pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 giving the time, date, location and agenda to the extent known has been given in the following manner:

1. By posting notice of said meeting on the bulletin board at City Hall Annex, 181 East Commerce Street, Bridgeton, New Jersey on July 31, 2015, at 4:30 pm
2. By mailing such notice to the News of Cumberland County and the Press on July 31, 2015, at 4:30 p.m."

Invocation and flag salute was led by Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple.

The following answered to roll call:

Councilman Edwards
Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple
Councilman Zapolski
Pres. Surrency

Pres. Surrency presented the City Council Meeting Minutes of July 21, 2015, Work Session of July 21, 2015, and Executive Session of July 21, 2015.

It was moved by Mr. Zapolski and seconded by Ms. Lugardo-Hemple that said minutes be approved and to dispense with the reading of said minutes as all members received copies which motion was carried.

Pres. Surrency announced two Ordinances for first reading. He read the first ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 15-12 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF BRIDGETON

It was moved by Ms. Lugardo-Hemple and seconded by Mr. Zapolski that this ordinance be adopted on first reading and that second reading, public hearing and final consideration be held on August 18, 2015 which motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote.

President Surrency read the second ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE SECTION 40-12

It was moved by Councilman Zapolski and seconded by Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple that this ordinance be adopted on first reading and that second reading, public hearing and final consideration be held on August 18, 2015 which motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Pres. Surrency announced this is the time and place set forth for the public to address Council with their comments on the consent agenda items or any other matter.

It was moved by Ms. Lugardo-Hemple and seconded by Mr. Zapolski that the meeting be opened to the public for anyone desiring to be heard, which motion was carried.

Pres. Surrency opened the meeting to the public.

Mr. Warren Robinson of 213 Hampton Street requested that the flags be lowered to half-mast in honor and memory of former Mayor Bud Maxwell.

Ms. Dolores Batten of 56 Albertson Avenue came forward to address Council about several issues she has incurred with her neighbor recently. Administrator Goodreau stressed that the property maintenance issues were already being dealt with, but require time to issue fair warning, court summonses, etc.

Mr. James Daley of 59 Cedar Street addressed Council about the owner of 52 Church Street refusing to clean up his property. Administrator Goodreau advised him to file a formal complaint with the Code Enforcement office.

Mr. Mike Abbott of E. Commerce Street asked City Council about UEZ loans which default. He also wanted to address the library discussion held in the work session. He expressed that the library is very special to him and feels the non-binding referendum question should be added to the ballot.

No one else desiring to be heard, it was moved by Ms. Lugardo-Hemple and seconded by Mr. Zapolski that the public portion be closed, which motion was carried.

Pres. Surrency closed the public portion of the meeting.

Pres. Surrency announced all matters listed under the consent agenda J-2 through J-7 plus J-8 and J-9 will be enacted upon by one motion unless a Council member desires to discuss an item; in that case the item will be removed from the consent agenda and acted upon separately. Items J-7 through J-10 were added to the Agenda during the Work Session. Also during the Work Session, items J-1 and J-8 were decided by Council to be voted on separately than the consent agenda.

RESOLUTION NO. 245-15, authorizing vehicle purchase for the Dept. of Administration with approved State contract vendor

RESOLUTION NO. 246-15, authorizing pay and benefits for Joint Municipal Court Judge

RESOLUTION NO. 247-15, granting senior tax exemption

RESOLUTION NO. 248-15, awarding bid for as-required electrical installation and repair services

RESOLUTION NO. 249-15, authorizing Cohanzick Zoo electrical improvements with G.M. White

RESOLUTION NO. 250-15, recognizing Eugene Shelton on his retirement

RESOLUTION NO. 251-15, authorizing amendment of resolution 227-15 adding approved State contract vendors

RESOLUTION NO. 252-15, authorizing budget appropriations transfers for FY 2015

RESOLUTION NO. 253-15, authorizing Executive Session resolution

It was moved by Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple and seconded by Councilman Zapolski that Resolutions J-2 – J-7, J-9 and J-10 listed under the consent agenda be adopted, which motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote. The original resolutions may be found in the Resolution Book.

Pres. Surrency announced this is the time to vote on Resolution J-1, Amending resolution 273-11 concerning the allocation of certain UEZ funding.

Councilman Edwards moved, seconded by Councilman Zapolski, to adopt Resolution J-1. Upon a roll call vote, the following responses were received:

| | |
|---------------------|---------|
| Mr. Edwards – | YES |
| Ms. Lugardo-Hemple- | YES |
| Mr. Zapolski- | ABSTAIN |
| Pres. Surrency- | YES |

Pres. Surrency announced this Resolution is adopted based on the vote, making it Resolution No. 244-15. The original can be found in the Resolution Book.

Pres. Surrency announced this is the time to vote on Resolution J-8, authorizing the submission of a question to the public in a non-binding referendum at the General Election on November 3, 2015.

Councilman Zapolski moved, seconded by Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple to adopt Resolution J-8. Upon a roll call vote, the following responses were received:

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Mr. Edwards- | NO |
| Ms. Lugardo-Hemple- | NO |
| Mr. Zapolski- | YES |
| Mr. Surrency- | NO |

Deputy Clerk announced Resolution J-8 failed, based on the votes received.

Pres. Surrency announced Schedule of Bills in the amount of \$1,702,889.43

It was moved by Mr. Zapolski and second by Ms. Lugardo-Hemple that the Schedule of Bills be approved and warrants be drawn on their various accounts and appropriations, which motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote. The original schedule may be found in the files under “S” Schedule of Bills.

Pres. Surrency announced one application was received for a raffle for Inspira Health Network on October 2, 2015.

It was moved by Mr. Zapolski and seconded by Ms. Lugardo-Hemple to approve said application which motion was carried.

Pres. Surrency announced the following reports:

Municipal Clerk (July)
Public Works Dept. (Quarterly)

It was moved by Ms. Lugardo-Hemple and second by Mr. Zapolski that said reports be received and filed which motion was carried.

Pres. Surrency called upon the Mayor for remarks.

Mayor Kelly announced that during the work session next Tuesday, the Director of the Summer Feeding Program will be coming to congratulate the City on the increase in the amount of children enrolled in the Summer

Feeding Program. We went from 500 kids last year to over 2,000 this year. They want to use the City as a model for other cities based on this success.

Mayor Kelly also addressed the discussion held on the UEZ funding and wanted to stress that it is not always possible to get definitive answers from the DCA. We are left to interpret and seek the interpretation of our Solicitor who works very hard to do what is right. He stated that he is confident in the way Council voted tonight, but if there happens to be an issue arise with the interpretation, we can simply make an adjustment and move forward. He emphasized his experience and familiarity in working with grants stating he has had over 700 million dollars go through his agency in the past 32 years.

Pres. Surrency called upon Council for closing remarks.

Councilman Edwards had no comments.

Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple thanked everyone for coming this evening. She also thanked the Mayor for his input on the UEZ matter, which she feels is very important based on his experience. She stated that she does her best.

Councilman Zapolski stated that he is deeply disappointed in the response Council exhibited tonight in terms of the referendum vote for the library. He feels it's easy to talk a good game and say you support something, but feels it is a different thing yet to actually say 'yes I do support it' in a way that would provide us with a mechanism to fully fund this library which was the intent of the referendum.

There being no further business to come before Council, it was moved by Mr. Zapolski and seconded by Ms. Lugardo-Hemple to adjourn the meeting which motion was carried.

Pres. Surrency adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne M. Hitchner
Deputy Municipal Clerk

Approved:

Jack Surrency
Council President

Date: _____