

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 17, 2017**

A meeting of the Bridgeton City Council was held on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 6:30 p.m., at the City of Bridgeton Police and Municipal Court Complex, 330 Fayette Street, Bridgeton, New Jersey in Council Chambers.

The meeting was called to order by Council President Gladys Lugardo-Hemple.

The Statement of Meeting Notice was read by Deputy Clerk, Kathleen Keen, "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 January 11, 2017, at 4:30 pm
2. By mailing such notice to The Daily Journal, South Jersey Times and The Press of Atlantic City on January 11, 2017, at 4:30 p.m.

Invocation and flag salute was led by Councilman Spence

The following answered to roll call:

Councilman Edwards

Councilman Spence

Councilman Surrency

Councilman Zapolski

Council President Gladys Lugardo-Hemple

Mayor Kelly spoke of Markquese Bell a BHS football player who is ranked 93rd in the country in high school football, and was one of ESPN's top 300 prospects for collegiate football. He said he wished to recognize the athleticism and dedication of Markquese who was unable to attend due to another sports commitment; his Grandmother and football coach came forward on his behalf. Mayor Kelly then read the proclamation honoring Markquese and thanked his Grandmother for raising a great scholar and athlete. Mayor Kelly ended by saying Markquese had declared his preference to the University of Maryland on ESPN during halftime of the All-American football game.

Council President Lugardo-Hemple then invited Council to join her in presenting outgoing Library Director Courtenay Reece with a Certificate of Appreciation. President Lugardo-Hemple read the certificate and thanked Ms. Reece for her dedication, loyalty, and generous commitment to the library and the City of Bridgeton. She also acknowledged members and friends of the library in attendance for their continued support of the library. Ms. Reece thanked President Lugardo-Hemple, Council, and everyone who supports the library on a daily basis.

President Lugardo-Hemple presented the Work Session Minutes of December 20, 2016 and January 3, 2017, the City Council Meeting Minutes of January 3, 2017 and the Executive Session Minutes of December 20, 2016.

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

President Lugardo-Hemple announced there were no Ordinances for first or second reading.

President Lugardo-Hemple announced this is the time for anyone who desires to address council on the consent agenda or any other matter.

It was moved by Mr. Surrency and seconded by Mr. Edwards the meeting be opened to the public for anyone desiring to address council on the consent agenda or any other matters, which motion was carried.

President Lugardo-Hemple opened the meeting to the public for anyone desiring to be heard.

Mr. Mike Abbott stated in his opinion the City Clerk should sit next to the President in the work session and the council meeting. He then said he believes council is not giving the public enough information on what they are convening into executive session for and he feels there are things being spoken about in executive session that do not belong there. Lastly he urged council to “check their egos at the door” and work together.

Mrs. Dolores Batten spoke of the amount of money spent on rental assistance in the State of New Jersey. She discussed problems with neighbors in the past, and urged landlords and code enforcement workers to do their jobs.

Mr. Tom Martin spoke of the amount of people attending the work sessions, and asked council to consider moving to a bigger room. He discussed the solar presentation for the landfill and urged council to proceed cautiously. Mr. Martin then talked about the River Grove Project; voicing his concerns about the possibility of a pilot agreement, the developer, and funding of the project. Lastly he expressed in his opinion that he feels the Mayor has interest in the project.

Sangeeta Scott, voiced her concern about construction fees in the City; she feels they are too high and are contributing to contractors working illegally on nights and weekends in the city. She asked council to consider reducing the fees.

No one else desiring to be heard, it was moved by Mr. Surrency and second by Mr. Edwards, that the public portion be closed, which motion was carried.

President Lugardo-Hemple closed the public portion of the meeting.

President Lugardo-Hemple announced all matters listed under the consent agenda J-1 through J-6, with J-1 and J-4 being removed during the work session, will be enacted upon by one motion unless a council member desires to discuss an item, in that case the items will be removed from the consent agenda and acted upon separately. Resolution J-7 was added to the agenda during the work session to be voted on separately.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-17 authorizing utility account adjustments and taxes.
 RESOLUTION NO. 19-17 authorizing appointing William G. Blaney for professional services.
 RESOLUTION NO. 20-17 authorizing forfeiture of Taxi License.
 RESOLUTION NO. 21-17 authorizing contracts with approved state vendors.

It was moved by Councilman Edwards and second by Councilman Surrency that said Resolutions be adopted which motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote. The original resolutions may be found in the Resolution Book.

President Lugardo-Hemple announced Resolution J-7 approving the adoption of Roberts Rules of Order.

It was moved by Councilman Edwards and second by Councilman Surrency that J-7 known as Resolution 22-17 be adopted. The Deputy Clerk called the roll as follows:

The Deputy Clerk called the roll as follows:

	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Edwards	X			
Councilman Spence			X	
Councilman Surrency	X			
Councilman Zapolski			X	
President Lugardo-Hemple	X			

The original resolution may be found in the Resolution Book.

President Lugardo-Hemple asked Council for a motion to approve the Schedule of Bills of January 17, 2017 in the amount of \$289,259.72.

It was moved by Councilman Surrency and second by Councilman Edwards 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 schedules may be found in the Clerk’s Files under “S” Schedule of Bills.

President Lugardo-Hemple announced there were no applications.

President Lugardo-Hemple announced the following reports.

1. Central Cashier Receipts December 2016
2. Zoning Applications Yearly Report
3. Clerks Monthly Report December 2016
4. Development & Planning 2017 Bridgeton Marketing Strategy Report
5. Development & Planning Projects & Initiatives Status Report (Amended)
6. Recreation Seasonal Activities Report 2016
7. Recreation Splash Park & Miniature Golf Accounting Report 2016 (Amended)
8. Vital Statistics December 2016

With report numbers #5 and #7 being amended as presented, it was moved by Councilman Surrency and second by Councilman Edwards that said reports be received and filed which motion was carried.

President Lugardo-Hemple called upon Mayor Kelly for comments.

Mayor Kelly spoke of Martin Luther King Day and thanked council members who showed up in support. In the morning they had approximately 60 children who participated in a community service day, he thanked Public Works Supervisor Dean Dellaquila for helping out on his day off and walking with the children through the city to collect trash. There were numerous professionals who gave their time to speak with the students about their future. Mayor Kelly said over 100 people showed up later in the day for dinner.

President Lugardo-Hemple called upon Council for comments.

Mr. Spence addressed Mr. Abbott regarding council executive sessions, stating they are really not that dramatic, and can be somewhat boring. He then addressed Mr. Martin and said he would like to speak with him regarding some of his comments.

President Lugardo-Hemple thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting; she wished Courtenay Reece well and spoke of attending the Martin Luther King. President Lugardo-Hemple addressed the concerns of those who spoke during the work session.

There being no further business to come before Council, it was moved by Mr. Spence and second by Mr. Zapolski to adjourn the meeting which motion was carried.

President Lugardo-Hemple adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED

Kathleen L. Keen, RMC
Deputy Municipal Clerk

Gladys Lugardo-Hemple
Council President

Date: _____