

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 18, 2017**

A meeting of the Bridgeton City Council was held on Tuesday, April 18, 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 April 12, 2017, at 4:30 pm
2. By mailing such notice to The Daily Journal, South Jersey Times and The Press of Atlantic City on April 12, 2017, at 4:30 p.m.

Invocation and flag salute; Council President Lugardo-Hemple asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence in honor of Mr. Warren Robinson. She then led the flag salute.

The following answered to roll call:

Councilman Edwards

Councilman Spence

Councilman Surrency

Absent - Councilman Zapolski

Council President Gladys Lugardo-Hemple

President Lugardo-Hemple read Resolution J-9 added to the consent agenda, Proclaiming April 2017 National Autism Awareness Month in the City of Bridgeton. She reminded everyone of the Autism Awareness walk on April 29th 9 am beginning at Sunset Lake.

President Lugardo-Hemple presented the City Council Meeting Minutes, and Work Session Minutes of March 21, 2017. The April 4, 2017 minutes will be presented at the next council meeting.

It was moved by Councilman Surrency and seconded by Councilman Edwards 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 one ordinance for first reading.

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 251 PEACE AND GOOD
ORDER SECTION 5. FIREWORKS AND EXPLOSIVES**

It was moved by Councilman Surrency and second by Councilman Edwards this ordinance be adopted on first reading and that second reading, public hearing and final consideration be held on May 2, 2017 which motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote.

President Lugardo-Hemple announced one ordinance for second reading.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 149 – FEES ADDING SECTIN 149-22A – NOTARY SERVICE FEES

It was moved by Councilman Edwards and second by Councilman Surrency this be considered the second reading of said ordinance and the meeting be opened to the public for a hearing on the matter, which motion was carried.

President Lugardo-Hemple opened the meeting to the public for a hearing on this ordinance and this ordinance only.

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

President Lugardo-Hemple closed the public portion.

It was moved by Councilman Edwards and second by Councilman Surrency that this be considered the third and final reading of said ordinance and that it be taken up for adoption or rejection by roll call vote which motion was carried.

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			

President Lugardo-Hemple announced the ordinance adopted becoming ORDINANCE NO. 17-4, the original ordinance may be found in the Ordinance Book.

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 Councilman Edwards and seconded by Councilman Surrency 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 spoke of honoring Mr. Warren Robinson, suggesting placing a plaque in either the Senior Citizen Park or the Veterans Park. He questioned the Budget, stating he saw nothing to fix and improve the City Hall Annex. He feels a bond ordinance needs to be done to

fix the building and urged council to make peace with each other, settle their differences and get it done. He noted the employees work in horrible conditions and called the building a disgrace. Lastly he spoke of Economic Development, asking what has been done for the city; stating he has heard many proposals brought to council, one most recently from CCIA and the city cannot afford to lose another ratable.

Ms. Palma Kristovich stated she has lived in her home for over 41 years, and is concerned for her family and neighborhood. She informed council a stray bullet recently struck her home coming through her kitchen in the middle of the afternoon. She questioned having police on foot patrol or bicycles in the neighborhoods.

Mr. Tom Martin commented on ordinance G-1, questioning the content and asking council to look into it more before the second adoption. He spoke of the River Grove resolution, questioning it being voted on again, and noting prior court cases brought against the city. He urged council not to approve the River Grove financial agreement or the resolution.

Solicitor Bertram refuted Mr. Martins claims noting all levels of the courts in the state of New Jersey did not find the city did anything wrong.

Mr. Howard Melnicove, Land Use Attorney for the River Grove Project. Stated the zoning board recently approved the variances needed for 64 housing units for River Grove. He explained the award of tax credits and the application for funding are due by May 2nd to DCA and HMFA, thus the need for council to approve the financial agreement tonight.

With no one else desiring to be heard, it was moved by Councilman Surrency and second by Councilman 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-2, J-3, J-4, J-6 and J-9 will be enacted upon by one motion; J-1, J-5, J-7, and J-8, will be removed from the consent agenda and acted upon separately.

RESOLUTION NO. 59-17 authorizing the city to advertise for water treatment chemicals.

RESOLUTION NO. 60-17 appointing Alvin (Gene) Richards III to the Zoning Board.

RESOLUTION NO. 61-17 authorizing the sale of certain property owned by the city.

RESOLUTION NO. 62-17 authorizing the reporting of the tax identification statement required by the Recycling Enhancement Act. P.L. 2007.

RESOLUTION NO. 63-17 proclaiming April 2017 National Autism Awareness Month

It was moved by Councilman Surrency and second by Councilman Edwards 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-1 authorizing award of non-fair and open contract for EMS Medical Director Services.

It was moved by Councilman Surrency and second by Councilman Edwards that J-1 known as Resolution 64-17 be adopted.

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 announced Resolution J-5 authorizing request for proposals for the restoration and adaptive reuse of the former Angie's Diner.

It was moved by Councilman Surrency and second by Councilman Edwards that J-5 known as Resolution 65-17 be adopted.

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 announced Resolution J-7 authorizing execution of Financial Agreement for River Grove Project.

It was moved by Councilman Surrency and second by Councilman Edwards that J-7 known as Resolution 66-17 be adopted.

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 announced Resolution J-8 resolutions regarding the River Grove Project.

It was moved by Councilman Surrency and second by Councilman Edwards that J-8 known as Resolution 67-17 be adopted.

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 April 18, 2017 in the amount of \$1,089,441.07.

It was moved by Councilman Edwards and second by Councilman Surrency 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 the following applications.

1. Block Off Street - Bridgeton Main Street Annual Cinco de Mayo Festival May 7th.
2. Block Off Street – Autism Awareness Walk April 29th.
3. Temporary Sign Permit – Advertising Autism Walk on April 29th.

It was moved by Councilman Edwards and second by Councilman Surrency that said applications be approved which motion was carried and licenses granted.

President Lugardo-Hemple announced the following reports.

1. Central Cashier March 2017
2. Zoning – March 2017
3. Vital Statistics – March 2017
4. Water & Sewer – March 2017
5. Treasurers Report – March 2017
6. Quarterly Water/Sewer/Solid Waste Budget Report March 2017

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 addressed Mr. Abbott's concerns regarding Economic Development asking to schedule a time to meet with him to discuss what Economic Development has been doing with CCIA, the Zoning Board, etc. He addressed Ms. Kristovich, asking permission to stop by her home to talk with her. He noted the Police Department works hard to keep the citizens safe.

President Lugardo-Hemple called upon Council for comments.

Councilman Edwards said he heard Mr. Abbott's concerns regarding the safety of employees who work in the City Hall Annex, and agrees the employees need to work in safe conditions. He stated a bond ordinance needs to be passed to make it happen and some council members are on board. The safety of the employees is a must and council needs to work together to make it happen.

Councilman Spence – none at this time.

Councilman Surrency – none at this time.

President Lugardo-Hemple said to Ms. Kristovich she is sorry for what is happening in her neighborhood, to Mr. Martin she understands his concerns, and Mr. Abbotts also. She stated council has different opinions, they agree to disagree; however the safety of the employees is important and council needs to work together to make things happen to benefit the residents and the city. Lastly, President Lugardo-Hemple said the community voted for the councilmembers and their job is to work for the community and make it better.

There being no further business to come before Council, it was moved by Councilman Edwards and second by Councilman Surrency 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: May 2, 2017