

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

A meeting of the Bridgeton City Council was held on Tuesday, September 2, 2014 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 Council President Jack Surrency.

The Statement of Meeting Notice was read by Deputy 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 August 29, 2014, at 4:30 pm
2. By mailing such notice to the News of Cumberland County and the Press on August 29, 2014, at 4:30 p.m. Invocation and flag salute was led by Councilman Thompson.

The following answered to roll call:

Ms. Lugardo-Hemple
Mr. Spence
Mr. Thompson
Mr. Zapolski
President Surrency

President Jack Surrency presented the City Council Meeting Minutes of August 19, 2014 and Work Session of August 19, 2014.

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

President Surrency announced one Ordinance for second reading.

Clerk announced this is the time and place set forth for second reading, public hearing and final consideration of an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE SECTION 149-31

It was moved by Mr. Zapolski and seconded by Mr. Spence that this be considered the second reading of said ordinance and that the meeting be opened to the public for a hearing on the matter which motion was carried.

Pres. Surrency opened the meeting to the public for a hearing on this ordinance only.

With no one desiring to be heard, it was moved by Mr. Zapolski and seconded by Mr. Spence that the public hearing be closed, which motion was carried.

Pres. Surrency closed the public hearing.

It was moved by Mr. Zapolski and seconded by Mr. Spence that this be considered the third and final reading of said ordinance and that the ordinance be taken up for adoption or rejection by roll call vote which motion was carried.

The Clerk called the roll as follows:

YEAS	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Lugardo-Hemple			
Spence			
Thompson			
Zapolski			
Surrency			

Pres. Surrency declared the ordinance adopted becoming ORDINANCE NO. 14-4, the original ordinance may be found in the Ordinance Book.

Pres. Surrency announced this is the time to open the meeting up to the public for any discussion on the consent agenda, or any other matter of concern the public desires to address Council on.

It was moved by Mr. Spence 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.

Ms. Dolores Batten of 56 Albertson Ave. came forward to discuss the matter pertaining to allowing chickens in the City of Bridgeton and is completely against the idea.

Mr. Albert Cuff, Sr. of 69 Wayne Rd. came forward to tell City Council that he is in opposition of having chickens allowed in the City of Bridgeton.

Mr. Warren Robinson of the City of Bridgeton came forward to express his concerns over the consideration of allowing chickens within city limits. He is completely against the idea.

Mr. Will Martin of 171 N. Pearl St. came forward to ask City Council if allowing for a loan to the Municipal Port Authority falls within the parameters of using Urban Enterprise Zone funds. Mayor Kelly responded by stating that it is indeed consistent with the vision as well as the regulations of the terms of use for UEZ funds.

Ms. Jamie Warner of 1 Russell Sage Ave. came forward to tell City Council that she started a group called 'Bridgeton City Chickens.' The group is intended to raise money to resolve issues that may arise from residents having chickens in their backyard such as the destruction of a flower bed or personal property.

Mr. Mike Abbott of E. Commerce St. came forward to express his concern over school buses speeding down E. Commerce St. He would like City Council to reach out to the Board of Education to address this issue. He also brought up Church St. being really narrow with cars being allowed to park on both sides. He feels this should be addressed. He also made a quick plug stating he is against allowing chickens in the City of Bridgeton.

Ms. Carrie Panecello of Fayette St. came forward in support of backyard chickens within the City of Bridgeton because it would create more food sustainability for families in the community.

With no one else desiring to be heard, it was moved by Mr. Spence 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-1 through J-4. All resolutions 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.

RESOLUTION NO. 56-14, Authorizing Discharge of Mortgage-H. Pandya
RESOLUTION NO. 57-14, Authorizing Release of Performance Bond-BV Real Estate
RESOLUTION NO. 58-14, Authorizing UEZ Funds for Bridgeton Port Authority
RESOLUTION NO. 59-14, Authorizing UEZ Funds for Makerspace Program

It was moved by Mr. Zapolski and seconded by Mr. Thompson that the Resolutions 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 presented the Schedule of Bills in the amount of \$1,572,083.70 to all members who have received copies of same.

It was moved by Ms. Lugardo-Hemple and seconded by Mr. Spence that the Schedule of Bills is 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" for Schedule of Bills.

Pres. Surrency announced application(s):

1. 50/50 Raffle-Bridgeton Area Chamber of Commerce Foundation
2. Calendar Raffle-Bridgeton Area Chamber of Commerce Foundation
3. Block-Off Street-Veterans of Foreign Wars Annual Poker Run

It was moved by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Spence that said applications be approved, which motion was carried.

Pres. Surrency announced the following report:

1. Vital Statistics Report for May, June and July 2014

It was moved by Mr. Spence and seconded by Ms. Lugardo-Hemple to receive and file said reports which motion was carried.

Pres. Surrency called upon Mayor for remarks.

Mayor Kelly wanted to thank City Council for working together to pass the resolution to bring the Makerspace Project to our community. Allowing the college to have a place in our community is something we all can be proud of.

Pres. Surrency called upon Council for remarks.

Councilman Thompson reiterated that he is opposed to allowing chickens within city limits because it would hinder the quality of life in the community.

Councilman Zapolski wanted to note that he is eager to hear all aspects of the chicken issue and is neutral to the idea at this point. He is open-minded to learn as much as he can and get as much input as possible before making a decision.

Councilman Spence noted that Crab Fest was a great success attracting residents and visitors from all over. Regarding the chicken topic, he is enthusiastic to hear those specific reasons why folks are in opposition and also to learn as much as he can about the pros and cons before reaching a decision. He appreciates those who are participating in voicing their opinion.

Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple stated that she wants to hear more comments and more opinions on the chicken topic. She also wanted to echo the words of the Mayor stating she is very proud to be a part of a group which brought the college project to this area. She also wanted to encourage people to come out to the Bridgeton Library on Saturday for "Rally for Reading."

Pres. Surrency wanted to thank the Mayor and the college for bringing the Makerspace Project to Downtown Bridgeton. He also wanted to thank everyone who participated in discussion over the chicken issue for speaking to one another respectfully rather than yelling at one another. He noted that communicating on that level is how things get done.

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

Pres. Surrency adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:

Jeanne M. Hitchner, RMC
Deputy Clerk

Jack Surrency
Council President

Date: _____