

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

A meeting of the Bridgeton City Council was held on Tuesday, July 17, 2012 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 Gladys Lugardo-Hemple.

The Statement of Meeting Notice was read by Municipal Clerk, Darlene J. Richmond, "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 13, 2012, at 4:30 p.m.
2. By mailing such notice to the News of Cumberland County and the Press on July 13, 2012, at 4:30 p.m. The Invocation and flag salute was led by Councilman Thompson.

The following answered to roll call:

Mr. Spence
Mr. Surrency
Mr. Thompson
Mr. Zapolski
Pres. Lugardo-Hemple

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple announced Presentations will be made.

Senate President Steve Sweeney and Assemblywoman Celeste Riley honored winners of the 2012 youth athletes from minor league team Woodruff Energy and major league team Bridgeton Exchange Club with certificates of Joint Legislative Commendation recognizing the players success in establishing a standard of athletic excellence and dedication for all other members. They also offered praise and appreciation to their coaches.

Mayor Kelly and Pres. Lugardo-Hemple also presented Good Sport Certificates to members of the Bridgeton Little League all-Star Team.

Councilman Michael D. Zapolski presented to Council a restored Council plaque which displayed the names of all Council Presidents from 1874 to the present which will be on display in Council Chambers when a location is agreed upon but until that time he will keep it in his possession.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple presented the minutes from the Meeting of June 19, 2012, Work Session of June 19, 2012, Meeting of June 26, 2012 and Work Session of June 26, 2012.

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

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple announced one Ordinance for first reading.

The Clerk read an ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN PROPERTY

It was moved by Mr. Spence and second by Mr. Zapolski that this ordinance is adopted on first reading and that second reading, public hearing and final consideration be held on August 7, 2012 which motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple announced three Ordinances for second reading.

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

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 247-8 OF THE GENERAL CODE OF THE CITY OF BRIDGETON REGARDING THE USE OF TOBACCO IN THE PARK AND RECREATION AREAS

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

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

The following spoke in favor of the Ordinance and thanked Council for the adoption of the Ordinance

Mr. Carl Hemple, Bridgeton Little League President
Mr. Matt Jacobs, Bridgeton Municipal Alliance Youth to Youth member
Mrs. Jackie Craig, American Cancer Society, Community Executive for Cumberland and Salem Counties.
Mrs. Linda Solanick, Bridgeton Midget Football League
Mrs. Emma Lopez from Vineland Health Department and Cumberland County Tobacco Control Division

No one else desiring to be heard, it was moved by Mr. Thompson and second by Mr. Spence to close the public hearing which motion was carried.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple closed the public hearing.

It was moved by Mr. Thompson and second by Mr. Spence that this be considered the third and final reading of said ordinance 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
Mr. Spence			
Mr. Surrency			
Mr. Thompson			
Mr. Zapolski			
Pres. Lugardo-Hemple			

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple declared the ordinance adopted becoming ORDINANCE NO. 12-1 the original ordinance may be found in the Ordinance Book.

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

AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES AND RATES OF CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

It was moved by Mr. Surrency and second by Mr. Thompson that this be considered the second reading and that the meeting be opened to the public for a hearing on the matter which motion was carried.

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

Mr. Abbott, Commerce Street, suggested that the bilingual employees receive additional increase due to their bilingual skills.

No one else desiring to be heard, it was moved by Mr. Surrency and second by Mr. Thompson to close the public hearing which motion was carried.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple closed the public hearing.

It was moved by Mr. Surrency and second by Mr. Thompson that this be considered the third and final reading of said ordinance 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
Mr. Spence			
Mr. Surrency			
Mr. Thompson			
Mr. Zapolski			
Pres. Lugardo-Hemple			

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple declared the ordinance adopted becoming ORDINANCE NO. 12-2 the original ordinance may be found in the Ordinance Book.

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

ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE CITY OF BRIDGETON

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

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

Mr. Abbott, East Commerce, spoke out against the increase that it's a part time job and if you need this income you should not be on Council, it's a slap in the face to the taxpayers.

No one else desiring to be heard, it was moved by Mr. Spence and second by Mr. Thompson to close the public hearing which motion was carried.

Pres. Lugardo Hemple closed the public hearing.

Comments concerning the Ordinance were made by Councilman Thompson that raises for Council would be well-deserved but he asserted it wasn't in Council's best interests overall to approve the pay increases. By voting no, he is denying his family a financial benefit they need, but he thinks it's necessary because voting yes would hurt the integrity of the current administration.

Mayor Kelly commented concerning the Ordinance stating that they haven's had raises in probably over two decades, and this is probably one of the hardest working councils we've had, which is not to say anything negative about previous Councils. But it's just not prudent at this time, not when unions have negotiated little to no raises.

It was moved by Mr. Spence and second by Mr. Zapolski that this be considered the third and final reading of said ordinance 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
		None	None
Mr. Spence			
	Mr. Surrency		
	Mr. Thompson		
Mr. Zapolski			
Pres. Lugardo-Hemple			

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple declared the ordinance adopted becoming ORDINANCE NO. 12-3 the original ordinance may be found in the Ordinance Book.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple announced this is the time for comments on the consent agenda or any other matter of concern the public desires to address Council.

It was moved by Mr. Surrency second by Mr. Thompson that the meeting be opened to the public for any one desiring to be heard, which motion was carried.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple opened the meeting to the public for anyone desiring to be heard to come forward and state their name and address.

Mrs. Delores Batten, Albertson Avenue, congratulated Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple and expressed concern over tree limbs needing removal.

Ms. Jean Riley 110 East Commerce Street registered several concerns involving her residents.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple stated that we (Bridgeton Housing Commissioners) are meeting to trying to resolve the problems at the Hi-Rise.

Administrator stated he will look into the tree problem with the Housing Authority.

Mr. Michael Abbott, East Commerce Street, thanked the Mayor for the help he gave during the storm.

Mr. Abbott also pointed out on the Ordinance regarding the Administrative Code salaries that it states that it does not come into effect until July 1, 2012 so needs to be corrected because the present Mayor and Council would not receive it.

Councilman Zapolski suggested that Mr. Abbott meet with Administrator after the meeting to discuss the matter, which was agreed upon.

Mr. Carl Hemple, Penn Street, thank the Mayor and Council for their time and courtesy showed our youth and those that were a big help to him this year.

He pointed out that Karen Barnett, Director Youth to Youth, who is present can attest that we teach more than just baseball to these kids.

No one else desiring to be heard, it was moved by Mr. Surrency and second by Mr. Thompson to close the public portion of the meeting, which motion was carried.

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

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple announced all matters listed under items J-1, through items J-16 will be enacted upon by one motion, if discussion is desired that item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be acted upon separately.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple announced items J-7 and J-10 were removed from the consent agenda and items J-13, J-14, J-15, and J-16 were added to the consent agenda.

It was moved by Mr. Zapolski seconded by Mr. Surrency that the following Resolutions listed under the consent agenda be adopted, which motion was carried by roll call vote. The original resolutions may be found in the Resolution Book

RESOLUTION NO 15-12, honoring the Festival Puertorriqueno de NJ, Inc., in Vineland, NJ
RESOLUTION NO 16-12, authorizing advertisement of bids for water meters
RESOLUTION NO 17-12, authorizing appointment of hearing officer

RESOLUTION NO 18-12, authorizing appointment of professional services related UST removal

RESOLUTION NO 19-12 support no-passing zone on Route 49

RESOLUTION NO 20-12 authorizing cancellation or discharge of mortgage Aida and Marino Santomo

RESOLUTION NO 21-12 authorizing changes made on records and adjusted accordingly in Tax Office

RESOLUTION NO. 22-12, authorizing appropriation transfer

RESOLUTION NO. 23-12 authorizing advertisement for bids for bleachers

RESOLUTION NO. 24-12, authorizing advertisement for bid for public works equipment

RESOLUTION NO. 25-12, authorizing UEZ funds for Riverfront electrical improvements

RESOLUTION NO. 26-12, advertising for bids for UST removal at water works building

RESOLUTION NO. 27-12, award bid to Ricky Slade Construction for zoo parking lot improvement and expansion

RESOLUTION NO. 28-12, authorizing contract with Long Marmero and Associates as labor counsel

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple presented the Schedule of Bills in the amount of \$1,565,641.91 all members having received copies.

It was moved by Mr. Thompson and second by Mr. Surrency 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" Schedule of Bills.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple announced two applications:

1. Gospel Street Services – GSA AME Zion Church, 410 N. Pearl Street, Rev. Akpan Ingang
2. Raffle License – Bridgeton Main Street Association, 59 E. Commerce Street, August 25, 2012

It was moved by Mr. Thompson and second by Mr. Zapolski to approve said applications and issue the permits, which motion was carried.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple presented the following reports for June:

Tax Office

Municipal Clerk

Police Department

Vital Statistics (May)

Public Works (April, May, and June)

It was moved by Mr. Surrency and second by Mr. Zapolski that said reports be received and filed which motion was carried.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple called upon Mayor for comments.

Mayor Albert Kelly reminded everyone of the neighborhood community walk to take place on July 19, 2012, at 6 pm they will meet at the City Hall Complex, 330 Fayette Street and will be walking in the Court House Hill area.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple called upon Council for remarks.

Councilman Thompson commented that Pres. Lugardo-Hemple is doing a great job and thanked and commends Carl Hemple for what is has done and is doing with kids and congratulate him on his volunteerism.

Councilman Surrency commented to Carl Hemple a job well done and it gives Council a great pleasure to see the Chambers packed-out with the youth and parents and also recognized Karen Barnett, Youth to Youth Director.

Also commended the Mayor for the great job he did for those in the Hi-Rise and in the community during the storm.

Councilman Zapolski had no comments.

Councilman Spence commended Carl Hemple and spoke to the young man who spoke during the public portion that he had poise and did a good job.

Mr. Spence also commented on the article in the Ben Column in the paper regarding the walk on Thursday as it had a specific purpose, and he felt the purpose of our walk was merely to get together and show our support in the community and he believes they were successful on that and he is glad the Mayor spearheaded this effort to do things like this and hopes other will follow.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple commended Karen Barnett and applauded the young man that spoke and hoped to see him more at City Council and sated it is always a pleasure to see Mr. Abbott.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple further stated one thing whether we agree or disagree when we open that door and leave we are all still friends.

The one thing she learned from the book that Mayor gave them when they ran for City Council was good to Great, and today without knowing there is a discussion that we are here agreeing or disagree I have a little note which says "We have to retain faith so we prevail regardless of difficulties" and she feels it is perfect for what is happening here today that every body has a lot of emotions and we all make a little mistakes but that is part of human beings part of life.

Thanked all of Council for their help in the last few days as coming on as president, and reminded everyone that on July 23, 2012, at the Hall of Fame Jackie Robinson will be unveiled and on displayed and thanked everyone for being present

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple announced also that Governor Christie's representative would be at the Complex on July 18, 2012 form 4pm to 7 pm for to discuss any questions or concerns from the city citizens.

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

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene J. Richmond
Municipal Clerk

APPROVED:

President Gladys Lugardo-Hemple

Date: _____