

**CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
AUGUST 2, 2016**

ATTENDANCE:

Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple
Councilman Spence
Acting Pres. Surrency
Councilman Zapolski
Council Pres. Edwards
Administrator Dr. Stephanie Bush-Baskette
Municipal Solicitor Rebecca Bertram

CALLED TO ORDER: President Edwards

STATEMENT OF MEETING NOTICE: Deputy Clerk read statement of meeting notice, “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 29, 2016 at 4:30 p.m.
2. By mailing such notice to the Daily Journal, South Jersey Times and the Press of Atlantic City on July 29, 2016 at 4:30 p.m.

PRESENTATION: None

AGENDA REVIEW

C. Invocation/Flag: Surrency

G-1 Ordinance changing the name of Mill Street to Blue Bowman Way – a discussion arose regarding residents being notified and their input. It was noted there is one residence on the street, Councilman Surrency will reach out to them.

G-2 Ordinance Establishing Park and Recreational Fees – Councilman Zapolski would like to limit and/or establish the total number of discount cards to be distributed. Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple noted the cards are a good way to promote the park for the residents. Dr. Bush-Baskette suggested she tally the numbers for this summer season and council look at them for next year. Amending the language in the ordinance was agreed upon.

J2-J6 Resolutions - it was noted by Councilman Zapolski Resolutions J2-J6 are all Chapter 159 Special Items of Revenue for insertion into the budget.

J-8 Resolution authorizing the Sale of Certain Property in the City – Solicitor Bertram explained the property is a duplex, the owner of one half would like to purchase the other half. Councilman Zapolski recommended ensuring the property taxes are paid to date.

J-10 Resolution to Cancel a Tax Sale Certificate – Councilman Zapolski question the resolution; Solicitor Bertram said it was possibly a third party redemption. Dr. Bush-Baskette will confirm with the Tax Collector.

J-11 Resolution to award a Bid for Fire Department Uniforms - Dr. Bush-Baskette informed council she is removing the resolution to obtain clarification of the exact cost which should be included in the wording of the resolution.

COMMITTEE LIASION REPORTS:

Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple thanked Mayor Kelly, Council President Edwards, and Councilman Surrency for attending the Puerto Rican Flag raising. She spoke of library activities including the traveling exhibit, concerts, the art therapy workshop, and Dr. Seuss Storytime. Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple announced she would like to see the Housing Authority Commissioner appointment be finalized this evening, and lastly she spoke of the Splash Park being busy with people coming from other towns and counties as well.

Councilman Surrency said he represented the Mayor and Council last weekend at the Puerto Rican festivities in Vineland, noting flags were raised representing all Latin countries. He spoke of Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple and himself marching in the Puerto Rican parade there on Sunday, and is hopeful the city will do something next year.

Councilman Spence reminded everyone of the Crabfest on August 27th from 11-7 p.m., noting this is the 7th year. It was also announced there will be a back pack give away August 13th 10-2 p.m. with vendors, face painting, and a moonbounce on the Riverfront.

Councilman Zapolski distributed copies of a follow up report he created regarding water utility privatization. He noted additional research he did including personnel issues, historical findings, additional cost, and how it could affect the city budget. Public Works Superintendent Dean Dellaquila responded noting the many infrastructure upgrades done throughout the years including; new fire hydrants, valves replaced, new manholes, upgrades to the sewer station, new mains, etc. Mr. Dellaquila also voiced his concerns regarding personnel, stating the water and sewer utility personnel are utilized for many “unplanned” incidents including snow storms, and other inclement weather that he feels will not be available through a private company. Councilman Surrency questioned the rates and history thereof through a private company, Councilman Zapolski noted he has asked for data from American Water on the history of rates, and has yet to receive it. Councilman Spence said an alternative would be to start a fund to help with infrastructure upgrades as well as emergencies.

Pres. Edwards reported he and the Mayor did not yet make it to the School Board Meeting to discuss their funding. He also spoke of the Bridgeton Invitational which he, Councilmen Spence and Zapolski were in attendance.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The Business Administrator discussed an Ad Interim Permit for El Rodeo allowing them a 30 day extension on their ABC License. After some discussion, council approved of the Deputy Clerk endorsing it with conformation of all municipal charges being current and a clear police report. At this point Mayor Kelly joined the meeting.

Comptroller Mary Jane Lake spoke of a prior meeting with the former BA and library staff regarding salary increases. Council recently approved the increases retroactive to August 1, 2016. Library personnel were under the impression the retroactive date would be January 1, 2016. Comptroller Lake believes there was a misinterpretation and would like clarification. After some discussion, it was approved by council the retroactive date for the Library personnel increases will be January 1, 2016.

Comptroller Lake discussed water meters, roofing, and fire hydrants that will be reallocated with no increases in the capital budget. Councilman Spence voiced his concerns about fulfilling some of the “wants and needs” for the capital budget. Fire Department Chief Bowen addressed the factors and long term plan he has to replace some of the fire department vehicles. Police Chief Gaimari updated council on the insurance claim due to the lightning strike a few weeks ago and how the department determines when new cars are needed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Upon motion by Mr. Spence and second by Ms. Lugardo-Hemple that RESOLUTION NO. 190-16, to enter into an executive session to discuss Personnel: Dequinzio, which motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote. The original resolution may be found in the Resolution Book.

PUBLIC PORTION: NONE

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further items of discussion, it was moved by Mr. Surrency and second by Ms. Lugardo-Hemple the Work Session be adjourned which motion was carried.

Pres. Edwards adjourned the Work Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:

Kathleen L. Keen, RMC
Deputy Municipal Clerk

J. Curtis Edwards, Council President

Date: _____