

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
April 9, 2013

ATTENDANCE:

Councilman Spence
Councilman Surrency
Councilman Thompson
Councilman Zapolski
Pres. Lugardo-Hemple
Mayor Albert Kelly
Administrator Goodreau
Municipal Solicitor Bertram

CALLED TO ORDER: Pres. Lugardo-Hemple

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 April 5, 2013 at 4:30 p.m.
2. By mailing such notice to the South Jersey Times and the Press on April 5, 2013 at 4:30 pm.

AGENDA REVIEW:

Item G-1 – Administrator Goodreau distributed copies of zoning map to Council and explained that due to the size of the documents that go with the ordinance that they will be available in the Clerk's office if anyone wishes to look at them, and will also be posted on the city's website.

Item G-3 – Mr. Zapolski stated that the ordinance is very well written and states that the Class One Officers can write a summons for any violation of Municipal Ordinances as well as motor vehicle and disorderly persons violations.

Mr. Zapolski asked if Item G-1 was going to have a 30 day period before final adoption, and stated that the second reading and public hearing be held on May 7, 2013, to give the public time to come in and/or review the ordinance if they have any questions.

Item J-1 – Mr. Zapolski asked if we have more than one corrective action plan, and asked that the resolution be changed to "Financial Audit Corrective Action Plan", so that it is clear.

Item J-2 – Ms. Bertram explained the amendment to a later date due to NJ DOT issue with parking.

Item J-7 – Mr. Zapolski – asked for clarification that the city's position stays the same. Ms. Bertram responded that she believes so.

Item J-8 – Administrator stated that the Block and Lot numbers were wrong on the bid specs. Only one real customer to go on the tower, Verizon. Verizon did not win the bid. City sent letter stating that we want to get out of contract, the next resolution is authorizing a re-bid.

Item J-9 – Mr. Zapolski – project is 3 phases from engineer. Administrator stated that all three design phases are completed. Need to pay actual contract administration. Funding has already been set aside for this project. Mr. Zapolski stated that it was supposed to be CDBG money. Mr. Spence stated that engineering costs are out of balance with material costs for the project. Administrator stated that there are nine different locations (projects) and the man hour costs are for surveying each project. The numbers are validated by FEMA.

Mr. Surrency asked if the city looking to get a new engineer. Mr. Spence stated the city is looking to save money.

Council President stated that they have three add-on resolutions. J-11 terminates the escrow agreement with WRT. Resolution was explained by City Solicitor.

J-12 - authorizes sub-division application for Block 280 Lot 1 (dump). Resolution needs to go to Planning Bd. for approval; and then county approval. J-13 – honoring Carl Hemple, Sr.

Item L-1, noise exemption application Mr. Zapolski asked of a stipulation be added to the exemption that if there is a complaint they will no longer have permission to exceed the noise ordinance in the future. Mr. Spence stated that their normal broadcasting equipment is sufficient.

LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. Spence – Food-Film fest last Saturday at Ashley McCormick Center. Mayor stated that leftover food was served the next day to 80 people. Nothing went to waste. Everyone had a good time.

Mayor Kelly appreciates what Main Street is doing, brings people to the downtown. No one walked away hungry.

Mr. Spence stated that next year's theme will be Japanese.

Mayor Kelly informed Council that the winner of the Miss Bridgeton Pageant will receive a full scholarship to Cumberland County College for two years. The runner up will receive the cost of books at the college from a foundation that is being set up. Thanked Pres. Lugardo-Hemple for helping to set up the pageant. It is important to develop pride in our youth for the community. They would also like to hold a Mr. Bridgeton Contest.

Mr. Spence leaving for New Orleans – Main Street Convention. Would like to have a “sister city” in Louisiana. Reminded those present that Main Street's next event is Cinco de Mayo.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple on Saturday more than 50 students from the High School, Little League teams painted fences. Mike Abbott, Pres. Lugardo-Hemple and her son put up 30 “no smoking” signs around the park. The signs were given to the city by Emma Lopez, more signs are needed for other areas in the park. April 13, 2013 at 10:00 is the grand opening for Little League. They will be recognizing Carl Hemple, Sr. and also recognize Ms. Lopez for the no smoking signs. Mr. Surrency stated that Complete Care donated money to help Little League with registration fees. Public Works Director stated that if the department can assist in the last minute preparations to have them call and they will try to do what they can do.

Ms. Lugardo-Hemple stated that we are having peddler problems in city on weekends. Officers are not familiar with the ordinance. Mr. Goodreau stated that Class one officers are in training, and peddlers will be one of their primary assignments on the weekends. It is really good to see the officers downtown.

Mr. Spence – Police just tell vendors to move on – they need to be fined. Why aren’t they ticketed?

Mayor Kelly asked if Main Street could work with the city downtown. There is a second hand store with furniture on the sidewalk; he spoke with the owners of the store. An orderly display is all right on the sidewalk, but this was not orderly. It is not fair to the other stores in the downtown area.

Mr. Spence stated that Council could update the ordinance not allowing goods to be placed on the sidewalks for sale. Mayor stated that when new officers are downtown it will help.

Mr. Spence suggested that the city bring back sidewalk sales two times a year.

Mr. Spence and Mr. Zapolski to work with the Mayor and Main Street to resolve the problem.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Kelly stated that today is National Mayors Community Service Day. He would like to get pins for people who volunteer in the city.

Mr. Greenberg requested an additional extension until May 29, 2013 because of problems with the NJ Department of Transportation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Upon motion by Mr. Spence and second by Mr. Surrency
RESOLUTION NO. 224-12, authorizing an executive close session to discuss Contract: BMFL lease, Personnel – QPA, was adopted by unanimous roll call vote. The original resolution may be found in the Resolution Book.

PUBLIC PORTION

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple announced that this is the time and place to open the meeting to the public.

It was moved by Mr. Spence and seconded by Mr. Surrency that the meeting be opened to the public for anyone wishing to be heard at this time.

Mike Abbott, Bridgeton, ask Council to reconsider taxi ordinance. Female Drivers are afraid to drive cabs alone in the evening, he asked if they could have a passenger in the car with them. Other drivers are already doing this.

Mr. Abbott – Semi-pro team – language was horrible. Volunteers were putting up no smoking signs, and they were smoking pot in the park. There were a number of vehicles.

Mr. Abbott agrees with the Mayor about the second-hand store downtown. He doesn't understand why one store is allowed a sign in front of their store, but another one is not. If you enforce an ordinance you should enforce it for everybody.

City employees need to be informed of the ordinances, because they don't know them.

Told Council about peddling incident and ATV incident.

Asked Council and Mr. Zapolski to tighten up the peddler ordinance. Asked Mr.

Goodreau to post field (city property) where the old "tin can" used to be.

Mr. Spence asked Administrator if he could meet with Zoning Officer to discuss issues that are occurring in the downtown area, and walk the area with him.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple called the county Health Department regarding businesses selling food outside their businesses. City does not have any ordinances authorizing these sales. She will be working on an ordinance to be presented to council for consideration.

Mr. Abbott asked if Class One police officers can drive city vehicles. He was told by someone that they cannot. Mr. Goodreau stated that he would check into it.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple adjourned the Work Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:

Mary L. Kimble
Deputy Clerk

Gladys Lugardo-Hemple
Council President

Date: _____