

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

A meeting of the Bridgeton City Council was held on Tuesday, February 5, 2013 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 February 1, 2013, at 4:30 p.m.
2. By mailing such notice to the South Jersey Times and the Press on February 1, 2013, at 4:30 p.m. invocation and flag salute was led by Councilman Jack Surrency.

The following answered to roll call:

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

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple called upon Councilman Zapolski for an announcement.

Councilman Zapolski made an announcement regarding the renewal of Jaylene Cab and Transport license renewal as a result of the hearing held on January 15, 2013. It is their intention to grant a license renewal to the Jaylene Cab and Transport, that renewal will be followed with a letter with certain conditions sent by the City administration within ten days. The Resolution will be passed at the next Council meeting. They just wanted to make that statement at this point because we know that there are people here that are waiting hear the decision. They just did not have the opportunity frame this up in a resolution form at this time.

Councilman Zapolski presented rules and regulations which will make some things clear to taxi companies operating in the City of Bridgeton:

- 1) No Bridgeton taxi company is assigned to any territory or "special place" within the City – each company has equal rights to the streets and customers.
- 2) The City presently has no designated Taxi Stands – Should there be a need for them the Director Public Works may create them as needed. 321-11(B)
- 3) Taxi cabs are to be used to transport passengers for hire (a fare) 321-1. No person shall be transported in any cab unless the taximeter is in operation 321-13(A)(3)
- 4) All Taxi Company personnel must find a way to peacefully co-exist. Continuing harassment claims that are not adjudicated by the court may negatively reflect on a company, or driver, and such claims may be considered an adverse business practice (or character) that could be grounds for disciplinary action to include license suspension and/or fines. 321-4(F)

This information will be put in a letter and sent to all taxi cab companies just as a restatement of which is already in the ordinance.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple thanked Councilman Zapolski and asked if there be any questions.

Attorney Gerald Neski asked if the license was to continue and they would be in receipt of a letter within ten days.

He was informed that was correct.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple presented the Public Session minutes from the Meeting of October 2, 2012.

It was moved by Mr. Surrency 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 that there are ten Ordinances for first reading.

Council President read an ordinance entitled:

**ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 360-50 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF BRIDGETON WITH RESPECT TO SEWER RATES AND CHARGES**

It was moved by Mr. Zapolski and second by Mr. Spence that this ordinance is adopted on first reading and that second reading, public hearing and final consideration be held on February 19, 2013 which motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Council President read an ordinance entitled:

**ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 370 OF THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF BRIDGETON-LAND USE ORDINANCE (R1 Low Density Residential Blk 17)**

It was moved by Mr. Zapolski and second by Mr. Spence that this ordinance is adopted on first reading and that second reading, public hearing and final consideration be held on March 19, 2013 which motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Council President read an Ordinance entitled:

**ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 370 OF THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF BRIDGETON-LAND USE ORDINANCE (R2 Medium Density Residential Blk. 60)**

It was moved by Mr. Zapolski and second by Mr. Spence that this ordinance is adopted on first reading and that second reading, public hearing and final consideration be held on March 19, 2013 which motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Council President read an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 370 OF THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF BRIDGETON-LAND USE ORDINANCE (C1 Central Business Blks. 78 & 81)

It was moved by Mr. Zapolski and second by Mr. Spence that this ordinance is adopted on first reading and that second reading, public hearing and final consideration be held on March 19, 2013 which motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Council President read an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 370 OF THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF BRIDGETON-LAND USE ORDINANCE (C2 Apartment/Commercial Blk. 91)

It was moved by Mr. Zapolski and second by Mr. Spence that this ordinance is adopted on first reading and that second reading, public hearing and final consideration be held on March 19, 2013 which motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Council President read an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 370 OF THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF BRIDGETON-LAND USE ORDINANCE (R2 Medium Density Residential Blk. 103)

It was moved by Mr. Zapolski and second by Mr. Spence that this ordinance is adopted on first reading and that second reading, public hearing and final consideration be held on March 19, 2013 which motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Council President read an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 370 OF THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF BRIDGETON-LAND USE ORDINANCE (R2 Density Residential 190)

It was moved by Mr. Zapolski and second by Mr. Spence that this ordinance is adopted on first reading and that second reading, public hearing and final consideration be held on March 19, 2013 which motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Council President read an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 370 OF THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF BRIDGETON-LAND USE ORDINANCE (C4 Neighborhood\Commercial Blk 190 - 1)

It was moved by Mr. Zapolski and second by Mr. Spence that this ordinance is adopted on first reading and that second reading, public hearing and final consideration be held on March 19, 2013 which motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Council President read an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 370 OF THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF BRIDGETON-LAND USE ORDINANCE (R4 Neighborhood Residential Blk 259)

It was moved by Mr. Zapolski and second by Mr. Spence that this ordinance is adopted on first reading and that second reading, public hearing and final consideration be held on March 19, 2013 which motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Council President read an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 370 OF THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF BRIDGETON-LAND USE ORDINANCE (R1 Low Density Residential Blk 267)

It was moved by Mr. Zapolski and second by Mr. Spence that this ordinance is adopted on first reading and that second reading, public hearing and final consideration be held on March 19, 2013 which motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple announced no Ordinance for second reading.

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. Thompson second by Mr. Surrency 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.

Mr. Mike Abbott, East Commerce Street, Bridgeton, announced there will be a Neighborhood Watch Meeting February 21, 2013 at 6 pm and urged those present if they know someone in there neighborhood to come out and join.

Mr. Abbott further suggested that the sewer rate ordinance increase notice be done in Spanish also. So, they will know about the increase as some landlords may not pass the information along.

Mr. Abbott also commented on an individual city employee he feels does things with our authority and appreciates it was pointed out.

Ms. Delores Batten, Albertson Avenue, Bridgeton, commented on the article in paper concerning Sally Star by the Mayor.

Ms Batten suggested involving the youth with the city government so they can get an understanding of how the City government operates.

Councilman Zapolski and Councilman Spence informed Ms. Batten on activities for the youth already established.

Ms Batten further spoke Neighborhood Watch and on the condition of the neighborhoods and landlords.

Ms. Gloribel Celaya, Irving Avenue, expressed concern over renewal of the taxi cab license.

Council informed Ms. Celaya if she had a genuine concern that you feel needs to be addressed she was urged to use the court system and police system and follow through and document every issue that is a recourse we all have.

Ms. Vera Rivera requested information about the splash park regarding concession stand.

Council directed her to the Business Administrator regarding that information.

Mr. Abbott commented that he works in the transportation business and may be of assistance to Ms. Celaya concerning her drivers.

No one else desiring to be heard, it was moved by Mr. Thompson and second by Mr. Surrency 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 the consent agenda J-1 through J-10 will be acted upon by one motion if any discussion is desired that item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be acted upon separately. ( Item J-4 being removed from the agenda, and items J-6 and J-10 were added to the agenda.)

It was moved by Mr. Surrency seconded by Mr. Spence that the following Resolutions 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 169-12, agreement with County for National Emergency Grant Recovery Program.

RESOLUTION NO 170-12, reappointment of Registrar Vital Statistics, Michelle DeMarco.

RESOLUTION NO 171-12, awarding bid for Mary Elmer Lake Dam repairs and improvements Ricky Slade

RESOLUTION NO 172-12, authorizing extending grace period for first quarter 2013 taxes

RESOLUTION NO 173-12 authorizing In Rem Tax Foreclosure.

RESOLUTION NO 174-12, authorizing purchase of Fire Department Air PAKS under State contract.

RESOLUTION NO 175-12, appointing Class II Police Officers.

RESOLUTION NO 176-12, appointing Class I Police Officers.

Upon motion by Mr. Surrency and second by Mr. Spence

RESOLUTION NO. 177-12, authorizing contract with Council 18 Supervisors was adopted by roll call vote with Pres. Lugardo- Hemple abstaining. The original resolution may be found in the Resolution Book.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple presented the Schedule of Bills in the amount of \$2,855,021.57 all members having received copies.

It was moved by Mr. Spence and second by Mr. Zapolski 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 stated that council has received the following application:

1. Raffle Bridgeton Rotary Foundation March 1, 2013
2. Noise Exempt Bridgeton Breakfast Rotary Club June 11, 2013

It was moved by Mr. Spence and seconded by Mr. Zapolski to approve the applications, which motion was carried.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple presented the following reports:

Tax Office cash receipts-December  
Police Department -December  
Public Works – Quarterly Report

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

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple called upon Council remarks.

Councilman Thompson no comments.

Councilman Surrency no comments.

Councilman Spence commented he appreciates concerns brought to Council because if we do not do it, it will not get done and we do the best we can.

Councilman Zapolski welcomed Ms. Batten back.

Councilman Zapolski commented about the Zoning Ordinance the start of a combination of about two years of work between the Planner, Zoning Officer, Administration, Solicitor and his self in trying to work through the nightmare of who they are to provide proper notices to so we do in accordance with our Municipal Land Use Law. It was a hard task, but we are excited to see the benefits. One of the key factors this ordinance will do, it will bring into play some of the objectives and goals of our Master Plan that was approved in 2008. The principal action item in that plan was to revise the Zoning Ordinance and this is now getting to the point where it is actually starting to happen, once we found these changes, which are these nine ordinances we did tonight, go into effect, after that March 19 date. We will then bring the main body of the ordinance into play, which will be then subject allowing the upstairs living in the down town business area where the property allows such a living. We will let people go ahead and use their property in a more utility manner without being forced into a zoning board situation at a costly and sometime lengthy process. So, there are a number of things in the Master Plan but that is couple of things that are in there. Councilman Spence was working with him as well and group of people in the down town business area, Main Street involved and he is glad to see it finally getting to the table.

Pres. Lugardo-Hemple Welcomed everyone and thanked Mr. Abbott concerning the Neighborhood Crime Watch and thanked Councilman Zapolski and the group that has been working two years on the Zoning Ordinance.

There being no other business to come before Council it was moved by Mr. Spence and 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: \_\_\_\_\_