

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 6, 2018**

A meeting of the Bridgeton City Council was held on Tuesday, February 6, 2018 5:30 p.m., at the 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 Edwards

The Statement of Meeting Notice was read by Municipal Clerk, Kathleen L. Keen; Notice of this meeting of the City Council of the City of Bridgeton, as required by N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., the "Open Public Meetings Act", has been provided by public advertisement in the South Jersey Times and the Daily Journal on January 5th and 6th, 2018 of a schedule adopted by resolution setting forth the time, date and place of all the meetings of the City Council of the City of Bridgeton.

Invocation and flag salute was led by Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple

The following answered to roll call:
Councilwoman Rosemary DeQuinzio
Councilman Samuel Feinstein
Councilwoman Gladys Lugardo-Hemple
Council President Edwards

Absent:
Councilman Michael Zapolski, Sr.

Also in attendance:
Mayor Albert Kelly
Solicitor Rebecca J. Bertram
Municipal Clerk Kathleen L. Keen

President Edwards announced the ceremonial swearing in of Dr. Samuel Feinstein as Councilmember. Municipal Clerk Keen administered the Oath of Office as family and friends stood with Dr. Feinstein.

Mayor Kelly read and presented a proclamation to Christ Lutheran Church recognizing their time, energy, and resources given to ensure those attending the Mayors Annual Holiday Breakfast enjoy the meal and genuine time of fellowship.

President Edwards presented the Work Session Minutes, Council Meeting Minutes and Executive Session Minutes of January 16, 2018.

It was moved by Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple and seconded by Councilwoman DeQuinzio that said minutes be approved and to dispense with the reading of said minutes as all members have received copies. The motion carried; Councilman Feinstein abstained.

President Edwards announced three (3) ordinances for first reading.

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE CLOSURE OF THE CITY LANDFILL IN AND BY THE CITY OF BRIDGETON, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$2,075,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$575,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE CITY TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

It was moved by Councilwoman DeQuinzio and second by Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple the ordinance be adopted on first reading and that second reading, public hearing and final consideration be held on February 20, 2018 which motion was carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

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

It was moved by Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple and second by Councilwoman DeQuinzio the ordinance be adopted on first reading and that second reading, public hearing and final consideration be held on February 20, 2018 which motion was carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 265-23 et seq. VACANT PROPERTIES

It was moved by Councilwoman DeQuinzio and second by Councilman Feinstein the ordinance be adopted on first reading and that second reading, public hearing and final consideration be held on February 20, 2018 which motion was carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

President Edwards announced there were no ordinances for second reading.

President Edwards announced this is the time for anyone who desires to address council on the consent agenda or any other matter.

It was moved by Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple and seconded by Councilman Feinstein the meeting be opened to the public for anyone desiring to address council on the consent agenda or any other matters, which motion was carried.

President Edwards opened the meeting to the public for anyone desiring to be heard.

Mr. Mike Abbott, welcomed Dr. Feinstein. He then urged Council to read the Vacant and Abandoned Property Ordinance thoroughly in the next two weeks. Mr. Abbott spoke of security at the library and pleaded for something to be done soon for the safety of the employees.

Ms. Linda McFadden, Library Director welcomed Dr. Feinstein. She acknowledged the security issues Mr. Abbott spoke of and thanked Mayor Kelly for routinely coming to the library to check on any issues. Ms. McFadden also thanked the Police Department for patrolling the area and responding when needed. She finished by informing all of upcoming programs at the library for Black American History Month. Mayor Kelly asked when the most crucial times security is needed at the library, Ms. McFadden responded evenings and daily 10am-noon.

Mr. Tom Martin congratulated Dr. Feinstein. He spoke of the Landfill Closure and funding thereof. Mr. Martin voiced his concerns with the Vacant and Abandoned Property ordinance regarding the wording of vacant vs. abandoned properties, registration fees, and the NJ tax sale laws. Lastly Mr. Martin questioned the council meeting schedule being amended for the summer months, and his concerns about a line item on the bill list referring to bankruptcies.

Ms. Corleda Torres spoke of a property across the street from her home that has a partially burned home on it with people “squatting” in there. She would like to know what the city is going to do about it.

With no one else desiring to be heard, it was moved by Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple and second by Councilwoman DeQuinzio that the public portion be closed, which motion was carried.

President Edwards closed the public portion of the meeting.

President Edwards announced all matters listed under the consent agenda J-1 through J-13 with J-14 added during the work session will be enacted upon by one motion unless a council member desires to discuss an item, in that case the items will be removed from the consent agenda and acted upon separately.

RESOLUTION NO. 36-18 amending Resolution No. 01-18 setting forth the dates, time, and place of the meetings of the City Council for the year 2018.

RESOLUTION NO. 37-18 imposing liens on various properties for abatement of property maintenance violations for the month of December 201

RESOLUTION NO. 38-18 appointing Margaret DeMarco to the Bridgeton Zoning Board of Adjustment

RESOLUTION NO. 39-18 canceling unexpended balance of improvement authorization for the preparation and execution of a complete revaluation of real property

RESOLUTION NO. 40-18 authorizing the closing of certain streets for the Bridgeton Public Schools Parade of Champions

RESOLUTION NO. 41-18 establishing 2018 Temporary Capital Budget for the city

RESOLUTION NO. 42-18 stating funding for the City of Bridgeton landfill closure

RESOLUTION NO. 43-18 stating the City of Bridgeton will appropriate funding the annual landfill post closure expenses

RESOLUTION NO. 44-18 authorizing the city to advertise for fire department uniforms

RESOLUTION NO. 45-18 authorizing the city to advertise for Collection of Municipal Court Debt Services

RESOLUTION NO. 46-18 authorizing the city to award a contract to Ricky Slade Construction Inc. for road repairs to Water Street Project

RESOLUTION NO. 47-18 granting senior citizen tax exemptions

RESOLUTION NO. 48-18 authorizing the award of a Non-Fair and Open contract for Engineering Design Associates

RESOLUTION NO. 49-18 authorizing the sale of certain property owned by the city known as 40 Preston Street

It was moved by Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple and second by Councilwoman DeQuinzio that said Resolutions be adopted. The roll call vote was as follows: DeQuinzio – Y, Feinstein – Abstain, Lugardo-Hemple – Y, Edwards – Y. The original resolutions may be found in the Resolution Book.

President Edwards asked Council for a motion to approve the Schedule of Bills of February 6, 2018 in the amount of \$4,208,960.47.

It was moved by Councilwoman DeQuinzio and second by Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple that the Schedule of Bills be approved as read and warrants be drawn on their various accounts and appropriations, which motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote. The original schedules may be found in the Clerk's Files under "S" Schedule of Bills.

President Edwards announced there were no applications.

President Edwards announced five reports.

1. Water & Sewer December 2017
2. Vital Statistics December 2017
3. Treasurers Report December 2017
4. Fourth Quarter Budget Report 2017
5. Zoning Board Yearly Report 2017

It was moved by Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple and second by Councilman Feinstein that said applications be received and filed which motion was carried unanimously.

President Edwards called upon Mayor Kelly for his comments. The Mayor spoke previously in the meeting.

President Edwards called upon Council for comments.

Councilwoman DeQuinzio – thanked Mr. Abbott for being an advocate of the library, thanked Friends of the Library for attending, and stated Ms. Linda McFadden is doing a great job. Councilwoman DeQuinzio said council will take into consideration Mr. Martins concerns, and someone will address Ms. Torres concerns about the property across from her home.

Councilman Feinstein – said this will be a learning process for him. He stated he wore a shirt that was half red and half blue on purpose to show he has no allegiance to anyone and he will vote for the city.

Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple –welcomed Dr. Feinstein. Thanked Ms. McFadden for informing all of the library events she presented this evening, and thanked Mr. Abbott for always looking out for the library. She addressed Mr. Martin stating the Vacant and Abandoned Property ordinance is a process and will be looked into. Lastly she addressed Ms. Torres, stating the Business Administrator will be contacted to look into her concerns.

President Edwards – welcomed Dr. Feinstein. Thanked Mr. Martin for his questions, acknowledged Mr. Abbotts concerns for safety at the library, stating he is in favor of panic buttons. President Edwards addresses Ms. Torres concerns for the property across from her.

There being no further business to come before Council, it was moved by Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple and second by Councilman Feinstein to adjourn the meeting which motion was carried.

President Edwards adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED

Kathleen L. Keen, RMC
Municipal Clerk

J. Curtis Edwards
Council President

Date Approved: March 6, 2018