

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 18, 2018**

A meeting of the Bridgeton City Council was held on Tuesday, September 18, 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 a public advertisement to the South Jersey Times and the Daily Journal on February 7th, 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 Mayor Kelly

The following answered to roll call:
Councilman Edward Bethea
Councilwoman Rosemary DeQuinzio
Councilman Samuel Feinstein

Absent - Councilman Michael Zapolski, Sr.

Council President Edwards

Also in attendance:
Mayor Albert Kelly
Administrator Dr. Stephanie Bush-Baskette
Solicitor Rebecca J. Bertram
Municipal Clerk Kathleen L. Keen

President Edwards presented the Work Session, Council Meeting, and Executive Session Minutes of August 21, 2018. It was moved by Councilman Bethea and seconded by Councilman Feinstein that said minutes be approved with the changes made and to dispense with the reading of said minutes as all members have received copies. The motion carried unanimously.

President Edwards announced two ordinances for first reading:

**BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING BOND ORDINANCE NUMBERED 9-12 OF THE
CITY OF BRIDGETON, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, NEW JERSEY,
FINALLY ADOPTED APRIL 6, 2010, IN ORDER TO AMEND THE DESCRIPTION OF
THE PROJECT TO INCLUDE THE RENOVATION OF THE PUBLIC WORKS
BUILDING AT FLORIDA AVENUE**

It was moved by Councilwoman DeQuinzio and second by Councilman Bethea the ordinance be introduced for first reading and that second reading, public hearing and final consideration be held on October 2, 2018.

The Clerk called the roll as follows:

	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Councilman Bethea	X			
Councilwoman DeQuinzio	X			
Councilman Feinstein	X			
Councilman Zapolski				X
President Edwards	X			

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 300-8(B) and 300-37 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF BRIDGETON

It was moved by Councilman Feinstein and second by Councilman Bethea the ordinance be introduced for first reading and that second reading, public hearing and final consideration be held on October 2, 2018.

The Clerk called the roll as follows:

	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Councilman Bethea	X			
Councilwoman DeQuinzio	X			
Councilman Feinstein	X			
Councilman Zapolski				X
President Edwards	X			

President Edwards announced two ordinances for second reading:

ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE SECTION 40-12(A) TABLE OF ORGANIZATION OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

It was moved by Councilman Feinstein and second by Councilwoman DeQuinzio this be considered the second reading of said ordinance and the meeting be opened to the public for a hearing on the matter which motion was carried.

President Edwards opened the meeting to the public for any one desiring to be heard on this ordinance and this ordinance only.

No one desiring to be heard, it was moved by Councilman Feinstein and second by Councilwoman DeQuinzio the public hearing be closed which motion was carried.

It was moved by Councilman Feinstein and second by Councilwoman DeQuinzio this be considered the final reading of said ordinance and that it be taken up for adoption or rejection by roll call vote.

The Clerk called the roll as follows:

	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Councilman Bethea	X			
Councilwoman DeQuinzio	X			
Councilman Feinstein	X			
Councilman Zapolski				X
President Edwards	X			

President Edwards declared the ordinance adopted becoming **ORDINANCE NO. 18-19** the original ordinance may be found in the Ordinance Book.

**ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 265-8 PROPERTY
MAINTENANCE CODE**

It was moved by Councilman Bethea and second by Councilman Feinstein this be considered the second reading of said ordinance and the meeting be opened to the public for a hearing on the matter which motion was carried.

President Edwards opened the meeting to the public for any one desiring to be heard on this ordinance and this ordinance only.

No one desiring to be heard, it was moved by Councilman Bethea and second by Councilman Feinstein the public hearing be closed which motion was carried.

It was moved by Councilman Bethea and second by Councilman Feinstein this be considered the final reading of said ordinance and that it be taken up for adoption or rejection by roll call vote.

The Clerk called the roll as follows:

	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Councilman Bethea	X			
Councilwoman DeQuinzio	X			
Councilman Feinstein	X			
Councilman Zapolski				X
President Edwards	X			

President Edwards declared the ordinance adopted becoming **ORDINANCE NO. 18-20** the original ordinance may be found in the Ordinance Book.

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 Councilman Bethea 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.

Mrs. Dolores Batten, informed council of 4-Wheel ATV's being rode on the streets and through the neighborhoods, she said cameras should be placed in the city to catch them. Mrs. Batten stated she is a concerned citizen and feels properties with high grass and rags in the windows make the city look dirty, and the citizens should be picking up their own trash. Lastly Mrs. Batten offered her opinion of marijuana in the city, stating she is "ok" with medical marijuana but not recreational.

Mr. Robert Thompson, said he applauds the city for trying to do something with the empty houses in town. He voiced his concerns regarding the city Vacant and Abandoned property ordinance, noting the cost to the homeowner is not fair, especially if the owner is actively trying to sell the property. Mr. Thompson then spoke of owning commercial properties and questioned if all owners are being fined if their property is vacant. Lastly he mentioned a property in the city that he feels cannot be rented due to the neighboring properties.

Mr. Tom Martin, echoed Mr. Thompson's comments regarding vacant properties in the city, he also feels the vacant and abandoned property officer is not writing correct citations. Lastly he spoke of the Port Authority and invited the Mayor and Council to attend a court hearing next week.

Mr. Edward Rivera, said he agrees with previous comments from Mr. Clare Miller regarding trash in alleys. He urged council to work on a solution or possibly a moratorium on the trash stickers.

With no one else desiring to be heard, it was moved by Councilman Bethea and second by Councilman Feinstein 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-12 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. 219-18 authorizing utility account adjustments and taxes

RESOLUTION NO. 220-18 authorizing deduction add backs

RESOLUTION NO. 221-18 authorizing shared services agreement between City of Bridgeton and Township of Hopewell

RESOLUTION NO. 222-18 approval to submit a grant application and execute a grant contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Spruce Street Reconstruction

RESOLUTION NO. 223-18 approval to submit a grant application and execute a grant contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the South Pine Street and Martin Luther King Way Reconstruction

RESOLUTION NO. 224-18 authorizing an accelerated tax sale pursuant to NJSA 54:5-19 and Chapter 99 P.L. 1997 and electronic tax sale pursuant to NJAC 5:33-1.1

RESOLUTION NO. 225-18 authorizing execution of a discharge of mortgage for Christian School Association of Bridgeton

RESOLUTION NO. 226-18 granting senior citizen tax exemptions

RESOLUTION NO. 227-18 authorizing the City of Bridgeton to award a contract to Settembrino Architects for architectural renovations to City Hall Annex

RESOLUTION NO. 228-18 authorizing contracts with certain approved state contract vendors for contracting units pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12, county co-op vendors approved by the County of Cumberland for use by municipalities pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5;34-7.29, and national co-op vendors approved by the state for use by municipalities pursuant to P.L. 2011, c.139

RESOLUTION NO. 229-18 authorizing an emergency contract Change Order No. 1 for the emergency tree removal and sidewalk repair along South Laurel St. to Ricky Slade, Inc.

RESOLUTION NO. 230-18 authorizing Change Order No. 1 for the reconstruction of Mayor Aitken Drive (Project No. 27559.04) to add alternate work.

It was moved by Councilman Bethea and second by Councilman Feinstein that said Resolutions be adopted which motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote. The original resolutions may be found in the Resolution Book.

President Edwards asked Council for a motion to approve the Schedule of Bills dated September 4, 2018 in the amount of \$191,714.08 and September 18, 2018 in the amount of \$234,615.11.

It was moved by Councilwoman DeQuinzio and second by Councilman Bethea 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 for approval.

President Edwards announced five (5) reports for approval.

1. Water & Sewer Report July 2018
2. Cash Receipts Report August 2018
3. Municipal Clerk Report August 2018
4. Zoning Applications Report August 1-September 7, 2018
5. Treasurers Report August 2018

It was moved by Councilman Feinstein and second by Councilwoman DeQuinzio that said reports be received and filed which motion carried unanimously.

President Edwards called upon Mayor Kelly for his comments.

Mayor Kelly –None at this time.

President Edwards called upon Council for comments.

Councilwoman DeQuinzio – said news from the Mayor regarding the \$100,000 grant for food innovations is great. Councilwoman DeQuinzio said there are a lot of good things happening within the city and with that there are also negatives, please be patient as the city works through them.

Councilman Feinstein – said there was a negative comment assuming council is “going to do it anyhow” he stated no one knows what council is thinking or what will be decided, and please don’t make assumptions about councils’ stance on any issue.

Councilman Bethea – said he was privileged to participate in a community meeting on the South Side last week; one of the issues discussed was the city being dark. He asked all residents to identify any streetlights in their neighborhood that are not working, and share the pole numbers information with the Administration. Councilman Bethea then stated he is very concerned about trash, he has seen evidence of illegal dumping and would like to see the issue of trash throughout the city actively and aggressively addressed.

President Edwards – said trash is a concern and the yellow stickers are being looked into closely. He said the recent Crabfest was a great event, and he addressed Mrs. Batten’s concerns regarding the need for more cameras in the city. President Edwards stated cameras in the city have helped to solve crimes, and of course more would be great. He said talk of medical marijuana is happening throughout the town, and agreed with Councilman Feinstein’s comment to not assume what council will do or how they will vote. Lastly, President Edwards thanked Mayor Kelly for keeping everyone updated on events happening throughout the city, and informed Chief Gaimari that Complete Care has computers to donate to the Police Department for the mobile substation.

Mayor Kelly stated not only was the Crabfest last weekend, but Mexican Independence Day was celebrated on Sunday at the Riverfront also. He noted permits were applied for and issued for both events.

President Edwards reminded everyone Council will resume the two meeting per month schedule beginning in October. He said Council would like to look into money for iPads for council meetings to go “paperless” to help save some trees. President Edwards also said the format of the council meetings will change in the next couple of months, eliminating the work session and having one single session meeting.

There being no further business to come before Council, it was moved by Councilman Bethea 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: October 2, 2018