

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 20, 2016**

A meeting of the Bridgeton City Council was held on Tuesday, September 20, 2016 6:30 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 President Curtis Edwards.

The Statement of Meeting Notice was read by Deputy Municipal Clerk, Kathleen L. Keen, "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 September 14, 2016, at 4:30 pm
2. By mailing such notice to The Daily Journal, South Jersey Times and The Press of Atlantic City on September 14, 2016, at 4:30 p.m.

Invocation and flag salute was led by Councilman Spence

The following answered to roll call:

Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple
Councilman Spence
Councilman Surrency
Councilman Zapolski
Council President Edwards

Council President Edwards presented the City Council Meeting Minutes of September 6, 2016, Work Session of September 6, 2016, Executive Session of September 6, 2016, and Work Session of August 16, 2016.

It was moved by Mr. Zapolski and seconded by Mrs. Lugardo-Hemple that said minutes be approved and to dispense with the reading of said minutes as all members have received copies which motion was carried.

President Edwards announced one Ordinance for first reading.

The Deputy Clerk read the Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE AMENDING MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 149-35

It was moved by Mr. Zapolski and second by Mr. Spence that this ordinance be adopted on first reading and that second reading, public hearing and final consideration be held on October 4, 2016 which motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote.

President Edwards announced one Ordinance for second reading.

The Deputy Clerk announced this being the time and place set forth for second reading, public hearing and final consideration of an ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING TAX EXEMPTION AGREEMENT REGARDING BLOCK 96, LOT 11.

It was moved by Mr. Spence and second by Mr. Zapolski 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 a hearing on this ordinance and this ordinance only.

No one desiring to be heard, it was moved by Mr. Spence and second by Mr. Zapolski that the public portion be closed which motion was carried.

President Edwards closed the public portion.

It was moved by Mr. Spence and second by Mr. Zapolski that this be considered the third and final reading of said ordinance and that it be taken up for adoption or rejection by roll call vote which motion was carried.

The Deputy Clerk called the roll as follows:

| | YEAS | NAYS | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|---------------------|------|------|---------|--------|
| Mrs. Lugardo-Hemple | X | | | |
| Mr. Spence | X | | | |
| Mr. Surrency | X | | | |
| Mr. Zapolski | X | | | |
| President Edwards | X | | | |

President Edwards announced the ordinance adopted becoming ORDINANCE NO. 16-16, 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 Mrs. Lugardo-Hemple and seconded by Mr. Surrency 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 recently visited an establishment downtown and was impressed with how immaculate it was, noting the amount of cars and people out walking also; she would like to see more businesses in the downtown area, namely clothing stores. She spoke of lifestyle changes and leadership in the city.

Reverend Russell Alston founder of Salvations Grace Program explained the program has been running for 8 years, has helped over 581 people get into a rehabilitation center, provides beds, detox, and transportation. He discussed receiving a building to help those in need, but was also left with a 35,000 tax lien on the building. He asks Council to consider dismissing it.

The following then addressed Council on behalf of Salvations Grace and Word of Grace Church. Mr. Aaron Gingham, Mr. Gary Fair, Ms. Tameka Conaway, and Ms. Gwen Thomas.

Mayor Kelly publicly thanked Reverend Alston for what he is doing, saying the City is grateful and thankful for Reverend Alston and his church. Mr. Spence addressed those in attendance, he feels there needs to be further discussion by Council regarding the tax lien on the property.

No one else desiring to be heard, it was moved by Mrs. Lugardo-Hemple and second by Mr. Surrency, 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-11, J-10 and J-11 added during the work session, with the exception of J-5 and J-6 removed from the agenda, 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 221-16, authorizing abatement of property maintenance violations.

RESOLUTION NO 222-16, authorizing a place-to-place transfer Alcoholic Beverage Club License.

RESOLUTION NO 223-16, adding approved State Contractor Vendor to Resolution 09-16.

RESOLUTION NO 224-16, authorizing Cumberland County Cooperative Contract for electrical services.

RESOLUTION NO 225-16, authorizing Cumberland County Cooperative Contract for roadside tire services.

RESOLUTION NO 226-16, Tax Office senior citizen deduction add backs account adjusted.

RESOLUTION NO 227-16, approving Library Conceptual Plan.

RESOLUTION NO 228-16, supporting the school funding reform plan: equal educational opportunity and fair funding for New Jersey Schools

RESOLUTION NO 229-16, authorizing release of engineering inspection escrow to NJ Ethanol

It was moved by Mrs. Lugardo-Hemple and second by Mr. Zapolski 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 of September 20, 2016 in the amount of \$278,780.62.

It was moved by Mrs. Lugardo-Hemple and second by Mr. Spence that the Schedule of Bills be approved 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 the following reports.

1. Treasurer (August)
2. Tax Collector (August)
3. City Clerk (August)
4. Zoning (July-August) Added during Work Session
5. Police Department (July-August) Added during Work Session

It was moved by Mr. Zapolski and second by Mrs. Lugardo-Hemple that said reports be received and filed which motion was carried.

President Edwards called upon the Council for comments.

Councilman Surrency said a new men's clothing store opened a few months ago downtown. He then addressed Mr. Spence thanking him for sharing his story this evening.

Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple noted Council is working hard for the City, to help bring businesses downtown. She said she appreciates Mr. Spence for being so candid, and feels Council needs to revisit the tax lien discussion also.

Councilman Spence stated anyone wondering what an AA meeting is like, just heard one. He said tonight was very heart wrenching and uplifting listening to those tell their stories.

Mr. Zapolski said he would like to honor his wife publicly for her respect, caring, and faithfulness throughout the years, as this weekend they will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

President Edwards commented on the discussion of addiction this evening, he then elaborated on the building Reverend Alston and the church received; noting Council will revisit the discussion of the tax lien on the property.

President Edwards called upon the Mayor for comments. The Mayor had no comments.

There being no further business to come before Council, it was moved by Mr. Spence and second by Mr. Zapolski to adjourn the meeting which motion was carried.

President Edwards adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED

Kathleen L. Keen, RMC
Deputy Municipal Clerk

J. Curtis Edwards
Council President

Date: _____