

BRIDGETON CITY COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

June 7, 2022

A meeting of the Bridgeton City Council was held on Tuesday, June 7, 2022 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 Bethea.

The Statement of Meeting Notice was read by Deputy Clerk, Miriam Garcia;

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 to the South Jersey Times, The Daily Journal on January 8, 2022 and on the City Website setting forth the date, time and place of this meeting of the Bridgeton City Council.

Invocation and Flag Salute was led by Mayor Kelly.

The following answered to roll call:

Councilwoman Rosemary DeQuinzio
Councilman J. Curtis Edwards
Councilman David Gonzalez
Councilwoman Marian King
Council President Edward Bethea

Also in attendance:

Mayor Albert Kelly
Solicitor Michele Gibson

Administrator Kevin Rabago
Deputy Clerk Miriam Garcia

PRESENTATIONS:

Solicitor-read meeting minutes from March 1, 2022 under presentation Rulyn's Garage-2022 Towing Denial appeal.

Solicitor-stated if the towing application is approved tonight the recommendation will be that the approval be subject to the Applicant obtaining a favorable advisory opinion from the Local Finance Board, the State Ethics Commission or other appropriate Board since the City of Bridgeton does not have a local ethics board

Robert Casella, Esquire representing Rulyn's garage stated that he was present at the March hearing on the information for the towing of Rulyn's Garage. Mr. Casella stated that Rudy Dana is prepare to give testimony concerning the employees who are also city employees.

Robert Casella-stated that Rulyn's Garage is seeking to be put on the rotation list to provide service through the police department and is asking the city to waive the 2 mile requirement.

Rudy Danna-was sworn in by the City Solicitor, Michele Gibson.

Rudy Danna- Mr. Danna testify that he, along with two other employees work for Rulyn's Garage and are also employed by the City's Fire Department. He also testify that his parents owns the business, that he does not have an ownership interest in the business, but that he does get paid by the business. He continued because of the locations of the employees' residences that they would be able to meet the 10 minute response time requirement; and that the Applicant would be able to reach the City limits from the Applicant's storage facility within the 10 minute response time requirement.

Councilwoman King-questioned Mr. Danna on what are the limitation mile for Vineland and Millville.

Rudy Danna- responded that there was no mile radius with the City of Millville and Vineland. Mr. Danna stated there is a 15 minutes response time.

Council President Bethea-stated that we will need motion on waiving two mile requirement of the Ordinance.

It was moved by Councilman Edwards and seconded by Councilman Gonzalez waiving the two mile requirement subject to the Applicants obtaining a favorable advisory opinion from the appropriate ethics board.

The Clerk called the roll as follows:

COUNCIL	YEA	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilwoman DeQuinzio	X			
Councilman Edwards	X			
Councilman Gonzalez	X			
Councilwoman King	X			
Council President Bethea	X			

Council President Bethea stated that we will need motion on reconsidering the vote. It was moved by Councilman Edwards and seconded by Councilwoman King.

The Clerk called the roll as follows:

COUNCIL	YEA	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilwoman DeQuinzio	X			
Councilman Edwards	X			
Councilman Gonzalez	X			
Councilwoman King	X			
Council President Bethea	X			

Solicitor stated that the motion is to grant a waiver of the requirement under section 334-9 H OF City code.

Council President Bethea-stated we will need a motion to waive the two mile requirement of the ordinance.

It was moved by Councilman Gonzalez and seconded by Councilman King waiving the two mile requirement of the City Code.

The Clerk called the roll as follows:

COUNCIL	YEA	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilwoman DeQuinzio	X			
Councilman Edwards		X		
Councilman Gonzalez		X		
Councilwoman King		X		
Council President Bethea		X		

MINUTES:

Council President Bethea presented the City Council Meeting Minutes of May 17, 2022 and. It was moved by Councilman Gonzalez and seconded by Councilman Edwards that said minutes be approved and to dispense with the reading of said minutes as all members have received copies. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS:

Council President Bethea requested Council/Committee Liaison Reports:

Councilwoman DeQuinzio – None at this time.

Councilman Edwards – None at this time.

Councilman Gonzalez- None at this time.

Councilwoman King – Stated that they are currently working with the Housing Authority to bring and view better quality of life in the area.

Council President Bethea – stated that they received a resignation today from the housing authority.

Council President-called upon Markida Taylor to come forward and introduce herself

Markida Taylor-stated she is a Regional Property Manager for total corporate resources and that she is a long life resident of Bridgeton. Ms. Taylor also stated that she chose to be on the Housing authority so that we can make the residents feel that they are not forgotten.

Council President-stated they asked the residents to get involved and he expects to see change. He also stated that we have people on the commissioner board who care.

Council President-stated that he had the pleasure of meeting two gentleman today with some ideas about economic development.

Council President Bethea referred to the Mayor, Business Administrator and Solicitor for their reports.

Mayor Kelly -stated that the RFP for South Ave repair went out today and hopefully we will have a response within thirty days.

Mayor Kelly-stated that he had the opportunity to meet Alan and David about working together in visiting fields on the parking lot. He also stated that the Sunset Lake is being utilized and that it will be open seven days a week this summer

Business Administrator, Kevin Rabago – None at this time.

City Solicitor, Michele Gibson – stated that Council needs to adopt Memorializing resolution at the next meeting for Rulyn’s garage.

ORDINANCES ON 1ST READING:

Council President Bethea announced there was one (1) Ordinance for First Reading. The Deputy Municipal Clerk read the Ordinances.

ORDINANCE RE-APPROPRIATING \$50,000 PROCEEDS OF OBLIGATIONS NOT NEEDED FOR RENOVATIONS TO THE CITY HALL ANNEX BUILDING IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE PHONE SYSTEM IN CITY HALL AND OTHER LOCATIONS IN AND BY THE CITY OF BRIDGETON, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, NEW JERSEY.

It was moved by Councilwoman DeQuinzio and seconded by Councilwoman King that the Ordinance be introduced on first reading and that the second reading, public hearing and final consideration be held on June 21, 2022.

The Clerk called the roll as follows:

COUNCIL	YEA	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilwoman DeQuinzio	X			
Councilman Edwards	X			
Councilman Gonzalez	x			
Councilwoman King	X			
Council President Bethea	X			

ORDINANCES ON 2ND READING:

Council President Bethea announced there were two (2) Ordinances for Second Reading. He asked the Deputy Clerk to read the Ordinance.

**ORDINANCE 22-15
ORDINANCE DECLARING AN ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE OR DIRT BIKE**

OPERATED ON A PUBLIC STREET, HIGHWAY OR RIGHT OF WAY IN VIOLATION OF N.J.S.A. 39:3C-17 AN IMMEDIATE THREAT TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY OR WELFARE AND DESIGNATING SUCH VEHICLES AS CONTRABAND SUBJECT TO FORFEITURE

It was moved by Councilman Edwards and second by Councilman Gonzalez 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 unanimously.

Council President Bethea 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 Gonzalez and second by Councilman Edwards the public hearing be closed which motion was carried.

It was then moved by Councilwoman King and second by Councilman Gonzalez 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:

COUNCIL	YEA	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilwoman DeQuinzio	X			
Councilman Edwards	X			
Councilman Gonzalez	X			
Councilwoman King	X			
Council President Bethea	X			

ORDINANCE 22-16

ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE SALE AND DISPENSING OF GASOLINE OR OTHER TYPE OF FUEL INTO THE FUEL TANK OF AN ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE OR DIRT BIKE WHICH IS IN VIOLATION OF N.J.S.A. 39:3C-17 AND DRIVEN TO SUCH FUELING STATION UNDER ITS OWN POWER

It was moved by Councilman Edwards and second by Councilman Gonzalez 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 unanimously.

Council President Bethea 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 Councilwoman King and second by Councilwoman Dequinzio the public hearing be closed which motion was carried.

It was then moved by Councilman Gonzalez and second by Councilwoman King 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:

COUNCIL	YEA	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilwoman DeQuinzio	X			
Councilman Edwards	X			
Councilman Gonzalez	X			
Councilwoman King	X			
Council President Bethea	X			

PUBLIC PORTION:

Council President Bethea opened the meeting to the public for anyone desiring to be heard. It was moved by Councilman Gonzalez motioned and seconded by Councilman Edwards the public portion be opened.

Carl Seabrook of Baltimore Avenue stated he has been a Bridgeton resident for eighty six years. He also stated Baltimore Avenue alongside of the road is cracked and also that on south avenue bushes are starting to grow on the side of the road and that it needs to be taken care of.

Alan Trzuskoski of Edison, New Jersey stated they are planning to see what they can do collectible to help make a better program for the midget football league as it is very important to the city. He also stated that Damion is interested potentially opening a cannabis business here in the city.

Damion Cheeks- stated that he grew up the city of Bridgeton and remembers his mom sitting in a lounge chair watching him play basketball and would like the city to get back to where it was before.

Esau Martin- stated Angie's is still there and trees are still growing. He also stated that he comes to every single meeting and it is permanent in his schedule to attend meeting because he likes the creative change and he likes to be a part of it.

Kyle, 591 Irving Avenue- stated that it is a good idea to keep the towing ordinance at two miles. He stated there are a lot of things in these ordinances on the requirements section on what you are required to have to even be considered.

Troy Burger, Owner of quick towing, stated he has been towing for the city of bridgeton for over twenty years. He stated how we can bring other company into the city that are outside the two miles barrier to accommodate our police department. He also stated that the city made a good decision on the two mile barrier.

Police Chief Gaimari-stated that there are concerns opening it up to outside two miles. He also stated that they tow a lot of vehicles in reference to activities that they need to respond to. He also stated that they have been operating with the towing company very successfully and that they have a very good relationship.

With no one else desiring to be heard, it was moved by Councilman Edwards and seconded by Councilwoman King the public portion be closed, which motion was carried. Council President Bethea closed the public portion of the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Council President Bethea announced all matters listed under the consent agenda; **M-1** through **M-24** will be enacted upon by one motion unless a council member desires to discuss an item, in which case the items will be removed from the consent agenda and acted upon separately.

Council President Bethea called upon the Deputy Clerk to read the Resolutions M-1 through M-7 and M-9 through M-24 and indicated that M-8 will be pulled from the Consent Agenda and M-25 will be voted on separately.

- 1 **RESOLUTION**, of the City Council of the City of Bridgeton authorizing the City of Bridgeton to execute an Agreement with Bethany Grace Church to provide parking for City Employees on Block 86 Lots 12 and 25.
- 2 **RESOLUTION**, of the City Council of the City of Bridgeton authorizing the City of Bridgeton to enter into Shared Services Agreement with the Bridgeton Board of Education for School Crossing Guards.
- 3 **RESOLUTION**, of the City Council of the City of Bridgeton authorizing the City of Bridgeton to enter into Shared Services Agreement with the Bridgeton Board of Education for Recreational and Athletic Facilities and Activities in Bridgeton City Park.
- 4 **RESOLUTION**, authorizing the City of Bridgeton to award a contract to Genserv, LLC for Generator Preventative Maintenance and Repair for one (1) year, with two (2) – one (1) year optional renewals from June 17, 2022 – June 16, 2025.
- 5 **RESOLUTION**, 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.
- 6 **RESOLUTION**, of the City Council of the City of Bridgeton in support of increased Federal investments for affordable housing opportunities in New Jersey.
- 7 **RESOLUTION**, of the City Council of the City of Bridgeton reappointing a Tax Assessor for the City of Bridgeton.
- 8 **RESOLUTION**, authorizing the City to advertise for Emergency Repair Services for the City's Water and Sewer Systems/Streets.
- 9 **RESOLUTION**, of the City Council of the City of Bridgeton dissolving the Abandoned and Vacant Property Code Enforcement Trust Account established March 6, 2018.
- 10 **RESOLUTION**, of the City Council of the City of Bridgeton granting Senior Citizen Tax Exemption (419 Irving Avenue).
- 11 **RESOLUTION**, of the City Council of the City of Bridgeton appointing a Chief Financial Officer for the City of Bridgeton.
- 12 **RESOLUTION**, authorizing the City of Bridgeton to award a Non-Fair and Open Contract to A.C. Shultes, Inc. for Water Wells and Pumps Maintenance and Repair from June 7, 2022- March 31, 2023.

- 13 RESOLUTION**, authorizing the City of Bridgeton to award a Contract to Rio Supply, Inc. for furnishing Water Meters and Handheld Data Collection Devices for two (2) years, July 2022 – July 2024, in the amount not to exceed \$439,521.00.
- 14 RESOLUTION**, of the City Council of the City of Bridgeton restating and adding Roth provision for existing deferred compensation plan – 20-PD-EQUITABLE-091720.
- 15 RESOLUTION**, authorizing the City of Bridgeton to award a Contract to George S. Coyne Chemical Co., Inc. and Miracle Chemical Company for Water Treatment Chemicals to the City of Bridgeton Water Department form August 22, 2022 – August 21, 2024.
- 16 RESOLUTION**, of the City Council of the City of Bridgeton authorizing certain utility account adjustments and taxes.
- 17 RESOLUTION**, of the City Council of the City of Bridgeton dissolving City of Bridgeton bank accounts that are no longer active.
- 18 RESOLUTION**, requesting approval for the insertion of a Special Item of Revenue funded through the Interlocal Agreement for the reimbursement of Crossing Guards with the Bridgeton Board of Education.
- 19 RESOLUTION**, requesting approval for the insertion of Special Item of Revenue funded through the Interlocal Agreement with the Bridgeton Board of Education providing funds to offset the costs and expenses related to the Recreation and Athletic Facilities in the Bridgeton City Park.
- 20 RESOLUTION**, authorizing the City of Bridgeton Water and Sewer Department to purchase Water and Sewer Repair Parts form the Kennedy Company in the amount not to exceed \$28,290.65.
- 21 RESOLUTION**, authorizing the City of Bridgeton Water and Sewer Department to purchase Fire Hydrants form Caterina Supply Inc., in the amount not to exceed \$28,950.00.
- 22 RESOLUTION**, of the City Council of the City of Bridgeton urging Cumberland County Commissioners to invest in and renovate the existing County Jail.
- 23 RESOLUTION**, of the City Council of the City of Bridgeton amending the 2022 Capital Budget of the City of Bridgeton for the replacement of the Phone Systems at City Hall and Other City Locations.
- 24 RESOLUTION**, of the City Council of the City of Bridgeton approving extension of Lease Agreement with Tri-County Community Action Agency, Inc. t/a Tri-County Community Action Partnership n/k/a Gateway Community Action Partnership regarding Block 142, Lot 11, on the Tax Map of the City of Bridgeton, also known as 155 Spruce Street.

Council President Bethea asked for a motion to accept the resolutions under the consent agenda.

It was moved by Councilman Edwards and second by Councilwoman King that Resolutions M-1 through M-7 and M-9 through M-24 be adopted which motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. The original resolutions may be found in the Resolution Book.

The Clerk called the roll as follows:

COUNCIL	YEA	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilwoman DeQuinzio	X			

Councilman Edwards	X			
Councilman Gonzalez	X			
Councilwoman King	X			
Council President Bethea	X			

Councilman Edwards made a motion to adopt **RESOLUTION M-24** being **RESOLUTION NO. 135-22**, of the City Council of the City of Bridgeton approving extension of Lease Agreement with Tri-County Community Action Agency, Inc. t/a Tri-County Community Action Partnership n/k/a Gateway Community Action Partnership regarding Block 142, Lot 11, on the Tax Map of the City of Bridgeton, also known as 155 Spruce Street.

It was moved by Councilman Edwards and second by Councilman Gonzalez that resolution M-24 be adopted which motion carried unanimous roll call vote. The original resolutions may be found in the Resolution book

The Clerk called the roll as follows:

COUNCIL	YEA	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilwoman DeQuinzio	X			
Councilman Edwards	X			
Councilman Gonzalez	X			
Councilwoman King	X			
Council President Bethea			X	

SCHEDULE OF BILLS:

Council President Bethea asked Council for a motion to approve the Schedule of Bills dated June 7, 2022 in the amount of \$800,656.85. It was moved by Councilwoman King and seconded by Councilman Gonzalez 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 schedule may be found in the minute books.

APPLICATIONS:

Council President Bethea announced there was one (1) application for approval being:

1. Block Off Street Application – Tiffanie C. Thrbak – Pre-Juneteenth Community Celebration – June 17, 2022 from 4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. – Burt Street (Richie Kates Way)

It was moved by Councilman Gonzalez and seconded by Councilwoman King that said application be approved and filed, which motion carried with unanimously.

REPORTS:

Council Presidents Bethea announced there were no reports

Council President Bethea called upon Mayor Kelly for comments:

Mayor Kelly – None at this time

Council President Bethea called upon Council for comments:

Councilwoman DeQuinzio- thanked Alan for taking interest and stepping up and helping with the midget football league

Councilwoman King- thanked Mr. Martin, Crystal and Mr. Cheeks and that it warms her heart to see Mr. Cheeks in the space that he is in and that he will be successful in everything that he does. She also thanked all of the co- workers in making the city work and that she knows it is not easy.

Councilman Gonzalez-thanked all the participants because it shows that they care. He also thanked the public works department for keeping the park in order to attract the people to use the park, lake and basketball court safe and clean.

Councilman Edwards-stated he had a meeting with Councilwoman Dequinzio and Dean in regards to the housing complex and that there is a lot of things there looking to change as far as private property.

Council President Bethea-thanked the public for taking the time to come out to hold City Council accountable. He stated that life is challenging and sometimes we have to deal with things as they come and how sometimes we have to be above it.

Council President Bethea- thanked all the 1st responders on doing do a terrific job and how they stand into that prey when no one else wants to. He also thanked – Police Department, Fire Department, EMS, Public Works and all Civil Servants for their outstanding jobs.


ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before Council, it was moved by Councilwoman Dequinzio and seconded by Councilman Edwards to adjourn the meeting which motion carried unanimously.

Council President Bethea adjourned the meeting which ended at 7:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED



Miriam Garcia, Deputy Clerk



Edward Bethea, Council President

Date Approved: 6/21/2022