

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
MARCH 6, 2018
4:00pm

ATTENDANCE:

Councilwoman DeQuinzio
Councilman Feinstein
Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple
Councilman Zapolski
Council President J. Curtis Edwards

Mayor Albert Kelly
Municipal Solicitor Rebecca Bertram
Municipal Clerk Kathleen Keen

CALLED TO ORDER: Council President Edwards called the meeting to order.

STATEMENT OF MEETING NOTICE: Read by the Municipal Clerk

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.

AGENDA REVIEW:

H-2 Ordinance - Authorizing the vacation of a portion of Church Lane and associated alleyways. Councilman Zapolski asked how the sale of the property was being handled, stating he feels all issues regarding the sale of the property should be resolved before the city moves forward with vacating portions of the street. Solicitor Bertram explained the deed of sale would reference the statute allowing the sale of the property.

H-3 Ordinance - Amending Chapter 321, Taxicabs of the code of the City of Bridgeton. Councilman Zapolski asked for an update on the ordinance. Solicitor Bertram explained the three different types of licenses referred to in the ordinance, and how they were updated.

J-2 Resolution – Authorizing and approving a contract between the City of Bridgeton and the Bridgeton Supervisors Association Cumberland County Council #18. Solicitor Bertram noted the contract is listed under executive session for discussion, if there are any concerns then, the resolution to approve can be removed.

J-9 Resolution – Authorizing the City to advertise for a mobile food vending management company. Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple asked for a report regarding last year’s vendor. Mr. Kevin Rabago of Planning & Development noted there was not a report from last year as it was a “learning experience” for the city.

J-12 Resolution – Requesting permission for the dedication by rider for the vacant and abandoned property maintenance program. Councilman Zapolski asked for an explanation of where the money is being dedicated. Comptroller Lake explained state law requires 20% of the revenue from the

program will go to the rider specifically for Code Enforcement expenses, 30% will go to pay the vendor, and 50% will go to the general surplus.

REPORTS:

M-3 Tax Collectors Annual Statement of Receipts CY17. Councilman Zapolski noted the 97.85% collection rate and how it would affect the reserve for uncollected taxes this year. Comptroller Lake explained only a portion of the collection rate can be used due to the accelerated tax sale; the county and school budgets will also be a factor.

Councilman Zapolski inquired about the annual water sewer surcharge report. The report was presented to council in January, however Councilman Zapolski was not present. The Clerk will forward another copy to him.

COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS:

None at this time.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/MAYORAL REPORTS:

Mayor Kelly addressed council regarding the Bridgeton Villas Project; he noted the improvements to the exterior and spoke of the new community center, gym, and computer room, urging Council to visit. Councilwoman DeQuinzio note she had rode by recently and the exterior was “inviting”. Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple asked who would be running the gym/fitness center, and computer rooms, Mayor Kelly said many locals had been hired.

Council President Edwards asked Mayor Kelly about the recent marijuana legislation; Mayor Kelly said a discussion is needed with residents of the community, he would also like to meet with other Mayors from Cumberland County. Mayor Kelly said he recently attended a meeting that were very “anti” and another meeting that was “pro”. Both meeting were attended by retired police officers from the New Jersey state police and other states. Lastly, Mayor Kelly stated some of the shore communities have voted against it already.

OTHER BUSINESS/CONCERNS:

1. New offer city owned property - Andrews Ave. Solicitor Bertram explained a new offer for the three lots on Andrews Avenue. Councilman Zapolski said he feels the offer is still low, council all agreed the offer is too low for three properties and will not accept.
2. New offer city owned property – Vine St. Solicitor Bertram explained the new offer; a discussion ensued regarding the property. Council all agreed to accept the new offer.
3. Councilman Zapolski said a resident recently contacted him regarding a notice/warning of violation they received from Code Enforcement. He noted the date of the notice, the date the violation had to be corrected, and the actual date the notice was mailed; consequently this resulted in a violation notice with court appearance. Councilman Zapolski noted he has discussed the issue with the Administrator, as well as the need to have fixed times for corrective actions incorporated into the city ordinance. Councilman Zapolski then noted his resignation from the Planning Board and the need for a Class III Council appointment to be made.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Upon a motion by Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple and second by Councilman Zapolski:

RESOLUTION NO. 65-18 the City Council has determined that it is necessary to go into an executive session to discuss certain matters relating to the items as permitted by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b was adopted by a unanimous roll call vote. The original resolution may be found in the Resolution Book.

1. CONTRACTS – Supervisor Council 18

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further items of discussion, it was moved by Councilwoman Lugardo-Hemple and second by Councilwoman DeQuinzio the Work Session be adjourned which motion was carried.

Council President Edwards adjourned the Work Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:

Kathleen L. Keen, RMC
Municipal Clerk

J. Curtis Edwards
Council President

Date Approved: March 20, 2018