

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
OCTOBER 16, 2018
4:00pm

ATTENDANCE:

Absent Councilman Edward Bethea
Councilwoman Rosemary DeQuinzio
Councilman Samuel Feinstein

Absent - Councilman Michael Zapolski, Sr

Council President J. Curtis Edwards

Mayor Albert Kelly
Administrator Dr. Stephanie Bush-Baskette
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 Halsford Avenue. President Edwards noted in Councilman Zapolski's absence a second is needed for the ordinance, Councilman Bethea seconded it.

J-6 Resolution appointing a Fund Commissioner. President Edwards asked for an explanation. The Administrator said she represents the city at the JIF meetings.

COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS:

Councilwoman DeQuinzio said the Bridgeton Main Street Association is working on the upcoming Holiday Parade and House Tour; more information is available on their website.

Councilman Bethea said he attend the library program saluting and honoring independent authors, noting there are a lot of talented authors in the city. The turnout was robust, though there could be more as this will be an annual event.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/MAYORAL REPORTS:

The Administrator addressed Mrs. Batten's concerns from the last council meeting, stating the Indian Fields property is being handled and Code Enforcement did go to the Vickers and did not see anything.

Mayor Kelly spoke of the former Swedish Village and the possibility of a doggie park in that area. He said the city is looking into having an ice rink in the park, as he would like it to be a four season park. Mayor Kelly mentioned having cameras installed in the zoo for the public to access videos of the animals, he then said there will be an unveiling of the new panthers at the zoo on Thursday at 10am. Mayor Kelly said on October 27th the Bridgeton Christian Ministers Association is having an event in front of the City Hall Annex for national make a difference day, and on October 29th in the Municipal Court Room he will be holding a ceremony to honor and recognize veterans in the city to thank them for their service.

OTHER BUSINESS/CONCERNS:

1. Loan Forgiveness 51 Highland Avenue. Kevin Rabago, Director of Development & Planning explained the owner’s situation to council; Ms. Forte and her son also addressed council regarding their request for the loan forgiveness. Solicitor Bertram suggested council receive more information to make a more informative decision.
2. President Edwards spoke of the November 5th meeting date being the night before Election Day. He recommended cancelling the meeting and asked council if they are in agreement, all agreed. President Edwards then asked for the public to be properly noticed.
3. President Edwards announced the Reorganization Meeting will be held on January 1st at 12noon.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Upon a motion by Councilman Feinstein and second by Councilwoman DeQuinzio:

RESOLUTION NO. 241-18 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. Litigation – Fuqua v. City of Bridgeton
2. Contracts – Benevolent Association Superior Officers, Local #94A
3. Real Estate/Litigation/Contracts – 165 Atlantic Street

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Councilman Bethea 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: November 20, 2018