

**MINUTES  
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING,  
BOROUGH OF HOPATCONG,  
HELD AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 111 RIVER STYX ROAD  
HOPATCONG, NEW JERSEY  
DECEMBER 17, 2014  
OPEN PUBLIC MEETING 7:30 PM**

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**CALL TO ORDER:** Announce Quorum

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT:** Mayor Petillo stated "This meeting is held in accordance with the 1975 Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA 10:4-6 et seq., annual notice having been forwarded to the New Jersey Herald/New Jersey Sunday Herald, and posted on the bulletin board maintained in the Municipal Building for public announcements." (Mayor noted fire exits)

**ROLL CALL:** The Clerk called the roll and the following members were present: Councilman Francis, Councilwoman Galate, Councilwoman Klein, Councilman Padula, Councilman Young and Mayor Petillo.

Absent: Councilman Bunce

**MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Petillo invited all present to salute the flag and to remain standing for a moment of silence.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Mayor Petillo allowed each member of the Council, to present their respective committee reports.

Councilwoman Galate reported that the "Seniors Inc." had their Holiday Party at Pavinci's last week and that there were 100 people in attendance. A wonderful time was had by all. She also reported that today was the Holiday Party for the "Golden Lunch Bunch". There were over 60 people there and they had a great time as well.

Councilman Francis and Councilwoman Galate both reported that the Farmer's Market for next year is already being worked on and that new forms are being produced to streamline the process. Mr. Ursin stated that he will be in contact with them regarding suggestions that he has with regards to insurance and other issues.

Councilman Francis also stated that next year the Real Estate Committee will be working on putting up large parcels of municipally owned property in Northwood and Tufts Trail.

Councilman Young reported that the participants in the Holiday House Decorating Contest were judged last night but that he is not sure who the winner is. He stated that the Recreation Commission is working on planning their events for next year and considering buying equipment that would be beneficial to those events. He thanked the Firemen for once again this year driving Santa around on the fire engine. The children of Hopatcong, and the adults, love it.

Mayor Petillo stated that the Christmas Tree lighting ceremony was very well attended and that there was not even enough room in the firehouse to accommodate all of the people who came. Next year we will have to look at perhaps going to a different venue. She stated that the high school band performed and that they were wonderful. Firehouse #2 Women's Axillary provided the cookies and hot chocolate for the event. The Mayor also reported on the success of last week's Christmas Spectacular and she thanked everyone, especially Bill Wagner who planned the whole event. It was truly magical and she said that this weekend they will be having the event on Friday and Saturday and perhaps Sunday if the weather allows. She stated that Friday night the event will be dedicated to Vito Castoro who for years provided the children of Hopatcong with wonderful Christmas shows. This first annual event is being done in his honor.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mayor Petillo opened the meeting to the public for any questions or comments concerning items on the agenda for which no public discussion is provided. (Comments limited to 5 minutes).

Mr. David Harris asked about the bond ordinance on the agenda this evening.

Mr. Elia responded by stating that this is not new debt that the Borough is taking on. We are refinancing our Sewer Project debt this year with the NJEIT program and one of the requirements of the refinancing is that the Borough have enough money to cover the administrative costs of refinancing. He stated, however, that the premiums paid usually cover the cost of the refinance and that we probably will not have to use the extra money. It has to be there, however, just in case.

After giving all persons present an opportunity to address the Governing Body, Councilman Young made a motion to close the meeting to the public and return to the regular order of business. Seconded by Councilwoman Galate. All were in favor.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Councilman Young made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 3, 2014. Seconded by Councilwoman Galate.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Francis, Galate, Klein, Padula, Young

Nays: None Absent: Bunce Abstentions: None

#### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

At this time Robert Elia, Borough Administrator, presented his report for the meeting of December 17, 2014.

Mr. Elia reported that the 2015 budget process is in full swing and that we are just waiting for some insurance information in order for him to complete the draft of the budget.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Mayor Petillo requested that all persons present review the consent agenda. If any member of the Council or public wishes an item on the consent agenda to be discussed and considered separately, a motion to this effect shall so be made at this time.

After all persons have had an opportunity to review the consent agenda and offer requests for changes, Mayor Petillo requested a motion to approve the consent agenda.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE** (ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING ONLY OF THE FOLLOWING):

#### **REPORTS** (ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING OF THE FOLLOWING):

1. Zoning Monthly Report November 2014.
2. Construction Monthly Report November 2014.

#### **APPLICATIONS** (APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING):

#### **RESOLUTIONS:** (APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING):

1. Resolution # 2014 –313–Outside Lien Redemption, Tower/Ebury Fund

Councilman Young made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for the meeting of December 17, 2014. Seconded by Councilwoman Galate. All were in favor.

#### **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

#### **ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES:**

##### Adoption of Ordinance #37-2014 – Bond Ordinance

Councilman Young made a motion to an ordinance entitled "A BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING BOND ORDINANCE NUMBER 30-2005 (WHICH PROVIDES FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE SANITARY SEWERAGE SYSTEM (PHASE ONE AND PHASE TWO)) HERETOFORE FINALLY ADOPTED BY THE BOROUGH COMMON COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF HOPATCONG, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ON SEPTEMBER 7, 2005, TO INCREASE THE APPROPRIATION BY \$250,000 AND TO INCREASE THE AUTHORIZATION OF BONDS OR NOTES BY \$250,000". Seconded by Councilwoman Galate.

Before final roll call, **Mayor Petillo** opened the meeting to the public for any questions or comments that they may have regarding Ordinance #37-2014.

There being no one from the public who wished to address the Governing Body regarding Ordinance #37-2014, Councilwoman Galate made a motion to close the meeting to the public and return to the regular order of business. Seconded by Councilman Young. All were in favor.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Francis, Galate, Klein, Padula, Young

Nays: None Absent: Bunce Abstentions: None

## **RESOLUTIONS:**

### Resolution #2014-314 – Police Department Clerk 3

Councilwoman Galate made a motion to adopt a resolution approving of the duties, responsibilities and compensation for Police Department Clerk 3, Jacki Hangle. Seconded by Councilman Young.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Francis, Galate, Klein, Padula, Young

Nays: None Absent: Bunce Abstentions: None

### Resolution #2014-317 – Payment of Bills

Councilman Young made a motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the payment of bills for the meeting of December 17, 2014, pulling check numbers 1321, 3309, 4864, 35163, 35196, 35201. Seconded by Councilman Padula

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Francis, Galate, Klein, Padula, Young

Nays: None Absent: Bunce Abstentions: None

Councilman Young made a motion to approve payment of check numbers 1321, 3309, 4864, 35163, 35196, 35201. Seconded by Councilman Padula.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Francis, Klein, Padula, Young

Nays: None Absent: Bunce Abstentions: None

### Resolution #2014-318 – Cancelling Grant Receivables and Reserves

Councilwoman Galate made a motion to adopt a resolution cancelling certain grant receivables and appropriation reserve balances. Seconded by Councilman Young.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Francis, Galate, Klein, Padula, Young

Nays: None Absent: Bunce Abstentions: None

### Resolution #2014-319 – Safe and Secure Communities

Councilman Young made a motion to adopt a resolution approving participation with the State of New Jersey Safe and Secure Communities Program administered by the Division of Criminal Justice Department of Law and Public Safety. Seconded by Councilwoman Galate.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Francis, Galate, Klein, Padula, Young

Nays: None Absent: Bunce Abstentions: None

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mayor Petillo opened the meeting to the public for any questions or comments concerning the good and welfare of the Borough. (Comments limited to 5 minutes).

After giving all persons present an opportunity to address the Governing Body, Councilwoman Galate made a motion to close the meeting to the public and return to the regular order of business. Seconded by Councilman Young. All were in favor.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilwoman Galate made a motion to adjourn the meeting of December 17, 2014. Seconded by Councilwoman Klein. All were in favor.

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Sylvia Petillo, Mayor

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Catherine Schultz, RMC