

Highlands Borough Mayor & Council Meeting Minutes
Community Center
22 Snug Harbor Avenue, Highlands
Wednesday, November 7th 2018, 6:30 p.m.

As per requirement of Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, notice is hereby given that this is a Regular Meeting of the Borough of Highlands Mayor and Council and all requirements have been met. Notice has been transmitted to the Asbury Park Press and the Two River Times. Notice has been posted on the public bulletin board. Formal Action will be taken.

Call to Order
Meeting Statement
Roll Call

WORKSHOP: 6:30PM

Eastern Monmouth County Chamber of Commerce Presentation
Banners

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 7:00PM

**Attorney-Client Privilege: Shared Service Feasibility Study with Sea Bright
Captain's Cove Marina
Shadowlawn Development**

Contract Negotiations: CWA

Personnel: Code Enforcement Officer

Litigation: NJNG

REGULAR MEETING: 8:00PM

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

May 16, 2018
June 6, 2016

Consent Agenda

R-18-224 Approve Payment of the Bills
R-18-225 Accept Resignation of David Mercado
R-18-226 Cancel Improvement Appropriation Balances
R-18-227 Approve Request for Waiver of Alcohol Ban for Community Center
R-18-228 Authorize Refund of Sewer Overpayment
R-18-229 Appoint Member to the Housing Authority
R-18-230 Appoint Additional Fire Police

Resolutions

R-18-231 Purchase Foley Skid Steer from State Contract
R-18-232 Authorizing Advertisement of RFP for Feasibility Study for Shared Services with Sea Bright

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Ordinance: Introduction & First Reading

O-18-23 Bond Ordinance Providing for the Replacement of Storm Water & Sanitary Sewer Mains, appropriating \$5,050,000 & Authorizing the Issuance of \$5,050,000 of Bonds & Notes

Other Business

Best Practices
Administrator's Report
Police Chief's Report

Public Comments:

Adjourn

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The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm.

As per requirement of Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, notice is hereby given that this is a Regular Meeting of the Borough of Highlands Mayor and Council and all requirements have been met. Notice has been transmitted to the Asbury Park Press and the Two River Times. Notice has been posted on the public bulletin board. Formal Action will be taken.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmembers Braswell, Broullon, D'Arrigo, Ryan & Mayor O'Neil

Also Present: Bonnie Brookes, Borough Clerk
Brian Chabarek, Borough Attorney
Kim Gonzales*, Borough Administer
Rosa Pace, Deputy Clerk

***Kim Gonzales** entered the meeting at 6:37pm.

WORKSHOP:

Eastern Monmouth County Chamber of Commerce Presentation

Jennifer Eckhoff, the Executive Director of the Eastern Monmouth County Chamber of Commerce, explained what their organization does and how it can help the Borough's businesses. She stated that businesses pay a nominal fee to reap various benefits including events, networking, advertising, and skill building. Ms. Eckhoff discussed past and future events. Councilmember D'Arrigo asked for a more detailed explanation of their events which Ms. Eckhoff obliged.

Councilmember D'Arrigo questioned how the Commerce operates. Ms. Eckhoff explained how a Chamber of Commerce is run and how they partner with other groups for greater benefits to their members. Councilmember Broullon asked if there was anything that the Borough would need to do for our businesses to participate to which Ms. Eckhoff noted that it would depend on what the Borough's goal was to develop the municipality economically. The Council discussed with Ms. Eckhoff the fees for membership. Councilmember Ryan recommended that the Chamber meets with the Borough's businesses which Ms. Gonzales agreed to schedule.

Banners

Council agreed to discuss in public portion later in the evening.

Mayor O'Neil motioned to close the Workshop meeting which was seconded by Councilmember Broullon. A voice vote of all Councilmembers present was taken with all members voting yes.

Resolution to enter into Executive Session

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Mr. Chabarek noted that there was an amendment to the Executive Session Agenda. Councilmember Ryan motioned to amend the Executive Session Agenda including NJNG under litigation which was seconded by Councilmember Broullon.

A motion to enter Executive Session was offered by Mayor O'Neil and seconded by Councilmember Broullon.

ROLL CALL:

AYE: Councilmembers Braswell, Broullon, D'Arrigo, Ryan & Mayor O'Neil

NAY: None (0)

ABSENT: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

The amendment was properly approved.

A motion to enter Executive Session was offered by Mayor O'Neil and seconded by Councilmember Broullon.

ROLL CALL:

AYE: Councilmembers Braswell, Broullon, D'Arrigo, Ryan & Mayor O'Neil

NAY: None (0)

ABSENT: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

The Resolution to enter Executive Session was properly approved.

Executive Session was entered into at 7:05pm.

REGULAR MEETING:

The Meeting was called to order at 8:14pm.

As per requirement of Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, notice is hereby given that this is a Regular Meeting of the Borough of Highlands Mayor and Council and all requirements have been met. Notice has been transmitted to the Asbury Park Press and the Two River Times. Notice has been posted on the public bulletin board. Formal Action will be taken.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor O'Neil.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Braswell, Broullon, D'Arrigo, Ryan & Mayor O'Neil

Absent: None

Also Present: Bonnie Brookes, Borough Clerk
Brian Chabarek, Borough Attorney
Patrick DeBlasio, CFO
Kim Gonzales, Borough Administrator
Ed Herrman, T & M Associates
Rosa Pace, Deputy Clerk

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Mayor O'Neil thanked and congratulated Carolyn Broullon and Linda Mazzola for being elected to Councilmembers in the recent election.

Approval of Minutes

May 16th 2018

Councilmember Broullon motioned to approve the May 16th 2018 Minutes which was seconded by Councilmember Braswell.

ROLL CALL:

AYE: Councilmembers Braswell, Broullon, D'Arrigo & Mayor O'Neil (4)

NAY: None (0)

ABSENT: None (0)

ABSTAIN: Councilmember Ryan (1)

The May 16th minutes were properly approved.

June 6, 2018

Councilmember Broullon motioned to approve the June 6th 2018 Minutes which was seconded by Councilmember Ryan.

ROLL CALL:

AYE: Councilmembers Braswell, Broullon, D'Arrigo & Ryan (4)

NAY: None (0)

ABSENT: None (0)

ABSTAIN: Mayor O'Neil (1)

The June 6th minutes were properly approved.

Consent Agenda

- R-18-224 Approve Payment of the Bills
- R-18-225 Accept Resignation of David Mercado
- R-18-226 Cancel Improvement Appropriation Balances
- R-18-227 Approve Request for Waiver of Alcohol Ban for Community Center
- R-18-228 Authorize Refund of Sewer Overpayment
- R-18-229 Appoint Member to the Housing Authority
- R-18-230 Appoint Additional Fire Police

Councilmember Broullon motioned to approve the consent agenda which was seconded by Mayor O'Neil.

ROLL CALL:

AYE: Councilmembers Braswell, Broullon, D'Arrigo, Ryan & Mayor O'Neil (5)

NAY: None (0)

ABSENT: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

The consent agenda was properly approved.

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Resolutions

R-18-231 Purchase Foley Skid Steer from State Contract

Councilmember Ryan motioned to approve the Resolution 18-231 which was seconded by Mayor O'Neil.

ROLL CALL:

AYE: Councilmembers Braswell, Broullon, D'Arrigo, Ryan & Mayor O'Neil (5)

NAY: None (0)

ABSENT: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

Resolution 19-231 was properly approved.

R-18-232 Authorizing Advertisement of RFP for Feasibility Study for Shared Services with Sea Bright

Mayor O'Neil motioned to approve the Resolution 18-232 which was seconded by Councilmember Ryan.

ROLL CALL:

AYE: Councilmembers Braswell, Broullon, D'Arrigo, Ryan & Mayor O'Neil (5)

NAY: None (0)

ABSENT: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

Resolution 18-232 has been properly approved.

Ordinance: Introduction & First Reading

O-18-23 Bond Ordinance Providing for the Replacement of Storm Water & Sanitary Sewer Mains, appropriating \$5,050,000 & Authorizing the Issuance of \$5,050,000 of Bonds & Notes

Councilmember Broullon motioned to introduce Ordinance 18-23 which was seconded by Councilmember Braswell.

ROLL CALL:

AYE: Councilmembers Braswell, Broullon, D'Arrigo, Ryan & Mayor O'Neil (5)

NAY: None (0)

ABSENT: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

Ordinance 18-23 was properly introduced. The public hearing will be held on December 5th 2018.

Other Business

Best Practices

Mr. DeBlasio explained what 'Best Practices' is and the history behind it. He noted that any municipality which scores below 75% the State can withhold aid. He stated that Highlands scored 87% and added that the Borough is constantly working to improve. Councilmember Braswell asked for an example of some of the things that are asked with Mr. DeBlasio provided.

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Administrator's Report

Ms. Gonzales discussed updated the Council on the Valley Street project and reviewed various other projects including Monmouth Hills drainage, Jones Creek bulk head & installation of valves. Ms. Gonzales noted that she is looking into grant opportunities to get higher bulk heads. The Mayor and Council discussed ways they are looking to improve the flooding and sewer problems in the Borough. Ms. Gonzales reviewed pending grants, commented that the budget is currently being worked, and discussed the road schedule. She also explained Resolution 232 was to look into any Shared Service possibilities with Sea Bright. Ms. Gonzales noted that the closing on the property for the new Borough Hall was scheduled for November 19th 2018.

Police Chief's Report

Chief Burton provided an explanation as to why the police officers are all growing beards, noting it is to bring awareness to men's health in addition to a fundraiser to buy Christmas gifts for needy families.

Engineer's Report

Mr. Herrmann discussed the replacement of the Shore Drive pump and as well as concerns which are being worked on. He updated the public on the electric for Veteran's Park, the Police Department trailer sanitary sewer connection, and the Sanitary Sewer CBGB project. Mr. Herrman noted that FEMA will be hearing challenges to the flood maps and explained his concerns with Borough's maps.

Banners

Kim Gonzales suggested to discuss at next meeting giving the opportunity to the Mayor and Council to review.

Public Comments

Carol Bucco, Shore Drive, asked the Mayor to please remember that Captain's Cove flooded for the next hearing.

Kim Skorka, Shore Drive, questioned why Captain's Cove was not raising their bulk head. Mayor O'Neil stated that he didn't believe that it was a requirement. Ms. Skorka questioned who asked for Shore Drive parking lot to be paved. Mayor O'Neil explained that he had. Ms. Skorka expressed concerns over flooding with the paving of the lot and the safety issue of residents not being able to drive through the lot to get to Shore Drive when the road is flooded. Mayor and Council discussed with Ms. Skorka concerns over the parking lot. Councilmember Braswell stated that the Mayor and Council is taking the flooding seriously and are making major strides towards correcting the problem.

Mike Patton, Central Avenue, requested to have two spots which would allow residents to cut through the lot in the case of flooding marked as "no parking" in the Shore Drive parking lot. He explained how this is a safety issue for residents during flooding. Councilmember Braswell stated that the bulk head will be replaced and that it has been requested to keep the parking spots open. Mr. Patton asked if the bulk head at Veteran's Park is to be raised. Mayor O'Neil explained the process that it would have to undergo to get that project completed. Mr. Patton Mike raised concerns of over the Captain's Cove bulk

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head elevation and the possible redevelopment. Councilmember Broullon discussed these concerns with Mr. Patton.

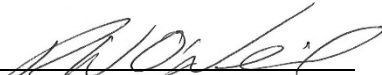
Adjourn

Councilmember Ryan motioned to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Mayor O’Neil and approved by all present. The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 pm.

Motion to approve the November 7th 2018 Council Minutes:

	INTROUCED	SECONDED	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
BRASWELL		X	X			
BROULLON	X		X			
D’ARRIGO			X			
RYAN			X			
O’NEIL			X			

I, Bonnie Brookes, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Highlands, in the County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, hereby certify this to be a true copy of the action of the Governing Body, at its Council Meeting, held December 5, 2018. WITNESS my hand this 5th day of December 2018.

Approve: 
 Richard W. O’Neil, Mayor

Attest: 
 Bonnie Brookes RMC, Deputy Clerk