

Meeting Minutes
Hightstown Borough Council
April 9, 2018
6:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Quattrone at 6:36 p.m. and he read the Open Public Meetings Act statement which stated, “Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice was sent to the *Trenton Times* and the *Windsor-Hights Herald*, and is posted in the Borough Clerk’s office.”

The flag salute followed Roll Call.

	PRESENT	ABSENT
<i>Councilmember Bluth</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Hansen</i>		✓
<i>Councilmember Misiura</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Montferrat</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Musing</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Stults</i>	✓	
<i>Mayor Quattrone</i>	✓	

Also in attendance: Margaret (Peggy) Riggio, Deputy Borough Clerk; Debra Sopronyi Borough Clerk/Administrator; Monika Patel, Deputy CFO and George Lang, CFO.

The Flag Salute followed roll call.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council President Stults moved the agenda for approval; Councilmember Bluth seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Misiura, Montferrat, Musing and Stults voted yes.

Agenda approved 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT I

Mayor Quattrone opened public comment period I and the following individuals spoke:

There being no one coming forward, Mayor Quattrone closed the public comment period.

DISCUSSION

Budget 2018

George Lang, CFO, Reviewed the 2018 Budget. Mr. Lang explained that \$150,000 settlement was from a 2017 settlement that was paid in this year's budget. He also pointed out that part of the Police salaries included an additional salary, also in relation to the 2017 litigation. He explained that we are using \$750,000 in surplus and are looking at a .07 increase which translates to \$150 increase per house per year. He also stated to Council that when looking at the budget, a \$40,000 cut in the budget would decrease the tax rate by .01.

Debra Sopronyi, Borough Administrator/Clerk, explained that we are still waiting for the requested information from the Fire Department. Council decided that they will wait until the next budget meeting to discuss the Fire Department request. Regarding First Aid, Mr. Lang stated that he appropriated what was spent in 2017. Ms. Sopronyi is to reach out to the First Aid to inquire about their needs for 2018.

Mr. Lang stated that per Council's decision in previous years, he did not appropriate anything for RISE or Better Beginnings. Discussion ensued regarding Better Beginnings. There was a question regarding the history of how we began donating to Better Beginnings. Mayor Quattrone thought that many years ago, the Borough started the donation to help with matching Federal Aid money. There were also questions regarding how many students at Better Beginnings Hightstown residents. Ms. Sopronyi will look to see if a history of the donation can be found.

Regarding the Water/Sewer budget, Mr. Lang explained the decrease in revenue is do to the cutback in graywater acceptance at the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

After discussion, it was agreed that there will be another Budget Workshop scheduled for April 17, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Lang will take a closer look at the budget to see where cuts can be made.

ADJOURNMENT

Council President Stults moved to adjourn at 9:11 p.m.; Councilmember Musing seconded. All ayes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret M. Riggio
Deputy Borough Clerk