

Meeting Minutes
Hightstown Borough Council
April 25, 2019
6:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Quattrone at 6:34 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 Egan</i>		✓
<i>Councilmember Jackson</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Misiura</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

Mayor Quattrone requested that the Sunset and Maple project be added to discussion.

Moved as amended by Councilmember Musing; Seconded by Councilmember Jackson.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Jackson, Misiura, Musing and Stults voted yes; Councilmember Bluth voted no.

Agenda approved 4-1.

PUBLIC COMMENT I

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

Keith LePrevost, 213 Greely Street – Stated that police cars should be electric or hybrid as they run idle all day long. He encourages looking at this when replacing the police fleet.

Scott Caster, 12 Clover Lane – Asked that everyone speak louder so they can be heard.

There being no further comments, Mayor Quattrone closed the public comment period.

DISCUSSION

Sunset Avenue and Maple Avenue

Borough Administrator/Clerk, Debra Sopronyi, stated at the last Council meeting, Council authorized the Borough engineer to speak with the contractor regarding moving forward with additional work on the Sunset and Maple project, staying within the 20% change order. The contractor began marking out for sidewalks. The Administration office started receiving calls from residents stating that they do not want sidewalks. Discussion ensued. It was decided that the master plan states that all infrastructure projects shall include curbs and sidewalks as part of complete streets. Council all agreed to continue with the sidewalks on the south side of sunset.

Budget 2019

George Lang, CFO, explained the Budget at a Glance and reviewed the budget worksheets. He explained that every \$40,000 is a .01 increase/decrease in the budget.

- Council questioned the increase in the Public Works budget. It was explained that many line items in the PW budget cover other departments.
- Council questioned the \$15,000 increase in the Fire Department budget. It was stated that last year, the Fire Department had been asked to submit their annual audit, and a report on how they acquire their funds and their expenses. To date, this has not been received. After discussion, it was agreed that the Fire Department would not be receiving an increase in their budget. The proposed amount would be cut by \$15,000.
- Keith LePrevost, Chair, Environmental Commission spoke to Council regarding the increase in the Environmental Commission budget. They are requesting an increase for Education and training as many things are paid for personally since there isn't enough in the budget. They are also requesting an increase for maintenance of street trees. Mr. LePrevost is suggesting having a professional tree trimmer trim all street trees to maintain shape and structure. After discussion, Council agreed to decrease the Environmental Commission budget by \$7,750.

After further discussion, Council agreed that they need time to look closer at the budget since this is the first time they are seeing the completed proposed budget. They are looking for a recommendation from the CFO as to where the budget can be cut. They also requested Mr. Lang to provide them with a history of the Borough's surplus. It was decided that a third budget meeting is needed. The proposed date for the next budget meeting is May 16, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. at the Historical Society. Deputy Clerk, Peggy Riggio, will work on securing the location and noticing the paper.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Bluth moved to adjourn at 8:30 p.m.; Council President Stults seconded. All ayes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret M. Riggio
Deputy Borough Clerk