

**BOROUGH OF STOCKTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED:**

**REORGANIZATION/REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 7, 2019**

The 2019 Reorganization and January Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton was called to order by Borough Attorney Michael Butler at 7:12 pm on January 7, 2019. Mr. Butler read the "Sunshine Statement" indicating the meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and led the flag salute. There were five members of the public present.

Oaths of Office – Stockton Borough Mayor

Mr. Butler administered the Oath of Office to Timothy J. Nemeth, Stockton Borough Mayor, for a 4-year term to expire December 31, 2023. Mayor Nemeth then assumed the gavel to preside over the meeting.

Oaths of Office - Councilmen

Mr. Butler administered the Oath of Office to Aaron Lipsen, Borough Councilman, for a 3-year term to expire December 31, 2021.

Mr. Butler administered the Oath of Office to Nic Messina, Borough Councilman, for a 3-year term to expire December 31, 2021.

Mr. Butler administered the Oath of Office to Paul Bergquist, Borough Councilman, for the unexpired balance of a 3-year term to expire December 31, 2020.

All in attendance congratulated the re-elected council members.

Roll Call

The following members of the Borough Council were present: Mr. Paul Bergquist, Mr. Adam Juncosa, Mr. Aaron Lipsen, Mr. Michael Mann, Mr. Nic Messina, and Mr. Donald Vandegrift. Borough Administrator/Clerk Michele Hovan was also present.

Election of Council President

Mayor Nemeth called for nominations for Council President. Mr. Lipsen nominated Mr. Messina. Mayor Nemeth asked if there were any other nominations and there were none. Mayor Nemeth closed the floor. On motion by Mr. Lipsen, seconded by Mr. Bergquist and carried unanimously, Mr. Messina was elected Council President for a term of one year expiring on December 31, 2019.

Remarks by Mayor Timothy J. Nemeth

Mayor Nemeth thanked the Borough Council for their hard work in 2018 and said that he looked forward to the year ahead. He said that the Borough was on track for continued progress and that the projects ahead and underway will improve the quality of life for the residents.

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Reorganization Resolutions

The following Resolutions numbered 2019-01 through 2019-24, as filed in the Borough Clerk's office and listed below, were adopted on motion by Mr. Messina, seconded by Mr. Bergquist and carried unanimously:

2019-01	Consent Agenda
2019-02	Schedule of Regular Meetings
2019-03	Rules of Order
2019-04	Official Depositories
2019-05	Official Newspapers
2019-06	Appointments
2019-07	Temporary Budget
2019-08	Temporary Budget for Debt Service
2019-09	Interest & Penalty Rates for Delinquency Charges
2019-10	Defense of Tax Appeals
2019-11	Stipulations and Rollback Appeals
2019-12	Authorized Signatories
2019-13	Refunds and Cancellations Under \$10
2019-14	Annual Tax Sale
2019-15	Fee for Insufficient Check Funds
2019-16	Investment of Funds
2019-17	Risk Management Consultant
2019-18	Statewide Insurance Fund Commissioner
2019-19	Borough Attorney
2019-20	Bond Counsel
2019-21	Borough Engineer
2019-22	Maintenance of Tax Maps
2019-23	Borough Auditor
2019-24	Public Agency Compliance Officer

Roll Call: Ayes: Bergquist, Juncosa, Lipsen, Mann, Messina, Vandegrift
 Nays: None
 Absent: None
 Abstain: None

REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Nemeth opened the meeting to the public.

Ms. Amy Novak, 82 S. Main Street, said that she sent a message regarding the condition of the retaining wall on Rt. 29 and inquired of the status. Ms. Hovan replied that the Borough Engineer

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contacted NJDOT and was not aware of an imminent plan to repair or that it was deemed to be hazardous but said that she would follow up to find any additional information there may be.

Ms. Karen Edwards, Risler Street, said that she was interested in reviving the civic committee that was once headed by the borough then later transferred to the school. Ms. Edwards said that the group could tackle projects such as holiday decorations and a welcome wagon, just to name a few. A brief discussion followed regarding the number of members, etc. and Ms. Edwards said that her "team" would draft a model ordinance for the Borough to consider. Mayor Nemeth thanked Ms. Edwards for the volunteer interest.

Mr. Tom Sherman, 4 Ferry Street, said that he was new to town and was interested in improvement that may be planned for the park and said that as an architect and contractor, he'd be willing to offer his services. Mr. Vandegrift said that a plan for a park plan is underway and that the Borough would be soliciting proposals for the development of it.

There being no further questions or comments, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Messina, seconded by Juncosa and carried.

Minutes - December 9, 2018 Regular Meeting

The meeting minutes for the December 8, 2018 Regular meeting were approved on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Vandegrift and carried.

Ordinance No. 19-01 – Capital – Repairs to Sewer Pump Station

CAPITAL ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF NEW OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS FOR USE BY THE STOCKTON BOROUGH SEWER UTILITY, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF STOCKTON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, AND THE EXPENDITURE OF \$80,000.00 FROM THE SEWER UTILITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE FINANCING THEREOF

Ms. Hovan read Ordinance No. 19-01 by title and explained that the ordinance funds the necessary engineering and diagnostic work, as well as repair costs, for the pump station pump failure issues that began late last year. Ms. Hovan explained that the emergency resolution was adopted but that the full funding requires the adoption of the capital ordinance.

Resolution No. 2019-25, as filed in the Borough Clerk's office and to introduce Ordinance No. 19-01 was adopted on motion by Mr. Lipsen, seconded by Mr. Messina and carried unanimously.

Roll Call: Ayes: Bergquist, Juncosa, Lipsen, Mann, Messina, Vandegrift
 Nays: None
 Absent: None
 Abstain: None

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Ordinance No. 19-02 – Minimum/Maximum Salaries

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR AND DETERMINE A SCHEDULE OF MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM SALARIES FOR OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF STOCKTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY

Ms. Hovan read Ordinance No. 19-02 by title and explained that the ordinance provides an updated schedule of the minimum and maximum salary ranges and that the actual salaries are established by resolution following the adoption of the range ordinance.

Resolution No. 2019-26, as filed in the Borough Clerk's office and to introduce Ordinance No. 19-01 was adopted on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Mann and carried unanimously.

Roll Call: Ayes: Bergquist, Juncosa, Lipsen, Mann, Messina, Vandegrift
 Nays: None
 Absent: None
 Abstain: None

Resolutions – the following resolutions, as filed in the Borough Clerk's office and listed below, were adopted on motion by Mr. Messina, seconded by Mr. Juncosa and carried.

2019-27	Personnel – Office Assistant
2019-28	Consent to Equipment Modification – American Tower Lease Agreement
2019-29	Appropriation Reserves

Roll Call: Ayes: Bergquist, Juncosa, Lipsen, Mann, Messina, Vandegrift
 Nays: None
 Absent: None
 Abstain: None

Claims for Payment – the claims for payment, as attached, were approved on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Bergquist carried unanimously.

Roll Call: Ayes: Bergquist, Juncosa, Lipsen, Mann, Messina, Vandegrift
 Nays: None
 Absent: None
 Abstain: None

Mayor Nemeth opened the meeting to the public. There being no questions or comments, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Mr. Bergquist and carried.

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Council Liaison Reports

Mr. Juncosa reported that he arranged for T&T Tree Service to grind the holiday trees and also that he met with the fire department on other issues, including holiday lights (there are 8 requiring repair or replacement) and said that maybe the civic committee could address the short-term needs, too. Mr. Juncosa asked about the sidewalk clearing for the tow path area and a brief discussion followed regarding State property, etc. Ms. Hovan said that she would ask John Sowsian about the cost to fill the potholes at the park entrance. Mr. Lipsen also suggested that the Borough write another letter to the water authority regarding the canal bank tarps.

Mayor Nemeth announced that the next meeting would be held on February 11, 2019 at 7pm. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 pm on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Vandegrift, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Hovan, RMC
Borough Clerk