

MINUTES OF THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
JUNE 27, 2024 - COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Township Council of the Township of Bridgewater, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, convened in a regular session on Thursday, June 27, 2024, at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers in the Municipal Complex, Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807 & via Live Online Broadcast.

Council President Ring read the following announcement:

Notice of Meeting

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT OF NEW JERSEY, ADEQUATE NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS PROVIDED ON DECEMBER 21, 2023, WITH WRITTEN NOTICE AND ELECTRONIC NOTICE PROVIDED TO THE COURIER NEWS AND THE BREEZE POSTING ON THE WEBSITE AND THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND FILING WITH THE TOWNSHIP CLERK

On call of the roll, the following Council members were present:

Councilman Michael Kirsh
Councilman Allen Kurdyla
Councilman Howard V. Norgalis
Councilman Filipe Pedroso
Council President Timothy Ring

Also Present: Matthew C. Moench, Mayor
Michael Pappas, Township Administrator
Christopher Corsini, Township Attorney
Grace Njuguna, Township Clerk

Councilman Norgalis led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was held for former retired Sheriff, Frank Provenzano.

Minutes

JUNE 6, 2024 - REGULAR SESSION

On motion of Councilman Kurdyla, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the June 6, 2024, regular session minutes were moved for approval and passed unanimously on a voice call vote.

JUNE 6, 2024 - CLOSED SESSIONS

The June 6, 2024, closed session minutes were passed around for Council approval & signature.

Council Reports

Councilman Kirsh:

- Attended the Finderne Fire Department's Rescue 30 dedication on Saturday, June 8th. Councilman Kirsh stated that it was a great accomplishment for the

fire department.

- On June 11th, the Zoning Board met, approving with substantial conditions, the Chimney Rock self-storage on Route 22. Another case was heard regarding the proposal for townhouses on Mt. Pleasant Avenue.
- Attended and spoke at a celebration for Eid, as well as the First Crescent Moon Lighting which occurred in the Municipal Building's courtyard on June 15th. Councilman Kirsh expressed his appreciation on behalf of the community to Al-Falah for allowing the celebration of the important occasion.
- On June 18th, the Planning Board met where there were two extensions of approval and one item to be carried.
- The Zoning Board met on June 25th. Councilman Kirsh stated that there were two residential cases. One was a simple matter regarding a deck and the second did not need adjudication after recalculation.
- Councilman Kirsh advised that budget deliberations have begun. There have been two meetings on the Budget with the Finance Committee in addition to more discussions in the coming days.
- Councilman Kirsh congratulated the Bridgewater-Raritan High School baseball team on their accomplishment in being the best high school baseball team in the state of New Jersey.

Councilman Kurdyla:

- Attended the dedication of Rescue 30 for the Finderne Fire Department. Councilman Kurdyla shared that it was a tremendous 4-year project to work on and the members of the department deserve a lot of credit.
- Commended the Bridgewater-Raritan High School baseball team on winning the State Championship. Councilman Kurdyla offered that the team deserves all the accolades that they are receiving. He congratulated Coach Max Newell on being named, "Coach of the Year".

Councilman Norgalis: (*verbatim*)

- Former County Sheriff and Bridgewater Police Captain Frank Provenzano passed away. The moment of silence for him at the beginning of our Council meeting was a meaningful remembrance.
- Bridgewater lost a member of its community in the passing of George Collins. George was not only a long-term resident he was a builder and personal friend who was very active and instrumental in the fulfillment of Bridgewater's

Affordable Housing Plan. He built and managed the Village at Bridgewater Apartments for over 25 years.

- Next week on Tuesday, July 7th those of the Muslim Faith will celebrate the Islamic New Year of 1446. The greeting at the time of new Year is “Happy Islamic New Year! May this year bring you blessings, joy, and peace”. What a nice greeting.
- Happy belated Father’s Day to those of you who fulfill that role in the lives of our youth.
- I have received numerous calls requesting “what is happening regarding the closing of Country Club Rd and Talamini Rd.” The major effort of PSE&G to replace gas mains in the area continues at a fever pace. When completed the new mains will operate at a higher pressure to deliver more gas to meet customer needs especially where the surge of whole house standby generators is concerned. As a byproduct of the work, new gas meters will be installed outside of the homes for better access for meter readers and emergency responders.
- Spent most of the time since our last Council meeting celebrating family high school and college graduations so I have only a limited report.

Councilman Pedroso:

- Welcomed the Bridgewater-Raritan High School baseball team to the Council meeting and congratulated the team on their win.
- Statement (*verbatim*)

Last week, many gathered to celebrate Juneteenth, a profound and pivotal day in our nation's history. On this day, we commemorate the end of slavery in the United States, a milestone achieved through the valiant efforts of those who fought tirelessly for freedom and justice. This celebration is not merely a remembrance of the past but a testament to the enduring spirit of liberty and equality that defines our nation.

As I personally reflected on this significant occasion, I recognized the instrumental role played by Abraham Lincoln and the Republican Party in the abolition of slavery.

In the darkest hours of our nation, President Lincoln demonstrated unwavering moral courage. His issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, was a bold and revolutionary act. It would go on to pave the way for the eventual abolition of slavery, the liberation of more than

250,000 enslaved Black people in Texas on June 19, 1865, and set a moral compass for the nation.

The 13th Amendment would eventually be ratified on December 6, 1865, which constitutionally ended slavery in America. This amendment, passed by a Republican-led Congress, was a monumental achievement that ensured the permanence of freedom for all. It was a triumph of justice over oppression, a victory for human rights that echoed across the globe.

Juneteenth is a day of jubilation, a day to celebrate the triumph of freedom over bondage. It is also a day of reflection. The legacy of Abraham Lincoln and the Republican Party is a testament to what can be achieved when we stand united for what is right. And, Juneteenth would not be complete without reflecting on the profound impact of slavery on Black Americans, the immense suffering endured by so many, and the continuous need to strive for equality and justice in our society.

As we pause to remember Juneteenth, let us honor the courage and conviction of those who fought for freedom by continuing to strive for a more just and equitable society. The work is never finished, but the legacy of Juneteenth inspire us to persevere.

Council President Ring:

- Council President Ring stated that budget meetings were being held and more meetings are to follow.

Mayor's Reports

Michael Pappas, Township Administrator reported on behalf of Mayor Moench

- Distributed a memo regarding the transition from the accounting system of GFMS to Edmunds. Township Administrator Pappas offered that the implementation of the new system has been going well.
- A memo was given to the councilmen with an update on the progress of the turf fields that are located behind the high school (1000 Turf) and at the municipal building.

Proclamation

BRIDGEWATER-RARITAN HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM

Council President Ring read the following proclamation.

WHEREAS, the Bridgewater-Raritan High School Baseball Team has achieved unprecedented success by winning the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association's Group 4 Tournament Championship on June 8, 2024, marking the first state group championship in the history of Bridgewater-Raritan High School; and

WHEREAS, this victory is a testament to the dedication and hard work of the players,

coaches, and support staff, who have worked tirelessly to build a strong foundation and foster a culture of excellence within the program; and

WHEREAS, the 2024 team, under the leadership of Head Coach Max Newill and his outstanding coaching staff, including Freshman Coach Matt Perlman, JV Coach Mike Trapani, and Varsity Assistant Coach Evan Seavey, have demonstrated remarkable talent, resilience, and unity, achieving a record-breaking 30 wins this season; and

WHEREAS, the senior class of 2024, including Frankie Verano, Michael Taylor, Matthew Baxter, Michael Lentini, Nick Turchi, Matt Fattore, Trevor Kelly, Devin Goldberg, Joe Spirra, Ben Dolan, Sam Matheson, Joey Letko, Cory Rible, and team manager Jayen Patel, have left an indelible mark on the program and inspired future generations of players; and

WHEREAS, this historic achievement has brought immense pride and joy to the Bridgewater-Raritan community, having demonstrated the team's determination, skill, and sportsmanship;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Mayor Matthew Moench, along with the Bridgewater Township Council, do hereby recognize and congratulate the Bridgewater-Raritan High School Baseball Team for their extraordinary accomplishments and tremendous victory. We commend their perseverance, teamwork, and dedication, which have earned them the title of New Jersey State Champions and have set a new standard of excellence for Bridgewater-Raritan High School athletics.

Let this proclamation serve as a lasting tribute to the 2024 Bridgewater-Raritan High School Baseball Team, whose victory will be remembered and celebrated for years to come.

On behalf of the Bridgewater-Raritan High School Athletic Hall of Fame Committee, Dick Myers announced that in 2034, on the first year of eligibility, the team will be inducted into the BRHS Athletic Hall of Fame.

The Bridgewater-Raritan High School Baseball Team was present to receive the proclamation.

Presentation STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Anthony Gallo, Assistant Township Engineer and Richard Shimp, Superintendent of Public Works were present.

Mr. Gallo outlined and discussed the new and revised 2023 mandates for the Municipal Separate Stormwater System Permit – MS4. Township Engineer, William Burr drafted a comprehensive memo outlining the 2023 MS4 updates which he

referred to in his presentation.

The MS4 permitting program is ultimately an evolution of the USEPA 1972 Clean Water Act. The MS4 permitting program was initially created in 2004 to address water quality and flooding issues while the new 2023 mandates address projections of increasing storm intensity and frequency events and a shift towards watershed level planning with the inclusion of a mandatory Watershed Improvement Plan. This permit is renewed every five years with the new permit effective January 1, 2023. Annual reports to the NJDEP are due by May 1st every year.

Mr. Gallo stated that New Brunswick recently created a stormwater utility tax to help fund new MS4 mandates based on ERU (Equivalent Residential Units) with an average fell of \$77.00/year for each ERU. They expect to spend upwards of just over \$7M over six years.

Mr. Shimp gave an update on how the new mandates will affect the Public Works' Department in the following areas: Stormwater outfall pipe inspections, street sweeping, storm basins, and Stormwater infrastructure inspections.

Mr. Gallo and Mr. Shimp fielded questions from the governing body.

Public Comment

Members of the public wishing to address the Council on any matter will be allowed two minutes to speak unless there are unusual circumstances.

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the meeting was opened to the public for comment.

- **Caroline Gioia – 1402 Palley Court, Bridgewater, NJ 08807**
Ms. Gioia delivered statistics regarding gun safety. She stated that the gun laws need to be reinforced by the Bridgewater Police Department and encouraged the township to raise awareness on gun safety.
- **Olinda Young – 9 Van Veghten Drive, Bridgewater, NJ 08807**
Ms. Young spoke as a representative from the Somerset County Historical Society which is headquartered in the Van Veghten House. She stated that the Society is very pleased that the township has appointed a Historical Committee and looks forward to township collaboration.
- **Joan Geiger – 154 Hillside Avenue, Bridgewater, NJ 08807**
Ms. Geiger stated that she believed the comments made at the last council meeting regarding Donald Trump's verdict were inappropriate and potentially dangerous. She added that both Donald Trump and Hunter Biden were afforded all the rights of the constitution and the rule of law.

Ms. Geiger further explained that she would rather pay the \$77 extra for her taxes than pay for the clean out of her basement, removal of trees, and debris in the creek that is next to her house after a storm. She added she sent a letter via email to the mayor, council, DPW, and township engineer in 2021 without any acknowledgement. Ms. Geiger has since sent an email stating that Council President Ring courteously responded to her first letter and advised he could not open it. It was re-sent and she received a call from a gentleman from Somerset County who advised that the township has jurisdiction.

- **Marguerite Baranowski – 210 Finderne Avenue, Bridgewater, NJ 08807**
Ms. Baranowski offered her input regarding the trials of Donald Trump and Hunter Biden. She continued that both men received the full benefit of the democratic judicial system and added that she hopes the elected officials in the township believe in that system.
- **John Arcoleo – 1110 Washington Valley Road, Bridgewater, NJ 08807**
Mr. Arcoleo raised his concerns about the increase in the estimated tax bills. Township Administrator Pappas fielded questions from Mr. Arcoleo.

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the public comment portion was closed.

**Public
Hearing &
Final Action
Ordinances**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 76 (DISORDERLY CONDUCT) TO INCLUDE ENFORCEMENT MECHANISMS FOR IMPROPER ENTRIES ONTO REAL PROPERTY

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the meeting was opened to the public.

No one wished to be heard.

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the public comment portion was closed.

Councilman Pedroso expressed his continued support on the ordinance and commended Mayor Moench and the Administration for taking a leadership role in the completion of the ordinance. He opined that there is a state void in actively protecting the township's citizens.

Councilman Kirsh added that there seems to be limited engagement from Somerset County on this critical issue. The municipalities North of Route 22 have relied on the mayors and police chiefs to pursue any solutions. However, a more cohesive strategy with input from the county would be exceptionally valued here.

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the foregoing Ordinance was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

ORDINANCE #24-08 WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-06-27-171](#) is appended to the official minutes

Resolutions

AUTHORIZING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF JENNI PETERSON AS INTERIM MUNICIPAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR FOR A THIRD ONE (1) YEAR APPOINTMENT BEGINNING JULY 18, 2024, AND ENDING JULY 17, 2025

Jenni Peterson was hired on July 18, 2022, as the Bridgewater Township and Somerville Borough Municipal Court Administrator, as established in the Shared Services Agreement with Somerville Borough. This reappointment names her interim administrator for an additional year.

Township Administrator Pappas confirmed that Ms. Peterson is taking the required exams, and if successful, can be considered a regular candidate for the position at the conclusion of the interim term.

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-06-27-172](#) is appended to the official minutes

AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL O’GRODNICK, ESQ. AND CHRISTOPHER SOBIESKI, ESQ., FROM THE LAW FIRM OF SAVO SCHALK AS ALTERNATE MUNICIPAL PROSECUTORS

On motion of Councilman Kurdyla, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
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Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-06-27-173](#) is appended to the official minutes

AUTHORIZING BRIDGEWATER DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR BLANCA LYONS TO CONDUCT AN ELECTRONIC TAX SALE

Township Administrator Pappas stated that with the passing of this resolution, Blanca Lyons will be able to carry out the electronic tax sale in the absence of Tax Collector, Darrow Murdock.

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Kurdyla, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-06-27-174](#) is appended to the official minutes

ENDORISING THE TOWNSHIP'S AMENDED AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FEE SPENDING PLAN

Council President Ring stated that the township submitted a plan to the state regarding the transition of forty (40) rental units from the former Center of Excellence to the Hyatt House. The township received approval from the state last month.

On motion of Council President Ring, seconded by Councilman Kurdyla, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-06-27-175](#) is appended to the official minutes

AMENDING RESOLUTION 05-10-06-322 AUTHORIZING THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TO FACILITATE THE IMPLEMENTATION AND COORDINATION OF THE NIMS PROGRAM FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Kurdyla, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-06-27-176](#) is appended to the official minutes

DELEGATING THE AUTHORITY TO AWARD CONTRACT OF VALUES BETWEEN \$17,500 AND \$44,000 UNDER THE LOCAL PUBLIC CONTRACTS ACT (ALSO KNOWN AS “WINDOW CONTRACTS”) TO THE TOWNSHIP’S QUALIFIED PURCHASING AGENT, SARAH L. HOUSMAN

Council President Ring stated that for the Qualified Purchasing Agent to accept certain bids, the threshold needs to be adjusted as per state law.

After discussion regarding the wording of the threshold amount, the resolution was adopted as amended.

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-06-27-177](#) is appended to the official minutes

AWARD OF CONTRACT TO CRS LLC, 107 BLUEBIRD DRIVE 1D, HILLSBOROUGH, NJ 08844 IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$34,000.00 TO PROVIDE TEMPORARY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT AND MONITORING FOR THE PERIOD OF

AUGUST 1, 2024 – DECEMBER 31, 2024: FOR A TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$74,800.00

Township Administrator Pappas expressed that these services were initially provided for six (6) months, however, the township is recommending an extension of the contract for the remainder of the calendar year.

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Kurdyla, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-06-27-178](#) is appended to the official minutes

AWARD OF CONTRACT TO ATLANTIC TACTICAL, INC 772 CORPORATE CIRCLE, NEW CUMBERLAND, PA 17070 FOR THE PURCHASE OF POLICE UNIFORMS AND LEATHER GEAR IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$80,000.00 FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2024 – JUNE 30, 2025

On motion of Councilman Kurdyla, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-06-27-179](#) is appended to the official minutes

CONSENT VOTE

COUNCIL PRESIDENT RING READ THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS BY TITLE AND ALLOWED FOR DISCUSSIONS/QUESTIONS. HE THEN CALLED FOR A CONSENT MOTION.

AWARD OF CONTRACT TO CIFELLI & SON CONTRACTING, INC. (18 FRANKLIN AVENUE, NUTLEY, NJ 07110-3234) FOR THE 2024-PREP PROJECT WHICH INCLUDES THE ENTIRE LENGTHS OF GLEN ROAD, SARATOGA AVENUE, CREST

DRIVE, SHADY LANE, DEERHEAD DRIVE, HAYWARD STREET, CATHY COURT, AND BETSY ROSS PLACE, IN THE SUM OF \$682,573.80 TO BE FUNDED THROUGH THE 2024 CAPITAL FUND

Council President Ring offered that this is a township prep project, including work done to curbing, sidewalks and drainage issues, before PSE&G repaves the roads at their expense.

AWARD OF CONTRACT TO TOP LINE CONSTRUCTION CORP. (22 FIFTH STREET, SOMERVILLE, NJ 08876) FOR THE 2024-2 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT WHICH INCLUDES THE BASE BID FOR THE ENTIRE LENGTHS OF ANDOVER AVENUE, BERWICK DRIVE, MORRIS STREET (OFF NORTH AVENUE), NORTH AVENUE, AND ROANOKE ROAD AND ALTERNATE BID FOR THE ENTIRE LENGTHS OF ERIN COURT, ETHEL COURT AND MOORHOUSE COURT, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$786,243.20 TO BE FUNDED THROUGH THE 2024 CAPITAL FUND

AWARD OF CONTRACT TO TOP LINE CONSTRUCTION CORP. (22 FIFTH STREET, SOMERVILLE, NJ 08876) FOR THE 2024-5 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT WHICH INCLUDES THE BASE BID FOR THE ENTIRE LENGTHS OF LAWTON ROAD, LAWTON PLACE, BIRCH HILL DRIVE, BITTERSWEET TERRACE, SOMERSET AVENUE, AND ALTERNATE BID FOR MOUNTAIN TOP ROAD (CRIM ROAD TO ROSE COURT) AND THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER SENIOR CENTER, IN THE SUM OF \$1,300,932.79 TO BE FUNDED THROUGH THE 2024 CAPITAL FUND

Regarding the consent vote of the three (3) resolutions, Councilman Pedroso stated that he will not vote in favor of capital fund resolutions since he has not yet been provided with the Township’s yearly budget.

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the foregoing resolutions were proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Nay
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED.

Copies of resolutions [#24-06-27-180](#) thru [#24-06-27-182](#) are appended to the official minutes

APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A NJDOT MA FY25 GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE COUNTRY CLUB ROAD, GOLDFINCH DRIVE, AND ARDSLEY LANE

IMPROVEMENT PROJECT UNDER THEIR MUNICIPAL AID PROGRAM, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$807,222.00

Township Administrator Pappas clarified that the project would consist of work done to a portion of Country Club Road, north of Roosevelt Avenue to the municipal boundary leading up to Bedminster. Additionally, Goldfinch Drive will be paved in its' entirety, while Ardsley Lane will only add ADA curbing, as the road has already been repaved.

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-06-27-183](#) is appended to the official minutes

REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF THE FIRE PERMIT FEE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$60 FOR THE BRIDGEWATER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 651 COUNTRY CLUB ROAD, BRIDGEWATER, NEW JERSEY 08807, IN CONNECTION WITH OUTDOOR CHURCH SERVICES AND EVENTS ON WEDNESDAYS, FIRE PERMIT SERVICES JULY 3, 10, 17, 24 AND 31 FROM 7-8 PM AND AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER YOUTH FELLOWSHIP EVENTS ONE DAY PER MONTH (TBD) BETWEEN 6:30 AND 9 PM

On motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Council President Ring, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-06-27-184](#) is appended to the official minutes

REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF FIRE PERMIT FEE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$430.00 AND THE SPECIAL EVENT FEE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100.00 FOR THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$530.00 AND AUTHORIZATION FOR FIREWORKS DISPLAY FOR THE SOMERSET COUNTY PARK COMMISSION, 355 MILLTOWN ROAD, BRIDGEWATER, NJ ON THURSDAY, JULY 4, 2024 (RAIN DATE: JULY 5, 2024)

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-06-27-185](#) is appended to the official minutes

AUTHORIZATION FOR FIREWORKS DISPLAY FOR RARITAN VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB, 747 STATE ROUTE 28, BRIDGEWATER, NEW JERSEY ON FRIDAY, JULY 5, 2024

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Council President Ring, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution [#24-06-27-186](#) is appended to the official minutes

CONSENT VOTE

COUNCIL PRESIDENT RING READ THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS BY TITLE AND ALLOWED FOR DISCUSSIONS/QUESTIONS. HE THEN CALLED FOR A CONSENT MOTION.

2024-2025 RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE NUMBER 1806-33-021-009 FOR MISH-J.O. INVESTMENT CORP. T/A GREEN KNOLL GRILLE, 645 ROUTE 202/206 SOUTH, BRIDGEWATER, NJ 08807 WITH CONDITIONS

2024-2025 RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE 1806-33-011-009, FOGO DE CHAO CHURRASCARIA (BRIDGEWATER) LLC, t/a FOGO DE CHAO FOR PREMISES LOCATED AT BRIDGEWATER COMMONS MALL, 400 COMMONS WAY, SPACE 2690, BRIDGEWATER NJ 08807

2024-2025 RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE 1806-36-040-002 HOTEL/MOTEL EXCEPTION MARRIOTT HOTEL SERVICES, INC. WITH CONDITIONS

2024-2025 RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LIQUOR LICENSE 1806-44-044-003 FOR WINE OUTLET BRIDGEWATER, LLC, 120 EMILY PLACE, PARSIPPANY, NJ 07054 CURRENTLY HELD IN INACTIVE STATUS

2024-2025 RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LIQUOR LICENSE 1806-33-014-012 FOR BWATER TAVERN, LLC, 1288 ROUTE 22 EAST, BRIDGEWATER, NJ 08807 CURRENTLY HELD IN INACTIVE STATUS

Councilman Kirsh noted that there were no representatives from any of the retailers being awarded a liquor license.

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, the foregoing resolutions were proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Aye
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED.

Copies of resolutions [#24-06-27-187 thru #24-06-27-191](#) are appended to the official minutes

CONSENT VOTE

COUNCIL PRESIDENT RING READ THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS BY TITLE AND ALLOWED FOR DISCUSSIONS/QUESTIONS. HE THEN CALLED FOR A CONSENT MOTION.

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT FUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,931,103.00 WHICH BRINGS THE 2024 YEAR TO DATE TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS TO \$24,561,521.63

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE SEWER FUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,436,001.49 WHICH BRINGS THE 2024 YEAR TO DATE TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS TO \$7,709,274.47

Councilman Pedroso stated that he would vote “no” to be consistent with his previous votes regarding temporary appropriations without being provided with the Township’s yearly budget.

Councilman Kirsh asked Township Administrator Pappas if he anticipates this being the final time the council would be addressing emergency temporary appropriations if the budget is introduced on July 18, 2024, and adopted twenty-eight (28) days later. Township Administrator Pappas confirmed affirmatively.

On motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Kurdyla, the foregoing resolutions were proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh	Aye
Councilman Kurdyla	Aye
Councilman Norgalis	Aye
Councilman Pedroso	Nay
Council President Ring	Aye

THE RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED.

Copies of resolutions [#24-06-27-192](#) and [#24-06-27-193](#) are appended to the official minutes

Closed Session **BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Bridgewater Township Council that this body will now hold a closed meeting to discuss contract negotiations (Raritan Court).

When and if the matters discussed become public record, this will be made known to the public at that time.

The public is excluded from said meeting and further notice thereof is dispensed with all in accordance with Sections 8 and 4a of the Open Public Meetings Act.

On the motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Norgalis, Council convened in closed session at approximately 9:20 p.m.

A copy of resolution [#24-06-27-194](#) is appended to the official minutes.

On the motion of Councilman Kurdyla, seconded by Council President Ring, the meeting reconvened to open session at approximately 9:23 p.m. and adjourned immediately thereafter.

Adjournment On the motion of Councilman Norgalis, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Grace Njuguna, RMC
Municipal Clerk

Timothy Ring
Council President