

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE BOROUGH OF HOPATCONG
HELD AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 111 RIVER STYX ROAD, HOPATCONG NEW JERSEY
OCTOBER 16, 2024
PUBLIC SESSION-7:30PM**

CALL TO ORDER

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT: Mayor Galate stated "this meeting is being held in compliance with the 1975 Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA 10:4-6 et Seq., annual notice has been forwarded to the New Jersey Herald and the Daily Record, and posted on the bulletin board maintained in the Municipal building.

ROLL CALL:

	present	absent		present	absent
Hoferkamp	☒	☐	C. Smith	☒	☐
Johnson	☒	☐	R. Smith	☐	☒
Roberts	☒	☐	Galate	☒	☐
Rodriguez	☒	☐			

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Galate invited all present to salute the flag.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Matters of Contract – Animal Control

Motion to enter into executive session: Rodriguez

Second: Johnson

Vote: All ayes

Chief McCluskey came before the council to discuss the Animal Control contract with five towns. ACO positions were discussed. There are only three employees currently, one full-time, two part-time. Severing some of the contracts was discussed. Moving an employee from part time to full time was discussed. Renegotiating the contracts was discussed.

Motion to come back to regular session: Roberts

Second: Johnson

Vote: All ayes

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Ms. Roberts reported on the Community Center activities.

Mr. Hoferkamp reported on water treatment on the lake.

Ms. Johnson reported on Municipal Alliance. She reported on Recreation Commission. She reported on school activities. She reminded everyone to vote.

Ms. Smith reported on the Real Estate Committee.

Ms. Rodriguez reported on police activities. She reported on the trunk or treat. She reported that the 80 East ramp in Mt. Arlington is closed. She reported on the Ambulance Squad. She thanked the Cert Team for their dog training demonstration.

Mayor Galate reported on the Halloween costume contest and the house decorating contest. She reported on the Woman's Club food pantry. She reported that the Halloween Extravaganza will be held this weekend. She reported that the mobile NJDMV will be in the borough in November.

PRESENTATION BY BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESIDENT NICOLE FALCONI-SHUBERT

Ms. Falconi-Shubert reported on the 2024 School Bond Referendum.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

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Motion: Rodriguez

Second: Johnson

Vote: All ayes

James Gallagher had a question regarding connecting to the sewer. He commented on the school referendum.

Pete Freckling asked for dates of programs at the Community Center.

Sam Morris spoke about financing sewer hookup fees.

David Harris asked if the meeting is being recorded.

Motion to close the meeting to the public: Rod

Second: C Smith

Vote: All ayes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of October 2, 2024, (all eligible)

	M	S	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Hoferkamp	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Johnson	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Roberts	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Rodriguez	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
C. Smith	☐	☒	☒	☐	☐	☐
R. Smith	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter to the Jewish Center about the scheduling conflict of the Senior Spaghetti being on a Jewish holiday.

Water meeting letter from Engineer John Ruschke.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS LIST

Ms. Johnson asked to have PO 23-01413 taken off the bills list to be voted on separately

	M	S	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Hoferkamp	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Johnson	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Roberts	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Rodriguez	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
C. Smith	☐	☒	☒	☐	☐	☐
R. Smith	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Vote for PO 23-01413

	M	S	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Hoferkamp	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Johnson	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒
Roberts	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Rodriguez	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒
C. Smith	☐	☒	☒	☐	☐	☐
R. Smith	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

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RESOLUTIONS

R2024- 139, Purchase of a truck for the Police Department

	M	S	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Hoferkamp	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Johnson	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Roberts	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Rodriguez	☐	☒	☒	☐	☐	☐
C. Smith	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
R. Smith	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

R2024-140, Hiring of a Business Administrator

	M	S	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Hoferkamp	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Johnson	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Roberts	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Rodriguez	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
C. Smith	☐	☒	☒	☐	☐	☐
R. Smith	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

R2024-141, Approval of the renewal of a liquor license

	M	S	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Hoferkamp	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Johnson	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Roberts	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Rodriguez	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
C. Smith	☐	☒	☒	☐	☐	☐
R. Smith	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

ORDINANCES

INTRODUCTION

Ordinance

None

FINAL HEARING

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Zoning reports for July and August

	M	S	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Hoferkamp	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Johnson	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Roberts	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Rodriguez	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
C. Smith	☐	☒	☒	☐	☐	☐
R. Smith	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

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Tax Collector report for August

	M	S	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Hoferkamp	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Johnson	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Roberts	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Rodriguez	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
C. Smith	☐	☒	☒	☐	☐	☐
R. Smith	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

PUBLIC SESSION

Motion: Hoferkamp

Second: Johnson

Vote: All ayes

There was no one from the public who wished to comment

Motion to close the meeting to the public: C. Smith

Second: Johnson

Vote: All ayes

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Galate asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion by Councilmember Hoferkamp

Second by Council member Johnson. Vote was all ayes.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:34pm

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie A. Egan
Municipal Clerk