

## REGULAR MEETING – NOVEMBER 8, 2017

A Regular Meeting of the Highland Park Mayor and Council was held in Borough Hall, 221 South 5th Avenue, on Wednesday, November 8, 2017 and was called to order by Mayor Brill Mittler at 7:06 PM. Mayor Brill Mittler read the Open Public Meetings Statement.

Present: Mayor Brill Mittler; Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hersh, Kim, Welkovits; Borough Attorney Schmierer; Borough Administrator Jover; Borough Clerk Hullings.

Absent: None.

Pancreatic Cancer Proclamation

Mayor Brill Mittler asked the Council members to present their reports.

Councilwoman Foster-Dublin reported that the Volunteer Fire Department is seeking volunteers. The Fire Department conducted fire safety assemblies in the schools during October for Fire Prevention Month. She encouraged residents to change the batteries in their smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors. The Police Department participated in National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on October 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. They collected 63 pounds of surrendered pharmaceuticals for destruction. Residents can take unused medication to Saiff Drugs on Raritan Avenue or to the Edison Police Department. You should not flush unwanted medication. The St. Paul's Knights of Columbus honors a member of the Police, Fire and First Aid Squad as a way of thank first responders. On October 23, 2017, they honored Police Department Sgt. Theodore Haas, Volunteer Fire Department Member Michael Gershen and First Aid Squad Member Robin Loewenstein. They hope to break ground soon for the construction of the teen center with an anticipated completion date of August, 2018. Lastly, she reported that Highland Park had the lowest violent crime rate in the State of New Jersey, ranking 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Councilman Fine – No report.

Councilwoman Kim reported that the Book Art Workshop took place on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The registration for this event was good, with some being placed on a waiting list. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year that the Arts Commission has hosted this workshop. On November 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at the Senior/Youth Recreation Center there will be a Highland Swing Concert. It is a new Highland Park based jazz ensemble. The annual Thanksgiving Senior Luncheon will be held on November 20<sup>th</sup> at the Senior Center at noon. Kosher meals are available upon request. On Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> will be the Veteran's Day Parade beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the doughboy monument. The parade will proceed up Raritan Avenue and conclude in New Brunswick. She thanked all Veteran's for their service.

Councilman George reported that he held his monthly meeting with the Department of Public Works. One of the concerns they had was that due to the warm weather we have had that the leaves will be dropping later this year. It is anticipated that residents will still be cleaning up leaves in December and the Department of Public Works is planning for that. He reminded everyone that the Borough provides recyclable leaf bags for collection, approximately 20 per address, and they are available at the Department of Public Works for pickup. There are bulk trash pickup dates coming up in December. They will also try to do some last minute pothole repairs, however, most of the asphalt plants stop producing the material at this time of year. Sustainable Highland Park met at the end of last month and the bags program is doing well and the signs are appearing in more stores. The Environmental Commission has been working on designing a new website that is a lot more informative. They also discussed creating a lot more linkages to the Borough, Board of Education, and County websites. They are hoping to roll out the new website in December. They will be featuring the photography of local photographers on their website. The Shade Tree Advisory Committee will meet this evening and they are planning for tree planting project for next year. Anyone interested in having a tree planted in the verge in front of their house should fill out a request form. The Shade Tree Advisory Committee is planning on planting 31 trees next year. If you get a newly planted tree, residents are responsible for watering the newly planted tree. The Highland Park trail volunteers continued their work at the meadows. They were able to get some native species to put in the meadows area. They worked last month on the wisteria clean up with some volunteers.

Councilman Hersh reported that the Highland Park Municipal ID program officially launched on October 31<sup>st</sup>. ID's can be obtained at Borough Hall, and this ID entitles residents to any municipal services in the Borough, such as the Library. Applicants must be at least 14 years of age or older and a resident of the Borough of Highland Park. Applicants must show proof of identity and residency. Details are available on [www.hpboro.com](http://www.hpboro.com). Office hours for applications are Tuesdays, 3:00 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. ID cards are valid for 2 years from time of issuance. ID cards are intended to assist in the identification of the valid card holder for the purposes of obtaining services from the Borough of Highland Park and at the discretion of businesses within the Borough of Highland Park. This program will develop over time and they have received commitments and anticipate further cooperation from our stores and Main Street Highland Park. The cost is \$15 for adults, \$7 for seniors, youth and veterans. Applicants can request a hardship waiver with no questions asked. The Board of Health will meet on Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. The Housing Authority meeting tonight was cancelled due to tonight's Council meeting and has been rescheduled for November 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the Kronman Building at 242 South 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The Human Relations Commission Meeting will be held on November 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the lower level conference room in borough hall. The Commission for Universal Access will meet on Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in the Berman Conference Room.

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Councilwoman Welkovits reported that she is excited that tonight the Governing Body is having the first reading of a new development agreement with Mr. Anton Popov of the International Market on Raritan Avenue and North 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. This is the first redevelopment project that has been shepherded through the new area in need of rehabilitation screening committee that was formed in January. They have been working with Mr. Popov during the course of the year and his plan has now been approved by both the Redevelopment Agency and the Planning Board. This creation of the Screening Committee has not only streamlined the process, but they have the ability to ask for more things for the Borough from developers and they are approving final plans that are much more aligned to the kind of redevelopment we truly want and need in Highland Park. The redevelopment agreement, once signed by the redeveloper, binds him into beginning the project within 9 months and completing the build within 2 years. It's been a long time since we've seen a new building on the Avenue and she is confident that this sends the right message out to other developers, that Highland Park is open for business. She thanked the Screening Committee, which is made up of volunteers from the Redevelopment Agency, the Planning Board, the Board of Adjustment and Main Street. Great weather, ghoulish spirits and the need for sweets drew out a record crowd at the Halloween on the Avenue event last week. She thanked Main Street, the volunteers, musicians and all the participating businesses who made it a big success and continued this Highland Park tradition. She reminded residents that the Farmer's Market harvest season is still going strong throughout November and into December. They are open Fridays from 11:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. On Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, from 12:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m., there will be a Pop-up Flea Market at 431 Raritan Avenue. Pop-up markets are a great way to bring unusual items to residents looking for antiques, vintage, home décor, art work and more. On Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, the Borough's newest business, Chamber 43, located at 320 Raritan Avenue, will host a wine, cheese and snacks gathering courtesy of New Athens Corner. Immediately following this event, there will be a night of music at Pino's beginning at 7:00 p.m. She invited residents to join the National Writing Month organizers on Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. for an all-day write-off at Blank Space. Participants can guess the number of words written by the host and he'll write them into his new novel. She thanked Christine Laputka for organizing this great event. On Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. she invited residents to enjoy delicious coffee drinks and snacks at OQ Coffee while participating in an important discussion on sustainable solutions to disaster relief organized by Raices Cultural Center. Volunteers are need for Main Street's Winter Interest Planting Day on November 19<sup>th</sup>. The special annual Small Business Saturday and Tree Lighting will be held on November 25<sup>th</sup>. She invited residents to join them for holiday shopping at the small businesses in town. Keeping it local is better for tax dollars and to maintain the vibrant downtown. The Menorah Lighting will take place on December 12<sup>th</sup> and the Kwanzaa Celebration will be held on December 26<sup>th</sup>.

Borough Administrator Jover noted that the Borough will be submitting an application for the BPU for a Local Government Energy Audit. If the application is accepted, they will provide for free a fairly detailed energy audit of the Borough's buildings in town with the goal towards doing upgrades over time to make the buildings more efficient and save money.

Borough Attorney Schmierer – No report.

Mayor Brill Mittler reported that she met with Assemblywoman Pinkin, Councilman Hersh and members of the Board of Health to talk about the opioid epidemic in New Jersey. Of particular concern to Highland Park, was the effect of this epidemic on the children of those who are addicted. Chief Rizco was also present at the meeting and he informed them about some of the programs already in the works with the Police Department. Last week she held the first Paint with the Mayor event at the senior center. There were 3 tables filled with painters. She is very proud of her painting and it is displayed in her office. They had a great time and she was able to talk with residents about their concerns and everyone left with their own masterpiece. Civics for the Community has put together civics lessons for the residents. The 1<sup>st</sup> presentation was on State Government. The event was well attended and was worthwhile. The 2<sup>nd</sup> installment will be "How does Local Government Work" and the speaker will be Marc Pfeiffer, Assistant Director of Bloustein Local Government Research Center. The event will be held on Tuesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Highland Park Senior Center and is open to the public, with light refreshments being served. She encouraged residents to come and learn about local government.

Mayor Brill Mittler opened the meeting for public discussion and called upon all those wishing to speak to identify themselves.

Kaleigh Wharton, 119 Johnson Street and Emily Berman, 442 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, appeared and noted that they are part of the Women's Issues Club at the Highland Park High School. They are working on the "Period Project" which is a project to collect feminine hygiene products which are then donated to women's shelters and food pantries. Last year they collected over 300 donations and donated to Women Aware, Catholic Charities, Elijah's Promise, and the Highland Park Food Pantry. They are doing the project again this year and residents can donate through a link on their Facebook page (period project-highland park high school women's issues club). They have a wish list on their page and any of those items can be purchased and donated. There are boxes around town where donations can be dropped off. Local businesses that have the bright pink donation boxes are Saiff Drugs, Unite Pharmacy, the Reformed Church and the center hall at the high school. Suggestion to submit information about the program to Stacy Kaplan in the Communications Department. The project will run until December 31, 2017.

Herb Gross, Adelaide Gardens, thanked Councilwoman Kim for mentioning the Veteran's Day parade. The parade begins at 11:00 a.m. in Highland Park.

No one else appearing to be heard, the Mayor closed the public discussion.

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The Clerk reported advertising an ordinance entitled, CAPITAL ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS FENCING PROJECTS, IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$17,327.00 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, for consideration of passage on final reading by title and that affidavits of publication thereto are on file. She also reported that the ordinance had been posted and made available to the public, as required by law.

On motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilwoman Welkovits, and carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote, the above entitled ordinance was taken up on final reading by title.

Mayor Brill Mittler declared the public hearing on the ordinance open to all officials and persons present and called upon all those wishing to speak for or against the ordinance to do so.

No one appearing to be heard and no objections having been received in writing, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

On motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilwoman Welkovits, the ordinance entitled as above, being Ordinance No. 17-1952, was duly adopted by the following roll call, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hersh, Kim, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Abstained: None.

Absent: None.

The following resolution, introduced by the Council as a Whole, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilwoman Welkovits, and carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote:

No. 11-17-325

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Ordinance entitled, CAPITAL ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS FENCING PROJECTS, IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$17,327.00 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, passed on final reading at this meeting be delivered to the Mayor for his approval, and if approved by him, that the same be recorded in full by the Borough Clerk in a proper book kept for that purpose, and be advertised by publishing the same by title in the "Home News Tribune", of East Brunswick, New Jersey, a newspaper published in the County of Middlesex and circulating in this municipality, there being no newspaper published in this municipality, in the manner prescribed by law.

The Clerk reported that an ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK IN MIDDLESEX COUNTY, AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, 2010 CONCERNING PUBLIC DISCUSSIONS AT MEETINGS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL, had been introduced in writing by the Council as a Whole for consideration of passage on first reading by title.

On motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman Hersh, the ordinance entitled as above was duly adopted on first reading by title by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hersh, Kim, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Abstained: None.

Absent: None.

The following resolution, introduced by the Council as a Whole, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman Hersh, and carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote:

No. 11-17-326

WHEREAS, an Ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK IN MIDDLESEX COUNTY, AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, 2010 CONCERNING PUBLIC DISCUSSIONS AT MEETINGS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL has been introduced and duly passed on first reading;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that this Council meet at the Borough Hall, 221 South Fifth Avenue, Highland Park, New Jersey, on Tuesday, December 5, 2017, at 7:00 PM, for the purpose of considering said Ordinance on final passage after public hearing thereon.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said a Notice of Pending Ordinance and Summary of said Ordinance be published once at least one (1) week prior to the time fixed for further consideration of said Ordinance for final passage in the "Home News Tribune", of East Brunswick, New Jersey, a newspaper published in the County of Middlesex and circulating in this municipality, there being no newspaper published daily in this municipality, together with a notice of the introduction thereof and of the time and place when and where said Ordinance will be further considered for final passage as aforesaid.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of said Ordinance shall be posted on the bulletin board at Borough Hall, 221 South Fifth Avenue, Highland Park, New Jersey, forthwith and that the Borough Clerk have available in her office for the members of the general public of Highland Park copies of said Ordinance for those members of the general public who may request the same.

The Clerk reported that an ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK IN MIDDLESEX COUNTY, AMENDING THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT PLAN DATED SEPTEMBER 13, 2005, AS AMENDED AND SUPPLEMENTED, had been introduced in writing by the Economic Development and Planning Committee for consideration of passage on first reading by title.

On motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman George, the ordinance entitled as above was duly adopted on first reading by title by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hersh, Kim, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Abstained: None.

Absent: None.

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The following resolution, introduced by the Economic Development and Planning Committee, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman George, and carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote:

No. 11-17-327

WHEREAS, an Ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK IN MIDDLESEX COUNTY, AMENDING THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT PLAN DATED SEPTEMBER 13, 2005, AS AMENDED AND SUPPLEMENTED, has been introduced and duly passed on first reading;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that this Council meet at the Borough Hall, 221 South Fifth Avenue, Highland Park, New Jersey, on Tuesday, December 5, 2017, at 7:00 PM, for the purpose of considering said Ordinance on final passage after public hearing thereon.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said a Notice of Pending Ordinance and Summary of said Ordinance be published once at least one (1) week prior to the time fixed for further consideration of said Ordinance for final passage in the "Home News Tribune", of East Brunswick, New Jersey, a newspaper published in the County of Middlesex and circulating in this municipality, there being no newspaper published daily in this municipality, together with a notice of the introduction thereof and of the time and place when and where said Ordinance will be further considered for final passage as aforesaid.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of said Ordinance shall be posted on the bulletin board at Borough Hall, 221 South Fifth Avenue, Highland Park, New Jersey, forthwith and that the Borough Clerk have available in her office for the members of the general public of Highland Park copies of said Ordinance for those members of the general public who may request the same.

On motion mace by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman Hersh, and carried by affirmative voice vote of all Councilpersons present, Resolution Nos. 11-17-347, 11-17-348 and 11-17-354 were tabled from consideration.

Resolution Nos. 11-17-328 through 11-17-357, except Resolution Nos. 11-17-347, 11-17-348, and 11-17-354, were duly adopted on motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman George, and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hersh, Kim, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Abstained: None.

Absent: None.

The following resolution, introduced by the Economic Development and Planning Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-328

WHEREAS, the following have posted Zoning Board of Adjustment Escrow Fees in the amounts indicated for various projects as indicated below:

<u>ACCOUNT NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
<u>DESCRIPTION</u>			
T-12-56-825-193	Malcolm Watford 206 Jackson Highland Park, NJ 08904	\$66.50	206 Jackson Avenue

WHEREAS, the Director of the Department of Code Enforcement has determined that Zoning Board of Adjustment Escrow Fees can be released;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Finance Director shall be and is hereby authorized and directed to remit to the above the amounts indicated, the same being the amount of refund due for return of Zoning Board of Adjustment Escrow Fees referenced.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Director of Code Enforcement and the Finance Director forthwith.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-329

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Borough Clerk be and is hereby authorized and directed to notify the Borough Finance Director that since the adoption of a resolution on January 3, 2017 showing the names of the officers and employees of the Borough of Highland Park whose salaries are on an hourly basis, there have been the following changes, to wit:

ANNETTE SORBINO, Technical Assistant, \$45,988.00, effective November 6, 2017.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Borough Clerk be and is hereby authorized and directed to notify the Borough Finance Director that since the adoption of a resolution on January 3, 2017 showing the names of the officers and employees of the Borough of Highland Park whose salaries are on an hourly basis, there have been the following changes, to wit:

DEBRA SMITH, Substitute Crossing Guard, at an hourly rate of \$18.24, effective November 8, 2017.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Finance Director be and is hereby directed to make the necessary changes in the payroll records of the Finance Department in accordance with the changes established by this resolution.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-330

WHEREAS, KAREN VALENTE, PRINCIPAL CLERK TYPST, will retire from the Borough of Highland Park effective November 8, 2017; and

WHEREAS, per the requirements of the Borough's Personnel Manual, Karen Valente is entitled to unused accrued time payments in the amount as calculated below:

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	Calculation	Amount Due
Sick Hours (62.57 hours)	(62.57 x \$23.11)	\$1,446.22
<b>Total Payment</b>		<b>\$1,446.22</b>

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the unused accrued time payment in an amount not to exceed \$1,446.22 be approved and distributed in the next available pay cycle.

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-331

WHEREAS, the residents of 7 South 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, received an erroneous water and sewer bill; and  
 WHEREAS, it has been determined by the Highland Park Water & Sewer Department that the water meter malfunctioned thereby causing the issuance of an erroneous water and sewer bill; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector recommends that this account be credited for the erroneous charges;  
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to issue a credit to Account #20150550-0 of \$42.73 for sewer, for usage between October 2, 2017 and October 15, 2017 to the account of 7 South 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Highland Park.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector and Finance Director forthwith.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-332

WHEREAS, a property known as Block 181, Lot 43, qual C1202, also known as 1202 Shep Drive, owned by Paul G. Alexander, had an error in their assessment for the year 2017 occur; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor has filed an appeal to correct the error; and  
 WHEREAS, getting a final judgment from the Tax Court of New Jersey may take several months;  
 and

WHEREAS, Highland Park recognizes the financial burden that being required to pay an additional \$13,048.82 would be on a resident;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to remove this property from the December, 2017 tax sale.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector and Finance Director forthwith.

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-333

WHEREAS, 411 River Road paid \$539.98 for a water and sewer bill in 2012; and  
 WHEREAS, it has been determined by the Highland Park Water & Sewer Department that there has been an overpayment for this water and sewer bill; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector recommends that this account (#30230710-0) be refunded \$539.98;  
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to issue a refund in the amount of \$539.98 to 411 River Road.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector and Finance Director forthwith.

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-334

WHEREAS, 212 Raritan Avenue, Block 22, Lot 4, paid \$212.90 for a water and sewer bill in 2012;  
 and

WHEREAS, it has been determined by the Highland Park Water & Sewer Department that there has been an overpayment for this water and sewer bill; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector recommends that the payment of \$212.90 for this account (#20110930-0) be cancelled;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to cancel the payment of \$212.90 for 212 Raritan Avenue.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector and Finance Director forthwith.

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-335

WHEREAS, the property owner and Weichert Title Agency, during the closing of the sale of property, both remitted payments for water and sewer charges on a property known as 2102 Ethan Lane, Account #30231204-0; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector recommends that Weichert Title Agency be refunded \$62.96 for water and sewer payment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to issue a refund in the amount of \$62.96 from the water and sewer account to Weichert Title Agency, 1909 Route 70 East, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector and Finance Director forthwith.

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The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:  
No. 11-17-336

WHEREAS, 212 Raritan Avenue, known as Block 22, Lot 4 on the Highland Park Tax Map, was purchased by the Borough of Highland Park on October 6, 2017; and

WHEREAS, 4<sup>th</sup> quarter taxes in the amount of \$4,619.44, on Block 22, Lot 4, should be cancelled, due to the property attaining tax exempt status; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Tax Collector be and is hereby authorized and directed to cancel the amount set opposite the following, the same being the amount of taxes to be cancelled due to the property attaining tax exempt status:

<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>LOT</u>	<u>AMOUNT TO BE CANCELLED</u>
22	4	\$4,619.44

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Finance Director and Tax Collector forthwith.

The following resolution, introduced by the Recreation and Arts Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-337

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the By-Laws of the Highland Park Municipal Alliance, and on file in the office of the Borough Clerk shall be and are hereby adopted as the By-Laws of the Municipal Alliance for the year 2017.

The following resolution, introduced by the Council as a Whole, was duly adopted as above:  
No. 11-17-338

WHEREAS, THE Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities through New Jersey.

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages' and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Middlesex; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the Highland Park Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2018 in the amount of:

DEDR	\$21,551.00
Cash Match	\$ 5,387.75
In-Kind	\$16,163.25
2. The Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-339

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Borough Clerk shall be and is hereby authorized and directed to advertise for receipt of bids for the following contract items:

1. Sanitary Sewer Inspection and Maintenance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said bids will be received at a date and time to be determined by the Borough Clerk and the Superintendent of the Public Works Department, said bids to be in accordance with specifications prepared by the Public Works Department.

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-340

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park desires to apply for and obtain a grant from the NJDEP Community Forestry Program, which application has been prepared by the Borough's Shade Tree Advisory Committee; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to sign and submit the NJDEP Community Forestry Program Grant.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Shade Tree Advisory Committee forthwith.

The following resolution, introduced by the Recreation and Arts Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-341

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Highland Park Arts Commission is hereby authorized and directed to submit a grant application to the Middlesex County Office of Arts & History Programs for a grant to sponsor a series of autobiography/spoken word workshops.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Arts Commission, the Borough Administrator, and the Finance Director forthwith.

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-342

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 2-17-99 adopted by the Borough Council on February 21, 2017, J. Fletcher Creamer & Son, Inc. was authorized to perform emergency repairs to a manhole for an amount not to exceed \$81,750.00; and

WHEREAS, a Blanket Purchase Order was generated, Purchase Order No. 17000311, in the amount of \$81,750.00; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to increase the Blanket Purchase Order by \$31,073.06; and

WHEREAS, funds for this additional increase are available in the amount of \$31,073.06 in Account No. U-06-55-803-205, as reflected by the certification of funds by the Chief Financial Officer, shown below;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that Purchase Order No. 17-000311 be increased from \$81,750.00 to \$112,823.06.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to Chief Financial Officer and the Superintendent of Public Works and Public Utilities.

The following resolution, introduced by the Economic Development and Planning Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-343

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that Resolution No. 5-17-163 adopted by the Borough Council on May 2, 2017, shall be and is hereby amended as follows:

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park has need of the services of a Planner to provide planning services in connection with the investigation of the Borough Square Development, in accordance with letter proposal from Jim Constantine, Looney Ricks Kiss, dated April 5, 2017, attached to the original of this resolution; and

WHEREAS, such services are professional services as defined in the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, Looney Ricks Kiss, Philadelphia, P.A., is a firm of licensed planners of the State of New Jersey with extensive experience in providing these services; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council desire to provide for the method of compensation of said consulting engineer; and

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are available in Account No. 7-01-20-170-2ED, in an amount not to exceed \$5,400.00, as reflected by the Certification of Funds Available by the Assistant CFO, shown below; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized and directed to execute and attest on behalf of the Borough an Agreement for professional services with Jim Constantine, PP, Looney Ricks Kiss, Public Ledger Building, Suite 756, 150 S. Independence Mall West, Philadelphia, PA 191065, a copy of which is attached to the original of this original, and that notice of this contract be published as required by law and that a copy of executed Agreement be placed on file in the office of the Borough Clerk.

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-344

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 8-17-259, adopted by the Borough Council on August 8, 2017, authorized Change Order No. 1 for the Improvements to Grant Avenue, Felton Avenue and Graham Street; and

WHEREAS, the Borough received notification from PSE&G that they would be doing gas line work on said streets;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that Resolution No. 8-17-259 shall be and is hereby rescinded.

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-345

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park has need of the additional services of an engineer to provide engineering services in connection with Change Order No. 1 for the Improvements to Grant Avenue, Felton Avenue and Graham Street, in accordance with letter proposal from CME Associates, dated July 13, 2017, attached to the original of this resolution; and

WHEREAS, such services are professional services as defined in the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, CME Associates, Parlin, N.J., is a firm of licensed engineers of the State of New Jersey with extensive experience in providing these services; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council desire to provide for the method of compensation of said consulting engineer; and

WHEREAS, funds are available for this purpose in Account Number No. C-04-55-822-210 in an amount not to exceed \$4,775.00 without further resolution of Council, as reflected by the Certification of Funds by the Assistant CFO, shown below;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized and directed to execute and attest on behalf of the Borough an Agreement for professional services with CME Associates, 3141 Bordentown Avenue, Parlin, NJ 08859, a copy of which is attached to the original of this original, and that notice of this contract be published as required by law and that a copy of executed Agreement be placed on file in the office of the Borough Clerk.



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The following resolution, introduced by the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-346

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 3-17-118, adopted March 21, 2017, the Borough Council authorized execution of a contract with Z Brothers Concrete Contractors, Inc. for Improvements to Grant Avenue, Felton Avenue and Graham Street, in an amount not to exceed \$538,982.97, without further resolution of Council; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to said resolution a contract was duly executed; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer has prepared the attached Change Order No. 1 to the said contract to allow for supplemental work for the above referenced project; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer has prepared the attached Change Order No. 1 to the said contract to allow for additional work on the Firehouse Apron, work that was not anticipated at the time that plans and specifications were prepared for an additional cost of \$3,540.30; and

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are available in Account No. C-04-55-822-210 in the amount of \$3,540.30, as reflected by the Certification of Funds by the Finance Department, shown below; and

WHEREAS, Council has reviewed the proposed Change Order No. 1 for this contract and has approved the same subject to satisfaction of N.J.A.C. 5:30-11.9 relating to change orders;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that Mayor Gayle Brill Mittler be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute Change Order No. 1, dated October 30, 2017, to the contract of Z Brothers Concrete Contractors, Inc. upon satisfaction of N.J.A.C. 5:30-11.9 relating to the submission of a certification relating to the change orders to date, to the satisfaction of the Borough Attorney and Engineer; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Borough Administrator, Borough Treasurer and Z Brothers Concrete Contractors, Inc. forthwith.

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-349

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park desires to submit an application to the BPU for a Local Government Energy Audit Program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Borough Administrator is hereby directed to submit the Application, on behalf of the Borough, to the BPU.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Borough Administrator forthwith.

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Safety Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-350

WHEREAS, Carmine Joseph Tumminelli has filed with the Clerk of this Borough an application for a License to operate taxicabs under the provisions of the Ordinance providing for such Licenses for the year 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police and/or his designee has investigated said applicants and has reported favorably upon said application;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that said applicants are qualified and that public necessity and convenience would be served by the issuance of said License.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be and is hereby authorized and directed to issue an Operator License to the aforesaid applicant.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-351

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that transfers of 2017 budget appropriation balances shall be made as follows:

Description	From	To
Information Technology OE		\$ 7,000.00
Legal OE		\$ 80,000.00
Electric		\$ 20,000.00
Police S/W		\$ 60,000.00
Dept. on Aging OE		\$ 1,000.00
LOSAP		\$ 1,500.00
PERS – Pension – DCRP		\$ 1,500.00
Uniform Const. Code S/W		\$ 17,500.00
Streets & Road Maint. S/W		\$ 23,000.00
Financial Administration OE	\$ 32,500.00	
Information Technology S/W	\$ 23,000.00	
Community & Econ. Dev. S/W	\$ 15,000.00	
Financial Administration S/W	\$ 41,000.00	
Employee Group Insurance	\$100,000.00	
Total	<u>\$211,500.00</u>	<u>\$ 211,500.00</u>

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-352

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 8-15-236, adopted by the Borough Council on August 11, 2015, a contract was awarded to Willcof Roofing & Construction of Hamilton, NJ for the 2015 Reconstruction of Various Public Roofs; and



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WHEREAS, it appears from Pay Estimate No. 3 and Close-out Change Order, filed by the CME Associates, that certain work under said contract has been completed and approved, and there is due to Willcof Roofing & Construction, the sum of \$18,365.22 in accordance with said Pay Estimate for work performed from October 20, 2016 to October 31, 2017; and

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are available in Account No. C-04-55-825-210 in the amount of \$18,365.22, as reflected by the Certification of Funds Available by the Chief Financial Officer, shown below;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Chief Financial Officer be and is hereby authorized and directed to pay Willcof Roofing & Construction the sum of \$18,365.22, as certified by the Engineer in Pay Estimate No. 3, subject to the Clerk's receipt of the Certified Payroll and Project Manning Reports; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer and CME Associates forthwith.

The following resolution, introduced by the Council as a Whole, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-353

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 8-15-236, adopted by the Borough Council on August 11, 2015, a contract was awarded to Willcof Roofing & Construction of Hamilton, New Jersey for the 2015 reconstruction of various public roofs; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to said contract, one of the public roofs to be repaired is the roof on the Borough of Highland Park Library; and

WHEREAS, following the completion of the roof repair and replacement, the Borough of Highland Park library continues to experience water leaks which are damaging equipment, carpeting and books within said library; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park Engineer has recommended that the roof leaks be immediately investigated as they may relate to leaking coming from the HVAC units on the Borough of Highland Park Library roof as well as from electrical conduit on said roof; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park Administrator is satisfied that an emergency contract is required in order to retain the services immediately of an HVAC contractor and an electrical contractor to investigate the continued water leaking problems that have beset the Borough of Highland Park Library and repair said leaks; and

WHEREAS, funds are remaining in Account No. C-04-55-825-210 as heretofore appropriated by the Borough Council for the Capital Project involving Reconstruction of Various Public Roofs; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6 permits the award of Emergency Contracts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Borough Administrator be and is hereby authorized to retain the services of an HVAC contractor and an electrical contractor to immediately inspect and repair any leaks on the Borough of Highland Park Library roof associated with the HVAC equipment and electrical conduits on said roof; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Borough of Highland Park Chief Finance Officer and to CME Associates forthwith.

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-355

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 3-17-118, adopted March 21, 2017, the Borough Council authorized execution of a contract with Z Brothers Concrete Contractors, Inc. for Improvements to Grant Avenue, Felton Avenue and Graham Street, in an amount not to exceed \$538,982.97, without further resolution of Council; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to said resolution a contract was duly executed; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer has prepared the attached Change Order No. 2 to the said contract to allow for supplemental work for the above referenced project; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer has prepared the attached Change Order No. 2 to the said contract to allow for additional work on Wayne Street, Cleveland Avenue and South 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, work that was not anticipated at the time that plans and specifications were prepared for an additional cost of \$14,605.32; and

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are available in Account No. C-04-55-822-210 in the amount of \$14,605.32, as reflected by the Certification of Funds by the Finance Department, shown below; and

WHEREAS, Council has reviewed the proposed Change Order No. 2 for this contract and has approved the same subject to satisfaction of N.J.A.C. 5:30-11.9 relating to change orders;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that Mayor Gayle Brill Mittler be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute Change Order No. 1, dated October 16, 2017, to the contract of Z Brothers Concrete Contractors, Inc. upon satisfaction of N.J.A.C. 5:30-11.9 relating to the submission of a certification relating to the change orders to date, to the satisfaction of the Borough Attorney and Engineer; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Borough Administrator, Borough Treasurer and Z Brothers Concrete Contractors, Inc. forthwith.

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 11-17-356

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 3-17-118, adopted by the Borough Council on March 21, 2017, a contract was awarded to Z. Brothers Concrete Contractors, Inc. of Sayreville, NJ, for the Improvements to Grant Avenue, Felton Avenue and Graham Street; and

WHEREAS, it appears from Pay Estimate No. 2, filed by the CME Associates, that certain work under said contract has been completed and approved, and there is due to Z. Brothers Concrete Contractors, Inc., the sum of \$104,637.27 in accordance with said Pay Estimate for work performed from October 10, 2017 to October 31, 2017; and

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WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are available in Account No. C-04-55-822-210 in the amount of \$104,637.27, as reflected by the Certification of Funds Available by the Chief Financial Officer, shown below;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Chief Financial Officer be and is hereby authorized and directed to pay Z. Brothers Concrete Contractors, Inc. the sum of \$104,637.27, as certified by the Engineer in Pay Estimate No. 2, subject to the Clerk's receipt of the Certified Payroll and Project Manning Reports and additional documents as necessary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer and CME Associates forthwith.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:  
No. 11-17-57

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that all claims presented prior to this meeting as shown on a detailed list prepared by the Borough Treasurer, and which have been submitted and approved in accordance with Highland Park Ordinance No. 1004, shall be and the same are hereby approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk shall include in the minutes of this meeting a statement as to all such claims approved as shown in a Bills List Journal in accordance with said Ordinance.

The bills approved for payment at this meeting, Bills List 11/8/2017 can be found in the Bills List Journal Book No. 36.

Mayor Brill Mittler appointed Abby Stern Cardinale to serve as a Regular Member of the Public Information Commission for a term to expire May 1, 2018.

The above appointment was confirmed on motion made by Councilman Hersh, seconded by Councilwoman Welkovits and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hersh, Kim, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Abstained: None.

Absent: None.

Mayor Brill Mittler opened the meeting for public discussion and called upon all those wishing to speak to identify themselves.

Ruth Bickhardt, 307 Magnolia Street, complained about the volume of the microphones and that it is difficult to hear. She also complained about bicyclists who don't wear helmets, ride on the sidewalks and don't have bells on their bicycles.

No one else appearing to be heard, the Mayor closed public discussion.

The following resolution, introduced by the Council as a Whole, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman Hersh, and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hersh, Kim, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Abstained: None.

Absent: None.

No. 11-17-358

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council is of the opinion that such circumstances exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from the closed session at close of tonight's open session.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:  
(Litigation: JSM at Highland Park v Highland Park)
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matter will be made public when these matters are resolved or as soon thereafter as it is deemed to be in the public interest to do so.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

There being no further business, on motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman Hersh, and carried by affirmative voice vote of all Councilpersons present, the meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Hullings  
Borough Clerk