

BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK
REGULAR MAYOR & COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 20, 2016 - 7:00 PM

A Regular Meeting of the Highland Park Mayor and Council was held in Borough Hall, 221 South 5th Avenue, on Tuesday December 21, 2016 and was called to order by Mayor Brill Mittler at 7:10 PM. Mayor Brill Mittler read the Open Public Meetings Statement.

Present: Mayor Brill Mittler; Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hersh, Welkovits; Borough Attorney Schmierer; Borough Administrator Kovach; Borough Clerk Hullings.
Absent: Councilman Walsh.

Udi Shorr and Aurora Guerrara have been harvesting honey from the bees for the last 2 years as part of their project with the Borough. They are pleased to be donating 40 pounds of honey to Elijah's Promise. Mr. Zullo from Elijah's Promise accepted the donation and noted that they took inspiration from this project and started a beehive in New Brunswick. He thanked them for the donation and noted that they will use the honey in baking programs and will be selling some of their products to OQ Coffee in Highland Park.

On motion made by Councilman George seconded by Councilwoman Welkovits, the minutes of the Regular and Conference Meetings held on May 17, 2016, June 14, 2016, July 12, 2016, August 9, 2016, September 6, 2016 and September 20, 2016 were approved as distributed by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George (abstained from September 6th), Welkovits.
Opposed: None.
Absent: Councilman Walsh.
Abstain: Councilman Hersh.

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

Councilwoman Foster-Dublin reported that the campaign of "Be Sober or Get Pulled Over" is in effect and she encouraged residents to buckle up when they drive. Lastly, she wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Councilman Fine wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Councilman George reported that the rehabilitation ordinance is on the agenda for 2nd reading. Main Street Highland Park will be hosting a Kwanzaa and Menorah lighting on December 26th. An antique store will be coming to Highland Park and there is a suggestion to have an antiques fair in the spring. The Board of Adjustment is currently hearing an application for a Chinese learning center on Woodbridge Avenue. Zoning Board and Planning Board hearings are like trials. The adoption of the new rehabilitation ordinance will help applicants work out problems. The Parking Review Task Force is nearing the completion of their review of parking in the downtown. The Quarterly Board Chairs meeting helps the various boards/commissions to keep apprised of what everyone is working on. The Master Plan will need to be re-evaluated and they plan to incorporate complete streets and sustainability matters into the document.

Councilman Hersh reported that he attended the employee appreciation luncheon. It was a wonderful experience to socialize in a casual way with the Borough staff. The task force on community inclusion and social equity will meet soon and he will also meet with Councilwoman Foster-Dublin to review existing policies. He will send recommended appointee names to the Mayor for approval.

Councilwoman Welkovits reported that the Shade Tree Advisory Committee is working on tree planting project for 2017. The Department of Public Works utilized the brine machine to coat the roads prior to an impending storm. The Borough is working on getting the final reports done for NJDEP for the oil tank removal. Borough was not compliant, but they are now in compliance. The Borough of Highland Park achieved silver certification from Sustainable Jersey. Mayor Brill Mittler thanked Councilwoman Welkovits for her efforts. Councilwoman Welkovits thanked the Mayor for supporting this initiative. She also thanked Teri Jover and Dan Bianchini for their assistance in achieving silver certification. Lastly, she reported on a solar program which will be a marketplace for residents to list their homes to get the best rates from contractors.

Teri Jover, Chairperson of Sustainable Highland Park, commented that she is thrilled to get silver certification. She thanked the Mayor and Council and Dan Bianchini for their efforts. The Borough of Highland Park had 485 points; with 350 points being needed to get the certification. She was thrilled to hear Councilman George talk about incorporating the concepts from Sustainable Jersey into the Master Plan and she volunteered herself to help with that implementation. They are partnering with Sustainable Jersey and Energy Sage to launch a solar initiative for interested residents. Energy Sage is a web based portal where property owners can meet up with interested contractors. To sign up you need to have your energy bill, your address and answer a couple of questions and you can be soliciting bids from highly qualified contractors. One of the advantages of working with Energy Sage is that they are a US Department of Energy backed entity that has a lot of expertise and knows how to vet the contractors. Even if a resident solicits bids, they are under no obligation to move forward if they choose not to pursue solar. To get the word out Sustainable Highland Park is using hpsolar.org, a customized online portal for Highland Park residents. This program is a pilot program and there is a challenge for Highland Park residents, as there are 7 other communities involved. The first phase will be a letter to residents from the Mayor introducing the program along with an information sheet. There are lots of FAQ's and videos provided by Energy Sage on that website. There will also be an informational session on this program at the Library on January 10th at 7:00 PM.

Borough Administrator Kovach – no report.

Borough Attorney Schmierer – no report.

Mayor Brill Mittler reported that the Park Partners Presentation will be held in February. This will be the 3rd year for this program. Residents can submit ideas for grant projects in five categories. Residents are encouraged to watch for announcement for the voting. Lastly, she reported on the HP Gives a Hoot program that helps to feed children when they are not in school. Residents are encouraged to consider making a donation.

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

Herb Gross, Adelaide Gardens, commented that he appreciates the support for Veteran's during the Veteran's Day Parade. He would like the Mayor and Council to show more recognition for veterans. Mayor Brill Mittler noted that she appointed Shayne SantaLucia as a Liaison to Veterans. Lastly, Mr. Gross spoke about benefits package for veterans and handed out informational cards to the Governing Body.

Councilman George noted that the Kwanzaa Celebration is December 26th from 10:30 to 12:30 at Kinetics. It is a very festive and loud celebration. The Menorah lighting will be held on December 28th from 6:00 to 7:00 at Main Street Highland Park and it is being sponsored by 10 local businesses. Lastly, he noted that Project Graduation is collecting ads for their book and he encouraged the Governing Body to place an ad.

Councilman Hersh advised that the Park Partners voting will take place on Sunday, February 12.

The Clerk reported advertising an ordinance entitled, RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY DESIGNATING THE ENTIRE AREA WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK AS AN 'AREA IN NEED OF REHABILITATION' PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1, et seq., 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 for public inspection 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. 16-1921, was duly adopted on final reading by title by the following roll call vote, to wit:

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

Opposed: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: Councilman Walsh.

Prior to voting, Councilman George made the following comments: "This ordinance shuts down condemnation because you cannot do that in an area of rehabilitation. When you own a property or you have a contract to buy a property, you can opt in to come up with redevelopment plan with the Borough, but the Borough can't force you to do it. The reason they are going town wide is that there is so much more to this town than just the old redevelopment area."

The following resolution, introduced by 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. 12-16-335

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Ordinance entitled, RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, DESIGNATING THE ENTIRE AREA WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK AS AN "AREA IN NEED OR REHABILITATION" PURSUANT TO THE LOAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1, et seq. 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 advertising an ordinance entitled, CAPITAL ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE CLEANUP OF TANK AT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$55,000.00 THEREFOR 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 for public inspection as required by law.

On motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman George, 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 Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman George, the ordinance entitled as above, being Ordinance No. 16-1922, was duly adopted on final reading by title by the following roll call vote, to wit:

- Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hersh, Welkovits.
- Opposed: None.
- Abstain: None.
- Absent: Councilman Walsh.

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

No. 12-16-336

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Ordinance entitled, "CAPITAL ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE CLEANUP OF TANK AT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$55,000.00 THEREFOR TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, passed on final reading at this meeting, be delivered to the Mayor for her approval, and if approved by her, 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 and that said Clerk shall annex to and publish with said Ordinance a Notice in substantially the following form –

The ordinance published herewith has been finally passed and the ten (10) day period of limitation within which suit, action or proceeding questioning the validity of such ordinance may be commenced has begun to run from the date of the first publication of this statement.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was 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, Welkovits.
- Opposed: None.
- Abstain: None.
- Absent: Councilman Walsh.

No. 12-16-337

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that transfers of 2016 budget appropriation balances shall be made as follows:

Account No.	Description	To	From
6-01-20-150-	Assessor's Office		\$ 7,000.00
6-01-20-155-	Legal		\$ 25,000.00
6-01-20-165-	Engineering		\$ 5,000.00
6-01-21-180-	Planning Board		\$ 10,000.00
6-01-21-185-	Zoning Board		\$ 10,000.00
6-01-21-191-	Human Rights		\$ 1,000.00
6-01-25-252-	OEM		\$ 4,000.00
6-01-25265-	Fire		\$ 10,000.00
6-01-26-305	Apartment Solid Waste		\$ 7,000.00
6-01-32-465	Sanitary Landfill		\$ 30,000.00
6-01-31-460-	Gas & Oil		\$ 20,000.00
6-01-23-220-	Group Insurance	\$129,000.00	
	Total	\$129,000.00	\$ 129,000.00

Resolution Nos. 12-16-338 through 12-16-346 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, Welkovits.
- Opposed: None.
- Abstain: None.
- Absent: Councilman Walsh

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 12-16-338

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 12/20/16 can be found in the Bills List Journal Book No. 35.

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Safety Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 12-16-339

WHEREAS, Arshad Khan, Lawrence Dick, Stanley Ostreyko, David Presseisen, Michael Valor, Venkateswara, Chinthala, Richard Buck, Rafique Ahmad, Thomas Renner, Matthew Halsey, Robert Hala, and Robert Clementi have 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 applications;

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 Licenses.

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

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Safety Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 12-16-340

WHEREAS, TR No. 5 LLC (Thomas Renner) and Car Six LLC (Robert Clementi) have filed with the Clerk of this Borough an application for an Owners License to operate taxicabs in this Borough 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 applicant and has reported favorably upon said applications;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Council hereby determined that said applicant is qualified and that public necessity and convenience would be served by the issuance of such Licenses.

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

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 12-16-341

WHEREAS, Moderntrend, LLC (“Taxpayer”), the owner of 231 Woodbridge Avenue, Block 122, Lot 7 on the Borough of Highland Park Tax Assessment Maps (the “Property”), filed appeals of its 2015 and 2016 tax assessments in the Tax Court of New Jersey, Docket Nos. 009501-2015 and 009409-2016; and

WHEREAS, the Property was assessed in each of the years at a total tax assessment of \$400,000 which, based upon the common level ratio for each year, equalized to a value of \$929,152 in 2015 (43.05% ratio) and \$934,579 in 2016 (42.80% ratio); and

WHEREAS, the Taxpayer purchased the Property on August 27, 2014 for \$610,000; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Highland Park met and discussed the aforesaid tax appeals and the recommendations of its Borough Tax Assessor and Special Tax Attorney; and

WHEREAS, an acceptable settlement of the aforesaid tax appeals has been negotiated which reduces the 2015 tax assessment to a total tax assessment of \$350,000 and reduces the 2016 tax assessment to a total tax assessment of \$330,000, all as more specifically set forth in the Stipulation of Settlement annexed to this Resolution, which has been reviewed by the Mayor and Council; and

WHEREAS, the Taxpayer has agreed to waive interest provided that any refunds are paid within 60 days of entry of the Tax Court Judgments, made payable to “Moderntrend, LLC and Sitar Law Offices, LLC, as attorneys”; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid settlement has no general application to other properties within the Borough as a result of the aforesaid specific fact situation; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council make this settlement with Taxpayer without prejudice to its dealings with any other Borough taxpayer’s request for tax assessment reduction.

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

1. The Special Tax Attorney is hereby authorized to execute the Stipulation of Settlement, a copy of which is annexed hereto, relative to the tax appeals captioned Moderntrend, LLC vs. Borough of Highland Park, Tax Court of New Jersey, Docket Nos. 009501-2015 and 009409-2016, which settlement results in the 2015 total tax assessment being reduced to \$350,000 and the 2016 total tax assessment being reduced to \$330,000 for the Property, at the allocations between the land and improvements, as more fully set forth in the annexed Stipulation of Settlement; and which provides that the Taxpayer waives the payment of interest provided that any refunds are paid within 60 days of the entry of the Tax Court Judgments and made payable to “Moderntrend, LLC and Sitar Law Offices, LLC, as attorneys”.

2. The settlement outlined above shall be without prejudice to the Borough’s dealings with any Borough’s taxpayers’ request for tax assessment reductions.

The following resolution, introduced by the Council As A Whole, was duly adopted as above:
No. 12-16-342

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that an Adjourned Meeting of the Mayor and Borough Council will be held at Borough Hall, 221 South 5th Avenue, Highland Park, NJ on Tuesday, January 3, 2017, at 6:30 PM.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Organization Meeting of the Borough Council for the Year 2016 will be held at Borough Hall, 221 South 5th Avenue, Highland Park, NJ on Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 7:00 PM.

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

No. 12-16-343

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park has been declared to be an Area in Need of Rehabilitation under N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-14, et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board of the Borough of Highland Park, in reviewing and recommending adoption of a resolution declaring the Borough of Highland Park to be an Area in Need of Rehabilitation pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-14 et seq., recommended that the Mayor of the Borough of Highland Park form a Rehabilitation and Redevelopment Screening Committee to review preliminary proposals for development upon referral of the Borough Planner; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor has determined to constitute the Highland Park Rehabilitation and Redevelopment Screening Committee, composed of two (2) members of the Highland Park Planning Board, two (2) members of the Highland Park Board of Adjustment, two (2) members of the Highland Park Redevelopment Agency, and two (2) members of Main Street Highland Park, which members shall be appointed by the Mayor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Highland Park Rehabilitation and Redevelopment Screening Committee is hereby constituted.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 12-16-344

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 5, 2016 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:

ISABELLA GODISH, Part-time Seasonal Recreation, at an hourly rate of \$8.38, effective December 5, 2016.

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 Public Safety Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 12-16-345

WHEREAS, Engine One of the Highland Park Fire Department is in need of emergency repairs, as more fully described on the attached Purchase Requisition; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Chief has recommended that said repairs be performed by Fire and Safety Services, Ltd., South Plainfield, NJ; and

WHEREAS, funds shall be made available for this purpose in Account No. 6-01-26-315-2FF in the amount of \$15,952.00, as reflected by the certification of funds by Chief Financial Officer Kathleen Kovach, shown below;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Fire Chief is hereby authorized and directed to accept the quote for the repairs to Engine one from Fire and Safety Services, Ltd., South Plainfield, NJ, at a total cost of \$15,952.00.

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

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 12-16-346

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 8-15-236, adopted by the Borough Council on August 11, 2015, a contract was awarded to Wilcof Roofing & Construction of Hamilton, NJ, for the 2015 Reconstruction of Various Public Roofs; 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 Wilcof Roofing & Construction the sum of \$129,133.00 in accordance with said Pay Estimate for work performed from December 9, 2015 to October 19, 2016; and

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are available in Account No. C-04-55-825-210 in the amount of \$129,133.00, as reflected by the Certification of Funds Available by Chief Financial Officer Kathleen Kovach, 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 Wilcof Roofing & Construction the sum of \$129,133.00, 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 Chief Financial Officer Kathleen Kovach and the CME Associates forthwith.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilwoman Foster-Dublin, seconded by Councilman George, and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

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

Opposed: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: Councilman Walsh.

No. 12-16-347

WHEREAS, N.J.S. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any such item of revenue in the budget of the county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion of any item of appropriation for equal amount;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park, that it hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve

the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget for the year 2016 in the sum of \$5,631.45, which item is now available as revenue from State and Federal programs pursuant to the provisions of statute; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a like sum of \$5,631.45 be and the same is hereby appropriated under the caption of:

Drunk Driving Enforcement \$5,631.45

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above is the result of a grant for Fiscal Year 2016; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that two (2) certified copies of the certification of adoption of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval.

Mayor Brill Mittler appointed the following to serve as members of the Rehabilitation and Redevelopment Screening Committee for terms to expire December 31, 2017:

Wolfram Hoefer	Judy Richman
Rosanne Baruh	Randy Solomon
Kim Hammond	Judi Shade Monk

The above appointments were confirmed on motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilwoman Welkovits, and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

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

Opposed: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: Councilman Walsh.

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

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

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilwoman Foster-Dublin, and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

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

Opposed: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: Councilman Walsh.

No. 12-16-348

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)
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 Councilwoman Foster-Dublin, and carried by affirmative voice vote of all Councilpersons present, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Hullings
Borough Clerk