

BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK
REGULAR MAYOR & COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 6, 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 6, 2016 and was called to order by Mayor Brill Mittler at 7:07 PM. Mayor Brill Mittler read the Open Public Meetings Statement.

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

Absent: None.

Mayor Brill Mittler welcomed the Public Safety Staff and all their visitors. She also welcomed Sheriff Millie Scott.

Chief Rizco noted that this is one of two meetings held each year to recognize first responders. He thanked the Mayor and Council for sharing their meeting and he thanked the first responders (Police, Fire, 1st Aid and CERT team) for all that they do. The Borough of Highland Park recently hired three new Police Officers and they recently graduated from the Morris County Police Academy. Two of the candidates hired are from Highland Park and the other candidate is from Piscataway. He noted that the Police Department received 500 applications for the three positions. They narrowed the candidates down to five finalists and then did extensive background check on the three who were chosen, who then went through a medical and psych exam. He looks forward to big things in the future from these three candidates.

Chief Rizco introduced Sade Edens. She is 30 years old and from the Township of Piscataway. She graduated in 2005 from Piscataway Township High School. She attended Old Dominion University, graduating Summa Cum Laude in 2009, earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Early Childhood Education. She graduated Summa Cum Laude in 2010, earning a Master's of Science Degree in Early Childhood Education. She graduated from the Morris County Police Academy on November 23, 2016 and was ranked 5th in the class. Upon graduation from college, she was employed as an Instructor of Early Care & Education at Old Dominion University before accepting a teacher position in Plainfield Public Schools, where she taught for 4 years. Sade is an active Emergency Medical Technician of 9 years and the former 2nd Lieutenant of the Dunellen Rescue Squad. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her family and friends, watching sporting events, and playing co-ed soccer.

Mayor Brill Mittler administered the Oath of Office to Sade Edens.

Chief Rizco introduced Joseph Olarra, Jr. He is 27 years old and from Highland Park. He is a 2007 Highland Park High School graduate. He graduated from the Juvenile Justice Commission Academy in July of 2011. He graduated from the Morris County Police Academy on November 23, 2016. He is a lifelong resident of Highland Park, but most recently resides in Somerset. He is an alumnus of Highland Park High School. In September of 2009, he became a Juvenile Detention Officer at the Middlesex County Juvenile Detention Center in North Brunswick. He is the proud father of a 4-year-old son, Joseph. He is also a second generation police officer, following in the steps of his father, Joseph Olarra, Sr., who recently retired from the Highland Park Police Department.

Mayor Brill Mittler administered the Oath of Office to Joseph Olarra, Jr.

Chief Rizco introduced Bryant Fitzgerald. He is 25 years old and from Highland Park. He graduated from Highland Park High School in 2009. Following high school, Bryant attended a year of prep school in Meriden, New Hampshire, and afterwards accepted a football scholarship to American International College. He graduated in 2015 with a degree in Political Science. He graduated from the Morris County Police Academy on November 23, 2016. He is following in his grandmother's footsteps as she is a retired Highland Park Police Officer. Bryant enjoys spending time with family, loves sports and enjoys fishing in his free time.

Mayor Brill Mittler administered the Oath of Office to Bryant Fitzgerald.

Chief Rizco noted that there are no formal departmental ribbons to give out tonight, but he called up Detective Sean McGraw. The Chief received a letter from a person who Detective McGraw had arrested a number of years ago that had an issue with narcotics. The person wrote to thank Detective McGraw for assisting him in getting help and that he is 2 years clean.

Chief Rizco noted that Captain Scott Golden will be retiring effective December 31, 2016. He noted that in attendance this evening are his parents, his sister, his brother-in-law and his son, Bradley.

Police Chaplain Rabbi Kaminetsky delivered the invocation. He thanked Captain Golden for his service to the Borough and wished him well on his retirement.

Mayor Brill Mittler commented that Captain Golden has been on the police force for as long as she has been on the Governing Body. Whenever she needed to reach out to someone to help her to reach out to the community or the press, or any other organization, he always had the right words. She will miss him and will look for him in Aruba. Mayor Brill Mittler read and presented Captain Scott Golden with a proclamation in recognition of his retirement.

Councilwoman Foster-Dublin commented that she has had the pleasure of working with Captain Golden for the last 16 years. She thanked him for his years of service and wished him well on his retirement.

Chief Rizco commented that he and Captain Golden were hired together in 1986. Scott was 21 at the time and the Chief was 32. They have worked together for many years, but have worked very closely for the last eight years. Outside of his wife, he knows the Chief better than anyone else. He likened him to Radar from Mash. He has never had any doubts about his abilities and even though they didn't always agree, he valued his opinion and advice. He will certainly miss him, but will miss his friendship more. Scott is an accomplished pilot and plans to get his instructor's license when he relocates to Florida. He tried to convince him to stay for 29 more months, but he is happy for him, but his leaving is bittersweet. He unveiled a before and after picture of the Captain (hire/retire) and presented him with a plaque from the Highland Park Police Department.

Fire Chief Jay Littman noted that he has known Captain Golden since he has been a member of the Highland Park Volunteer Fire Department for the last 27 years. He wished him well on his retirement and thanked him for his years of service.

Capt. Micah White of the Highland Park First Aid Squad wished Captain Golden well on his retirement and thanked him for his years of service.

Hatzolah Volunteer EMS of Middlesex County, launched in 2014, has had many dealings with Captain Golden. He has tremendous integrity and a good moral fiber. It was an honor to know him and work with him. They presented him with a plaque and wished him well on his retirement.

Captain Golden commented that it has been a great ride and a great career. He tried to teach fellow officers the best that he could; be safe and go home at night. He thanked the Governing Body, past and present. He thanked the Police Department and will think about them when he is in sunny Florida. He thanked the Fire Department, the 1st Aid Squad and Hatzolah for their well wishes. He has worked with Eveleen Fitzgerald and Joseph Olarra and now members of their family have been sworn in to serve Highland Park. He encouraged the three new recruits to be true to themselves. It has been a lot of fun to work with Chief Rizco. They rose through the ranks together and for the last 8 years they provided each other with opposite sides of opinions. To his family; he thanked them for their support and for putting up with him. He especially thanked his son Brad. He wished everyone success.

On motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman George, and carried by affirmative voice vote of all Councilpersons present, meeting was adjourned for a fifteen-minute recess.

Meeting Reconvened at 8:02 pm with all those previously in attendance still present.

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

Councilwoman Foster-Dublin – no report.

Councilman Fine reported that the Governing Body would be introducing an ordinance for the Municipal ID program and would be adopting a resolution to purchase the equipment for said program.

Councilman Walsh reported that the Highland Park Arts Commission won a grant from the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission for a solo show workshop to be held at the senior center this February to April. They are also currently running an Improv Class at the Senior Center which is gaining in attendance and popularity. The Artists and Arts Supporter Survey has gone out and is up to about 50 respondents. They are looking forward to sharing the data with the Planning Board about the arts needs in and around Highland Park. The Senior Medical Driver, Lawrence Paterson, recently obtained his CDL license and will now be taking the seniors on out of town trips each month. Information on upcoming trips can be found on the borough's website. The Annual Senior Holiday Party will be held on Saturday, December 17th at 11:30 AM at the Senior/Youth Recreation Center. Entertainment will be provided by the local Lion's Club Chapter. The Senior Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, December 20th at Pithari Taverna in Highland Park from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM. Entertainment to be provided by Gordon James. The Winter Concert by Highland Park Schools Master Chorale will be held on Wednesday, December 21st at 10:00 AM. Lastly, the Annual Holiday Dinner will be held on Christmas Day, December 25th from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM at the Senior/Youth Center. For holiday dinner reservations, donation information and volunteer opportunities, call the Department of Community Services at 732-819-0052.

Councilman George reported that the Planning Board passed a resolution recommending the area in need of rehabilitation ordinance that is on the agenda for first reading, which is a major step in redevelopment in Highland Park. He urged residents to come out to the Planning Board, Board of Adjustment and Redevelopment Agency meetings to see what they are working on. All matters involving redevelopment are discussed at public meetings. The Board of Adjustment is hearing an application for a property on Woodbridge Avenue for a Chinese language and learning center. The Planning Board is also hearing some development applications on Woodbridge Avenue. Main Street Highland Park had their monthly meeting and Christmas Party on December 1st. Lastly, as a result of a walk that he and the Mayor took on Route 27 with concerned citizens in the summer along the Edison side of Route 27, they talked with the property owners and businesses in that area to see what could be done to make things better. With the cooperation of the land owners, Chief Rizco and Lt. Panichella, they made some minor changes that made a major difference. They striped the sidewalks in that area because those old areas have curb cuts that are 30'-40' long and there was no delineation of where the sidewalk was because they paved right to Route 27. They changed Lexington Avenue to be a one-way street coming off of Route 27. They changed the parking plan to put in diagonal parking spaces and made an entrance and exit to the parking lot and they installed a planter on the corner. He thanked Councilwoman Foster-Dublin for taking this matter up with the Police Department and he thanked the Police Chief for taking action.

Councilman Hersh reported that the Digital Data Task Force was formed earlier this year and is chaired by Matt Hale. Shayne SantaLucia, Joan Hullings, Chaim Cohen, Mike Schoeffler, Jennifer Senick, Daniel Bianchini and Keith Peckman also serve on the Task Force. The purpose of this task force is to look at technological aspects and make recommendations. Their main focus is working on digitizing records and looking at ways to better handle and manage OPRA requests. They will meet again later this month and will eventually work with the Public Information Committee.

Councilwoman Welkovits reported that over 200 parents participated in the Bartle School Breakfast After the Bell Survey. The program aims to offer a healthful breakfast to all students, including free and reduced lunch. The results of the survey revealed overwhelming support for this vital program that is expected to begin in January, 2017. She thanked the leadership of the school district for this responsiveness to this program. She also thanked Assemblywoman

Borough Administrator Kovach – no report.

Borough Attorney Schmierer – no report.

Mayor Brill Mittler reported that residents will find the current issue of the HP News in their mailboxes. The HP News contains a lot of important news, past and present. There is a section that highlights all the information for holiday shopping. She is almost finished with her holiday shopping and she did it all in Highland Park. There are shops to buy clothing, jewelry, household goods and wine. She announced that the League of Municipalities Conference, the National League of Cities presented Highland Park with an award for their HP Gives a Hoot initiative.

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

Tina Weishauss, 143 North 5th Avenue, commented that she is here in support of Sanctuary City and the Municipal ID program. She was involved in a conversation last evening about a young woman being attacked on the subway and nobody came to her aid. She suggested that the Borough have the Human Relations Commission look into providing education for interested Highland Park residents, similar to what Franklin Township has done. Mayor Brill Mittler noted that Councilman Fine is the liaison to the Human Relations Commission and he will pass the information on to them. She also asked that Chief Rizco be involved in any discussions. Councilwoman Foster-Dublin noted that she did see a video about that incident circulating on Facebook and she will get that information to the Human Relations Commission.

Joanna Cadia, Hackensack, NJ Alliance for Immigrant Justice, commended the Governing Body for the work they did on the Municipal ID program. Highland Park is the 2nd town in Middlesex County to establish this program and the 6th town in the State. She offered her assistance as the Borough moves forward with the implementation of this program. Mayor Brill Mittler asked Councilman Hersh to chair a Task Force to address immigrant issues and to reach out to her group for guidance.

Judy Petsock, 149 North 5th Avenue, commented that she is concerned beyond Highland Park being a sanctuary city. She asked that the Governing Body talk to the Governing Bodies of other municipalities in New Jersey. She will be posting a pledge that she hopes everyone will sign.

David Hughes, 330 South 3rd Avenue, commented about Highland Park being a sanctuary city and hopes that it's not controversial. This is necessary to protect Highland Park's citizens and to provide services so that people will come out of the shadows. You will find undocumented people being hesitant to call the Police for help. He applauded the Borough for implementing a municipal ID program. He encouraged everyone to apply for the ID whether they are undocumented or not. He asked if records will be kept for those that apply. Councilman Fine advised that as part of the program, no documents will be kept on file. He also commented about the wage theft allegation against Tete Restaurant. Borough Attorney Schmierer advised that the Borough has an ordinance about wage theft and he was instructed earlier this evening to contact the business in question and to monitor the matter when business license renewal comes up in March. The information will be provided to the Department of Labor.

Isabel, 9 Redcliffe Avenue, commented about sanctuary city and asked if someone was detained by the Police Department would they contact ICE. Mayor Brill Mittler commented that there is no real definition about sanctuary city. They are putting together a task force to research the pros and cons of Highland Park becoming a sanctuary city. The Highland Park Police Department follows the guidelines of the Prosecutor's Office. Chief Rizco noted that in 2007, the Attorney General passed legislation, adopted by the County Prosecutor's Office. If someone is detained for an indictable crime, they are obligated to contact ICE. For minor violations, they do not get involved.

Jason Rowe, 74 Raritan Avenue, commented that he is the Assistant Director of Social Justice for Catholic Charities. He thanked Highland Park for taking the lead on Municipal ID Program. He offered their support for implementation of the program. He and his colleague contacted Highland Park about wage theft issue at 247 Raritan Avenue. This matter is certainly a problem and has been documented with the Department of Labor and Legal Services of New Jersey.

Lucy Millerand, 130 North 10th Avenue, spoke about wage theft issue and the fact that the restauranteur who is not paying their workers legal wages.

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

The Clerk reported advertising an ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE BY THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK REGULATING CLOTHING BINS AND AMENDING THE "CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, 2010", 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 Walsh, 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 Walsh, the ordinance entitled as above, being Ordinance No. 16-1919, was duly adopted on first reading by title by the following roll call vote, to wit:

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

Opposed: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

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

No. 12-16-312

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE BY THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK REGULATING CLOTHING BINS AND AMENDING THE "CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, 2010", 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, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PART II OF THE "CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, 2010", BY CREATING A BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK "IDENTIFICATION CARD PROGRAM", 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 Hersh, seconded by Councilwoman Foster-Dublin, 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 Fine, seconded by Councilwoman Foster-Dublin, the ordinance entitled as above, being Ordinance No. 16-1920, was duly adopted on first reading by title by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Prior to casting votes, the following two Councilpersons made comments, as follows:

Councilman George commented that this morning he attended a meeting where he represents one of the largest school boards in the State. The meeting was about the early Childhood program and its funding. An issue came up that enrollment is down and the reason was that this large city has a large population of undocumented citizens and they are afraid to take their children to childcare, which means childcare doesn't get funded and the kids don't get an education. The biggest reason was that to enroll their children parents needed to show some form of identification. A suggestion was made to create a municipal ID program and he emailed them a copy of the Borough's ordinance.

Councilman Hersh echoed Councilman George's comments. This is a very exciting day for the Borough. This is a point of access for a lot of residents and it is very important.

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

Opposed: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

The following resolution, introduced by Council As A Whole, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman Walsh, and carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote:

No. 12-16-313

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PART II OF THE "CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, 2010", BY CREATING A BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK "IDENTIFICATION CARD PROGRAM" 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, 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., had been introduced in writing by Council as a Whole for consideration of passage on first reading by title.

On motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilwoman Welkovits, 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, Walsh, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

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. 12-16-314

WHEREAS, 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. 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 Council Chambers, Borough Hall, 221 South Fifth Avenue, Highland Park, New Jersey, on December 20, 2016 for the purpose of considering said Ordinance on final passage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that 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 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, 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, had been introduced in writing by the Finance Committee consideration of passage on first reading by title.

On motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman Walsh, 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, Walsh, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

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

No. 12-16-315

WHEREAS, 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; 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 December 20, 2016, at 7:00 PM, for the purpose of considering said Ordinance on final passage.

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

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

Opposed: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

No. 12-16-316

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
6-01-20-140-218	Info Technology	\$ 9,000.00	
6-01-31-430-235	Electric	\$ 20,000.00	
6-01-26-310-221	Buildings & Grounds	\$ 20,000.00	
6-01-36-475-235	PFRS	\$ 729.50	
6-01-36-471-235	PERS	\$ 1,266.85	

6-01-20-155-233	Legal	\$ 30,000.00
6-01-31-460-235	Gas & Oil	\$ 14,000.00
6-01-31-440-235	Telephone	\$ 5,000.00
6-01-20-155-235	Legal	\$ 1,996.35

Total	\$ 50,996.35	\$ 50,996.35
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Resolution Nos. 12-16-317 through 12-16-333 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, Walsh, Welkovits.
Opposed: None.
Abstain: None.
Absent: None

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

No. 12-16-317

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 12/6/16 can be found in the Bills List Journal Book No. 35.

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

No. 12-16-318

WHEREAS, Manijeh Saba and Majid Meleki, 308 South 1st Avenue, received an incorrect water and sewer bill; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined by the Highland Park Water & Sewer Department that there was a problem with the water meter; 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 #20120360-0 of \$1,149.35 (water) and \$693.90 (sewer) for a total of \$1,843.25, to the water & sewer account of Manijeh Saba and Majid Meleki, 308 South 1st Avenue, Highland Park, NJ 08904.

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 Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 12-16-319

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Finance Director be and is hereby authorized and directed to remit to the following the amount set opposite, the same being the amount of overpayment of 2016 2nd quarter taxes for the property indicated:

BLOCK	LOT	REMITTEE	AMOUNT TO BE REMITTED
16 (aka 313 So. 1st Avenue)	1	CoreLogic PO Box 961250 Fort Worth, TX 76161	\$44.08
8 (aka 26 So. 1st Avenue)	12	Stewart Title Co. 1055 Parsippany Blvd., Ste. 503 Parsippany, NJ 07054	\$4,328.47
17 (aka 131 Hill Street)	19	Park Avenue Title Agency 290 Route 22 West, 1st Floor Green Brook, NJ 08812	\$2,368.06
20 (aka 120 Donaldson Street)	1	Title 365 Company 345 Rouser Road, Ste. 101 Corapolis, PA 15108	\$2,869.95
55 (aka 210 Volkert Street)	12	Main Street Title 190 Main Street Hackensack, NJ 07601	\$2,878.14
61 (aka 209 Volkert Street)	36	Main Street Title 190 Main Street Hackensack, NJ 07601	\$1,794.48
84 (aka 411 Graham Street)	23	Counsellors Title Agency, Inc. 504 Hooper Avenue Toms River, NJ 08753	\$2,462.60
125 (aka 1307 Drier Place)	11	ServiceLink, LLC 400 Corporation Drive Aliquippa, PA 15001	\$1,946.86
181 (aka 102 Kiersten Drive) (Qual C0102)	43	Merissa D. Lacher 102 Kiersten Drive Highland Park, NJ 08904	\$1,609.20
181 (aka 103 Kiersten Drive)	43	Golden Title Agency 1818 Old Cuthbert Road, Ste. 100	\$1,400.00

(Qual C0103)		Cherry Hill, NJ 08034	
181	43	Vested Land Services	\$814.75
(aka 301 Kiersten Drive)		165 Passaic Avenue, Ste. 101	
(Qual C0301)		Fairfield, NJ 07004	
190	5.01	Vital Abstract, LLC	\$3,005.15
(aka 11 L'Ambiance Ct., Bldg. 1)		3700 Route 27, Ste. 102B	
(Qual C-006)		Princeton, NJ 08540	
181	43	Equity National Title Insurance Co.	\$1,609.20
(aka 204 Kiersten Drive)		50 Jordan Street, Ste. 100	
(Qual C0204)		East Providence, RI 02914	
181	43	Gregg L. Jensen, Esq.	\$1,609.20
(aka 201 Kiersten Drive)		125 Maplewood Avenue	
(Qual C0201)		Edison, NJ 08837	
181	43	Golden Title Agency, LLC	\$1,609.20
(aka 203 Kiersten Drive)		1818 Old Cuthbert Road, Ste. 100	
(Qual C0203)		Cherry Hill, NJ 08034	
50	22	David Miller, Esq.	\$2,005.48
(aka 21 South 7th Avenue)		3A Auer Court	
		East Brunswick, NJ 08816	

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

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

No. 12-16-320

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 annual basis, there have been the following changes, to wit:

SADE EDENS, Police Officer, at an annual salary of \$44,375.00, effective November 24, 2016.

BRYANT FITZGERALD, Police Officer, at an annual salary of \$44,375.00, effective November 24, 2016.

JOSEPH OLARRA, JR., Police Officer, at an annual salary of \$44,375.00, effective November 24, 2016.

MATTHEW HERSH, Councilman, at an annual salary of \$4,239.00, effective November 1, 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 Council As A Whole, was duly adopted as above:

No. 12-16-321

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 7-16-195, the Mayor and Council awarded an agreement to PSE&G Co. for the lease of the Borough's property consisting of approximately 3.63 acres and identified as Block 49, Lots 42 – 55 on the Highland Park Tax Map (the "Property") to design, build and operate a solar photovoltaic array system for generating solar electricity and battery storage, and providing resilience to the Borough, for an initial term of twenty (20) years; and

WHEREAS, the Borough and PSE&G Co. are in the process of finalizing the terms of the lease agreement and in the interim, seek to execute a "Memorandum of Understanding" and "Right of Access Agreement" to enable PSE&G Co. the ability to access to the Property as necessary to prepare for the solar photovoltaic array system in advance of final execution of said lease agreement between the parties.

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 Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Memorandum of Understanding and Right of Access Agreement with PSE&G Co. for purposes of enabling PSE&G Co. to have access to the Property as necessary to prepare for the solar photovoltaic array system in advance of final execution of said lease agreement between the parties.

2. The executed MOU and Access Agreement shall be maintained on file in the Borough Clerk's Office.

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

No. 12-16-322

WHEREAS, Rajinderpal Lehal, James Coyle, Jeffrey Freund, Daniel Myers, Leon Rozenblat, Robert Miller, Louis Nemes, and Sukhchain Gill 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 Public Safety Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 12-16-323

WHEREAS, LR 12 LLC (Leon Rozenblat), RSR Cab, Inc. (Parmjit K. Lehal), Gill Car3 LLC (Sukhchain Singh Gill), and JJCKEC LLC (James Coyle) 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 Recreation and Arts Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 12-16-324

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute, on behalf of the Borough, the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission Grant Agreement, a copy of which is attached to the original of this resolution.

The following resolution, introduced by Council As A Whole, was duly adopted as above:

No. 12-16-325

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 throughout 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 2017 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 Health and Human Services Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 12-16-326

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park has a need to purchase equipment for their Municipal ID Card Program; and

WHEREAS, quotes for said purchases were requested from the following, to wit:

NAME	PRICE
CDW-G	\$ 5,708.61
Dell	\$ 2,434.51

WHEREAS, the IT Coordinator has recommended the purchase of said items from CDW-G and Dell at the above quoted prices; and

WHEREAS, funds will be available for this purpose in Account No. 6-01-20-100-217, as reflected by the certification of funds available by the Chief Financial Officer Kathleen Kovach, shown below;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the IT Coordinator is hereby authorized and directed to purchase said items for a total not to exceed \$8,143.12; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the IT Coordinator and the Finance Department forthwith.

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

No. 12-16-327

WHEREAS, on May 9, 2016, Fox & Foxx Development, LLC, heretofore posted with the Borough of Highland Park a Cash Surety Bond in the amount of \$2,244.00, along with Bond No. 1022892 issued by Lexon Insurance Company in the amount of \$20,196.00, in connection with a minor subdivision application on the property known as Block 83, Lots 41.01 and 43.01, in the Borough of Highland Park; and

WHEREAS, Fox & Foxx Development LLC has requested that said performance bond be released; and

WHEREAS, CME Associates, Borough Engineer, has reviewed the site in the field and found all of the required work has been completed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the cash surety bond and performance bond heretofore posted by Fox & Foxx Development, LLC, in the amount of \$2,244.00 (cash surety bond) and \$20,196.00 (performance bond) for the Minor Subdivision, shall be and is hereby released subject to the following:

1. Posting of a 2-year Maintenance Bond in the amount of \$3,366.00.
2. Payment of any outstanding engineering inspection fees.
3. Payment of any outstanding Borough fees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Finance Department, Borough Engineer, Construction Official, and Fox & Foxx Development, LLC.

The following resolution, introduced by Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 12-16-328

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Highland Park established the Digital Data Government Task Force by Resolution 11-15-317 to include five (5) Regular Members, to be appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the Borough Council, for terms to expire one hundred twenty (120) days from date of appointment; and

WHEREAS, the Membership was further amended by Resolution 4-16-135 to include 7 Members; and

WHEREAS, the Membership was further amended by Resolution 6-16-191 to include 8 Members; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park, that the Digital Data Government Task Force is hereby amended as follows; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Digital Data Government Task Force will consist of the following:

1. Eight (8) Regular Nine (9) Members: Chair, Borough Administrator, Borough Clerk, IT Coordinator, Public Information Committee member, Council Liaison, two (2) residents, a Representative from the Bloustein School, and to be appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the Borough Council, for terms to expire December 31, 2016; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the purpose of the Digital Data Government Task Force shall be to research and identify ways to digitize the Borough's data.

The following resolution, introduced by Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 12-16-329

WHEREAS, per the Agreement between the Borough of Highland Park and Council No. 7, the following Crossing Guards are due payment for unused personal time as set forth below;

NAME	AMOUNT DUE
Nancy Bernstein	\$41.04
Catherine Ciorciari	\$41.04
Mary Ann Kinsey	\$41.04
Barbara Kubey	\$41.04
Charlene Rayside	\$41.04
Beverly Robinson	\$41.04
Michael Stazeski	\$41.04
Willis Thomas	\$41.04
Margaret Toman	\$41.04

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that unused personal time payouts be approved and distributed in the next available pay cycle.

The following resolution, introduced by Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 12-16-330

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. Annual Tree Maintenance Contract for 2017 and 2018; 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 Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 12-16-331

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. Water Main and/or Sanitary Sewer Repairs for 2017 and 2018; 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 Public Works and Public Utilities, said bids to be in accordance with specifications prepared by the Public Works Department.

The following resolution, introduced by Council As A Whole, was duly adopted as above:
No. 12-16-332

WHEREAS, the Libertarians for Transparent Government, a NJ Nonprofit Corp., filed an action in the Superior Court of New Jersey alleging a violation of the Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq., by the Borough of Highland Park (the "Borough") with regard to a request submitted on July 12, 2016; and

WHEREAS, an amicable resolution of the litigation has been negotiated between the parties, which removes the uncertainty and added expense of litigation, and has been memorialized in the attached draft consent order; and

WHEREAS, authorization of the settlement terms would require the submission of the attached draft consent order to the Superior Court of New Jersey for entry.

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 settlement terms detailed in the attached draft consent order are hereby approved, and the Borough's Attorney is hereby authorized to submit a final copy of the consent order to the Superior Court of New Jersey for entry.

2. A certified true copy of the entered consent order shall be furnished to the Borough Clerk by the Borough Attorney upon its entry by the Superior Court of New Jersey.

3. Payment shall issue within seven (7) days following receipt of the entered consent order by the Borough Clerk.

The following resolution, introduced by Public Safety Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 12-16-333

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 16:27 requires the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) to approve all road closings during transportation construction projects; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln Avenue Detour Plan was submitted New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) and they did not have any objections to the plan; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln Avenue Detour Plan was submitted to the Highland Park Police Department for review and they did not have any objections to the plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Lincoln Avenue Detour Plan is hereby approved as submitted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to Naik Group, the Highland Park Police Department and the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT).

Mayor Brill Mittler appointed Keith Peckman to serve as a member of the Digital Data Task force for a term to expire December 31, 2016.

Mayor Brill Mittler appointed Jan Verstraete to serve as a Regular Member of the Commission for Universal Access for a term to expire March 2, 2018.

Mayor Brill Mittler appointed Marlene Tarshish to serve as the Alternate #2 Member of the Commission for Universal Access for a term to expire March 2, 2018.

Mayor Brill Mittler appointed the following to serve as members of the Public Information Commission for terms to expire March 1, 2018:

Laurel Kornfeld	Saskia Marina
Shelby Holliman	Mason Resnick
Ana Pairet Vinas	

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

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

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

Councilman George advised the Mayor that she skipped item #6 on the agenda.

Mayor Brill Mittler read a proclamation in recognition of Radon Action Month.

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

There being no further business, on motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman George, and carried by affirmative voice vote of all Councilpersons present, the meeting adjourned at 8:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Hullings
Borough Clerk