

BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK
REGULAR MAYOR & COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 12, 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 July 12, 2016 and was called to order by Mayor Brill Mittler at 7:03 PM. Mayor Brill Mittler read the Open Public Meetings Statement.

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

Absent: None.

On motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits seconded by Councilman George, the minutes of the Adjourned Meeting and Organization Meetings held January 5, 2016 and the Regular and Conference Meetings held January 19, 2016, were approved as distributed by the following roll call vote, to wit:

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

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

Abstain: None.

Mayor Brill Mittler read and presented a proclamation to retired Sgt. Joseph Olarra. She was joined by Councilwoman Foster-Dublin and Chief Rizco. Sgt. Olarra commented that it has been an honor to live and work in Highland Park. He got to meet and make a lot of wonderful friends in Highland Park. He thanked his brothers and sisters in blue and wished them the best in their future. He thanked the Chief and the Captain for being his role models. Captain Golden was his training officer when he joined the department. He thanked his family for their support, especially his wife Mary, for being his rock.

Chief Rizco, Capt. Golden, Lt. Panichella, and Lt. Hammill asked Sergeant Culver, Detective Pardo, Detective McGraw, Detective Newton, Officer Garrity, Officer O'Mara and Officer DeCosta to come forward to be recognized for their efforts in solving check cashing case. Councilwoman Foster-Dublin read proclamation honoring them for their efforts. Mayor Brill Mittler presented them each with an embossed copy and they were presented with departmental ribbons.

Chief Rizco, Capt. Golden, Lt. Panichella, and Lt. Hammill asked Officer Garley, Officer DeCosta, Officer Giles and Officer Shiffner to come forward to be recognized for their efforts in saving a life. Councilwoman Foster-Dublin read proclamation honoring them for their efforts. Mayor Brill Mittler presented them each with an embossed copy and they were presented with the lifesaving award.

Chief Rizco thanked the Officers, members of the First Aid Squad and the Fire Department for all they do every single day. Sometimes their efforts do not get recognized.

Mayor Brill Mittler commented that she appreciates the work of the Police Department, Fire Department and the First Aid Squad and she thanked them for all that they do. The last few weeks have been heart wrenching for many. They do many wonderful things for our community and she asked everyone to take a moment to remember the lives lost over the last couple of weeks and those killed by gun violence. A moment of silence was observed.

Chief Rizco introduced the three police recruits, Joseph Olarra, Jr., Sade Edens and Bryant Fitzgerald. Two of them are from Highland Park. Mr. Fitzgerald's grandmother served with the Highland Park Police Department for 25 years. Mr. Olarra is the son of recently retired Sgt. Olarra. They completed orientation yesterday and will begin the academy on Monday for a six-month program. They hope to formally swear them in at the December meeting. He wished them good luck in the academy.

It was MOVED by Councilman George and seconded by Councilwoman Welkovits to adjourn for a 15-minute recess.

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

Councilman Walsh reported that the Borough will be voting tonight to authorize a flag football pilot program for the fall. They will use this program to evaluate the success of the program and determine if it makes sense to have an ongoing flag football program. Registration begins July 14th. Registration for fall soccer is ongoing and they will begin registration for other fall programs, including juggling, basketball, volleyball, chess and more. Information about these programs can be found by visiting the Recreation Center or going to the Recreation page on the Borough website. The summer camp (day camp, sports camp, teen camp and special needs camp) is averaging 175 campers per week. It's not too late to register for camp and you can also add additional weeks. Upcoming trips will be to Keansburg Water Park, Helyar Woods/Rutgers Gardens, the Liberty Science Center, IPlay America, 2 camp fun days with inflatable bounce house and slide, pool days at the Oakcrest Family Swimming Pool. This year all campers are given a free healthy lunch. The Borough of Highland Park is partnering with the City of New Brunswick's Play Safe Nutrition Program, sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, to provide these free lunches. A cooling station opened up last week on Thursday and Friday due to the heat. Information about this was sent out via our nixel and social media channels and was published on the Borough website. If you did not get these notices, you can sign up to get these and other important notices on the Borough website. The 4th of July fireworks were a huge success, with one of the largest attendances to date. He thanked Andrea and Kim, who played a big part in coordinating logistics for the day along with Public Works, the Police Department, Fire Department and First Aid Squad, who were all on hand to make sure everyone was safe. He thanked the sponsors, Unity Bank, Aunt Elsie's Home Stay, Mason, Griffin & Pierson and the International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators. The event was also a great fundraiser for HP Gives a Hoot, raising over \$500. He thanked Bea and Sofie for volunteering to help lead all of the kid's activities. Freeholder Rios will be visiting the Senior Center on July 26th at 10:00 AM to share information about County programs available to the seniors. Lastly, he noted that it is not too late to

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register for the trip to Ocean City, Maryland. The cost is \$400 and includes transportation, 3 night's accommodations, 3 breakfasts and 2 dinners. There will be guided tours of Assateagu Island as well as opportunities to visit shops, casinos, beaches and boardwalks in the area.

Councilman George thanked the Parking Study Group for their work to date. Their meetings have been fruitful and loud. Their next meeting is set for Wednesday, July 20th where they plan to discuss the idea of a 2-hour commercial parking zone. Prior to implementation of any recommendations, they will have a presentation and a public hearing, but will hold off on that until October. The Redevelopment Agency passed a resolution asking the Planning Board to expand the Redevelopment Area. The next Planning Board Meeting is scheduled for July 14th, where they plan to discuss recommended resolutions in support of Sustainable Highland Park. Main Street Highland Park is planning their Arts Fair for September 25th. July 29th will be the annual NJ Tomato Festival at the Farmer's Market and the hours are extended until 7:00 PM. There will be cooking demonstrations and the configuration of the market has been changed to accommodate the growing number of vendors. The Board Chairs quarterly meeting is set for July 13th at 12:00 PM.

Councilman Erickson - no report.

Councilwoman Foster-Dublin thanked the Police Department, Fire Department, First Aid Squad, Office of Emergency and the CERT Team for their efforts during the 4th of July Celebration. It was a wonderful, fun filled event. The National Night Out event is scheduled for August 2nd with a rain date of August 4th. This event is one of the largest events in the County. They have safety demos and giveaways and will also distribute bicycle helmets. Ptl. Sachau and Det. McGraw of the Highland Park Police Department will travel to Dallas for the funeral services of the slain officers. Travel is made possible through JetBlue. The Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) will once again send 2 fellows to shadow the Elected Officials and Department Heads in the Borough of Highland Park.

Councilman Fine reported that the Library Board of Trustees voted to keep the Library open every weekend from September through December.

Councilwoman Welkovits reported that nearly three years ago, the Mayor organized a meeting at the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities to ask for improvements to provide more stability and resiliency of our power source for the Borough, this in the aftermath of the blackouts caused by Hurricane Sandy and the Edison sub-station fire. The BPU suggested that we perform a Solar Feasibility study for the Borough, the school district and other buildings. Through this analysis and the further exploration of opportunities for improved, reliable power to our residents and businesses, the Borough was made ware of PSE&G's Solar for All Program. Earlier this year, the Borough issued a bid, and last month PSE&G presented a proposal to install a solar array in Highland Park. The presentation has been posted on social media and the Borough website. As part of PSE&G's Solar for All Program, they are required by the BPU to produce a certain amount of solar power each year, as part of the energy they generate and distribute to all users. They have been searching the State for underutilized properties, such as contaminated site, brownfields or expansive rooftops to install such solar fields. Highland Park's Upper Meadows could be a good fit. The Upper Meadows was the old town dump, closed to dumping in the 1960's and sitting idle since that time. It is too costly for the Borough to undertake a cleanup. The Borough's role in the proposed project would be to lease the land for which the Borough would receive approximately \$350,000/year. All installation and maintenance costs would be the responsibility of PSE&G. PSE&G would also be using the installation as a research station to monitor solar power generation. Upon Council voting in favor of the proposal, PSE&G will be presenting the full design to the Planning Board in September. In summary, the benefits to Highland Park would be (1) we will likely gain improved stability for our residents in the surrounding, dense neighborhood; (2) general annual revenue; (3) improve appearance and use of underutilized land. PSE&G is offering to work with the Borough Planner to create an attractive and environmentally conscious design; (4) receive important educational component, to include a kiosk which would be placed inside Borough Hall, informational displays on site and organized tours upon request; (5) create another sustainable initiative and advance efforts to promote solar and alternative energy. We believe this project will contribute to our environmental conservation, sustainable and resiliency initiatives. She's eager to see this project move forward. It's been a busy summer for the Complete Streets Advisory Group. For the past few years, they have been active in improving pedestrian and bicycling safety and sharing the road with vehicles. Their meetings have recently culminated in several important actions. In June, in conjunction with the Public Safety team, the Department of Public Works painted the curb on Volkert Street bright yellow and added safety striping down the middle of the street to help keep drivers in their lane while negotiating the sharp curve. This summer they will add safety striping to important busy intersections by the schools: on So. 11th between Irving School and the First Aid Squad; on Mansfield Street and Grove Avenue in front of Bartle School; and on No. 5th and Montgomery Street between the High School and the Library. In the spring, with the help of Peter Bilton at Keep Middlesex Moving, the non-profit group which helps towns in the County improve mobility and reduce traffic and pollution, organized a School Travel Plan. Our group, which includes Code Enforcement, Public Safety, Borough Engineer and Planner, and resident volunteers, joined with key members of the school district to evaluate the routes children take to and from their schools. We walked the neighborhoods and took notes and photos and discussed the strong points and the problems we discovered. On June 24th, Mr. Bilton released the HP School Travel Plan. I understand the schools will be carefully reviewing the comprehensive document and developing their own policy. Using this document as a basis, the Borough applied for a large Safe Routes to school grant, submitted June 27th. The grant would allow us to add ADA compliant curb ramps, padding and improvements around Irving and Bartle Schools. This would help children and their parents walk and bicycle to school, encourage this culture of healthy travelling, and benefit all the resident's town wide. On August 26th, we'll take it one step further and perform a bicycle audit, in much the same way. She confirmed the completion of the reconstruction of Valentine Street. Stripes have been applied with thermal heat appliques, which are much more durable than plain paint stripes. She thanked Superintendent of Schools, Scott Taylor, for hosting two workshops for Board members, staff and volunteers to review the survey results and help set the three year strategic plans for the schools. Lastly, she announced that the Borough has been awarded a \$1,500 grant from ANJEC to

begin a birding program. They are purchasing 10 pairs of binoculars and cases, and about 20 bird feeders to be placed in the Lower Meadows, Environmental Center and the Native Plant Reserve. The first birding event will be held Saturday, August 13th at the Environmental Center. The next event will be in September at the Lower Meadows. She thanked the Department of Public Works and the Middlesex County Parks Department and everyone else who made the Independence Day fireworks a great success.

Borough Administrator Kovach – no report.

Borough Attorney Schmierer – no report.

Mayor Brill Mittler thanked Councilman Walsh for mentioning the HP Gives a Hoot program. She thanked the volunteers who helped at the Independence Day celebration. She thanked the City of New Brunswick for once again partnering with Highland Park for the fireworks display. The 2017 grant applications for the Park Partners Program are out. Five winners will be selected by the residents of Highland Park. She encouraged everyone to consider submitting an application.

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 the public discussion session.

The Clerk reported advertising an ordinance entitled, CAPITAL ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF MISCELLANEOUS WATER AND SEWER EQUIPMENT, IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$25,000.00 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 to the public, 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 Walsh, the ordinance entitled as above, being Ordinance No. 16-1912, was duly adopted by the following roll call vote, to wit:

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Councilpersons Erickson, Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Walsh, Welkovits.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Abstain: None.

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

No. 7-16-193

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Ordinance entitled, "CAPITAL ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF MISCELLANEOUS WATER AND SEWER EQUIPMENT, IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$25,000.00 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 Clerk reported that an ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE ENTERING INTO, EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A LEASE AND AGREEMENT WITH THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF COUNTY-GUARANTEED CAPITAL EQUIPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2016 OF THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY, had been introduced in writing by the Finance 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:

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Councilpersons Erickson, Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Walsh, Welkovits.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Abstain: None.

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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. 7-16-193A

WHEREAS, an Ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE ENTERING INTO, EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A LEASE AND AGREEMENT WITH THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF COUNTY-GUARANTEED CAPITAL EQUIPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2016 OF THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY, 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, August 9th, 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 made by Councilman Walsh, seconded by Councilwoman Welkovits and carried by affirmative voice vote of all councilpersons present, Resolution No. 7-16-204, Resolution in Support of the Adoption of S2254/A3821 to Clarify Municipal Affordable Housing Obligations was tabled from consideration.

Resolution Nos. 7-16-194 through 7-16-203 and Resolution Nos. 7-16-205 through 7-16-215 were duly adopted on motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman Fine, and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons: Erickson, Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Walsh, Welkovits.
Opposed: None.
Absent: None.

The following resolution, introduced by Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 7-16-194

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 7/12/16 can be found in the Bills List Journal Book No. 35.

The following resolution, introduced by Council as a Whole, was duly adopted as above:
No. 7-16-195

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 5-16-154, and in accordance with the Local Lands and Buildings Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-14 ("LLBL"), the Mayor and Council authorized the lease of a parcel of Borough-owned property consisting of approximately 3.63 acres and identified as Block 49, Lots 42 – 55 on the Highland Park Tax Map (the "Property") for purposes of designing, building and operating a solar photovoltaic array system for generating solar electricity and battery storage, and providing resilience to the Borough; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to a duly advertised Notice to Bidders, on May 26, 2016 one (1) bid was submitted by PSE&G Co. to lease the Property for the sum of \$0.045 per kilowatt for the first year in rent payments, along with an annual percentage increase of 2.5% each year of the lease term commencing in year two of the lease; and

WHEREAS, the LLBL requires that the Mayor and Council award a lease for the Property to the highest bidder or reject all bids should the highest bid be rejected.

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. In accordance with the Local Lands and Buildings Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-14, the Mayor and Council hereby accept the highest bid as submitted by PSE&G Co. to lease 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") for purposes of designing, building and operating a solar photovoltaic array system for generating solar electricity and battery storage, and providing resilience to the Borough, for \$0.045 per kilowatt for the first year in rent payments, along with an annual percentage increase of 2.5% each year of the lease commencing in the second year. The Property shall be leased for an initial term of twenty (20) years.

2. The Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a Lease Agreement with PSE&G Co. for the above-referenced annual rental amount plus annual percentage increase. The terms and conditions of the Lease Agreement shall be consistent with this Resolution, PSE&G Co.'s May 26, 2016 bid proposal and the Bidding Documents for "Ground Lease for Solar Electric Generation and Resilience," and subject to the approval of the Borough Attorney's office.

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The following resolution, introduced by Council as a Whole, was duly adopted as above:
No. 7-16-196

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation has conducted an investigation to evaluate the existing speed limit along Route 27 in Highland Park Borough, Middlesex County; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation has recommended the following:

Speed Limits:

Along Route NJ 27 (For both directions of traffic):

Zone 1: 30 MPH between the southerly end of the bridge over the Raritan River and Eighth Avenue (approximate mileposts 16.65 to 17.58)

Zone 2: 35 MPH between Eighth Avenue and the Highland Park-Edison Township Line (approximate mileposts 17.58 to 18.04)

and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council concurs with the findings of the investigation and the recommendations by the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park does hereby concur that a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) be promulgated by the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 7-16-197

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have authorized funding of improvements that have been completed and for which there are remaining funds; and

WHEREAS, there is a desire to cancel the remaining amount to return these funds to the Reserve for Future Debt; and

WHEREAS, this action will simplify the accounting of improvement authorizations and release funds so that they may be used for other purposes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Highland Park in the County of Middlesex that the remaining funded balances, totaling \$345,186.35, of the following ordinances are hereby cancelled:

Acct No	Ord No	Descrip	Amount	Funding Source
C-04-55-801-320	11-1813	Streetscape	\$ 44,665.64	2013 Bond Issue
C-04-55-803-117	08-1745	Harrison Road Project	\$ 18,208.15	2009 MCIA
C-04-55-803-217	08-1745	Crowells Road	\$ 70,162.08	2009 MCIA
C-04-55-812-05	11-1811	Fire Truck Soft Costs	\$ 2,179.00	2013 Bond Issue
C-04-55-818-205	12-1837	Garbage Truck	\$ 6,318.00	2012 MCIA
C-04-55-892-315	09-1767	Mason Dump Truck	\$ 2,235.83	2009 MCIA
C-04-55-949-220	03-1611	Boro Hall Improvements	\$ 2,090.53	2008 Re-Fi
C-04-55-949-402	03-1606	Boro Hall Improvements Soft	\$ 227.62	2008 Re-Fi
C-04-55-951-205	04-1631	Road Projects	\$ 8,431.46	2008 Re-Fi
C-04-55-951-205	04-1631	Road Projects - Summit	\$ 34,814.49	2008 Re-Fi
C-04-55-951-220	04-1631	Road Projects - Benner	\$ 102,052.62	2008 Re-Fi
C-04-55-951-401	04-1631	Road Projects - Legal	\$ 4,995.28	2008 Re-Fi
C-04-55-956-402	04-1644	Fire Truck - Misc	\$ 1,300.52	2008 Re-Fi
C-04-55-956-401	04-1644	Fire Truck - Soft	\$ 64.40	2008 Re-Fi
C-04-55-962-403	05-1669	Centennial Park-Engineer	\$ 47,440.73	2008 Re-Fi
			\$ 345,186.35	

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough clerk is hereby directed to forward certified copies of the within resolution to the Chief Financial Officer, Borough Auditor and Borough Administrator.

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

No. 7-16-198

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 3-16-108, adopted by the Borough Council on March 15, 2016, a contract was awarded to JADS Construction Company, Inc. of South River, NJ, for the Improvements to Valentine Street – Phase II Project; and

WHEREAS, it appears from Pay Estimate No. 1, filed by the CME Associates, that certain work under said contract has been completed and approved, and there is due to JADS Construction Company, Inc. the sum of \$261,550.49 in accordance with said Pay Estimate for work performed from April 22, 2016 to July 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are available in Account No. C-04-55-822-210 in the amount of \$261,550.49, 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 JADS Construction Company, Inc. the sum of \$261,550.49, as certified by the Engineer in Pay Estimate No. 1, 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 as above:
No. 7-16-199

WHEREAS, JOSEPH OLARRA, SERGEANT, has retired from the Highland Park Police Department effective June 15, 2016; and

WHEREAS, per the requirements of the Agreement between Borough of Highland Park and P.B.A. Local No 64, Joseph Olarra is entitled to unused accrued time payments in the amount as calculated below.

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	Calculation	Amount Due
Sick Hours (1170 @ 3:1)	390 hours x \$64.57	\$25,182.30
Vacation Hours	99.40 hours x \$64.57	\$6,418.26
Comp Time Hours	20 hours x \$64.57	\$1,291.40
Total Payment		\$32,891.96

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 \$32,891.96 be approved and distributed in the next available pay cycle.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 7-16-200

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Borough Clerk shall 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:

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:

Day Camp Employees	Position	Salary
Ashley Sosa	Assistant Director	\$22.00/hr
Keith Roig	Head Counselor	\$19.00/hr
Tony Olarra	Head Counselor	\$19.00/hr
Bethany Goldstein	Head Counselor	\$19.00/hr
Akinsoji Alston-Torres	Counselor	\$12.00/hr
Olivia Bridges	Counselor	\$12.00/hr
Caitlyn Fulwood	Counselor	\$12.00/hr
Luca Giovannetti	Counselor	\$12.00/hr
Madeline Hehir	Counselor	\$12.00/hr
Camryn Kozachek	Counselor	\$12.00/hr
Vivek Puduri	Counselor	\$12.00/hr
Nickita Ramrekha	Counselor	\$12.00/hr
Matthew Sussman	Counselor	\$12.00/hr
Shana Oshinskie	Counselor	\$12.00/hr
Akua Asamoah	Junior Counselor	\$8.50/hr
William Chen	Junior Counselor	\$8.50/hr
Konstantinos Hantsoulis	Junior Counselor	\$8.50/hr
Caryn Kaplan	Junior Counselor	\$8.50/hr
Matthew Landis	Junior Counselor	\$8.50/hr
Yasmine Lekhal	Junior Counselor	\$8.50/hr
Simona Moyal	Junior Counselor	\$8.50/hr
Ogemdi Nwadike	Junior Counselor	\$8.50/hr
Noah Pointer-Gamory	Junior Counselor	\$8.50/hr
Justin Sargent	Junior Counselor	\$8.50/hr
Luke Schroeder	Junior Counselor	\$8.50/hr
Amaree St. Juste	Junior Counselor	\$8.50/hr
Kayleigh Wharton	Junior Counselor	\$8.50/hr
Amir Wright	Junior Counselor	\$8.50/hr
Sports Camp Employees	Position	Salary
Nicholas Kasapidis	Instructor	\$15.00/hr
Tony Olarra	Instructor	\$17.00/hr
Erin Washington	Instructor	\$20.00/hr
Rochelle Augustus	Counselor	\$8.50/hr
Brian Baker	Counselor	\$8.50/hr
Dylan Boynton	Counselor	\$8.50/hr
William Chen	Counselor	\$8.50/hr
Leo Goldman	Counselor	\$8.50/hr
Madelyn Gonzalez	Counselor	\$8.50/hr
Sam Murphy	Counselor	\$8.50/hr

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Ryan O'Shea	Counselor	\$8.50/hr
Rebecca Tayts	Counselor	\$8.50/hr
Ishmael Zubairu	Counselor	\$8.50/hr

HYE MIN SHIN, Desk Assistant, at an hourly rate of \$12.17. effective June 6, 2016.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Finance Director be and he 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 Health and Human Services Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 7-16-201

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of the Borough of Highland Park (hereinafter referred to as the "Sponsor") proposes to rehabilitate the Samuel Kronman building, a 100 unit senior/disabled public housing complex consisting of 15 efficiency units, 80 one bedroom units and 5 two bedroom units; and

WHEREAS, the housing project (hereinafter referred to as the "project") pursuant to the provisions of the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency Law of 1983 as amended (N.J.S.A. 55:14K-1 et seq.), the rules promulgated thereunder at N.J.A.C. 5:80-1.1 et seq., and all applicable guidelines promulgated thereunder (the foregoing hereinafter collectively referred to as the "HMFA Requirements") within the Borough of Highland Park (hereinafter referred to as the "Municipality") on a site described as Lot 1207, Block 42 as shown on the Official Assessment Map of the Borough of Highland Park, Middlesex County and commonly known as Samuel Kronman, 242 South Sixth Avenue, Highland Park, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Project will be subject to the HMFA requirements and the mortgage and other loan documents executed between the Sponsor and the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency (hereinafter referred to as the "Agency"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the HMFA requirements, the governing body of the Municipality hereby determines that there is a need for this housing project in the Municipality.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Highland Park (the "Council") that:

1. The Council finds and determines that the Samuel Kronman Rehabilitation Project proposed by the Sponsor meets or will meet an existing housing need;
2. The Council does hereby adopt the within Resolution and makes the determination and findings herein contained by virtue of, pursuant to, and in conformity with the provisions of the HMFA Law to enable the Agency to process the Sponsor's application for Agency funding to finance the Project.

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

No. 7-16-202

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that approval is hereby given to Main Street Highland Park to hold their Arts Festival activities on September 25, 2016 from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that permission is hereby granted to the Highland Park Police Department to make application to the New Jersey Department of Transportation for a permit to close a portion of Raritan Avenue (Route #27) between 2nd and 5th Avenues on September 25, 2016 between 9:00 AM and 6:00 PM; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Main Street Highland Park will work in close cooperation with the Highland Park Police Department to insure minimum inconvenience to Borough residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Main Street Highland Park; Stephen Rizco, Chief of Police; Police Dept. Traffic Safety Bureau; Highland Park First Aid Squad Capt.; James Polos, Emergency Management Coordinator; Donald Rish, Dept. of Public Works Supt.

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

No. 7-16-203

WHEREAS, the School Budget for the School District of the Borough of Highland Park, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey, was approved for the School Year 2016-2017:

Current Expenses	\$ 25,154,671.00
Debt Schedule	<u>2,019,359.00</u>
	\$ 27,174,030.00

and

WHEREAS, NJSA 18A:22-34 provides that the governing body of a municipality that is co-extensive with the said school district determines the amount necessary for school purposes, and levy such aggregate amount for such school purposes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Highland Park, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, that there be raised, approved and collected for the school district of said Borough the following items:

January 1, 2016 to June 30, 2016	\$ 13,637,779.00
July 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016	<u>13,337,015.00</u>
Total school levy for the Year 2016	\$ 26,974,794.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the aggregate sum of Twenty Six Million, Nine Hundred Seventy-Four Thousand, Seven Hundred Ninety-Four Dollars (\$26,974,794.00) be certified by the Borough Clerk to the Middlesex County Board of Taxation, the Board of Education of the School District of said Borough, the County Superintendent of Schools, and the Assessor of the Borough of Highland Park.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

No. 7-16-205

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WHEREAS, K & P Hantsoulis of 431 Cedar Avenue received an extremely high 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 in the amount of \$2,280.88 to the water and sewer account of K & P Hantsoulis of 431 Cedar 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 Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 7-16-206

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:

<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>LOT</u>	<u>REMITTEE</u>	<u>AMOUNT TO BE REMITTED</u>
190	4.02	123 Title Agency	\$3,124.42
C-1003		30B Vreeland Road Florham Park, NJ 07932	

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 the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 7-16-207

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:

<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>LOT</u>	<u>REMITTEE</u>	<u>AMOUNT TO BE REMITTED</u>
5	28	Maria Van Sertima	\$4,577.20
		59 So. Adelaide Avenue	

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 the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 7-16-208

WHEREAS, Ballard Hutkin, 17 Cliff Court, received an erroneous water and sewer bill; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined by the Highland Park Water & Sewer Department that there was an incorrect reading 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 #20110740-0 of \$28,901.18 to the account of Ballard Hutkin, 17 Cliff Court, 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 the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 7-16-209

WHEREAS, William Donahue, 30 South 7th Avenue, received an erroneous water and sewer bill; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined by the Highland Park Water & Sewer Department that there was an incorrect reading 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 #20141000-0 of \$1,536.12 to the account of William Donahue, 30 South 7th 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 the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 7-16-210

WHEREAS, pursuant to P.L. 1997, Chapter 99, a municipality may hold a tax lien sale within the last month of a calendar year for any unpaid taxes or other municipal liens or charges that are in arrears as of the 11th day of the eleventh month of the calendar year; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee has advised the Borough Council that it is advisable for the Borough to hold such sale during December of 2016 in order to maximize the percentage tax collection rate in calendar year 2016, and minimize the budget requirement for the Reserve for Uncollected Taxes in calendar year 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Council acknowledges that all proper notification of taxpayers will still be made in accordance with applicable State regulations and that all taxpayers will be given ample opportunities to bring their accounts up to date;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized and directed to schedule and conduct a tax sale during December, 2016, for all taxes and municipal charges unpaid as of November 11, 2016; and

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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. 7-16-211

WHEREAS, NJSA 54:5-19.1 authorizes electronic tax sales pursuant to rules and regulations to be promulgated by the Director of the Division of Government Services; and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Division of Local Government Services has promulgated rules and regulations for pilot programs; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Local Government Services has approved NJ Tax Lien Investors/RealAuction.com to conduct pilot programs; and

WHEREAS, the rules and regulations authorize a municipality to submit an application for participation in the pilot program for an electronic tax sale;

WHEREAS, an electronic tax sale is innovative and provides a greater pool of potential lien buyers, thus creating the environment for a more complete tax sale process, and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park wishes to participate in the pilot program for an electronic tax sale.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Borough Administrator is hereby authorized to sign the agreement to participate in the electronic tax sale program and submit same to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Borough Administrator, Tax Collector and Director of the Division of Government Services forthwith.

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

No. 7-16-212

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park has concluded negotiations with the Policeman's Benevolent Association (PBA) Local #64, on a Collective Bargaining Agreement for Calendar Years 2016 thru 2018;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park as follows:

1. The Mayor and Borough Council hereby approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Borough and PBA Local #64, which is attached hereto;
2. The Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized and directed to execute and attest Collective Bargaining Agreement with PBA Local #64, said Agreement in a form having been approved by the Borough Attorney;
3. The Borough Finance Department is authorized and directed to make payment of 2016 retroactive pay adjustments to members of the PBA Local #64, upon receipt and approval of formal Collective Bargaining Agreement, and adoption of the appropriate salary ordinance amendments, if necessary.

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

No. 7-16-213

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to notify the Finance Director that the following are the names of the officers and employees of the Borough of Highland Park whose salaries are on an annual basis:

Title	Name		2016	Longevity		2016	Effective Date
			Base	%	Amount	Salary	
Sergeant of Police	Richard	Abrams	120,658.13	3%	3,619.74	124,278	7/01/16
Sergeant of Police	Jason	Culver	120,658.13	3%	3,619.74	124,278	7/01/16
Sergeant of Police	Theodore	Haas	124,883.57		in base	124,884	7/01/16
Sergeant of Police	Ilan	Lancry	120,658.13	4%	\$ 4,000.00	124,658	7/01/16
Sergeant of Police	Derek	Wenskoski	124,799.33		in base	124,799	7/01/16
Police Officer	Sean	Bibby	50,966			50,966	1/1/16-6/10/2016
Police Officer	Sean	Bibby	57,557.00			57,557	6/11/2016- 12/31/16
Police Officer	Norman	Brown	111,936.23			111,936	7/01/2016
Police Officer	Jose	Curbelo	111,936.23			111,936	7/01/2016
Police Officer	Christopher	DeCosta	57,557.00			57,557	1/1/16-6/04/16
	Christopher	DeCosta	64,148.00			64,148	6/05/16-12/31/16
Police Officer	Sean	Garley	111,936.23			111,936	7/01/2016
Police Officer	Kevin	Garrity	111,936.23			111,936	7/01/2016
Police Officer	Alaina	Giles	64,148.00			64,148	1/01/16-8/18/16
	Alaina	Giles	70,700.00			70,700	8/18/16-12/31/16
Police Officer	Mohab	Hannout				111,936	7/01/2016

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			111,936.23				
Police Officer	Sean	McGraw	111,936.23			111,936	7/01/2016
Police Officer	Donald	Newton	116,120.06		in base	116,120	7/01/2016
Police Officer	Brian	O'Mara	111,936.23			111,936	7/01/2016
	Gaetano	Palumbo	64,148			64,148	1/1/16-5/31/16
Police Officer	Gaetano	Palumbo	70,700.00			70,700	6/1/16-12/31/16
Police Officer	Theodore	Pardo	111,936.23	3%	3,358.09	115,294	7/01/2016
Police Officer	John	Sachau, Jr	111,936.23			111,936	7/01/2016
Police Officer	Kevin	Shiffner	70,700.00			70,700	8/15/16-12/31/16
Police Officer	Kevin	Shiffner	70,700.00			70,700	8/15/16-12/31/16
Police Officer	David	Soden	111,936.23			111,936	7/01/2016

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

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 7-16-214

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that Section 3 of Resolution 1-16-19, adopted by the Borough Council on January 5, 2016, shall be supplemented by adding the following fees for programs:

<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>FEE</u>
Flag Football	\$120.00 Resident
	\$140.00 Non-resident
	40% Free
	60% Reduced

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

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Safety Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 7-16-215

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park adopted a resolution to participate in the 2015 Middlesex County Hazard Mitigation Plan update; and

WHEREAS, said Plan was prepared and submitted to FEMA for approval; and

WHEREAS, the State Office of Emergency Management has advised that said Plan has been approved by FEMA; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of said Plan is in the best interests of the residents of Middlesex County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park, County of Middlesex, that they hereby adopt the attached Middlesex County Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazards Mitigation Plan;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk shall forward certified copies of this resolution to the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Mayor Brill Mittler appointed Jen Senick to serve as a member of the Digital Data Task Force for a term to expire November 9, 2016.

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

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

Opposed: 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, commented that she is an advocate for speed bumps. Cars are racing through the streets and don't stop at intersections. There are bushes/shrubs/trees that overhang/impede passage on sidewalks. Mayor Brill Mittler noted that they will have the Code Enforcement Department check out the information that she will provide about what she has observed. Council President Welkovits noted that the Borough only has so many people on staff that are out performing their duties and they may not see stuff that the residents see. Ms. Bickhardt invited the Governing Body to come and walk with her on Thursday morning.

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

There being no further business, on motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman Walsh, and carried by affirmative voice vote of all Councilpersons present, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Hullings
Borough Clerk