

REGULAR MEETING – SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

A Regular Meeting of the Highland Park Mayor and Council was held in Borough Hall, 221 South 5th Avenue, on Tuesday, September 3, 2013 and was called to order by Mayor Minkoff at 7:03 PM. Mayor Minkoff read the Open Public Meetings Statement.

Present: Mayor Minkoff, Councilpersons Brill Mittler, Erickson, Millet, Potts, Welkovits; Borough Attorney Schmierer; Borough Administrator Kovach, Borough Clerk Hullings.

Absent: Councilwoman Foster-Dublin.

On motion made by Councilman Millet seconded by Councilman Potts, the minutes of the Regular and Conference Meeting held on August 13, 2013 were approved as distributed by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons, Brill Mittler, Erickson, Millet, Potts, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Councilwoman Foster-Dublin.

Abstain: None.

Mayor Minkoff asked the Council members to present their reports.

Councilman Potts reported that the summer camp had 315 campers this year, including 113 international students. Registration for fall programs is in progress. He wished all the Jewish residents a good holiday.

Councilwoman Welkovits reported that the 2nd walk the park event, sponsored by the Mayor's Wellness Campaign, was held and was hosted by Architect Steve Buzbee who took participants on a tour through the Livingston Manor District. There were 35 participants and they had to turn people away. They will host another event in the spring. On September 26th, there will be a walk at the Meadows Trail beginning at South 5th Avenue and Valentine Street beginning at 6PM. This will be a monthly event that will take place on the 4th Thursday of the month one hour prior to sundown. She wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Councilwoman Brill Mittler reported that the Arts in the Park Festival will be held on September 29th. Highland Park is known as a center for the arts. There is still time to reserve a booth. She reminded residents about the Park Partners program. The Borough has put together funds to give back to residents who submit ideas to benefit the community. Applications are available at Borough Hall, Main Street Highland Park and the Library. They will be giving out five \$2,000 grants in one of five categories.

Councilman Erickson reported that there is a resolution on the agenda in support of the New Jersey earned sick and safe days legislation (A4125/S2868), which mandates earned sick days. The resolution is in support of a statewide measure that mandates sick days are paid. Jersey City and Newark to pass ordinances in the near future.

Councilman Millet reported that the sidewalk improvement contracts to be mailed out this week at approximately 475 homeowners. When the signed contracts are returned, they will organize them and decide whether to begin work in the fall or wait until the spring. Usually this program has only 125 participants.

Mayor Minkoff reported that he received a package from the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency with information about the Sandy Homebuyer Assistance Program. Information will be made available at the Borough Clerk's Office. He received a letter from Borough resident Carl Wilson that commended the Department of Public Works and the Police Department. He added that he thinks it is great when residents let the Governing Body know when employees are doing a great job. He thanked Mr. Wilson for taking the time to recognize the employees.

Borough Administrator Kovach reported that summer hours are over and Borough Hall will now be open Monday through Friday, 8:00AM to 4:00PM.

Borough Attorney Schmierer – No report.

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

Matt Hersch, 333 Felton Avenue, commented that the Public Information Committee has been meeting regularly and have set meeting through the end of 2013. The next meetings are scheduled for September 26th and October 24th. He thanked the Mayor for mentioning the resources available through the NJ Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency. He would like to reach out to Mr. Wilson for a letter to the editor for the HP News. Mayor Minkoff commented that while that is a great idea, he is hesitant about publishing names of employees without their knowledge.

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

The Clerk reported advertising and notification of Main Street Highland Park 2013 Budget for consideration of passage on final reading by title.

On motion made by Councilwoman Brill Mittler, seconded by Councilman Erickson, and carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote, the above entitled resolution was taken up on final reading by title.

Mayor Minkoff declared the public hearing on the Budget 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, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

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The following resolution, introduced by the Economic Development and Planning Committee, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilman Millet, seconded by Councilwoman Brill Mittler, and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons Erickson, Millet, Potts, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Abstained: Councilwoman Brill Mittler.

Absent: Councilwoman Foster-Dublin.

No. 9-13-264

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 7-13-202 adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park on July 2, 2013, that approved the Main Street Highland Park Budget for the year 2013; and

WHEREAS, said Budget was advertised in the Home News Tribune issue of August 2, 2013 together with a notice of the public hearing on the Budget scheduled for September 3, 2013 at 7:00 PM in Borough Hall, 221 South 5th Avenue, Highland Park, NJ; and

WHEREAS, said Budget and Notice of Hearing had been posted in the Borough Hall where public notices are customarily posted and was made available to each person requesting the same prior to and during the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, notice had been served on all property owners within the Special Improvement District as certified by the Tax Assessor and as shown by the affidavit of the Borough Clerk attached hereto and a public hearing on the Budget was held on September 3, 2013;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the 2013 Main Street Highland Park Budget hereinbefore set forth is hereby adopted and shall constitute an appropriation for the purposes stated of the sums therein set forth as appropriations, and authorization of the amount of

Income

Government Grants	25,000.00
Special Assessment (BID)	157,000.00
Sponsorships	<u>41,633.00</u>
Total Income	\$223,633.00

Expense

Administration and General	\$ 126,521.00
Program Expense	<u>97,112.00</u>
Total Expense	\$223,633.00

Budget Surplus/Carryover

\$0.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to Main Street Highland Park, the Tax Assessor, the Tax Collector and the Finance Director forthwith.

ADOPTED: September 3, 2013

The Clerk reported that an ordinance entitled, BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING BOND ORDINANCE NUMBER 13-1843 HERETOFORE FINALLY ADOPTED BY THE BOUROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH ON APRIL 2, 2013 ENTITLED "BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE 2013 SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ALONG VARIOUS REAL PROPERTIES, IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, (THE "BOROUGH"); APPROPRIATING \$600,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$571,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF AND THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OF THE COST THEREOF," TO INCREASE THE APPROPRIATION THERIN BY \$140,000 AND TO INCREASE THE AUTHORIZATION OF BONDS OR NOTES THEREIN BY \$133,000 TO FINANCE PART OF THE ADDITIONAL COST THEREOF AND THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OF THE COST THEREOF had been introduced in writing by the Finance Committee for consideration of passage on first reading by title.

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

Ayes: Councilpersons Brill Mittler, Erickson, Millet, Potts, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Councilperson Foster-Dublin.

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

No. 9-13-265

WHEREAS, an Ordinance entitled, BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING BOND ORDINANCE NUMBER 13-1843 HERETOFORE FINALLY ADOPTED BY THE BOUROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH ON APRIL 2, 2013 ENTITLED "BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE 2013 SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ALONG VARIOUS REAL PROPERTIES, IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, (THE "BOROUGH"); APPROPRIATING \$600,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$571,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF AND THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OF THE COST THEREOF," TO INCREASE THE APPROPRIATION THERIN BY \$140,000 AND TO INCREASE THE AUTHORIZATION OF BONDS OR NOTES THEREIN BY \$133,000 TO FINANCE PART OF THE ADDITIONAL COST THEREOF AND THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OF 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 October 15, 2013, at 7:00 PM, for the purpose of considering said Ordinance on final passage.

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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, AN ORDINANCE BANNING HYDRAULIC FRACKING IN THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY had been introduced in writing by the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee for consideration of passage on first reading by title.

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

Ayes: Councilpersons Brill Mittler, Erickson, Millet, Potts, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Councilperson Foster-Dublin.

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

No. 9-13-266

WHEREAS, an Ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE BANNING HYDRAULIC FRACKING IN THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, 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 September 17, 2013, 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 Clerk reported that an ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ON-STREET PARKING REGULATIONS FOR RESIDENCES OCCUPIED BY HANDICAPPED PERSONS AND AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, 2010 had been introduced in writing by the Public Safety Committee for consideration of passage on first reading by title.

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

Ayes: Councilpersons Brill Mittler, Erickson, Millet, Potts, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Councilperson Foster-Dublin.

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

No. 9-13-267

WHEREAS, an Ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ON-STREET PARKING REGULATIONS FOR RESIDENCES OCCUPIED BY HANDICAPPED PERSONS AND AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, 2010, 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 September 17, 2013, 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.

Consent Agenda Resolution Nos. 9-13-268 through 9-13-278 were duly adopted on motion made by Councilman Millet, seconded by Councilman Erickson, and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons Brill Mittler, Erickson, Millet, Potts, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Councilperson Foster-Dublin.

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

No. 9-13-268

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 1-13-01, adopted by the Borough Council on January 7, 2013, authorized the adoption of the Rules of Order for Borough Council for the year 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council wishes to amend those Rules of Order by revising Article II, Section 2, to add provision to allow for the Conference Meetings to be called to order prior to Regular Meeting at 7:00PM if time permits at the conclusion of the agenda meeting;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Rules of Order dated January 7, 2013, on file in the office of the Borough Clerk shall be and are hereby adopted as the amended Rules of Order for this Council for the year 2013.

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

No. 9-13-269

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 9/3/13, can be found in the Bills List Journal Book No. 32.

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

No. 9-13-270

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park has concluded negotiations with the Highland Park Department of Public Works Association (DPWA), on a Collective Bargaining Agreement for Calendar Years 2013 thru 2015;

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 the DPWA, which is attached hereto;
2. The Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized and directed to execute and attest Collective Bargaining Agreement with the DPWA, 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 2013 retroactive pay adjustments to members of the DPWA, 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. 9-13-271

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 7, 2013 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:

HOWARD TARLOW, Part-time Paid Firefighter, at an hourly rate of \$18.05, effective September 1, 2013.

DEREK MERRILL, Part-time Paid Firefighter, at an hourly rate of \$18.05, effective September 1, 2013.

SCOTT KIVET, Part-time Paid Firefighter, at an hourly rate of \$18.05, effective September 1, 2013.

MARGARET COAKLEY, Body Recall Instructor, at an hourly rate of \$14.00, effective September 1, 2013.

Title	Name		2013	Longevity		2013
			Base	%	Amount	Total Salary
Laborer	David	Baldwin	16.07			16.07
Laborer	Dennis	Chekenian	21.36			21.36
Driver	James	Coleman	31.27			31.27
Driver	Edward	Corson	31.27			31.27
Laborer	John	Geoghan	22.05			22.05
Equipment Operator	Thomas	Kohler	29.14			29.14
Laborer	Frederick	Long	17.10			17.10
Driver	Michael	Milan	29.84			29.84
Laborer	Jeffrey	Reap	22.70			22.70
Senior Laborer	Mark	Rohan	23.51			23.51
Laborer	Rudolph	Rohan	22.70			22.70
Laborer	James	Webb Sr.	17.10			17.10
Maintenance/Driver	Robert	Cahill	31.27			31.27
Maintenance	Ronald	Rowe	19.20			19.20
Mechanic	Robert	West	32.75			32.75
Master Maintenance	Jose	Gonzalez	28.20			28.20
Crew Leader	Glen	Seaboldt	31.86		0.72	32.58

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.

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

No. 9-13-272

WHEREAS, the following business/property owners have submitted a completed application to the Borough of Highland Park for matching grant under the Highland Park Façade Improvement Program and/or the Highland Park Awning Promotion Program, both funded through the Community Block Development Grant and further described on the Purchase Requisition attached to the original of this resolution for the location designated, to wit:

<u>APPLICANT</u>	<u>BUSINESS LOCATIONS</u>
Marion Bernstein, Sweets to Nuts	72A Raritan Avenue
Michael Svei, Minuteman Press	13-B South 3 rd Avenue
and	

WHEREAS, the Main Street Design Committee has reviewed the applications and has recommended that the above applications be approved by the Mayor and Council; and

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose will be available in Account No. G-02-11-CD1-210 in the amount of \$3,687.25, 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 application from the above named business/property owner be approved for funding under the Highland Park Façade Improvement and Awning Promotion Program in the amount set opposite, to wit:

<u>APPLICANT</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Marion Bernstein, Sweets to Nuts	\$2,430.00
Michael Svei, Minuteman Press	\$1,257.25

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the applicants, Finance Department and the Main Street Executive Director forthwith.

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

No. 9-13-273

WHEREAS, The Goldstein Partnership, the Project Architect for the renovation of the Public Safety Building, had heretofore submitted an invoice totaling the amount of \$7,135.65 for services in connection with the said project; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have reviewed the said invoice and have approved the same for payment; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Finance Director shall be and hereby authorized and directed to issue payment in the amount of \$7,135.65 to The Goldstein Partnership, for architectural services in connection with the renovation of the Public Safety Building; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Finance Director forthwith.

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

No. 9-13-274

WHEREAS, Jacques Fitzgerald, 130 Columbia Street, 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 was broken 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 \$595.20 for water and \$359.73 for sewer to the water and sewer account of Jacques Fitzgerald, Account #10061580-0.

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 Safety Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 9-13-275

WHEREAS the Highland Park Police Department will be in need of furniture upon completion of the new Public Safety Building; and

WHEREAS, the Highland Park Police Department wish to purchase said furniture from Business Furniture Incorporated, Parsippany, NJ, under State Contract; and

WHEREAS, the Police Chief has recommended that the furniture be purchased from the above mentioned company; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Police Chief is hereby authorized and directed to purchase furniture for the new Public Safety Building, under State Contract, from Business Furniture Incorporated, 10 Lanidex Center West, Parsippany, NJ 07054; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Police Chief Stephen Rizco and Chief Financial Officer Kathleen Kovach, forthwith.

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

No. 9-13-276

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Mayor and Borough Clerk shall be and are hereby authorized to execute and attest Agreement for the Provision of Yard Waste Recycling and Marketing Services with the Middlesex County Improvement Authority, a copy of which is attached to the original of this ordinance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Middlesex County Improvement Authority and the Recycling Coordinator forthwith.

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

No. 9-13-277

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 29, 2013 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 29, 2013 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 Council as a Whole, was duly adopted as above:

No. 9-13-278

WHEREAS, in New Jersey more than 1.2 million workers are unable to earn any paid sick; and

WHEREAS, many of these workers are in service jobs, caring for children and the elderly, and preparing or serving food in our restaurants; and

WHEREAS, when a sick worker is forced to work, because they can't afford to stay home, everyone is harmed; the sick worker's recovery is extended, and their co-workers and the public are exposed to the illness; and

WHEREAS, there are currently no New Jersey or Federal law that guarantees workers access to earned sick and safe days when they or their families are sick, or when they need to deal with medical, legal or relocation issues related to domestic violence or sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, earned sick days' ordinances have been passed in San Francisco, Milwaukee, Washington DC, Seattle, and Portland, and most recently in New York City. State legislation has been passed in Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, legislation has recently been introduced in New Jersey (A4125/S2866) which would provide a basic standard for all New Jersey workers; and

WHEREAS, the legislation would enable New Jersey workers to earn one hour of sick time for every 30 hours worked. This minimum standard would promote a healthier workforce, stronger businesses, and a more prosperous New Jersey.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that they are in support of New Jersey Legislation (A4125/S2866) and encourage the passage of this legislation by the State of New Jersey;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Christie, Assemblywoman Pamela Lampitt, Senate Majority Leader Loretta Weinberg, Senator Barbara Buono, Assemblyman Peter Barnes, and Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan.

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

Ruth Bickhardt, 307 Magnolia Street, asked about the sidewalk program and whether all the sidewalks in the borough will be in good condition. Councilman Millet noted that she will see significant improvement as there are close to 500 homeowners signed up for the program. 100 homeowners have already made repairs on their own to their sidewalks. Ms. Bickhardt commented that the borough should use the newsletter as an educational tool and to remind people about holidays for garbage schedule. Councilwoman Brill Mittler noted that the Public Information Committee does issue that type of information on a weekly basis through Nixle messages and the newspaper that is issued twice a year. Nixle messages are for anyone. She suggested that Ms. Bickhardt get email addresses from her tenants or a cell phone number and they can be included in the notifications that are sent out.

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

There being no further business, on motion made by Councilman Millet, seconded by Councilwoman Brill Mittler, and carried by affirmative voice vote of all Councilpersons present, the meeting adjourned to the Conference Meeting at 7:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Hullings
Borough Clerk