

BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK  
REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 16, 2021 – 7:00 PM

The Borough is using the telephone meeting format in an effort to mitigate the chance of exposure to COVID-19, as a part of the Borough's ongoing effort to slow the rate of transmission and avoid overwhelming our treatment centers.

The public is invited to attend and participate by way of a call-in number and password:

Dial-in: 1-929-205-6099

Webinar ID: 993 2400 6125

By Computer, Smart Phone or Tablet:

Web Link: <https://zoom.us/j/99324006125>

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK:

The Mission of the Highland Park Borough Council is to establish a government based upon the principles of good government: ethics, efficiency and the effective provision of services.

The Borough Council is committed to creating a thriving community, which is sustainable economically, environmentally and socially.

The Borough Council is further committed to creating a community which values its unique and diverse populations and encourages direct public participation in the governing process.

**AGENDA**

\* Denotes Consent Agenda Posted Items. Ordinarily, consent agenda items, pursuant to Ordinance No. 920, are not read nor debated unless there is a request by a member of Council or the public. Furthermore, unless requested by a member of Council for a separate vote, all consent agenda items, as per Council's Rules of Order, Article IV, shall be considered in the form of one **MOTION**.

1. Call to Order and Open Public Meetings Statement.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Roll Call.
4. Agenda Questions by Council Members.
5. Honors and Awards.
6. Approval of Minutes.
  - 6.a **MOTION** to approve minutes of the Regular/Work Session Meeting held

February 2, 2021, as distributed.

7. Council Reports.
8. Borough Administrator's Report.
9. Borough Attorney's Report.
10. Mayor's Report.
11. Public Participation.  
*(21 minutes total; 3 minutes each speaker limited to items on this Agenda, including Work Session).*
12. Ordinances Requiring a Second Reading.
13. Ordinances Requiring a First Reading.
  - 13.a Clerk reports introduction of Capital Ordinance for improvements to So. 6th Avenue, So. 9th Avenue, No. 9th Avenue, Benner Street, and Barnard Street.
    - a. **MOTION** to adopt/reject and advertise ordinance on first reading by title.  
(Resolution No. 2-21-62)
  - 13.b Clerk reports introduction of Capital Ordinance for improvements to No. 10th Avenue, So. 10th Avenue, Lexington Avenue, Alcazar Avenue and Aurora Street.
    - a. **MOTION** to adopt/reject and advertise ordinance on first reading by title.  
(Resolution No. 2-21-63)
14. Consent Agenda Items - Resolutions.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

- 14.a \*2-21-64 Resolution to Amend Annual Salary Resolution.
- 14.b \*2-21-65 Resolution to Approve Taxi Owner Applications - 2021.
- 14.c \*2-21-66 Resolution to Approve Taxi Operator Applications - 2021.
- 14.d \*2-21-67 Resolution to Approve Wrecker Licenses - Guaranteed Motor Towing and George Logan Towing, Inc.
- 14.e \*2-21-68 Resolution to Approve Bills List.
15. Resolutions requiring a Separate Reading.
  - 15.a 2-21-69 Resolution to Adopt Amended Rules of Order for 2021.  
**MOTION** adopt/reject **ROLL CALL VOTE**

16. Appointments.
17. Second Public Participation.  
*(3 minutes per speaker on any items; subject to 9PM conclusion prior to Work Session)*
18. Recess (5 minutes).
19. Work Session Items: No formal action to be taken.
  - a. Resolution in Support of Senate Bill No. 2656/Assembly Bill No. 5301 (EF).
  - b. 2021 Budget Timeline (TJ).
  - c. Committee/Commission Memberships (GBM/JH).
20. Goals.
21. Executive Session (if necessary).
22. MOTION to adjourn.
23. **Next Scheduled Meeting:**

BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK  
No. 2-21-62

RESOLUTION: Finance Committee

WHEREAS, an Ordinance entitled, CAPITAL ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO SO. 6<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, SO. 9<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, NO. 9<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, BENNER STREET AND BARNARD STREET, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$475,000.00 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 March 2, 2021, 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.

ADOPTED: February 16, 2021

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Hullings, BOROUGH CLERK

I, Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk of the Borough of Highland Park, New Jersey, do hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of said Borough on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTES

Council Member	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Canavera				
Foster				
George				
Hale				
Hersh				
Kim-Chohan				

**BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK  
CAPITAL ORDINANCE NO.**

**CAPITAL ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO SO. 6<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, SO. 9<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, NO. 9<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, BENNER STREET AND BARNARD STREET, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$475,000.00 THEREFOR TO PAY THE COST THEREOF:**

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1:** The capital purpose described in Section 2 of the capital ordinance is hereby authorized as a general capital purpose to be undertaken by the Borough of Highland Park, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey for the said improvement (s) or purpose stated in Section 2 hereof, there is hereby appropriated the sum of \$475,000.00 funded by a New Jersey Department of Transportation FY 2020 Municipal Aid Grant.

**SECTION 2:** The capital purpose hereby authorizes roadway improvements to So. 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue from Magnolia Street to Benner Street, So. 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue from Eden Avenue to Graham Street, No. 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue from Raritan Avenue to Abbott Street, Benner Street from So. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue to So. 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and Barnard Street from Woodbridge Avenue to Central Avenue.

**SECTION 3:** The expenditure of the \$475,000.00 appropriation from the a New Jersey Department of Transportation FY 2020 Municipal Aid Grant, for the purpose set forth in Section 2 hereof in hereby authorized and approved.

**SECTION 4:** The capital budget of the Borough is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this capital ordinance and to the extent of any inconsistency herewith, a resolution in the form promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital programs as approved by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs is on file in the office of the Clerk and is available for public inspection.

**SECTION 5:** This ordinance shall take effect immediately after final adoption as described in N.J.S.A. 40:49-2.

Introduced on first reading  
by title: February 16, 2021

ADOPTED:

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gayle Brill Mittler, Mayor

BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK  
No. 2-21-63

RESOLUTION: Finance Committee

WHEREAS, an Ordinance entitled, CAPITAL ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO NO. 10<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, SO. 10<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, LEXINGTON AVENUE, ALCAZAR AVENUE AND AURORA STREET, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$438,225.00 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 March 2, 2021, 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.

ADOPTED: February 16, 2021

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Hullings, BOROUGH CLERK

I, Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk of the Borough of Highland Park, New Jersey, do hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of said Borough on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTES

Council Member	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Canavera				
Foster				
George				
Hale				
Hersh				
Kim-Chohan				

**BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK  
CAPITAL ORDINANCE NO. 21-**

**CAPITAL ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO NO. 10<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, SO. 10<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, LEXINGTON AVENUE, ALCAZAR AVENUE AND AURORA STREET, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$438,225.00 THEREFOR TO PAY THE COST THEREOF:**

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1:** The capital purpose described in Section 2 of the capital ordinance is hereby authorized as a general capital purpose to be undertaken by the Borough of Highland Park, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey for the said improvement (s) or purpose stated in Section 2 hereof, there is hereby appropriated the sum of \$438,225.00 funded by a New Jersey Department of Transportation FY 2021 Municipal Aid Grant.

**SECTION 2:** The capital purpose hereby authorizes roadway improvements to No. 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue from Abbott Street to Raritan Avenue, So. 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue from Raritan Avenue to Woodbridge Avenue, Lexington Avenue from Raritan Avenue to Municipal Border, Alcazar Avenue from Central Avenue to Cherry Street, and Aurora Street from So. 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue to So. 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

**SECTION 3:** The expenditure of the \$438,225.00 appropriation from the a New Jersey Department of Transportation FY 2021 Municipal Aid Grant, for the purpose set forth in Section 2 hereof in hereby authorized and approved.

**SECTION 4:** The capital budget of the Borough is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this capital ordinance and to the extent of any inconsistency herewith, a resolution in the form promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital programs as approved by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs is on file in the office of the Clerk and is available for public inspection.

**SECTION 5:** This ordinance shall take effect immediately after final adoption as described in N.J.S.A. 40:49-2.

Introduced on first reading  
by title: February 16, 2021

ADOPTED:

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gayle Brill Mittler, Mayor

**BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK  
No. 2-21-64**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT TO ANNUAL SALARY RESOLUTION**

RESOLUTION: Finance Committee

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, 2021 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:

Acting Captain of Police	Jose	Curbelo	\$149,009.00	4/17/2019 - 12/31/2019
Acting Captain of Police	Jose	Curbelo	\$154,545.00	1/01/2020 - 4/16/2020
Captain of Police	Jose	Curbelo	\$158,951.00	4/17/2020 – 12/31/2020
Captain of Police	Jose	Curbelo	\$162,184.00	1/1/2021 – 12/31/2021
Lieutenant of Police	Thomas	Hammill	\$147,217.00	1/1/2019 – 12/31/2019
Lieutenant of Police	Thomas	Hammill	\$150,161.00	1/1/2020 – 12/31/2020
Lieutenant of Police	Thomas	Hammill	\$153,164.00	1/1/2021 – 12/31/2021
Lieutenant of Police	John	Sachau	\$142,887.00	7/8/2019 – 12/31/2019
Lieutenant of Police	John	Sachau	\$145,745.00	1/1/2020 – 12/31/2020
Lieutenant of Police	John	Sachau	\$148,660.00	1/1/2021 – 12/31/2021

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, 2021 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:

JOSE GONZALEZ, Master Laborer, at an hourly rate of \$35.07, effective January 1, 2021.

JEFFREY REAP, Driver, at an hourly rate of \$30.32, effective January 1, 2021.

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.

ADOPTED: February 16, 2021

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk

I, Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk of the Borough of Highland Park, New Jersey, do hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of said Borough on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTES

Council Member	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Canavera				
Foster				
George				
Hale				
Hersh				
Kim-Chohan				



BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK  
NO. 2-21-65

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF TAXI OWNER LICENSES FOR THE PURPOSE  
OF OWNING A TAXI CAB IN THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK

RESOLUTION: Public Safety Committee

WHEREAS, Kenneth J. Leo and GVK Taxi #5 (Venkatesware Reddy Chinthala) 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 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police and/or his designee has investigated said applicant sand has reported favorably upon said applications;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Council hereby determined that said applicants are 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.

ADOPTED: February 16, 2021

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk

I, Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk of the Borough of Highland Park, New Jersey, do hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of said Borough on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTES

Council Member	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Canavera				
Foster				
George				
Hale				
Hersh				
Kim-Chohan				

BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK  
NO. 2-21-66

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF TAXI OPERATOR LICENSES FOR THE  
PURPOSE OF OPERATING TAXI CABS IN THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK

RESOLUTION: Public Safety Committee

WHEREAS, Chimaeze Oliver Nwaro, Venkateswara Reddy Chinthala, and Kenneth Leo 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 2021; 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 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 Licenses to the aforesaid applicants.

ADOPTED: February 16, 2021

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk

I, Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk of the Borough of Highland Park, New Jersey, do hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of said Borough on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTES

Council Member	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Canavera				
Foster				
George				
Hale				
Hersh				
Kim-Chohan				

BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK  
No. 2-21-67

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE WRECKER LICENSE

RESOLUTION: Public Safety Committee

WHEREAS, Guaranteed Motor Towing and George Logan Towing, Inc., have filed with the Clerk of this Borough for a Wrecker/Towing License to operate heavy duty wreckers in this Borough under the provisions of the Ordinance providing for such licenses; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police has investigated said applicants and has reported favorably upon said applications;

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be and is hereby authorized and directed to issue Heavy Duty Wrecker/Towing Licenses to the aforesaid applicants.

ADOPTED: February 16, 2021

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk

I, Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk of the Borough of Highland Park, New Jersey, do hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of said Borough on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTES

Council Member	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Canavera				
Foster				
George				
Hale				
Hersh				
Kim-Chohan				

BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK  
NO. 2-21-68

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROVAL OF BILLS LIST

RESOLUTION: Finance Committee

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 2/16/2021 can be found in the Bills List Journal Book No. 41.

ADOPTED: February 16, 2021

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk

I, Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk of the Borough of Highland Park, New Jersey, do hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of said Borough on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTES

Council Member	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Canavera				
Foster				
George				
Hale				
Hersh				
Kim-Chohan				

BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK  
NO. 2-21-69

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT AMENDED RULES OF ORDER FOR 2021

RESOLUTION: COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

WHEREAS, Section 3-20 of the "Code of the Borough of Highland Park" provides that the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park shall adopt Rules of Order to govern all Council proceedings; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park wish to amend the Rules of Order which were adopted by said Council on January 5, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Article XV of the Rules of Order adopted on January 5, 2021, Section 3 permits the Rules of Order to be amended by a two-thirds vote on a roll call, taken at two successive Regular or Adjourned meetings of the Borough Council; and

WHEREAS, a roll call vote will be taken on the proposed Amended Rules of Order at the Borough Council meeting on February 2, 2021; and

WHEREAS, if, as a result of the roll call vote on the Amended Rules of Order on February 2, 2021, two-thirds of the Borough Council vote to adopt the Amended Rules of Order a final vote will be taken on the Amended Rules of Order at the Borough Council Regular meeting on February 16, 2021.

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

1. The Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park by a two-thirds vote on a roll call hereby agree to adopt Amended Rules of Order to govern the Borough Council proceedings during the calendar year 2021 or until said Rules are further amended by the Council.
2. The Council of the Borough of Highland Park pursuant to Article XV, Section 3 of the Rules of Order for the Highland Park Council shall vote again on the adoption of the Amended Rules of Order at its meeting on February 16, 2021 and if said Amended Rules of Order are again adopted by a two-thirds vote on a roll call, then the Rules of Order shall be deemed amended as of February 16, 2021.
3. The proposed Amended Rules of Order are on file with the Office of the Borough Clerk and may be inspected during regular office hours.

ADOPTED: February 16, 2021

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk

I, Joan Hullings, Clerk of the Borough of Highland Park, Middlesex County, do hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Borough of Highland Park Council at its annual reorganization meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Hullings, Borough Clerk

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTES

Council Member	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Canavera				
Foster				
George				
Hale				
Hersh				
Kim-Chohan				