

COUNCIL MEETING – JULY 21, 2020
BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NJ

A Special Meeting of the Highland Park Mayor and Council was held via Zoom, on Tuesday, March 24, 2020, and was called to order by Mayor Brill Mittler at 7:00 PM. Mayor Brill Mittler read the Open Public Meetings Statement.

Present: Mayor Brill Mittler; Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Kim-Chohan, Borough Attorney Schmierer; Borough Administrator Jover; Deputy Clerk Santiago.
Absent: Borough Clerk Hullings.

The following resolution, introduced by the Council as a Whole, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilman Fine, seconded by Councilwoman Kim-Chohan and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Kim-Chohan.
Opposed: None.
Absent: None.

No. 7-20-194

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that due to the Passing of Councilwoman Welkovits, Tara Canavera is hereby appointed to temporarily fill the vacancy on the Borough Council, effective immediately;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Tara Canavera shall serve on the Borough Council until such time as a candidate is elected to fill the remainder of the unexpired term at the General Election to be held on November 3, 2020.

Mayor Brill Mittler administered the Oath of Office to new Councilperson Tara Canavera.

The following resolution, introduced by the Council as a Whole, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilman Hale seconded by Councilman George, and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Kim-Chohan, Canavera.
Opposed: None.
Absent: None.

No. 7-20-195

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that Resolution No. 1-20-03 adopted by the Borough Council on January 7, 2020, shall be and is hereby amended to read as follows: "BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Standing Committees of said Council for the year 2020 shall be and are hereby established as follows:

RECREATION AND ARTS	Councilpersons FINE, Kim-Chohan, Canavera.
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING	Councilpersons HALE, Canavera, Kim-Chohan.
FINANCE	Councilpersons CANAVERA, Fine, George.
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES	Councilpersons KIM-CHOHAN, Hale, Foster-Dublin.
PUBLIC SAFETY	Councilpersons FOSTER-DUBLIN, George, Hale.
PUBLIC WORKS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	Councilpersons GEORGE, Foster-Dublin, Fine.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the first Councilpersons listed above for each Committee shall serve as Chair of that Committee."

Mayor Brill Mittler presented proclamations to Library Personnel Retirements, Fran Lee & Jane Stanley.

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

Councilwoman Canavera – No report.

Councilman Hale updated everyone on the town tables on South 3rd Avenue and indicated that new tables, umbrellas and a number of different items were ordered to spruce up the area. The tables on North 4th are doing well and reminded everyone that the tables on South 3rd and North 4th are open to everyone; we just ask that you clean up after yourselves. He encouraged everyone to shop Highland Park; it has been a rough time to the local shops and he asked that everyone support the Highland Park local businesses and wear your masks.

Councilwoman Foster-Dublin announced that Motor Vehicle has extended services for anyone with a need to renew their driver's license to September 2020 and asked that people visit their web-site; reminded everyone to wear their masks, stay hydrated and announced that the cooling center was open and to contact the Community Center.

Councilwoman Kim-Chohan said that this was the first meeting since the passing of Councilwoman Susan Welkovits; her work will live on in Highland Park for many years to come. She announced a go fund me page in honor of Susan Welkovits for her twins and that Susan Welkovits gave so much to the Borough. She welcomed new Councilwoman Tara Canavera.

Councilman Fine said the Highland Park Arts Commission has been very busy. The commission recruited four new members bringing its numbers to 9 commission members. It should be noted though that high school student representative Jessica Wu will be stepping down in August to go to college, so a student representative position is open, and Highland Park residents of high school age are encouraged to complete a volunteer application if they are interested in serving on the Arts Commission. The Arts Commission is currently working to recycle and refurbish benches from the Department of Public Works. One bench has been completely refurbished by the Highland Park Artist's Collective and the commission has plans for at least three others – including one in honor of Highland Park's first African American Councilmember Charles Figg. The Arts Commission plans to apply to Middlesex County again for a second year of the program Race Matters: A Spoken Word Jam. The Park Partners Mural from 2019 will

hopefully be going up on the Robert's Florals building in August, pending weather and the artist's ability to travel from Ecuador. And, the commission also plans to participate in the Virtual Arts in the Park which is scheduled for September. This is the Council's first meeting since the untimely passing of Councilwoman Susan Welkovits, and I'd like to say a few words in memory of her. Councilwoman Welkovits will certainly be remembered for working to ensure pedestrian safety, promote downtown development and a bicycling plan for our Borough, and to protect the environment and public education. But, what I will remember most is that throughout her terms on Council she was outspoken against racism and anti-semitism. In August 2017, the day after the horrific alt-right rally in Charlottesville, as Council President, she stood up in front of a crowd of hundreds of people by the Reformed Church of Highland Park, and explained that as the daughter of Holocaust survivors, "The Nazi disease must be stopped and we are going to stop it," and "We must come together no matter what color or religion to show we are united against hate." Then, over the past year, she regularly spoke out against anti-semitism, whether when she voted in favor of the resolution condemning all forms of antisemitism that did not pass in October 2019, or coming to cast her vote in favor of the resolution against all forms of antisemitism that ultimately passed on March 3rd of this year. From the dais, on that March 3rd night that the resolution condemning all forms of antisemitism was finally approved, Councilwoman Welkovits expressed that while she wasn't feeling well she knew she had to be at the meeting because of the importance of the resolution against anti-semitism that she wanted to see the Council pass. She was a true public servant, who accomplished so much, who has been taken from us far too early, and the Borough will forever be indebted to her for all of the good she did for our community. We will miss her and may her memory be for a blessing. Finally, this past Friday, July 17th, our nation lost an American hero, civil rights icon John Lewis. His life's work, from his days as a freedom rider, as Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, through his serving as an Atlanta City Councilmember, and as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, was to fight for justice for every human being. He is someone that everyone in our country and the world should learn lessons from. Only about 2 years ago, he tweeted his philosophy on how to bring about change. He tweeted, "Do not get lost in a sea of despair. Be hopeful, be optimistic. Our struggle is not the struggle of a day, a week, a month, or a year, it is the struggle of a lifetime. Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble." As a Jewish American, I'm a grateful to Congressman Lewis for being a champion of causes central to the Jewish community – whether it be combatting anti-Semitism, demanding freedom for Soviet Jewry, or working for security for Israel. With all of the lessons he taught us during his 80 years on this Earth, from using nonviolence to make change happen to demanding equal justice for every human being, I believe that Congressman Lewis will now be able to surely sit in peace, as the Scripture says, "under his vine and fig tree and none shall make him afraid."

Council President George welcomed new Councilwoman Tara Canavera and looks forward to working together, he thanked Councilman Fine for his comments about former Councilwoman Welkovits and also John Lewis who is an icon, particularly in his family, for well over 30 years. He said that he had the delight of driving Susie home after meetings on occasion and we had just as much delight in each other in arguing on the drive home, the delight in sharing ideas and being able to address questions with energy backed up with facts and she was a delight to serve with. There was a short presentation last week from the Artist collective, a resident for the mask competition, that the collective ran trying to make some Right spot out of the COVID-19, they ran a contest for people to submit artistic masks with a contribution to the Food Pantry as the ticket to enter the contest and raised almost \$1,000. The Teen Center was looking for contributions for backpacks for the teens in Highland Park who have graduated and are going off to college and the Artist collective challenged people to contribute and they would match the contribution at \$70 apiece. They raised the money and presented in last week for 10 out of the 16 requested backpacks. He reminded everyone that bulk pick up has been reinstated and moving the stops from 20 to 25 stops and will run every Wednesday through the end of August.

Borough Administrator Jover sad that estimated tax bills have hit mailboxes, they look very different then what usually goes out, they are estimated bills as recommended by the State due to the COVID-19 emergency. Bills are due August 1 with an interest free grace period until August 10, 2020. There was a public forum on deer management a couple of weeks ago and as a follow-up will be scheduling a Council Work Session inviting members of the Board of Health, Sustainable Highland Park, and the Environmental Commission to give comments on what options the Borough has with an opportunity for public comment scheduled for August 4, 2020 @ 7 PM. This information is also on the Borough website.

Borough Attorney Schmierer no report.

Mayor Brill Mittler said that several Council members spoke about Susan Welkovits, Susan was not only a Councilwoman that she worked with for years but became a good friend. As a colleague in Borough government Susie was gracious, informed, a team player, and unafraid of hard work. She did everything she could to advance the goals of making Highland Park a better place and because of those traits, Susie got those things done. She brought in grant money that enabled us to build a multi-function pavilion on the Borough Square location and that money allowed the Borough to reconfigure sidewalks for Safe Routes to School. She was passionate and a strong advocate for the environment, the needs of pedestrians, and bicyclist, arts and economic development. The Mayor asked for a moment of silence for a remarkable women that we all lost. She thanked everyone who reached out to Susie's family to offer support. A memorial service is being planned for Susie, which will take place on August 12, 2020 @ 8 PM at the Pavilion at Borough Square. She announced that she had the great please of swearing in Tara Canavera as the newest Council Member. She said that there were three very strong candidates that came to interview for the position and hopes that the people that did not get the position this time will stay involved and work for our town, your energy and creativity is needed. It was learned earlier this month that our local efforts to encourage full participation in the US 2020 Census have proved remarkably successful. The rate of response in Highland Park has already exceeded the entire Highland Park response from 2010, the County and the country overall. She thanked the Complete Count Committee for everything they have done thus far and will continue to do and their chairperson Udi Shore and his entire active committee and Borough staff members Emma Missey, Harry Glazer, Monica Jackson and Gerry Johnson in the Highland Park library for their efforts in getting more people to complete the forms.

We roughly stand at 70% of the Borough residents having completed their forms still leaving a large part of our population that has not yet completed the census which could mean the lose of monies to the municipality and encouraged everyone to complete the census form and help us earn the 4.5 million dollars that we should have coming to Highland Park. She thanked all of the residents of Highland Park who have taken the threat of COVID-19 seriously and maintained all of your efforts in discouraging the spread by wearing your masks, social distancing and washing your hands frequently and because of your efforts we have been able to flatten the curve in Highland Park. The number of confirmed infected cases remains in the vicinity 160 with small increases on a weekly basis but we cannot become complacent, we are definitely not out of the woods yet. She strongly urged that people respect the rules that the Governor has put in place and the Council of the CDC and please wear a face mask when you are outside, continue to wash your hands and social distance and if we continue to do these things, we will be okay.

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

Tatiana Gelfand, 118 North 5th Avenue, Highland Park said that she was present at the deer meeting and a number of people asked if it would be possible to invite for a presentation the group that is the largest group in New Jersey, NPSNJ as a number of people suggested, they have a lot of experience, they have a biologist, a lawyer, and very knowledgeable in all these issues. She thought this would be very useful.

Peter Spool, 146 Grant Street, Highland Park asked about the Cleveland Avenue plan and loss of revenue. Mayor Brill Mittler said that they did work out some community benefits for a far greater amount that the developer has agreed to. Joseph Baumann, Esq., said that there would be no school constructed this year. As part of the negotiations of the redevelopment agreement, remembering that this is a permitted use in the area, and would otherwise be a non-profit use. A number of community benefits was negotiated that was thought to be critical to this project and the community to offset the impact of the project as well as the financial impact of the project. The redeveloper has agreed to pay a community impact contribution for a period of 10 years at \$20,000 a year, equivalent to the taxes lost by the Borough; substantial improvements to the Community Center, new flooring in the hallway and multi-purpose room, re-painting of the entire facility, re-modeling the food pantry, new carpet in the administration area, and TV lounge for an estimated value of \$85,000. There is a significant savings to the Board of Education, the students that currently attend the school in other areas, which we reimburse for bussing, when the school is opened in Highland Park the school district will no longer have to pay for that bussing a savings of \$80,000 a year. The redeveloper has agreed to make several hundred thousand dollars in infrastructure and road improvements on Cleveland, Madison, North 2nd, Harrison Avenues; to include crosswalks, red flashing stop signs, stop bars; ADA ramps at the Cleveland/Madison Avenue intersection; bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements along Cleveland Avenue, Madison Avenue, North 2nd Avenue and Harrison Avenue, including new sidewalks; shared linked parking, street signage, eight crosswalks with yellow no parking boxes; ADA accessible ramps, two-way bicycle and pedestrian lane; repair of existing sidewalks and handicap accessible ramps; construction of a cul-de-sac at the terminus of Cleveland Avenue and drive way access to the Borough pump station; shade trees along Cleveland Avenue and Madison Avenue; stormwater management in the vicinity, rain gardens and other best management practices; street lighting improvements including upgrading existing fixtures and/or installment of new fixtures. He indicated that those infrastructure improvements goes well beyond the project off-site and estimated at a couple hundred thousand dollars. The redeveloper has also agreed to reimburse the Borough and has been for some of the Borough's out of pocket expenses. The economic benefit to the Borough is in the hundreds of thousands of dollars for a property that is otherwise an exempt property under New Jersey law.

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

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

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Kim-Chohan, Canavera.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

No. 7-20-196

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Budget be published in the Home News Tribune, Asbury Park, NJ, in the issue of July 24, 2020. The Governing Body of the Borough of Highland Park does hereby approve the following as the Main Street Highland Park Budget for the year 2020:

Income	
Government Grants	93,515.00
Special Assessment (BID)	166,474.00
Fees/Sponsorships	16,400.00
Reserves	17,913.00
Total Income	\$ 294,302.00
Expense	
Administration and General	\$ 164,602.00
Program Expense	129,700.00
Total Expense	\$ 294,302.00
Budget Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 0.00

Notice is hereby given that the Main Street Highland Park Budget and Resolution was approved by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park, County of Middlesex, on July 21, 2020. A hearing on the Main Street Highland Park/Business Improvement District Budget will be held at the next Council Meeting, which, due to the COVID-19 pandemic will be taking place virtually on August 18, 2020 at 7:00 o'clock PM at which time and place objections to said Budget and Resolution for the year 2020 may be presented.

The Clerk reported that an ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE TO REPLACE CHAPTER 388 OF THE "CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, 2010" CONCERNING TREE REMOVAL AND PROTECTION, 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 George seconded by Hale the ordinance entitled as above was duly adopted on first reading by title by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Kim-Chohan, Canavera.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

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

No. 7-20-197

WHEREAS, an Ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE TO REPLACE CHAPTER 388 OF THE "CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, 2010" CONCERNING TREE REMOVAL AND PROTECTION, 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 18, 2020, 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 Deputy 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, ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A NON-EXCLUSIVE EASEMENT OVER BLOCK 183, LOT 24 AS SHOWN ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1 ET SEQ., had been introduced in writing by the Economic Development and Planning Committee for consideration of passage on first reading by title.

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

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Kim-Chohan.

Opposed: None.

Abstain - Canavera.

The following resolution, introduced by the Economic Development and Planning Committee, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilman Hale, seconded by Councilwoman Kim-Chohan and carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote:

7.20.198

WHEREAS, an Ordinance entitled, ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A NON-EXCLUSIVE EASEMENT OVER BLOCK 183, LOT 24 AS SHOWN ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1 ET SEQ., has been introduced and duly passed on first reading;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that this Council meet at the Borough Hall, 221 South Fifth Avenue, Highland Park, New Jersey, on Tuesday, August 18, 2020, 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 Deputy 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, ORDINANCE ENTITLED, AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR AND DETERMINE THE RATE OF COMPENSATION OF EACH OFFICER AND EMPLOYEE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK AND THE METHOD OF PAYMENT OF SUCH COMPENSATION had been introduced in writing by the Finance Committee for consideration of passage on first reading by title.

On motion made by Councilman Fine 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:

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Kim-Chohan

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

Abstain - Canavera

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

7-20-199

WHEREAS, an Ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED, "AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR AND DETERMINE THE RATE OF COMPENSATION OF EACH OFFICER AND EMPLOYEE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK AND THE METHOD OF PAYMENT OF SUCH COMPENSATION", 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 18, 2020, 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.

Resolution Nos. 7-20-200 through 7-20-211 were duly adopted on motion made by Councilwoman Canavera, seconded by Councilman Hale, and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:
Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Kim-Chohan, Canavera
Nays: None.

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

No. 7-20-200

WHEREAS, there is a need to turn over found cash to the Municipal Treasurer as per the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office policy; and

WHEREAS, the owner of the found cash came to retrieve his found wallet; and

WHEREAS, the owner, Kiian S. Bell, 2102 Birchwood Court, North Brunswick, NJ 08902 is due \$142.00;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Finance Department is hereby authorized to process refund of \$142.00 to Kiian S. Bell.

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

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

No. 7-20-201

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, 2020 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:

RICHARD ABRAMS, Police Chief, at an annual salary of \$168,300.00, effective April 17, 2020.

MOHAB HANNOUT, Police Sergeant, at annual salary of \$129,327.00, effective July 1, 2020.

DAVID SODEN, Police Sergeant, at annual salary of \$129,327,000.00, effective July 1, 2020.

LOUIS MIDDLETON, Police Officer, at annual salary of \$44,449.00, effective June 26, 2020.

TARA CANAVERA, Councilperson, at an annual salary of \$4,239.00, effective July 21, 2020.

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, 2020 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:

DAVID BALDWIN, Senior Laborer, at an hourly rate of \$22.95, effective July 1, 2020.

DAVE LUXENBERG, Camp Director, at an hourly rate of \$25.00, effective July 6, 2020.

JOSEPH DIETZ, Camp Health Director, at an hourly rate of \$20.00, effective July 6, 2020.

LINDSAY BLEVINS, Head Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$19.00, effective July 6, 2020.

NICOLE PARHAM, Head Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$19.00, effective July 6, 2020.

TIM STARK, Head Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$19.00, effective July 6, 2020.

KATIE VOLPERT, Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$16.00, effective July 6, 2020.

STEVE CONNORS, Head Counselor, at an hourly are of \$19.00, effective July 16, 2020.

KEITH ROIG, Head Counselor, at an hourly are of \$19.00, effective July 16, 2020.

ASHLEY SOSA, Head Counselor, at an hourly are of \$19.00, effective July 16, 2020.

VICKI ZARA, Head Counselor, at an hourly are of \$19.00, effective July 16, 2020.

EVAN FARMER RODGERS, Head Counselor, at an hourly are of \$19.00, effective July 16, 2020.

COLM SULLY, Head Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$19.00, effective July 16, 2020.

AKUA ASAMOAH, Counselor, at an hourly are of \$16.00, effective July 16, 2020.

KEVIN LIN, Counselor, at an hourly are of \$16.00, effective July 16, 2020.

KAYLA ROIG, Counselor, at an hourly are of \$16.00, effective July 16, 2020.

MACKENZIE VOLPERT, Counselor, at an hourly are of \$16.00, effective July 16, 2020.

OLIVIA WEAVER, Counselor, at an hourly are of \$16.00, effective July 16, 2020.

KAYLEIGH WHARTON, Counselor, at an hourly are of \$16.00, effective July 16, 2020.

ILLYSSA ROIG, Counselor, at an hourly are of \$16.00, effective July 16, 2020.

MICHAEL LANDIS, Jr. Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$12.00, effective July 16, 2020.

GIA SCALETTI, Jr. Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$12.00, effective July 16, 2020.
TYLER TRINH, Jr. Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$12.00, effective July 16, 2020.
OZ DUNCAN, Jr. Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$12.00, effective July 16, 2020.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Finance Director be and is hereby directed to make the necessary changes in the payroll records of the Finance Department in accordance with the changes established by this resolution.

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

No. 7-20-202

WHEREAS, the Highland Park Department of Public Works has a need to purchase leaf bags; and

WHEREAS, the Borough desires to purchase 19,800 leaf bags; and

WHEREAS, quotes for said purchase were received from the following, to wit:

NAME	PRICE
Pabco Industries, LLC	\$ 9,222.84
Uline	\$ 13,200.00
Grainger	\$ 24,156.00

WHEREAS, the Recycling Coordinator has recommended the purchase of said leaf bags from Pabco Industries, LLC at an amount not to exceed \$9,222.84; and

WHEREAS, funds are available for this purpose in Account No. 0-01-42-402-235 in the amount of \$9,222.84, as reflected by the certification of funds available by the Chief Financial Officer, shown below;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Superintendent of Public Works and Public Utilities is hereby authorized and directed to purchase of leaf bags from Pabco Industries, LLC, for a total price of \$9,222.84 and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Superintendent of Public Works and Public Utilities and the Finance Department forthwith.

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

No. 7-20-203

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the following shall be and are hereby appointed to serve as members of the Highland Park Housing Authority for a term to expire as indicated:

Jason Postelnik	September 1, 2021
Raysa Martinez-Kruger	September 1, 2026

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

No. 7-20-204

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Municipal Court Administrator, Tracey Horan, shall be and is hereby authorized and directed to draft a check in the amount of \$123.00 made payable to the Borough of Highland Park as unanticipated revenue from outstanding checks on the Bail Account. Said check is to be forwarded to Lori Majeski, Chief Financial Officer, who will process the check accordingly.

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

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

No. 7-20-205

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Municipal Court Administrator, Tracey Horan, shall be and is hereby authorized and directed to draft a check in the amount of \$113.00 made payable to the Borough of Highland Park as unanticipated revenue from outstanding checks on the General Account. Said check is to be forwarded to Lori Majeski, Chief Financial Officer, who will process the check accordingly.

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

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

No. 7-20-206

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park formally approves the grant application for the above stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and the Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as MA-2021-2021 Roadway Improvements-00592 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Borough of Highland Park.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Mayor and the Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Borough of Highland Park and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

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

No. 7-20-207

WHEREAS, THE Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages' and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Middlesex; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the Highland Park Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2021 in the amount of:

DEDR	\$ 5,838.00
Cash Match	\$ 1,459.50
In-Kind	\$ 4,378.50
Total Alliance Budget	\$11,676.00

2. The Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

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

No. 7-20-208

WHEREAS, "The Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act," P.L. 1999, c. 23 ("EDECA") authorizes the New Jersey School Boards' Association ("NJSBA" or "Lead Agency") to obtain electricity and other energy-related services for local boards of education and municipalities; and

WHEREAS, NJSBA has formed the Alliance for a Competitive Energy Services, hereinafter referred to as "ACES," a Cooperative Pricing System (E88-01-ACESCPS) to effectively obtain electricity and other energy-related services for its members; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40a:11-10(b) authorizes municipalities to enter into cooperative pricing agreements; and

WHEREAS, ACES, has offered voluntary participation in a cooperative pricing system for the energy-related services to municipalities and counties; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park ("Participant") is a current participant in the ACES Cooperative Pricing System;

WHEREAS, NJSBA and the New Jersey Association of School Administrators ("NJASA") has created, and is also offering, the ACESplus Program, which is designed to assist participating government entities with the evaluation and implementation of certain energy related programs;

WHEREAS, as a member of ACES, Highland Park desires to participate in the ACESplus Program for the purpose of developing and implementing a Government Energy Aggregation Program (48:3-93.1 et seq); and,

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency, via its professional energy consultant Gabel Associates, selected via competitive contracting, will work with the Participant to evaluate and implement a GEA Program in accordance with the requirements of the Public School Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 18A:18A 4.6 and 4.1), EDECA and the Proposal attached hereto as Exhibit A (the "Proposal");

WHEREAS, the NJSBA, as the Lead Agency, via its professional energy consultant Gabel Associates, will work with the Participant to evaluate, develop and administer an RFP process for energy related services and provide related services all in accordance with the requirements of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.6 & 4.1), EDECA and the Gabel Associates' proposal on file with the Borough Clerk and which is available for inspection during regular Borough business hours.

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

1. This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the "ACES Cooperative Pricing and ACESplus Program Resolution for GEA of the Borough of Highland Park."

2. Highland Park binds itself to NJSBA as the Lead Agency to provide GEA services under the ACESplus Program;

3. Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-10(b), the Mayor and Clerk of the Borough of Highland Park are hereby authorized and directed to use the ACES Cooperative Pricing System Agreement and accept and execute the Proposal from Gabel Associates on file in the Office of the Borough Clerk.

4. Teri Jover, Administrator, or her designee is hereby authorized and directed to work with the Lead Agency, via its professional energy consultant Gabel Associates for the Participant under the ACESplus Program, as authorized by, and in accordance with the requirements of, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.6 and 4.1), EDECA and the Proposal.

5. The New Jersey School Boards Association, through ACES and its professional energy consultant, shall be responsible for complying with the "Local Public Contracts Law," N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1.1 et seq. and all other applicable laws in connection with the preparation, bidding, negotiation and execution of contracts in connection with the ACES Cooperative Pricing System and the ACESplus Program.

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

No. 7-20-209

WHEREAS, the Borough has an extremely limited amount of land that can be used for recreation and the recreation complex between North Fourth and Fifth Avenues is the only space that is ours; and

WHEREAS, the track, playground and turf field at the recreation complex are in need of extensive repairs to make them safe and accessible for children and adults of all ages;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to submit an appeal to the Middlesex County Freeholders to assist with funding at least 50% of the total project costs related to repairing the recreation complex's track, turf field and playground.

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

No. 7-20-210

WHEREAS, it is necessary to perform emergency water & sewer repairs in the Borough of Highland Park;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Department of Public Works shall be and is hereby authorized and directed to seek RFP's for Emergency Water & Sewer Repairs;

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

No. 7-20-211

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 7/21/2020 can be found in the Bills List Journal Book No. 40.

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

Ayes: Councilpersons, Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Kim-Chohan, Canavera

Opposed: None.

Abstain: None.

No. 7-20-212

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

WHEREAS, the Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the 2020 budget in the sum of \$20,000.00, which is now available from the County of Middlesex for the Code Blue Grant, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the like sum of \$20,000.00 is hereby appropriated under the caption of Middlesex County Code Blue Grant.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilman Fine, seconded by Councilman Hale, and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons, Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Kim-Chohan, Canavera

Opposed: None.

Abstain: None.:

No. 7-20-213

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

WHEREAS, the Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the 2020 budget in the sum of \$20,036.58, which is now available from the New Jersey Economic Development Authority for the Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Grant, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the like sum of \$20,036.58 is hereby appropriated under the caption of NJEDA Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Grant.

The following resolution, introduced by the Economic Development Committee, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilman Hale, seconded by Councilman Fine, and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit: (comments prior to their vote follow the resolution)

Ayes: Councilpersons, Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Kim-Chohan, Canavera

Opposed: None.

Abstain: None.

No. 7-20-214

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park, a public body corporate and politic of the State of New Jersey (the "Borough") is authorized pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1, et seq. (the "Redevelopment Law") to determine whether certain parcels of land within the Borough constitute an area in need of redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, by Ordinance No. 16-1921, adopted on December 20, 2016, the Borough Council of the Borough (the "Borough Council") designated the entirety of the area within the municipal boundaries of the Borough, including the property commonly known as 433 Cleveland Avenue and identified as Block 153, Lots 15, 17, 18 and 19, Block 154, Lots 6.01, 10 and 11 and Block 191, Lots 6.01 and 6.02 on the official tax map of the Borough (the "Property"), an "area in need of redevelopment"; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the Borough Council adopted an ordinance adopting the "433 Cleveland Avenue Redevelopment Plan" dated January 23, 2020 and prepared by LRK Inc. (the "Redevelopment Plan") for the Property; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-4, the Borough has determined to act as the "redevelopment entity" (as such term is defined in the Redevelopment Law at N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-3) for the Property, to exercise the powers contained in the Redevelopment Law to facilitate the redevelopment of the Borough's downtown core; and

WHEREAS, 433 Cleveland Avenue LLC (the "Redeveloper") is the fee simple owner of the Property and seeks to be designated as the "redeveloper" (as defined in the Redevelopment Law) of same, so as to redevelop the Property in accordance with the terms of the Redevelopment Plan and the Redevelopment Law; and

WHEREAS, the Redeveloper proposes to redevelop the Property by constructing: (a) an approximately 78,500 sf girls school and related facilities on property identified as Block 154, Lots 6.01, 10 and 11 and Block 191, Lots 6.01 and 6.02 on the official tax map of the Borough, (b) a parking lot on property identified as Block 153, Lots 17, 18 and 19 on the official tax map of the Borough (together (a) and (b), the "School"), (c) a building on property identified as Block 153, Lot 15 on the official tax map of the Borough as permitted by the Redevelopment Plan (the "Lot 15 Project") and (d) the Infrastructure Improvements, as defined in the proposed redevelopment agreement attached hereto as Exhibit A (the "Redevelopment Agreement") (together, the School, the Lot 15 Project and the Infrastructure Improvements are the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Borough has determined that the Redeveloper possesses the proper qualifications, financial resources and capacity to implement and complete the Project in accordance with the Redevelopment Plan, and all other applicable laws, ordinances and regulations; and

WHEREAS, in order to effectuate the Redevelopment Plan and the Project, the Borough has determined to enter into the Redevelopment Agreement with the Redeveloper, which establishes Redeveloper as the "redeveloper" of the Project, as that term is defined in the Redevelopment Law, and which specifies the respective rights and responsibilities of the Borough and the Redeveloper with respect to the Project,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.

Section 2. 433 Cleveland Avenue LLC is hereby designated as the Redeveloper for the Project in accordance with the Redevelopment Law.

Section 3. The Mayor is authorized to execute the Redevelopment Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit A, with such changes, omissions or amendments as the Mayor deems appropriate in consultation with the Borough's counsel and professionals.

Section 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Joseph Baumann, Esq. said that sometimes when something like this appears on the agenda people don't understand the amount of time and effort and energy of the Mayor and Council, Administrator and staff and consultants that went into making this agreement a reality and something the Borough could be proud of. It has been over a year, maybe two years of discussion with the property owner, who has been fully cooperative and a pleasure to work with him and his professionals, clearly having a vision for his school but an overwhelming desire to also be a good corporate citizen, a good member of the community and that bears out in this agreement. The use that the owner proposes here would be permitted to construct yet the property owner willing went forward with us through a redevelopment process that allowed us to be much more involved. Beginning with meetings with the community, with the professionals, a vision and a project was developed that would be a real positive for Highland Park. That effort and community involved process took almost a year, which resulted in a redevelopment plan that became the zoning for the area. The redevelopment plan went through a process with multiple public hearings with the Planning Board, Mayor and Council with multiple meetings, hearings and votes to set the zoning for the area. From there went into negotiations for a redevelopment agreement which is a contract between the Borough and the property owners, which is before the Mayor and Council today, has all of the community benefits described earlier, which may not have otherwise happened but for this cooperative property owner and diligent, thoughtful and caring Mayor and Council and Business Administrator. There is, depending on how long you count the benefit to the Board of Ed, the Borough has easily over a million dollars in community benefits for this project, in perpetuity. Things that have been long on the wish list such as the improvements to the Community Center, the agreement also has a number of other items that have such as long term progress reports, requirement to meet certain schedules and time lines, and other contractual obligations which would not exist without going through the redevelopment process. He described this as an example of how successful this can be for a property owner and Borough with a vision for the entire community and happily recommended moving forward.

Council President George indicated that over the weekend, and captured on cell phone videos news broke out about the use of federal, unmarked and unnamed military troops to arrest innocent protestors in Portland and this Resolution was not included in the packet and will read Resolution 20-215 into the record. Council President read Resolution 7-20-215 in its entirety into the record.

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

Ayes: Councilpersons, Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Kim-Chohan, Canavera

Opposed: None.

Abstain: None.

No. 7-20-215

WHEREAS, on or about Saturday evening, July 18, 2020, news was circulated via smartphone videos from Portland, Oregon, that uniformed Federal Police or military forces who were not displaying organizational identification, unit markings or names were detaining innocent peaceful protestors in the

City of Portland, Oregon without probable cause and without advising those protestors of why they were being arrested; and,

WHEREAS, on or about Saturday evening, July 18, 2020, it was also reported via smartphone videos from Portland, Oregon, that uniformed Federal Police or military forces who were not displaying organizational identification, unit markings or names were placing those innocent peaceful protestors who were detained without cause or charges into unmarked civilian vehicles and removing them to unknown locations; and,

WHEREAS, on or about Saturday evening, July 18, 2020, it was also reported via smartphone videos from Portland, Oregon, that uniformed Federal Police or military forces who were not displaying organizational identification, unit markings or names were detaining those innocent peaceful protestors indefinitely and without a notice of the charges against them or in conformance with other Constitutionally guaranteed civil rights; and,

WHEREAS, thousands of residents of the Borough of Highland Park have participated in various peaceful rallies, protests, marches and demonstrations without incident in support of various causes, and the Borough of Highland Park supports the right of peaceful free assembly and protest, freedom of speech, and the protection of constitutionally guaranteed rights for all; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park has previously adopted a Resolution decrying the practice of Federal ICE agents deputizing local police forces and individual police officers to assist in arrests of immigrants without judicial process, and directed that the Highland Park Police Department shall not cooperate or supply any information to any ICE agent or agency without signed judicial process; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park strongly objects to any use of unmarked, unidentified Federal Police, military forces, or any other use of force of any kind, to intimidate, discourage, detain, arrest, incarcerate or forcibly interfere with any peaceful protest for any reason; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park demands that the elected Federal representatives of the citizens of the State of New Jersey immediately condemn the above actions of unmarked and unidentified Federal Police or military forces to intimidate and detain peaceful protestors who support any cause or reason in flagrant violation of constitutionally guaranteed civil rights, and pass all such laws to immediately terminate the same; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park wishes to demonstrate its solidarity with the Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon and the Governor of the State of Oregon in objecting to such illegal and unconstitutional invasions and violations of constitutionally guaranteed civil rights and demanding the immediate removal of unmarked and unidentified Federal police or military forces from the City of Portland:

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved THAT THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK condemns in strongest terms the unprovoked and uninvited use of uniformed Federal Police or military forces who were not displaying organizational identification, unit markings or names to detain innocent peaceful protestors in the City of Portland, Oregon without probable cause and without advising those protestors of why they were being arrested, placing them in unmarked civilian vehicles and removing them to unknown locations, detaining them indefinitely and without a notice of the charges against them or in conformance with other constitutionally guaranteed civil rights; and,

THAT THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK recognizes the rights of its residents to participate in various peaceful rallies, protests, marches and demonstrations without incident in support of various causes, and the Borough of Highland Park supports the right of peaceful free assembly and protest, freedom of speech, and the protection of constitutionally guaranteed rights for all; and,

THAT THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK hereby directs that the Highland Park Police Department shall not cooperate with any unmarked and unidentified Federal Police or military units in arrests of peaceful protestors without direct orders from the New Jersey Attorney General and/or the Middlesex County Prosecutor, and shall not cooperate or supply any information to any unmarked and unidentified Federal Police or military units without signed judicial process; and,

THAT THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK strongly encourages that the elected Federal representatives of the citizens of the State of New Jersey immediately condemn the above actions of unmarked and unidentified Federal Police or military forces to intimidate and detain peaceful protestors who support any cause or reason in flagrant violation of constitutionally guaranteed civil rights, and pass all such laws to immediately terminate the same; and,

THAT THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK expresses its solidarity with the Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon and the Governor of the State of Oregon in objecting to such illegal and unconstitutional invasions and violations of constitutionally guaranteed constitutional rights and demanding the immediate removal of unmarked and unidentified Federal police or military forces from the City of Portland; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be immediately forwarded to all elected Federal and State Officials in the State of New Jersey; our Governor, Phil Murphy; Governor Kate Brown of the State of Oregon; and Mayor Ted Wheeler of the City of Portland Oregon.

Mayor Brill Mittler appointed Derek Gamble to serve as a Regular Member of HP Gives A Hoot for a term to expire December 31, 2020.

The above appointment was confirmed on motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilwoman Kim-Chohan, and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Kim-Chohan, Canavera.

Opposed: None.

Abstained: None.

Mayor Brill Mittler opened the meeting for public discussion and called upon all those wishing to speak to identify themselves. Speakers are limited to 3 minutes and the discussion to end at 9:00 PM.

Jeff Vardaro, 222 Wayne Street, Highland Park said that he was a little angry tonight and hearing John Lewis' name in the Council Reports did not help. He applied to serve on the Highland Park Equity Commission October 2019, interviewed 6 weeks ago after this Council promised to fill the vacancies on the Commission and finally let it do its work. He believes that he is very well qualified for the Commission

he is an experienced Civil Rights Attorney, he holds Police Departments accountable for misconduct as his job and he represents black police officers when they are discriminated against by their departments. He does not practice law in New Jersey but he lives in New Jersey and he cares deeply about the need for our police department to be reformed he was willing to volunteer his time as he has seen so many of the local experts volunteer their time on boards and commissions. Prior to this meeting, he was told that he was not being placed on the Equity Commission, nor were any applicants at this time because the applicant pool was not sufficiently diverse. He said that he was in favor of diversity on the Equity Commission, and expressed that to Councilwoman Kim-Chohan at the interview but he knows that diverse candidates have applied and they have not been appointed tonight either. He is not aware of any effort made by the Mayor or Council to more effectively recruit diverse candidates to fill the commission. Diversity to him seems like an excuse for dragging your feet on filling this commission. Again, he is in favor of diversity on the Equity Commission but it also in favor of diversity on the Zoning Board, Planning Board and on the Council. If you want the Equity Commission to be diverse so badly that you will not even fill seats with qualified applicants unless they are black, but do not hold the Zoning Board, or the Planning Board the same standard that is a problem. If you want the Equity Commission to be diverse but do not hold yourself to that same standard in filling a Council vacancy that is a problem. If that is how this Council is going to use diversity as an excuse for delay, for an excuse for in-action, as only something you prioritize least when you do nothing to promote diversity on our most powerful boards and commission and on this Council, no one on this Council should have John Lewis" name in their mouth. Fill the Equity Commission, he does not have to be on it and he does not know anyone who would want to be on it at this point when you have all made it so clear over the past year and a half that you have no interest in its work. Please fill, we needed yesterday, we needed it last year and we need it now. Please fill the Equity Commission. Mayor Brill Mittler said that they are reformulating the Equity Commission, yesterday she spoke with Councilwoman Kim-Chohan, and we are changing the direction of where that committee was going to be held and she does believe that we do have to have diversity on all our boards and commissions and that it part of the reason she held up some of the appointments. She has spoken to several people who have put their applications in; she has not spoken with Mr. Vardaro, and would be happy to speak with him some more, she will be filling the commission and part of the hold up is the legislature is looking at the possibility of having a Civilian Review Board, whether at the County level or municipal level and that Equity Commission would be able to serve as a Civilian Review Board. Please do not blame the Council Members for this she was the hold up because she wants to do it right.

Mr. Vardaro said that he would like to see the Mayor hold up appointments to the Planning Board or Zoning Board when you do not receive enough black applicants. He would like to see that happen in this town. He said that he will hold her to that standard, if there are vacancies on any of the boards or commissions and the candidate pool is not diverse enough, he wants to see her hold up those appointments, he's never seen that before and maybe he isn't aware of it, but does not think it happened and that this is foot dragging so we can lose momentum on this movement.

Anna Halen, 235 Montgomery Street, Highland Park said that she has a few questions about the deer management plan in Highland Park and she understands that some residents have complained about deer, mainly about them being in the way, menacing, concerns with Lyme disease, deer eating plants and gardens. She attended the deer management meeting on June 13, 2020 and the Council invited the NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife to this meeting, since a majority of the members of the Fish & Game must be hunters and this is by statute that it has to be that way, so she was not surprised when they a one hour long commercial for deer hunting in Highland Park. They clearly stated that there is no such thing as too many deer and then went on the recommend population control through hunting. She wanted to stress that the concerns raised by the residents can be addressed without population control. Deer are not aggressive, so if people find them to intimidating education can be provided on what to do when a deer is standing in the way; and the CDC, Centers for Disease Control does not recommended deer hunts as a way to combat Lyme disease because it does not work. Rutgers provides a list of deer resistant plants, vegetables and sensitive plants can be netted in or surrounded by plants that deter deer or you can use repellants that have been known to have great success. None of the concerns Highland Park residents have regarding deer requires population control. She invited the Council and anyone else who would like more information to read more at the web site, deerhp.com. She asked what the timeline was for a decision and how would that decision be made. If the NJ Fish and Wildlife get what they want they will be shooting deer here in Highland Park in the Fall, and kill as many as physically possible and feels this to be completely unacceptable.

Luciana Holt, 501 Raritan Avenue, Highland Park thanked Councilwoman Kim-Chohan for moving so quickly to review the backlog of applications for the Equity Commission, and knows that we are now if a holding position and asked what the timeline for filling the seats on the Equity Commission so they can begin their work. Mayor Brill Mittler said the Councilwoman Kim-Chohan has provided the applications and has received additional applications and is going through them and once she has a better handle on the applicants that she currently has she hopes by the end of August to re-fill that commission.

Abby Stern-Cardinale, Harper Street, asked when the agenda would be made public again or stream the agenda meeting. She said that she know that the Council was not having them for a while due to COVID and would like a little more information on work items c and d. Councilwoman Foster-Dublin said Patrick Renaldi was made the Boroughs Director of Public Service and previously the former Chief of Police was the Director of Public Service and have now made Patrick Renaldi the Director of all public safety: fire, first aid, cert team and since he has come onboard, a lot of clean up is being done in various departments and we have been looking at how to operate seamlessly, how to operate the standard that we should be following, how to bring the department up to standards by not Middlesex County but the State as well as that is what those two are about. Mayor Brill Mittler indicated that as for the agenda meeting we have not had one, the Administration will be discussing the Rules of Order in general and it will be discussed on whether or not to reinstitute the agenda meetings.

Sonya Headlam, 133 Benner Street thanked Jeff Vardaro for his comments and was concerning to hear what he had to say tonight considering his qualifications and experience that he has and we can all agree

he would be a huge asset. She found the Mayor's comment to be confusing and asked for clarification. She said that the HPC was not created to act as a CRV, there is plenty of work that needs to be done, and in fact, one of the goals of the HPC was to create a CRV although it seems to be painted in the light. That it was an unreasonable or radical idea is actually a bill at state legislation and that is something we all need to keep in mind. HPC was not created to act as a CRV there is still plenty of work for us to do, in fact they could be actively working right now on creating a Civilian Review Board. If the bill passes, it would be statewide and every municipality would be required to have one but we do not have to wait for it we could be actively working on that right now. This is something that the HPC could be working on and would like the Mayor to explain why the delay because it was not clear. You are waiting for the legislation because you feel like it is needed to move forward with filling a commission that is not responsible for what you could create using the HPC to actually create. It is just very confusing so she asked for clarification why exactly the delay and she thinks that considering how inefficient the process has been, she does not know if the Mayor needs help with it. She would be happy to help and she is sure there are others that would be willing to volunteer their time if you need help reviewing applications. She indicated that she was willing to help the Mayor do that work, and we want to see from you that you take this seriously. As you can see the country is reeling right now because the leaders and even in our own town seriously the concerns of marginalized communities. Mayor Brill Mittler thanked Sonya and would be reaching out once more applications have been received.

Anna Halen, 235 Montgomery Street, Highland Park asked the Mayor about the timeline or how the decision about the real question will be made and asked if that was because there is no timeline yet and you do not know how that decision will be made. Mayor Brill Mittler said that there was no exact timeline, the next session is a work session because the Council wants to be able to better understand the situation from the perspectives of the Chairs of the Environmental Commission, Sustainable Highland Park, Sustainable New Jersey and the Board of Health and until we hear what people need to say we can't really set a timeline.

Sonya Headlam, 133 Benner Street, Highland Park asked for clarification on what exactly are you waiting for, you're saying you are waiting for the legislation to pass and she would like clarification on what is actually causing the delay and you had a revision of the group and would love to hear more about what your imagining or envisioning. Mayor Brill Mittler said that she would not call it a revisioning of the group, but it is extremely important to her that this Equity Commission is diverse, the applications received included only one person of color, she has had the opportunity to start making calls to people she did not know that applied for the position and there are a few more people. Ms. Headlam asked the Mayor if she only wanted people of color on the group. Mayor Brill Mittler indicated that was not the case. Ms. Headlam indicated that she sat on the group before and it was a very diverse group. Mayor Brill Mittler said that everyone who sat on that commission except for Matt Hersh resigned. Ms. Headlam said that she is talking about the make up of the group. Mayor Brill Mittler said that she believes that the committee must be diverse, meaning representation from many parts of our community. Ms. Headlam asked the Mayor to speak more about why the bill at the State level is causing the delay. Mayor Brill Mittler said if the State indicates that municipalities or counties must have civilian review boards, and comprised of x,y,z, they are talking about telling us that what types of people, backgrounds etc. need to sit on this CRB and not only delaying to see what comes out of the legislature but is anxious to get a good, working group of people that is diverse and well versed in some of these things. She said that her and Jeff Vardaro have not spoken about this in a very long time and still has his application and is not throwing it away if that is what the assumption is. Ms. Headlam said it sounds like you have had his application for a year. Mayor Brill Mittler indicated that she did not have the applications. Ms. Handlam indicated that this is all very disappointing.

Dan Stern-Cardinale, Harper Street, Highland Park said that he is now confused with the role of the Equity Commission, because he remembers when it was first passed there was a discussion and disappointment about how it was not specifically in the Ordinance. There was nothing in there specifically referencing police over-site, and unsure how to interrupt the remarks tonight that there are delays in filling the seats specifically because the State is considering Civilian Review Boards and considering the Ordinance for that did not mention anything in that direction does not know why those two issues would be related. He said they have had a bunch of rallies and meetings and painted Black Lives Matter on the road and asked if there were any specific steps that are being planned legislatively in terms of Ordinances along the lines of what New York just did banning choke holds, and other restraints like the weight of an officers body to restrain a suspect on the ground and if Highland Park is considering any of those specific steps in addition to the symbolic actions already taken. Captain Curbelo indicated that the departmental policies already ban chokeholds and a whole litany of what can and cannot be done and chokeholds are banned in the State of New Jersey as well. Mr. Stern-Cardinale asked if it was a blanket ban on chokeholds and similar restraints or is it banned in certain circumstances. Captain Curbelo indicated that it is written that unless your life is in danger or the danger of someone else you are not allowed to use a chokehold and that is per the Attorney General. Mr. Stern-Cardinale asked if the Borough was considering doing what other municipalities and cities and going beyond those and enact blanket prohibitions, regardless of the situation, on those things that are shown to be dangerous to the people they are used on and banning them does not have a negative impact on policing. Captain Curbelo said that in the State of New Jersey the policing is governed by the Attorney General and the Attorney General sets policy for the use of force and there is a new Use of Force policy coming out soon, there have been open public meetings with the Attorney General's office in regards to the new use of force policy.

Jeff Vardaro, 222 Wayne Street, Highland Park said that he wanted clarification on what the Mayor and/or Council are doing to recruit more diverse applicants for the Equity Commission. Mayor Brill Mittler said that she had spoken to several community members who have said they were interested and asked that they speak to friends and neighbors who might be interested in working on the Equity Commission to send in their applications. Mr. Vardaro said so nothing organized no effort to reach out in particular areas of the community, or send out public messages. Mayor Brill Mittler said the Equity Commission has a seven person membership, she has spoken to five already and would be happy to speak to Jeff Vardaro.

Mr. Vardaro indicated that primarily the reason he asks is because of his earlier point which is a better job needs to be done to recruit diverse candidates for all boards and commissions and when this is done in the legal field we always demand that employers that discriminate, advertise in newspapers and radio stations to diverse communities, and thinks that should be done for every single board and commission and council vacancies as well. Posting something on Facebook and asking people you know to ask people they know is not reaching every part of this community and you need to do better on that.

Dan Macheret, 233 Denison Street, Highland Park said he would like to correct and clarify something during Dan Stern-Cardinale's question, Mayor, Councilwoman Foster-Dublin and the Captain said that the Attorney Generals use of force guidelines was all that the Highland Park Police Department and the Borough Council can do and it is his understanding that this is completely inaccurate. He was at the meeting with the Attorney Generals office on June 24 and the Attorney General himself said that they were minimum standards that all police departments are required to meet but local municipalities can go beyond this. He said that it was a little shocking that you would think this was all that Highland Park could do to meet the Attorney Generals guidelines. Again, the Attorney General himself indicated that these were minimum requirements and local municipalities can go beyond that and why you have not is a question that he is wondering about. He said that about a month ago, there was a police forum held and because of the overwhelming number of community members present and the amount of questions that were asked there was not enough time to get to all of them. He said the Mayor's public relations person assured him that he could submit questions, and we asked that they be answered and posted on the Borough's web site and it has been almost a month. He suggested, since there has been an overwhelming demand by the community to ask questions, that another forum be held before the scheduled one in September or those questions should be answered as soon as possible. Will the Borough hold another police forum before the regularly scheduled one and will the public's questions from the last police forum a month ago be answered. Captain Curbelo said that he was actually working on his questions today, there are other questions from other residents that he has been answering as well, but he is working on them. Mr. Macheret said that was great but asked what the delay was and where will they be posted. Captain Curbelo said that he has been working on the questions and will reach out to the Mayor for the appropriate avenues on where the answers should be posted.

Donna Messer, 431 Lincoln Avenue, Highland Park said they she has noticed that there has been a great increase in noise pollution in town. The landscape companies us huge and noisy lawnmowers that they ride on instead of the smaller quieter mowers that could do the jobs just as well. After mowing, they use very noisy leaf blowers and could use racks and brooms that could do the job just as well as much more quietly. It has become increasing noxious especially when these companies are working on both sides of her house and across the street, it is bad for our hearing and our peace of mind. She asked if the Borough could develop an ordinance that could restrict noise pollution from landscape machinery just as they might seek for cars and motorcycles that constantly rev up their motors when they have no mufflers. Is there such a regulation already in place and if so could it be better enforced. Mayor Brill Mittler said that they were good questions and will speak with the Code Enforcement Officer and see whether other municipalities have introduced ordinances such as that. The Mayor asked Councilman Hale to follow-up with the Code Official. Councilwoman Foster-Dublin said that there are ordinances on the books but at this time when people are out of work she does not think it is fair to take away someone livelihood.

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

Recess (5 minutes).

Work Session Items: No formal action to be taken.

a. Draft Resolution in Support of Assembly Bills A4226 and A4034 (MH).

Councilman Hale asked that this be held until the next meeting, the bills are undergoing some changes. Under the current COVID-19 guidelines in terms of foreclosures and evictions there is a 90 day window after the State of Emergency is lifted when everything goes back to normal in terms of evictions and foreclosures and what these bills are an attempt to do is identify and put out a process after the 90 days for lenders and landlords to follow. As out right now, as he understands, at day 91 everything goes back to normal and given the complexity, confusion and difficulty that everyone is facing the intent of these bills is to provide more of a roadmap for tenants and homeowners that might be underwater and everyone knows the specific rules of the games are and its not a light switch that goes off after COVID.

b. Bid Threshold Increase (TJ)

Borough Administrator Jover indicated that the State has increased the bid threshold to \$44,000, we have a QPA, Lori Majeski and her threshold was \$40,000 and we need to bring our own policies in alignment with the State statute of \$44,000 for consistency.

c. Fire Department Ordinance Amendments (EFD).

Councilwoman Foster-Dublin said that the Fire Department has pretty much been operating on their own, and have not been in compliance with County, State or federal regulations with regards to training for the different functions that they perform within the department. There are people within the department that are not in accordance with the rules of law as it governs firehouses and officers. Pat Renaldi has brought this to our attention and researched how to bring them into compliance, create structure, and have it be a fully functional department, trained appropriately and to do their jobs. This is what this Ordinance is doing, to outline and detail what roles and responsibilities they should have and this is much more instructional with governmental and much more under the Borough's umbrella to provide proper governance. Mayor Brill Mittler said that it is important for Council Members to understand Pat Renaldi comes to us with many years of experience and bring his knowledge and expertise to our volunteer organizations. Councilwoman Foster-Dublin mentioned at the Fire Academy Mr. Renaldi has 35 years experience Borough Administrator Jover indicated that she does not know if the draft ordinance was circulated with the meeting packet but will ensure that everyone gets a copy of the draft ordinance which has already been reviewed by the Borough Attorney's office to ensure compliance with statutes. She said that she would characterize the changes as establishing standards with the various officers with the

organization. Borough Attorney Schmierer indicated that the current ordinance is well out of date and Mr. Renaldi has done a nice job putting it together, have been working with him over the last several weeks, and believes it is ready to go.

d. Director of Emergency Services Ordinance (EFD).

Councilwoman Foster-Dublin indicated that the Borough's Emergency Services Director comes with 35 years of experience, he teaches at the fire academy, he is at the county and many towns, retired from Woodbridge, he comes with a wealth of knowledge on how these emergency departments operate not only fire, first aid, and all others offices and we rely on him heavily because he has the knowledge and expertise and will help keep us in compliance and get our emergency services into the 21st century and operating as they should. Borough Administrator Jover indicated that the ordinance for the fire department that was just discussed references this position of Emergency Services Director and at the recommendation from the Borough Attorney to amend the Boroughs Ordinance to include this position in the code, there is no draft ordinance yet and may not be ready for the next meeting.

e. Deer Feeding Ordinance (EFD).

Councilwoman Foster-Dublin said that she has witnessed on many occasions people feeding or putting out food for the deer and we need to put something in place

Goals. – no discussion.

There being no further business, on motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilman Fine, and carried by affirmative voice vote of all Councilpersons present, the meeting adjourned at 9:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Santiago
Deputy Borough Clerk