

REGULAR MEETING – JUNE 14, 2022

A Regular Meeting of the Highland Park Mayor and Council was held via Zoom, on Tuesday, June 14, 2022, and was called to order by Mayor Brill Mittler at 7:00 PM. Annual Notice of this meeting was provided to The Home News Tribune, the Star Ledger and the Highland Park Planet on January 5, 2022. In addition, notice of this meeting via zoom was faxed to The Home News Tribune and emailed to The Star Ledger and the Highland Park Planet on June 10, 2022 and was posted on the Borough website at www.hpboro.com and on the bulletin board at Borough Hall, 221 South Fifth Avenue, Highland Park, NJ on June 10, 2022, and has remained continuously posted as required by law.

Present: Mayor Brill Mittler; Councilpersons Canavera, Foster, George arrived at 7:27 pm, Hale, Hersh, Kim-Chohan arrived at 7:05 pm; Borough Attorney David Davidow; Borough Administrator Jover, Borough Clerk Santiago.

Absent: None.

Borough Administrator Jover noted that item 12b on the agenda will need to be tabled for final adoption as it needs to go the Planning Board for review before the Governing Body can act on it.

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

Councilwoman Canavera reported that she wanted to give credit to two more Police Officers. She had to be on a call for a friend whose child was in crisis. The Police Officers were DeCosta and Garley. Officer Garley acted like a true professional and Officer DeCosta was very calming to the child who was not in crisis. She complimented the Chief on the training that he has been providing to the Officer of the Highland Park Police Department. As somebody with mental illness in her household, 10 years ago she would not have called the Police Department if they were in crisis. Now, she would not think twice. She thanked the Chief for all he has done to make the Police Department very caring to the mentally ill.

Councilman Hersh reported that the Arts Commission has been exceptionally active. One of their big projects right now is the 24-hour 250 word writing contest. The Arts Commission and the Borough Council extend a huge congratulations to the winner of this first ever contest and to all the residents that took up the challenge. The winner of the contest was Kirsten Lice with her haunting story, Alone No Longer. Francesca Pavanello came in first in the kids division with her comedy, A Bad Case of the Hiccups. You can find a teaser of the collection on the Arts Commission's Facebook page. You can find all these stories for free as a downloadable e-book using a link, mid.me/cq89. We had a great response and we want even more for the next one. He gave a big thank you to the young artists of the Highland Park Gorilla Art Club whose talents illustrated the pages of the book. You can follow their work on Instagram at HP Gorilla Art Club. The Annual Fireworks in the park will be Sunday, July 3rd. The event starts at 6:00 p.m. and the fireworks will go off at 9:20 p.m. Residents should come to enjoy music, beautiful views, great vendors and their neighbors. The rain date is Thursday, July 7th.

Councilwoman Foster reported that the sign behind her is in celebration of Caribbean Heritage Month. In 2016 President Bush signed Caribbean Heritage Month into law so we have been celebrating the contributions that Caribbean people have made throughout the United States. We have a woman Vice President and one of her parents is from the Island of Jamaica. The doctor that founded and researched colonoscopy hails from the Island of Barbados. On June 25th at 12:00 p.m. they will be hoisting the Caribbean flag. She congratulated Officer Garley for his actions while off-duty and on his way home for stopping on the Morris Goodkind Bridge to talk to someone who was considering ending his life. He was joined by Detective McGraw and they were both able to have a conversation with this person and got him to change his mind and seek mental health treatment. Kudos to the Highland Park Police Department for the outstanding work that they have been doing. We have been getting lots of letters from residents saying what an outstanding job our Police Officers have been doing. The Junior Cadet Academy will be run in July and applications are still being accepted. The Teen Center is doing a phenomenal job and they are rolling out their summer program. Tanya Gagina received a scholarship which came through the Tee Center from Friends of South Amboy. She is a basketball player and will be going to Middlesex County College in the fall. Councilman Tom Riley from South Brunswick is a supporter and gave her a check that will be presented to Tanya. She congratulated the Teen Center for doing a fantastic job. They had their picnic a week ago and it was awesome. She announced earlier this year that they were going to be doing a presentation, a road diet, where they are going to have information about slowing down banner signs, etc. They have delayed the project and plan to roll it out in the fall before school starts. She and Councilman Hersh have been working with the Safe Walking and Cycling Committee on this awareness effort and you will see the role robot as the Police Department continues to put the packages together. They had a lot of people come out to volunteer to be in the infomercial and you will be seeing that soon. She thanked Councilman Hersh, the Police Department and the Safe Walking and Cycling Committee for making this possible.

Councilman Hale reported that tonight there will be an ordinance introduced to move ahead with form-based residential design standards. Those were actually part of our 2019 land use element and master plan. When he first came on Council, these new design standards were talked about by Susan Welkovits with great excitement. After introduction, the ordinance will be forwarded to the Planning Board and the Board of Adjustment to make sure that we are consistent with the master plan. He is confident that they are given the amount of work done by Chris Cosenza and the professionals putting these together. It is a lot of detailed work to reorganize residential standards. He thanked them for all of their hard work. Tonight the Council will be adopting a resolution creating parklets on both South 3rd Avenue and North 4th Avenue. Parklets are the build-outs of a curb in existing parking spaces that are going to accommodate increased outdoor seating and dining on the streets where the town tables have been. Main Street is working on a really cool design for them and we have the workers ready to build them once we get the design finalized. The Department of Transportation has given approval to go ahead with the parklets and this resolution is about codifying that. They are excited and hope to have the up soon. In the process of

discussing the parklets on North 4th Avenue and South 3rd Avenue, they came to a decision that the parklets can accommodate the needs on North 4th Avenue better than a full closing of North 4th Avenue. There would be no road closure on North 4th Avenue. They talked with the businesses, Main Street and listened to a whole bunch of other folks so they hope that the parklets, once they are built would be up permanently. They are moving ahead with another resolution on South 3rd Avenue that furthers their goal of creating an urban plaza park. As discussed over the last several months, we think this is a great opportunity to create a really special public space to house a variety of our community events. In order to make that happen, we are applying for a major access permit the Department of Transportation to permanently close them. The resolution to be adopted is to pay for the engineering aspects that need to get done and we will be using our engineering firm, CME Associates. He knows that there is a great deal of information and misinformation about closing streets and not closing streets and he knows that there are people excited about it and people who are not excited about it. Anyone with questions should not hesitate to reach out to him or the Borough Administrator. He thanked the professional staff, Main Street, the businesses and the public who have been involved with us over the last several months. He encourage residents to visit mainstreethp.org frequently to see what's going on. They have the Farmer's Market on Fridays, the monthly Night Owl Market, and outdoor movie nights. Lastly, there is a lot of paving that will be going on over the summer. The paving of Woodbridge Avenue that was scheduled for the beginning of this month has been moved to the end of the month. After the paving happens, you will start to see some of the new things from the Neighborhood Preservation Program come to fruition. There will be crosswalk improvements, lighting improvements, façade improvements and upgrades to utilities at Karsey Street Park, which is a resolution on tonight's agenda. He wished everyone a Happy Flag Day!

Councilwoman Kim-Chohan reported that the RFP for the revaluation firm has closed and they will be reviewing those. Councilman Hale forgot to mention the e-scooters that they tested out on Friday by riding along Raritan Avenue and stopping at the Farmer's Market. There was a lot of conversation around the e-scooters. She wished all fathers a Happy Father's Day.

Borough Administrator Jover reported the Borough offices will be closed this Friday in recognition of the Juneteenth holiday. The garbage schedule for the South Side has shifted with pickup on Wednesday and recycling pickup on Thursday. E-scooters can be driven around Highland Park and can be driven to New Brunswick and can be parked at any of the Rutgers campus areas. They are working on a parking agreement with the City of New Brunswick. There are parking hubs on Raritan Avenue marked with red tape. This is an app-based software gps program. VEO, our scooter provider, can basically designate forced parking hubs so when you're trying to park in the downtown area, it won't let you end your ride unless you get pretty close to one of those parking area. Residential neighborhood rules are different. You can park them in the Borough right of way, which means grassy strip between the curb and the sidewalk. We have the ability and will be tracking the usage of the scooters if we see a concentration of demand in specific neighborhoods and we may look at establishing forced parking hubs to keep it neater and to create a more convenient experience for the riders in that area. The company will know where the scooters are at all times with the gps system and says that you need a month before you can really tell a story. She implored users of the e-scooters to be good neighbors and park the scooters in the designated areas.

Councilwoman Foster noted that the Human Relations Commission will be raising a flag in honor of Juneteenth on Monday, June 20th at 10:00 a.m.

Borough Attorney Davidow reported that he is subbing for Ed Schmierer who is celebrating his 50th wedding anniversary with his wife in Spain and Portugal.

Mayor Brill Mittler reported that Donaldson Park will have its official grand re-opening in the coming weeks. She has had a chance to take a quick look at it so far and it is just amazing. The residents are privileged to have two amazing parks surrounding our community. The annual fireworks this year are planned for July 3rd and she hopes to see everyone back down at Donaldson Park again for the joint fireworks program with New Brunswick. She is excited about our park stock music festival which will be held in Donaldson Park. It will have local musicians and folks from New Jersey performing for us in the park. The first event is July 14th. The other dates are July 21st, August 4th and August 11th. Highland Park is enjoying a wonderful reputation for the arts and our music and we need to celebrate that together. June has been a very busy month for flag raisings and other celebration in the parking lot at our community center. We had a flag raising in support of Ukraine and Highland Park's own Ukrainian residents. She was delighted to join them at the flag raising a couple of weeks ago and to hear the reports to two of our high school students who managed to escape Ukraine and come to the United States. They are living with family members here in Highland Park. Both their parents are doctors and they had to remain in Ukraine to assist with any medical needs. We had our pride flag raising last week that was sponsored by the Pride Center and the Borough of Highland Park. This is an annual event that we all enjoy and she is honored that the Pride Center of New Jersey has made Highland Park its home. Councilwoman Foster mentioned the Caribbean Heritage flag raising will be held on June 25th at 2:30 p.m. The Juneteenth commemoration will be on June 20th at 10:00 a.m. We will be having a Park Partners event in 2022. We had to cancel it over the last couple of years because of Covid. The applications for park partner grants has been extended and the deadline is June 22nd. This is Highland Park's give back program to the residents. The Borough allocates a certain amount of money each year to award to those people who come up with the best ideas for improving life for all our residents. Those ideas are presented in a science fair type of formal and the residents actually get to vote on the five top projects that they are most interested in. The Borough then funds tem and we make sure that everyone knows about them and can participate in the programs.

Mayor Brill Mittler opened the meeting for public discussion and called upon all those wishing to speak to identify themselves. The total time for this session is 21 minutes; three minutes maximum per speaker. Comments are limited to items on the agenda. If you want to speak on an item that is not listed, there will be an opportunity to do so later in the meeting.

David Hughes, 330 South 3rd Avenue, commented that he is in favor of the resolution regarding the parklets. He commented that he believes a resolution describing him as contrary to the essential values of

government is still in force because he boycotts Israeli-made products in support of Palestinian rights. He wanted to make sure he could attend meetings and be heard. Lastly, he commented about the creation of a public space on South 3rd Avenue and that he is in favor of it.

Mary Forsberg, 317 Denison Street, commented that she has many issues with the 91 page agenda. There are 14 resolutions on the consent agenda that will be passed with a single vote and no debate. She commented about the parklets resolution and the resolution for a geothermal analysis of Buck Woods. The Borough has lost every lawsuit against Jack Morris. She wanted to know the amount of the grant Main Street received from the Department of Community Affairs.

Jill Medinits, 242 South 6th Avenue, asked about where she could find a written calendar of events that were mentioned. She asked what a parklet was and how it would look. She noted that she uses a rollator to walk around and she's having trouble walking on sidewalks. She finds them uneven, cracked or broken. She also noted the amount of properties with overgrown hedges blocking sidewalk access.

Lois Lebbing, North 2nd Avenue, asked for explanations for resolution Nos. 14h, 14i, 14j and 14k. She wanted to know how much it would cost taxpayers for geotechnical services related to litigation.

John Kovac, 206 North 3rd Avenue, commented about alleged suppression of speech about Palestinian rights. He referenced a resolution that the Governing Body passed in 2020.

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

The Clerk reported advertising an ordinance entitled, BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS 2022 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$2,000,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,900,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF, for consideration of passage on final reading by title and that affidavits of publication thereto are on file. She also reported that the ordinance had been posted and made available to the public, as required by law.

On motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilman Hale, and carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote, the above-entitled ordinance was taken up on final reading by title.

Mayor Brill Mittler declared the public hearing on the ordinance open to all officials and persons present and called upon all those wishing to speak for or against the ordinance to do so.

No one appearing to be heard and no objections having been received in writing, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

On motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilman Hale, the ordinance entitled as above, being Ordinance No. 22-2052, was duly adopted by the following roll call vote, to wit:

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

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

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

No. 6-22-144

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Ordinance entitled, "BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS 2022 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$2,000,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,900,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF", passed on final reading at this meeting be delivered to the Mayor for his/her approval, and if approved by her, that the same be recorded in full by the Borough Clerk in a proper book kept for that purpose, and be advertised by publishing the same by title in the "Home News Tribune", of Neptune, New Jersey, a newspaper published in the County of Middlesex and circulating in this municipality, there being no newspaper published in this municipality, in the manner prescribed by law.

The ordinance amending Chapter 230 concerning the deed restricted control periods and mandatory set-aside requirements was tabled from consideration on motion made by Councilman Hale seconded by Councilman George, and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

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

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

The Clerk reported that an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING SECTION 407-11 OF THE "CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK" SETTING FORTH THE FEE SCHEDULE FOR BASIC TOWING SERVICES", had been introduced in writing by the Public Safety Committee for consideration of passage on first reading by title.

On a motion made by Councilwoman Foster, 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 Canavera, Foster, George, Hale, Hersh, Kim-Chohan.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

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

No. 6-22-146

WHEREAS, an Ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING SECTION 407-11 OF THE "CODE OF

THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK” SETTING FORTH THE FEE SCHEDULE FOR BASIC TOWING SERVICES”, 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, July 5, 2022, 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.

The Clerk reported that an ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE BY THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 230, LAND DEVELOPMENT CONCERNING: PARKING REGULATIONS FOR ALL ZONING DISTRICTS; AND BULK REGULATIONS AND RESIDENTIAL DESIGN STANDARDS FOR SINGLE- AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS”, had been introduced in writing by the Economic Development and Planning Committee for consideration of passage on first reading by title.

On a 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 Canavera, Foster, George, Hale, Hersh, Kim-Chohan.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

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:

No. 6-22-147

WHEREAS, an Ordinance entitled, “AN ORDINANCE BY THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 230, LAND DEVELOPMENT CONCERNING: PARKING REGULATIONS FOR ALL ZONING DISTRICTS; AND BULK REGULATIONS AND RESIDENTIAL DESIGN STANDARDS FOR SINGLE- AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS”, 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 2, 2022, 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. 6-22-148 through 6-22-161 were duly adopted on a motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilwoman Canavera, and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

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

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

Abstain: Councilperson Kim-Chohan (Resolution No. 6-22-157).

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 6-22-148

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 4, 2022 showing the names of the officers and employees of the Borough of Highland Park whose salaries are on an annual and hourly basis, there have been the following changes, to wit:

Megan Zielinski, Community Service Assistant, at an annual salary of \$43,839.00, effective 06/20/2022

Olivia Parker, Summer Camp Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$16.00, effective 06/01/2022

Jeffrey Cheng, Summer Camp Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$16.00, effective 06/01/2022

Diego Gonzalez, Summer Camp Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$16.00, effective 06/01/2022

Lydia Lekha, Summer Camp Junior Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$13.00, effective 06/01/2022

Michelle Edralin, Summer Camp Junior Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$13.00, effective 06/01/2022

Camila Yanz, Summer Camp Health Director, at an hourly rate of \$21.00, effective 06/1/2022

Keiana Coleman, Summer Camp Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$16.00, effective 06/01/2022

Franz Minaya, Summer Camp Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$16.00, effective 06/01/2022

Giavanna Scaletti, Summer Camp Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$16.00, effective 06/01/2022

Pilar Echerria, Summer Camp Junior Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$13.00, effective 06/01/2022

Lily Solomon, Summer Camp Junior Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$13.00, effective 06/01/2022
 Ilyssa Roig, Summer Camp Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$16.00, effective 06/01/2022
 Naseem Woodridge, Summer Camp Junior Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$13.00, effective 06/01/2022
 Dayna Hagewood, Summer Camp Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$16.00, effective 06/01/2022
 Roshan Lath, Summer Camp Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$16.00, effective 06/01/2022
 Arlington Burell, Summer Camp Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$16.00, effective 06/01/2022
 Tyler Trinh, Summer Camp Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$16.00, effective 06/01/2022
 Veronica Smith, Summer Camp Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$16.00, effective 06/01/2022
 Michael Landis, Summer Camp Counselor, at an hourly rate of \$16.00, effective 06/01/2022
 Larelle John, Summer Camp - Seasonal Recreation, at an hourly rate of \$16.00, effective 06/01/2022
 Jason Chen, Summer Camp - Seasonal Recreation, at an hourly rate of \$16.00, effective 06/01/2022
 Jennifer Houseward, Summer Camp - Seasonal Recreation, at an hourly rate of \$21.00, effective 05/10/2022
 Evan Rodgers-Farmer, Summer Camp - Seasonal Recreation, at an hourly rate of \$21.00, effective 05/10/2022
 Stella Draper, Summer Camp - Seasonal Recreation, at an hourly rate of \$19.00, effective 05/16/2022
 Rosa Castillo Zava, Summer Camp - Seasonal Recreation, at an hourly rate of \$16.00, effective 06/01/2022
 Camila Yanez, Summer Camp - Seasonal Recreation, at an hourly rate of \$21.00, effective 06/01/2022

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. 6-22-149

WHEREAS, the Borough is committed to preserving the health of its new street trees planted in spring 2021 and 2022 and the street trees would benefit from consistent watering and health check-ups to get them to two-year maturity; and

WHEREAS, three (3) quotes were solicited for a per-watering price and were received as follows:

Bartlett Tree Experts	\$2,260.50
New Jersey Tree Foundation	-
Robert Wells Tree & Landscape Inc.	-

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator has recommended that said services be purchased from Bartlett Tree Experts, Piscataway, NJ based on their quote for same and based on their quality of work; and

WHEREAS, funds are available for this purpose in Trust Account No. T-12-56-500-001, as reflected by the certification of funds available by the Chief Financial Officer certification no. 2022-02.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Borough Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to accept the quote for weekly watering services from Bartlett Tree Experts, 2 Lakeview Avenue, Suite 206, Piscataway, NJ 08854, at a cost not to exceed of \$15,000.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Borough Administrator and the Chief Financial Officer forthwith.

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

No. 6-22-150

WHEREAS, the Neighborhood Preservation Program (NPP) Stakeholder Engagement Team has determined a need for electric service at Molimock-Graff Park in order to hold occasional neighborhood and community events; and

WHEREAS, three (3) quotes were solicited as follows:

Mulvey Electric, Inc.	\$20,750.00
Astro Electrical Contractors.	No Response
Maul Power Group	\$25,895.00

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator has recommended that said service be purchased from Mulvey Electric Inc., Middlesex, NJ based on their quote for same and their track record of experience working with Highland Park; and

WHEREAS, funds are available for this purpose in Account No. G-02-41-749-001, as reflected by the certification of funds available by the Chief Financial Officer, certification no. 2022-04.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Borough Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to accept the quote for electric service installation from Mulvey Electric Inc., 36 Greenbrook Rd, #1, Middlesex, NJ, at a total cost of \$20,750.00; and

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

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

No. 6-22-151

WHEREAS The Mayor and Borough Council of Highland Park have a long and abiding commitment to supporting efforts to strengthen gun control and reduce gun violence in the State of New Jersey and in the United States, reflected in resolutions passed in support of Gun Violence Awareness Day in May 2016 and May 2020 and in activities undertaken with the Brady United Against Gun Violence campaign to highlight this day in other years; and

WHEREAS Gun violence remains a growing concern in the United States, affecting greater numbers of innocent victims. In a report issued in February 2022, the Pew Research Center stated: "More

Americans died of gun-related injuries in 2020 than in any other year on record, according to recently published statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). That included a record number of gun murders, as well as a near record number of gun suicides.” A CNN report on June 7, 2022 stated in its headline: “US mass shootings are on pace to match last year – the worst ever, Gun Violence Archive data show; and

WHEREAS our nation, and our community, have been shaken in the last six weeks by news of three episodes of gun violence affecting multiple victims - in Buffalo, NY, at a Tops Friendly Market grocery store, where 10 lives were cruelly taken in May; in Uvalde, Texas, at an elementary school, where a mass shooting in May resulted in 21 deaths; and in Tulsa, Oklahoma, at a medical center, where 4 people were killed on June 1st; and

WHEREAS the State of New Jersey is considered a national leader in gun safety measures, as the website Everytown for Gun Safety states: “New Jersey has some of the strongest gun laws in the country. From comprehensive background checks to disarming domestic abusers to a strong Extreme Risk law, New Jersey’s laws are a model for other states.” Yet Governor Murphy asserted in a press conference in April of this year that additional legislative measures he has proposed, which have stalled in the state legislature, are “basic measures, that will keep guns out of the wrong hands, help law enforcement apprehend the perpetrators of gun violence, and hold the gun industry accountable for its deceptive and dangerous practices.”; and

WHEREAS the measures proposed by Governor Murphy that the legislature has not acted on include bills to require firearm safety training (A-993), mandate safe storage of firearms (A-2215), ban .50 caliber firearms (S-1416), close a loophole allowing the import of out of state firearms (A-1179/S-1204), raise the minimum age to purchase long guns to 21 (A-509/S-504), establish electronic ammunition sales record keeping (A-1302), and promote microstamping technology in new handguns (S-1462/A-2216).

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council expresses its strong support for this package of seven gun safety bills proposed by Governor Murphy and urges the New Jersey State Assembly and New Jersey State Senate to pass these measures this year, so as to more comprehensively protect the citizens of the State of New Jersey.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 6-22-152

WHEREAS, applications for renewal licenses issued in the Borough of Highland Park under the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverage Law (NJSA 33:1-1 et seq.) have been made by the hereinafter applicants, and

WHEREAS, said applications have been examined and the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Highland Park have made the following findings of fact with respect to each of the applicants:

1. Said applications are complete in all respects.
2. The applicants and the premises are qualified to be licensed in accordance with Title 33, all regulations promulgated by the New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control and local ordinances as amended and supplemented pertinent to and consistent with Title 33.
3. The applicants have disclosed, and the issuing authority has ascertained and reviewed, the source of any additional financing obtained in the previous license term for use in the licensed business.
4. The Mayor and Council are of the opinion that said applications should be approved.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the following renewal licenses issued under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law (NJSA 33:1-1 et seq.) to sell alcoholic beverages upon the premises set forth opposite their names under the terms and conditions prescribed in the Act aforesaid, the amendments and supplements thereof, and the ordinances, rules and regulations promulgated by the Director of the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control, State of New Jersey, shall be and are hereby approved, to wit:

PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSES

Pad-Thai, Inc. d/b/a Pad Thai, 217 Raritan Ave. – 1207-33-005-004

Wilhelm & Young, Inc. d/b/a Park Pub, 180-182 Woodbridge Ave. - 1207-33-011-002

Kiadan Inc., 13B North 4th Ave., Pino’s Wine Cellar - 1207-33-010-011

Highland Park Wine & Liquor LLC, 97 Woodbridge Ave., With Broad Package Privilege-1207-32-003-007

Eisigian LLC d/b/a, 247 Raritan Avenue, 1207-33-004-008

PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LICENSES

Rite Aid of New Jersey, Inc., d/b/a Rite Aid 2561, 332 Raritan Avenue – 1207-44-001-005

Surdas LLC (Park Deli), 80 Raritan Avenue – 1207-44-007-006

Kiadan Inc., d/b/a Pino’s Fruit Basket Shoppe, 13A North 4th Ave. – 1207-44-006-010

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk shall be and is hereby authorized and directed to issue to the aforesaid licensees the license aforesaid, which licenses shall be effective July 1, 2022 and shall expire June 30, 2023.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 6-22-153

WHEREAS, application for renewal licenses issued in the Borough of Highland Park under the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverage Law (NJSA 33:1-1 et seq.) have been made by the hereinafter applicant, and

WHEREAS, said applications have been examined and the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Highland Park have made the following findings of fact with respect to each of the applicants:

1. Said application is complete in all respects, including submission of the club member list.
2. The officers and directors of the club are qualified according to all statutory, regulatory and local governmental ABC laws and regulations.
3. The club maintains all records required by N.J.A.C. 13:2-8.8. (special events open to non-club members) and N.J.A.C. 13:2-8.12 (true books of account for receipts and disbursements).
4. The Mayor and Council are of the opinion that said application should be approved.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the following renewal licenses issued under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law (NJSA 33:1-1 et seq.) to sell alcoholic beverages upon the premises set forth opposite their names under the terms and conditions prescribed in the Act aforesaid, the amendments and supplements thereof, and the ordinances, rules and regulations promulgated by the Director of the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control, State of New Jersey, shall be and are hereby approved, to wit:

CLUB LICENSES

The White Mountains Cretans Fraternity, 1152-1154 Raritan Avenue - 1207-31-012-002

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk shall be and is hereby authorized and directed to issue to the aforesaid licensees the license aforesaid, which licenses shall be effective July 1, 2022, and shall expire June 30, 2023.

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

No. 6-22-154

WHEREAS, application for renewal license issued in the Borough of Highland Park under the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverage Law (NJSA 33:1-1 et seq.) has been made by the hereinafter applicant, and

WHEREAS, said application has been examined and the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Highland Park have made the following findings of fact with respect to the applicant:

1. Said application is complete in all respects.
2. The applicant has obtained a Special Ruling to permit the filing of renewal application of an Inactive License for the 2022-2023 license term.
3. The applicant is qualified to be licensed in accordance with Title 33, all regulations promulgated by the New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control and local ordinances as amended and supplemented pertinent to and consistent with Title 33.
4. The applicant has disclosed, and the issuing authority has ascertained and reviewed, the source of any additional financing obtained in the previous license term for use in the licensed business.
5. The Mayor and Council are of the opinion that said application should be approved.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the following renewal application of an inactive license issued under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law (NJSA 33:1-1 et seq.) under the terms and conditions prescribed in the Act aforesaid, the amendments and supplements thereof, and the ordinances, rules and regulations promulgated by the Director of the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control, State of New Jersey, shall be and is hereby approved with the specific condition that no further renewals of this license shall be granted unless the license is being actively used at an approved site on or before June 30, 2023:

PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSE W/ BROAD PACKAGE PRIVELEGE

Four W. Properties, 149 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 – 1207-32-008-014

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk shall be and is hereby authorized and directed to maintain the aforesaid license certificate in the municipal file, which license shall be effective July 1, 2022, and shall expire June 30, 2023.

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

No. 6-22-155

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council believe that the creation and enhancement of additional, permanent public gathering space is an essential part of the redevelopment of downtown Highland Park; and

WHEREAS, the adopted 2021 Downtown Redevelopment Plan for Tracts A-D identifies So. 3rd Avenue as the preferred location for such a public plaza; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a permanent public gathering space on So. 3rd Avenue requires approval from the NJ Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park has a need for engineering services related to the NJDOT Permit Application for Permanent Closure of So. 3rd Avenue as described in the proposal from CME Associates dated May 18, 2022, attached to the original of this resolution; and

WHEREAS, such services are professional services as defined in the Local Public Contracts Law, *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, CME Associates, Parlin, NJ, is a firm of licensed engineers of the state of New Jersey with extensive experience in providing these services; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council desire to provide for the method of compensation of said consulting engineer; and

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are available in Capital Account No. C-04-55-807-001 in an amount not to exceed \$55,000.00 without further Council Authorization, as reflected by the Certification of Funds Available by Chief Financial Officer Certification no. 2022-05.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized and directed to execute and attest on behalf of the Borough an Agreement for professional services with CME Associates, 3141 Bordentown Avenue, Parlin, NJ 08859, a copy of which is attached to the original of this original, and that notice of this contract be published as required by law and that a copy of executed Agreement be placed on file in the office of the Borough Clerk.

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

No. 6-22-156

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park owns the public right-of-way along municipal roadways; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council wish to use the public right-of-way to create additional outdoor public spaces that enhance the Borough's downtown for the benefit of residents, property owners, and downtown businesses; and

WHEREAS, parklets are an effective way of creating new spaces for the public to sit, recreate, and safely socialize by expanding the usable sidewalk area into adjacent parking spaces; and

WHEREAS, the Town Tables established on So. 3rd and No. 4th Avenues illustrated that there is a demand for these public gathering spaces in Highland Park and these locations are desirable for such a use; and

WHEREAS, Main Street Highland Park (MSHP) has secured grant funding from the NJ Department of Community Affairs to design and build parklets in downtown Highland Park; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that MSHP is authorized to establish and maintain parklets in the public parking spaces in the vicinity of the following:

- So. 3rd Avenue, both sides of the roadway, from Raritan Avenue to Penstock Coffee and from Raritan Ave to the SpeakMusic building
- No. 4th Avenue, east side of roadway, from Raritan Avenue to Sushiana

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Council and MSHP reserve the right to temporarily or permanently remove and/or revoke the aforementioned parklets to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the residents, businesses, and visitors to Highland Park; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

No. 6-22-157

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park has a need for geotechnical engineering expert witness services in connection with litigation entitled JSM at Highland Park, LLC v. The Borough of Highland Park, Docket No. MID-L-4958-17; and

WHEREAS, such services are professional services as defined in the Local Public Contracts Law, *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, Sean DiBartolo of GEI Consultants is a licensed professional engineer in New Jersey, in addition to MA, MD, and NY; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council desire to provide a written agreement providing for the compensation of Sean DiBartolo to serve as the Borough's geotechnical expert witness in connection with the above-referenced matter; and

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are not to exceed the amount of \$13,000.00 without further resolution of Council; and

WHEREAS, funds will be available for this purpose in the amount of \$13,000.00 in account No. 2-01-20-155-235 provided for by the 2022 Municipal Budget, as reflected by the Certification of Funds Available by Chief Financial Officer Certification no. 2202-06.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized and directed to execute and attest on behalf of the Borough, an Agreement for professional services with Sean DiBartolo of GEI Consultants, a copy of which is attached hereto, and that notice of this contract be published as required by law and that a copy of the executed Agreement be placed on file in the Office of the Borough Clerk.

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

No. 6-22-158

WHEREAS, litigation entitled "Andrea Costas vs. Borough of Highland Park, et al." Docket No. MID-L-2064-22, has been filed; and

WHEREAS, the parties have reached an amicable settlement of said litigation.

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

1. The Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a Settlement and General Release Agreement concerning the above-referenced litigation.
2. The Agreement is on file in the Office of the Borough Clerk and may be inspected during regular office hours.
3. A certified true copy of this Resolution shall be furnished to the Borough's Attorney, Robert Renaud, Esq., Renaud and DeAppolonio, LLC, 190 North Avenue East, Cranford, New Jersey 07016, upon its adoption.

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

No. 6-22-159

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 3-22-86, adopted March 15, 2022, the Borough Council authorized execution of a contract with Hellas Construction Inc. for Renovations to the Highland Park Recreation Complex, in an amount not to exceed \$1,974,540.00, without further resolution of Council; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to said resolution a contract was duly executed; and

WHEREAS, it appears from Pay Estimate No. 1, filed by CME Associates, that certain work under said contract has been completed and approved, and there is due to Hellas Construction Inc. the sum of \$672,380.94 in accordance with said Pay Estimate for work performed from May 1, 2022 to May 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are available in Capital Account No. C-04-55-830-001, as reflected by the Certification of Funds Available by the Chief Financial Officer Lori Majeski, certification no. 2022-03; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Chief Financial Officer be and is hereby authorized and directed to pay Hellas Construction Inc. the sum of \$672,380.94, as certified by the Engineer in Pay Estimate No. 1, subject to the Clerk's receipt of the Certified Payroll and Project Manning Reports and additional documents as necessary;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Borough Administrator, Chief Financial Officer and Hellas Construction, Inc.

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

No. 6-22-160

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 Township/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 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 has applied for funding to the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Middlesex

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

1. The Borough Council does hereby authorize acceptance of funding for the strategic plan for the Highland Park Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2023 in the amount of:

DEDR	\$7,664.00
Cash Match	\$1,916.00
In-Kind	\$5,748.00
2. The Borough Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

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

No. 6-22-161

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 6/14/2022 can be found in the Bills List Journal Book No. 42.

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

- Ayes: Councilpersons Canavera, Foster, George, Hale, Hersh, Kim-Chohan.
- Opposed: None.
- Abstain: None.
- Absent: None.

No. 6-22-162

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 2022 budget in the sum of \$27,885.90, which is now available from the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Clean Communities Grant, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the like sum of \$27,885.90 is hereby appropriated under the caption of Clean Communities Grant.

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

- Ayes: Councilpersons Canavera, Foster, George, Hale, Hersh, Kim-Chohan.
- Opposed: None.
- Abstain: None.
- Absent: None.

No. 6-22-163

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 2022 budget in the sum of \$10,000.00, which is now available from the PSEG Foundation for a 2022 Sustainable New Jersey Grant, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the like sum of \$10,000.00 is hereby appropriated under the caption of Sustainable New Jersey Grant.

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

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

Opposed: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

No. 6-22-164

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 2022 budget in the sum of \$76,445.00, which is now available from the Middlesex County Community Development Block Grant, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the like sum of \$76,445.00 is hereby appropriated under the caption of Community Development Block Grant.

Mayor Brill Mittler appointed Judy Richman and Robert Rothberg to the Board of Adjustment.

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

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

Abstain: None.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

Mayor Brill Mittler appointed Holly Turner and Jen Voorhees to the Public Information Committee.

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

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

Abstain: None.

Opposed: None.

Absent: 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.

Mary Forsberg, 317 Denison Street, asked for an explanation of the changes being made to the land use ordinance with regard to parking. She also asked about the parking survey that was done and the number of responses received. She asked how many RFP's were received for tracts A, C and D since May 6th was the deadline.

Gerald Pomper, 348 South 3rd Avenue, commented on a hand-delivered petition about the closing of South 3rd Avenue. He lives on South 3rd Avenue and thought the idea of the closure and the experience we had with over the winter was positive. He commented about the engineering firm being hired to prepare the plan and thought it might be a conflict of interest.

Lois Lebbing, North 2nd Avenue, commented about CME being Engineer since the 1980's. She also commented about the tabling of the ordinance for deed restrictions. She thinks we need fewer guns and suggested microstamping of bullets. She also commented about free cycle and the fact that other Middlesex County towns had bulk pickup as part of a spring cleanup. She commented about spotted lantern flies and noted locations where they are located. Lastly, she commented about sidewalk maintenance and the exception for an owner occupied two-family home.

Jen Chapman, 123 Magnolia Street, commented that the Borough needs to make space for humans before cars. She applauded any efforts by the Council to create those spaces with parklets or closing off streets. Her daughter is doing a project for her advanced placement U.S. History class and the one thing that came up again and again with this group of teenagers is that they value those public spaces as a place to meet safely in the evening or after school.

Gabrielle Wilders, 24 Walter Avenue, commented that she wanted to complement the tree work done by Rich's Tree Service in response to issues raised at a previous meeting. She voiced her concern for pedestrian and cyclist safety on Walter Avenue as well as for those turning from Route 27 onto Lincoln Avenue. She also inquired again about the two-way bike lanes on Walter Avenue. She also expressed her concerns for people crossing River Road from Walter Avenue. There needs to be better signage.

Mary Forsberg, 317 Denison Street, commented that she believes the Council did a disservice to Mr. Pomper by not adequately answering his questions about parklets.

Jill Medinits, 242 South 6th Avenue, asked for the email addresses of the Governing Body.

Michelle May, South Adelaide Avenue, commented that she has continued concerns about drivers not stopping at the stop signs on South 11th Avenue and Central Avenue during school drop offs. She hoped that something would be done prior to the next school year. She also thanked Officers Garley and DeCosta for helping the family that had a mental health crisis.

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

The Borough Council took a brief recess and returned at 9:05 p.m.

Work Session:

No items for discussion.

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

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

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

No. 6-22-165

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council is of the opinion that such circumstances exist.

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

1. The public shall be excluded from the closed session at close of tonight's open session.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
Botteon v. Borough of Highland Park
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matter will be made public when these matters are resolved or as soon thereafter as it is deemed to be in the public interest to do so.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

There being no further business, on motion made by Councilwoman Canavera, seconded by Councilman George, and carried by affirmative voice vote of all Councilpersons present, the meeting adjourned at 9:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Santiago
Borough Clerk