

BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK
MAYOR & COUNCIL CONFERENCE MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2019

MINUTES

1. Mayor Brill Mittler called the meeting to order at 9:23 p.m.
2. PRESENT: Mayor; Council; Borough Attorney; Borough Administrator; Borough Clerk.

NOTE: Upcoming Meeting schedule:

March 26, 2019	Budget Meeting 7PM;
April 2, 2019	Agenda Meeting 6:30 PM; Regular Meeting 7:00 PM;
	Conference Meeting to follow.

3. Public Discussion (15 minutes) – none.
4. Memorial or Commendatory Resolutions or Presentations scheduled as indicated:
 - a.
5. Ordinances on 1st Reading – no ordinances scheduled for introduction for 4/2/19:
 - a. CAP Rate Ordinance.
 - b. Overlay Zoning Ordinance.
6. Ordinances on 2nd Reading – no public hearings scheduled for 4/2/19:
 - a.
 - b.
7. Resolutions for Next Meeting - scheduled for 4/2/19:
 - a. Bills List (4/2/19).
 - b. Budget Introduction.
 - c.
 - d.
8. Appointments – none.
9. Borough Attorney's Report – none.
10. Borough Administrator's Report – none.
11. Standing Committee Status Reports – none.
12. Discussion Items.
 - a. Water Fluoridation – Councilman Hale explained that the Board of Health has found a planned new technology in Florida. He has asked that they provide him with more information. Borough Administrator Jover noted that the information has been shared with Middlesex Water Company. Mayor Brill Mittler advised that the Governing Body has a lot on their plate right now. Need to get past the Police Department promotions and the issues with the Fire Department.
 - b. Resolution in Support of Mandatory Vaccinations – Councilman Fine explained that he would like the Council to support passage of a resolution of a newly amended bill sponsored by Assemblyman Conway for the mandatory vaccination law to remove religious exemptions. According to Councilman Hale, the Board of Health voted unanimously in favor of this resolution and would like the Council to support the resolution also and send to the State Legislature. Mayor Brill Mittler noted that the

Board of health should air this issue with the public and get consensus as this is a controversial issue.

- c. Volunteer of the Year Awards – Borough Administrator Jover asked that each of the Governing Body members submit recommendations from within their own committees. The event will take place on May 22, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Community Center. She will send email, with responses going to Communications Coordinator Monica Jackson. At the next meeting, they can decide on the Volunteer of the Year. There was a suggestion that Gary Leslie get a special award for all his years of service. A suggestion was also made that the Volunteer of the Year be Matt Hersh.
- d. Promotions Process Update – Borough Administrator Jover noted that trying to complete the promotion process in time for April 2, 2019 is too aggressive. She suggested that they aim for April 16, 2019 and extend the term for Lt. Panichella to serve as the Officer in Charge. The Governing Body will hold a special executive session on April 2, 2019 to discuss the promotions. The mentor interviews will take place on Friday. There were four submittals. The Highland Park Equity Commission has seen the resumes and will be in the room.
- e. Bond Anticipation Notes Pay Down – Councilman Fine and Borough Administrator Jover explained that notes were issued to fund money to purchase properties. A large amount of that money has not been used yet. Notice of sale will go out on the 28th. The Chief Financial Officer is recommending this course of action. The Governing Body asked for more information to understand the process. They are concerned about a downgrade in the Borough's bond rating. Borough Administrator Jover will have Mr. Gardner come to the next meeting and she will provide them with information in advance of the meeting.
- f. Standard and Poor's Review – Discussion deferred to April 2, 2019 meeting.
- g. Financial Advisor Services – Discussion deferred to April 2, 2019 meeting.
- h. Mill Brook Clean-Up May 12th – Councilman George explained that the Lower Raritan Watershed and the Raritan River Keepers are planning a cleanup of the Mill Brook and are asking for support and volunteers from the Borough of Highland Park. They will do a presentation at the April 2nd Council Meeting.
- i. Creation of Census Task Force – Mayor Brill Mittler noted that she would like to create a Census Task Force that will contain a group of people to encourage all Highland Park residents to fill out the census forms.

13. Goals – Not discussed.

14. Executive Session – none.

There being no further business, on motion made by Councilwoman Foster-Dublin, seconded by Councilman George, and carried by affirmative voice vote of all Councilpersons present, the meeting adjourned at 10:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Hullings
Borough Clerk