

REGULAR MEETING – DECEMBER 4, 2018

A Regular Meeting of the Highland Park Mayor and Council was held in Borough Hall, 221 South 5th Avenue, on Tuesday, December 4, 2018 and was called to order by Mayor Brill Mittler at 7:06 PM. Mayor Brill Mittler read the Open Public Meetings Statement.

Present: Mayor Brill Mittler; Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Welkovits; Borough Attorney Schmierer; Borough Administrator Jover; Borough Clerk Hullings.

Absent: Councilperson Kim-Chohan.

Mayor Brill Mittler commented that the Borough has been receiving a lot of phone calls and emails about the constant hydrant flushing. They asked Middlesex Water Company to come out to speak to that issue. The Borough Water Department buys the water from Middlesex Water Company, but the Borough owns the pipes.

Bob Fullagar, Director of Distribution for Middlesex Water company, noted that he has been involved with Highland Park for close to 15 years, since John Davino retired. He has been the Licensed Operator and is still involved on a day-to-day basis. He noted that tonight he has David Brogle, Director of Production/Water Quality and Jan Chwiedosiuk, Superintendent, Distribution Maintenance & Construction, who is currently the Licensed Operator for Highland Park. The Mayor asked them to come and speak about the constant flushing of the hydrants. Dave is their water quality expert and he will have him explain why they do things.

David Brogle noted that he works at the treatment plant in Edison that supplies the water. They get water from the Delaware Raritan Canal. When the water gets to the treatment plant, they need to treat the water to take out all the bacteria and viruses, so they add chlorine to the water. There is also natural organic material in the water and when that reacts to the chlorine it forms disinfection byproducts. There are certain requirements that the Federal Government has about how much can be in the water. The chlorine will react with the organics forming the disinfectant byproducts and over time it gets more and more. You want to limit the time it reacts to it, or you want to treat the water a little differently to remove more of the organics. Right now, their plant can only remove so much of the organics. When there are rainstorms, there is a lot of runoff that comes from streams, etc. that enter the canal. The way to mitigate that is to shorten the amount of time water is in the pipes and that is why they flush. After rainstorms, they check levels and let Public Works know when they should be flushing. Right now they have a project in Middlesex, they are working to reduce ozone at the plant, which will reduce the organics before they come out of the plant and flushing would not be necessary. That project will not be completed until 2021. Ozone is a better oxidant and makes it easier to remove the organics and you use less chlorine. Organics includes leaves, trees, etc. that decay in water. There is no wastewater that goes into the canal. Mr. Fullagar added that there is a pump station in New Brunswick that is pumped to the water plant in Edison. Mr. Brogle noted that they monitor water quality into and out of the plant. When it hits a certain level, he lets Jan know that Highland Park needs to flush. We have had a lot more rain events, so there has been more flushing. This all came about because there was a problem in 2016 with some disinfectant byproducts. One of the mitigations that they agreed to do with the State was to do flushing based on the level of organics coming out of the plant. There have not been any problems since they have done the flushing. Warmer temperatures cause organics to form faster. Flushing is not necessarily State mandated, but is a short term solution until plant is finished in 2021. The water in the canal hasn't changed, the organics haven't changed and the chlorine hasn't changed, it has been the same for over 100 years. They don't flush after every rain event, but usually do so after at least 1" of rain. The rain event does not need to be in Highland Park, it can be near the canal.

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

Councilwoman Foster-Dublin reported that last month the Police Department answered 1,610 calls for service. She encouraged residents to lock their car doors and not leave personal belongings in their cars. She saw a recent news report about kids playing in raked leaves and that they almost got run over. The weather has changed and it gets darker earlier. She encouraged residents to walk on the sidewalks and to wear light colored clothing. There was a recent news report about racial profiling. They will look at it and review the information in the article. They have tried to change the culture in Highland Park and thinks they have done a good job. Councilman Hale and the Mayor have been talking about addressing issues in town. They are putting together a Bias-Free Commission.

Councilman Hale reported that they have been meeting with the Bias-Free Commission group in Highland Park that is focused on and connected with what is going on with racial profiling/racial bias. The following people have been appointed to serve on this commission: Justin Burton, Sheela Shekar, Julie Luck, Lucinda Holt, Rev. Kermit Moss, Sonya Headlam, and Matt Hersh. There are issues that need to be dealt with as a community both internally and externally due to use of force report. The purpose of the commission is to focus specifically on issues facing the community. They will provide reports on a regular basis. Intent

Councilman Fine reported tonight, as the Chair of the Finance Standing Committee, I would like to discuss shared services, and I would also like to address the current crisis of Anti-Semitism in America. As to Shared Services, our Borough has established various shared services over the past decade, such as sharing a Housing Authority Executive Director with Woodbridge, Animal Control with Edison, and a Senior Health Officer with Middlesex County. But, there are additional opportunities for shared services with other municipalities and county agencies that I believe we should explore that may provide savings for Highland Park without negatively impacting the quality of life of our residents. At our October 23rd Council meeting, I indicated that "we will continue to explore such opportunities," and we have started to do so. In May of this year, Governor Murphy named Nicholas Platt, former Mayor of Harding, and Jordan Glatt, former Mayor of Summit, as New Jersey's Shared Services Czars to help New Jersey municipalities reduce budgets and stabilize property taxes by implementing shared-service agreements with other

municipalities and county agencies. On November 28th, the Mayor, Borough Administrator, and I, met with the Shared Services Czars to discuss possible shared services opportunities for Highland Park. As a result of our meeting, a more extensive meeting has been scheduled with other Middlesex County Mayors and the Shared Services Czars, which will take place in Highland Park on December 17th. As always, we remain committed to exploring ways to stabilize the municipal portion of Highland Park residents' property taxes. I would also like to address the crisis of Anti-Semitism in America today. And yes, anti-Semitism in America today is a crisis. In February of this year, the Anti-Defamation League, or the ADL, in its annual report, found that "the number of anti-Semitic incidents was nearly 60 percent higher in 2017 than 2016, the largest single-year increase on record and the second highest number reported since ADL started tracking incident data in the 1970s." In an opinion piece, published in the October 28th edition of *The Star Ledger*, Jennifer Rubin, who writes for *The Washington Post*, stated that "There is no single source of anti-Semitism in the United States; it comes from radical leftists bent on destroying the Jewish state and right-wing nationalists who consider Jews to be foreign invaders. Both are increasingly evident on college campuses." To quote the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's Working Definition of Anti-Semitism, which was adopted in May of 2016: "Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities." Manifestations might include the targeting of the State of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity. However, criticism of Israel similar to that leveled against any other country cannot be regarded as anti-Semitic. Antisemitism frequently charges Jews with conspiring to harm humanity, and it is often used to blame Jews for "why things go wrong." It is expressed in speech, writing, visual forms and action, and employs sinister stereotypes and negative character traits. On its website, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance provides contemporary examples of antisemitism in public life, the media, schools, the workplace, and in the religious sphere, which could, taking into account the overall context, include, but is not limited to: Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion; Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor, and Making dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews — such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions. The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance is clear in its statement that "Criminal acts are anti-Semitic when the targets of attacks, whether they are people or property – such as buildings, schools, places of worship and cemeteries – are selected because they are, or are perceived to be, Jewish or linked to Jews." According to the Anti-Defamation League, in 2017, New Jersey saw a 32% jump in anti-Semitic incidents, and found that New Jersey ranks third in the country for total number of anti-Semitic incidents. In Highland Park, we have not been immune to antisemitism. Our residents experienced anti-Semitic incidents at the end of 2017 and early 2018. In November 2017, a resident found a package full of trash with anti-Semitic slurs written on it in her front yard - an incident which was investigated by the Highland Park Police Department. In December 2017, after the United States announced the moving of its embassy to Jerusalem in Israel, one Jewish Highland Park High School student wrote in the student newspaper *The Highland Fling*, how she was "saddened and shocked by the anti-Zionist (Israel) and anti-Semitic (Jewish) propaganda both in school and throughout the world." Another Jewish Highland Park High School student wrote in *The Highland Fling*: In the past few days, the rise of anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism has been shocking. Even in a place as accepting as Highland Park High School, blatant bigotry and intolerant comments have been made regarding the Jewish People's right to live in their own country. Not only is what's being said historically inaccurate, it's offensive. False claims of "apartheid," "white supremacy," and even "genocide" are being made by students who have neither any credibility nor any vested personal interest regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Then, in January 2018, three swastikas were discovered carved into the snow on North Fourth (4th) Avenue, an anti-Semitic incident, which was also investigated by the Highland Park Police Department. Throughout New Jersey, in 2018, there have been incidents such as swastikas, profanity and racial epithets scrawled on a Jewish Congressman's campaign sign, and hateful graffiti scrawled onto school property, like what recently happened in Union County. Of course, America's Jewish community just suffered the deadliest attack on Jews in American History in October with the anti-Semitic synagogue shooting in Pittsburgh. Across the Hudson River, in Manhattan, last Wednesday, November 28th, Elizabeth Midlarsky, a Jewish professor at Columbia University found her office vandalized with swastikas and a racial epithet. The NYPD is also searching for suspects following a series of recent violent attacks against Jews in Brooklyn, including a sucker-punch incident from over this past weekend. So we are in a crisis of Anti-Semitism today in America and in New Jersey. And I feel compelled to state that there is no place for anti-Semitism in Highland Park, in New Jersey, nor in America. Certainly, here, in Highland Park, which is a Fair and Welcoming Community, we will not tolerate anti-Semitism. The Jewish holiday of Chanukah is currently being celebrated by Jews throughout the world. Chanukah celebrates the victory of a small group of Jews, who, around the year 200 BCE, triumphed over their Greek oppressors, and the miracle of a little oil kindling the lights of the Menorah in the Temple in Jerusalem for eight days. Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., once said, "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." As Jews in Highland Park light three candles on the Menorah for the third night of Chanukah this evening, it is surely with the hope, which was recently expressed by Rabbi Yonah Blum of the Chabad at Columbia University, that the glow of the candles in these times of darkness may serve to shine a light on the continuing need to defeat ignorance, intolerance, and hatred. I wish all those who celebrate the Festival of Lights, a Happy Chanukah.

Councilman Hale reported that Highland Park is a fair and welcoming community. Some of the people instrumental in passing a resolution was the Immigration and Refugee Task Force that included; Leticia Almeida, Jordan Steiner, John Adler, Nasrin Rafiq, Tracey Cangiano, and Laurent Reyes. They did much of the hard work on the resolution passed a while ago. They placed certain restrictions in that resolution.

Councilwoman Welkovits reported that Last week our SWACC held our 2nd stakeholder meeting for the creation of our bicycle and pedestrian plan, which was hosted by our consultants WSP, and paid for through a generous program from NJDOT. Over the past several months, WSP has been gathering data by having a presence at our Street Fair & Earth Day, separate public meetings with residents and businesses, an online survey and interactive map. WSP has been analyzing the data and are now working to provide us with improvement concepts and recommendations to improve various existing conditions and priority intersections. The rains the past couple of soggy weekends did not deter Highland Park residents and visitors from celebrating Small Business Weekend, during the long weekend of Thanksgiving. Our local businesses thrived as shoppers took advantage of the many special sales and unique items available. Did you pick up an HP Made shop small tote bag, stop at a local business to get your complimentary reusable bag. The Central Jersey pop-up flea market was back, and will be back again Sat & Sun Dec 22-23. We held our first winter outdoor bazaar with vendors and food trucks, live music at Pino's, and a free screening of Strange Brew at our Indoor Movie Theatre. My favorite was the Grand opening of The Cook & the Carpenter bake shop, ribbon cutting provided by our Mayor, and all topped off by the lighting of our Christmas Tree, caroling, donuts, and a visit from Santa in a fire truck. Many thanks to HPs Fire Department for enriching the experience for the kids and adults alike! Happy Hanukkah, this past weekend we celebrated Hanukkah with our annual Menorah Lighting. Special thanks to Michael Beiberman of Cyber knight computers for building our giant menorah and making this happen every year. We are delighted to welcome back Chamber 43, the comic book store with so much more. Open Mic nights start December 17, 2018 with music, poetry, and spoken word. Special thanks to Main Street Director Rebecca Hersh, who hosted FIOS1 News' Restaurant Hunter:NJ. She arranged to have them visit HP and filmed segments at 3 of our best: our classic White Rose System, Sushiana, and OQ Coffee. The episodes are scheduled to air in January. Please visit the last 2 Friday Farmers Market, where you can buy your tree in Highland Park, get your complimentary tote bag filled with coupons and discounts, and take advantage of the many ways to support our local businesses throughout this holiday season. Thanks to the dedicated staff and volunteers of Main Street Highland Park for making our downtown a vibrant and fun place to visit.

Councilman George commented about the "baguette cutting" at the Cook and the Carpenter bakery. He was pleased to be one of the sponsors for the Menorah Lighting, along with Matt Hersh, Councilman Hale and Jon Marron. They served donuts and coffee in the rain. Assemblywoman Pinkin joined them for the menorah lighting. They have been meeting regularly with the representatives from Middlesex Water Company to work on concrete plans for reduction, not only in usage, but in improvements to their system. They are working on an infrastructure system that is over 110 years old and according to DEP mandates, will need some replacement/updating. They have a final draft, pending State action, on the plastic bag ordinance. The Mayor has written to the Senate sponsors and they met with Senator Greenstein at her office several weeks ago to go over some of the plans that the State has to determine whether or not there will be conflicts. Depending on what the State does, they hope to introduce the ordinance in January. They also have information that they got from the State with regard to electric vehicles and charging stations. He is working with the Borough Administrator on getting two charging stations; one for replacement of some of their fleet and for a charging station downtown. Sustainable Highland Park is moving forward with their plans for this year. Their theme for Earth Day is "People Powered". They are planning for a 50th anniversary, which will be next year. Leaf pickup will continue through the end of the year.

Borough Administrator Jover welcomed Emma Missey as the Borough's newest employee in Administration. She noted that the Shade Tree Advisory Committee put together information about the Emerald Ash Borer that is available on the Borough's website. She encouraged residents to take a look at the information.

Borough Attorney Schmierer - No report.

Mayor Brill Mittler reminded anyone who has not yet enrolled in the Affordable Care Plan for insurance, that the deadline has changed. You have until December 15th to re-enroll for 2019. For more information, go to getcoverednj.gov. She noted that the man behind the camera that you don't see on HPTV is Gary Leslie. He has been heading the HPTV Committee for 22 years. Many residents enjoy watching the council meetings and the many other programs that are filmed/shown by HPTV. Unless we can get people to volunteer to work with Mr. Leslie, this benefit may go away. Anyone interested in television, taping, creativity, production, etc. should check out the HPTV volunteer information. The next HPTV meeting is December 14th in Borough Hall. She mentioned the Emerald Ash Borer problem and noted that a letter was issued from her office approximately 2 weeks ago. There are 75 trees in Highland Park that are affected. Copies of this letter and a flyer with more information are available in Borough Hall, at the Library and on the Borough website. There was a new report on the use of force for 474 Police Departments in the State of New Jersey. The information in that report about Highland Park is disturbing and they will be looking into all of the numbers that went into the report and they will conduct their own analysis. If any action needs to be taken, it will be taken. The Council, along with the Police Department, was not happy with those reports. Lastly, America lost a real hero this week. President George Bush was a man of honor. He did many, many good things for people in this country. No matter what your political affiliation is, you may not have agreed with him on everything, but he was an honest and ethical man. She asked for a moment of silence in his memory.

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

Herb Gross, Adelaide Gardens, asked for a moment of silence in memory of President Bush. He saluted and offered condolences to his family. He was a Veteran.

Ruth Matilsky, 109 South 4th Avenue, commented about letter she received with regard to tax sale. She sent a letter a number of years ago about getting notified when taxes are due, especially people who pay their own taxes. No stickers have been provided with recent tax bill mailings. This

affects older people and it is distressing to get a letter. Mayor Brill Mittler noted that she received a number of phone calls about those letters. Borough Administrator Jover noted that they are going to look at ways to alert people effectively. They tried doing an email last year and it freaked people who whose taxes are paid by the mortgage company. They will look at affordable notifications for next year. The tax sale date is December 20th and people still have time to pay their outstanding bills with certified funds up until December 19th. If you go to tax sale, it is a certificate put on the property as a lien. People/companies buy them and if you fail to pay, they can foreclose. There is one final notification that will be sent out by the Tax Department. There have been problems with the US Postal Service and notices have not been getting delivered in a timely manner along with the payments. This is challenging in the 4th quarter of the year, as they operate on an accelerated schedule. Ms. Matilsky commented that she is a member of a Jewish congregation and is worried about what Councilman Fine had to say. She is concerned about the term anti-semitism being tossed around.

Connie Bongiovanni, Central Avenue, commented that she is 80 years old and has been living in Highland Park since 1943. They owned their first house on Raritan Avenue and then bought their current home on Central Avenue. In 58 years, she has never been late with paying her taxes. In November, she forgot to pay the taxes. She received a letter regarding the tax sale and additional fees in the amount of \$80. They own a house down the shore and only pay \$9,000 in taxes. They pay \$12,000 in taxes for a Cape Cod in the Triangle. She is only still living in Highland Park because of her husband. Down the shore, they only had to pay \$12.95 for being late. She asked how much is being paid in Attorney fees for the Buck Woods litigation. Borough Attorney Schmierer noted that this litigation goes back to 2009. Ms. Bongiovanni noted that Twin Brooks was a garbage dump. This building, the school and the Police Department, including Buck Woods, is built on a dump. She doesn't want her tax dollars to go towards Buck Woods. Borough Attorney Schmierer noted that the litigation was started by the owner against the Borough. He is unhappy that he couldn't develop what he wants to develop. He now wants to build 75 units. Mayor Brill Mittler noted that Highland Park, many years ago, lost a lot of industry. Those ratables helped to spread taxes out more evenly. Smart downtown development would help with ratables. The difference in what she pays down the shore and here is due to the mix of ratables.

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

The Clerk reported that an ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK IN MIDDLESEX COUNTY INCORPORATING INTO CHAPTER 9 OF THE "CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, 2010" VARIOUS BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS IN LIEU OF RECONSTITUTING SAID BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS ANNUALLY BY RESOLUTION, had been introduced in writing by the Council as a Whole for consideration of passage on first reading by title.

On motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilman 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, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Councilperson Kim-Chohan.

The following resolution, introduced by the Council as a Whole, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilman Hale, and carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote:

No. 12-18-327

WHEREAS, an Ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK IN MIDDLESEX COUNTY INCORPORATING INTO CHAPTER 9 OF THE "CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, 2010" VARIOUS BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS IN LIEU OF RECONSTITUTING SAID BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS ANNUALLY BY RESOLUTION, 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, December 18, 2018 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 OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK IN MIDDLESEX COUNTY AUTHORIZING PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-3 ET SEQ. THE ACQUISITION OF BLOCK 173, LOTS 41-49 AND BLOCK 89, LOT 13 BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK TAX MAP AND APPROPRIATING THE SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$3,500,000.00 FOR SAID ACQUISITIONS, 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 Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman Fine, 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, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Councilperson Kim-Chohan.

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

No. 12-18-328

WHEREAS, an Ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK IN MIDDLESEX COUNTY AUTHORIZING PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-3 ET SEQ. THE ACQUISITION OF BLOCK 173, LOTS 41-49 AND BLOCK 89, LOT 13 BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK TAX MAP AND APPROPRIATING THE SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$3,500,000.00 FOR SAID ACQUISITIONS, has been introduced and duly passed on first reading;

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The Clerk reported that an ordinance entitled, ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF A REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE PROPERTY 31 RIVER ROAD REDEVELOPMENT AREA PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-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 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, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Councilperson Kim-Chohan.

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

No. 12-18-329

WHEREAS, an Ordinance entitled, ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF A REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE PROPERTY 31 RIVER ROAD REDEVELOPMENT AREA PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-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, December 18, 2018 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 TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, CHAPTER 328, "SEWER AND WATER", 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 Councilman Hale, 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, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Councilperson Kim-Chohan.

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

No. 12-18-329A

WHEREAS, an Ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, CHAPTER 328, "SEWER AND WATER", 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, December 18, 2018 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. 12-18-330 through 12-18-346 were duly adopted on motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman George, and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

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

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 12-18-330

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 2, 2018 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:

EMMA MISSEY, Assistant to the Borough Administrator, at an annual salary of \$50,000.00 effective December 4, 2018.

SADE EDENS, Police Officer, \$300.00 annual payment, attaining and maintaining EMT certification.

| Title | Name | | 2018 Base | Longevity | | 2018 Total Salary |
|--------------------------------|---------|-----------|--------------|-----------|------------|-------------------|
| | | | | % | Amount | |
| Master Circulation Coordinator | Valerie | Weidmann | \$58,572.00 | | | \$58,572.00 |
| Master Librarian | Fran | Lee | \$93,886.00 | | \$2,500.00 | \$96,386.00 |
| Senior Library Assistant | Indru | Udeshi | \$48,911.00 | | | \$48,911.00 |
| Master Library Assistant | Lisa | Kulczycki | \$55,637.00 | | | \$55,637.00 |
| Principal Librarian | Karen | Mitchell | \$61,496.00 | | | \$61,496.00 |
| Senior Librarian | Sherry | Johnson | \$73,733.00 | | | \$73,733.00 |
| Administrative Assistant | Renee | George | \$62,592.00 | | | \$62,592.00 |
| Library Director | Jane | Stanley | \$119,392.00 | | \$5,970.00 | \$125,362.00 |

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 Safety Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 12-18-331

WHEREAS, RSR Cab, Inc. (Parmjit K. Lehal), Gill Car 3, LLC (Sukhchain S. Gill), LR12 LLC (Leon Rozenblat), and Car Six LLC have filed with the Clerk of this Borough an application for an Owners License to operate taxicabs in this Borough under the provisions of the Ordinance providing for such licenses for the year 2019; and

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

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk shall be and is hereby authorized and directed to issue an Owner License to the aforesaid applicants.

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Safety Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 12-18-332

WHEREAS, Robert Clementi, Michael Valor, Leon Rozenblat, Sukchain Singh Gill and Rajinderpal Lehal have filed with the Clerk of this Borough an application for a License to operate taxicabs under the provisions of the Ordinance providing for such Licenses for the year 2018; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that said applicants are qualified and that public necessity and convenience would be served by the issuance of said Licenses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be and is hereby authorized and directed to issue an Operator License to the aforesaid applicants.

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

No. 12-18-333

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that an Adjourned Meeting of the Mayor and Borough Council will be held at Borough Hall, 221 South 5th Avenue, Highland Park, NJ on Tuesday, January 2, 2019, at 6:30 PM.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Organization Meeting of the Borough Council for the Year 2019 will be held at Borough Hall, 221 South 5th Avenue, Highland Park, NJ on Tuesday, January 2, 2019 at 7:00 PM.

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

No. 12-18-334

WHEREAS, Majestic Transport and Towing, Inc. has filed with the Clerk of this Borough for a Wrecker/Towing License to operate heavy duty wreckers in this Borough under the provisions of the Ordinance providing for such license; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police has investigated said applicant and has reported favorably upon said application;

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

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

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

No. 12-18-335

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 9-17-285, adopted by the Borough Council on September 19, 2017, a contract was awarded to Tri-Form Construction, Metuchen, NJ, for the construction of a Teen Center; and

WHEREAS, it appears from Final Pay Estimate No. 5, filed by Code Enforcement Director, Scott Brescher, that certain work under said contract has been completed and approved, and there is due to Tri-Form Construction, the sum of \$10,309.28 in accordance with said Pay Estimate for work performed from July 28, 2018 to September 12, 2018; and

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are available in Account No. C-04-55-826-210 in the amount of \$10,309.28, 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 Chief Financial Officer be and is hereby authorized and directed to pay Tri-Form Construction the sum of \$10,309.28, as certified by the Code Enforcement Director in Final Pay Estimate No. 5, subject to the Clerk's receipt of the Certified Payroll and Project Manning Reports and additional documents as necessary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer and Code Enforcement Director forthwith.

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

No. 12-18-336

WHEREAS, various property owners made payments through their own on-line banking systems and put their tax account numbers on their payments instead of their utility account numbers; and

WHEREAS, the payments need to be transferred to the appropriate accounts for said properties;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Finance Director and/or Tax Collector is hereby authorized to transfer the posting of said payments as follows:

- \$673.67 from tax account to utility account #20160160-0 for 901 Eden Avenue
- \$1,116.99 from tax account of Block 17, Lot 11 to utility account #20120690-0 for 501 South 1st Avenue

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

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

No. 12-18-337

WHEREAS, the Transfiguration of the Lord Church has made application to the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park for a license to hold, operate and conduct a 50/50 On-Premises Raffle in accordance with the Raffles Licensing Law (NSJA 5:8-50 to 76), on December 29, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has made or caused to be made an investigation of the qualifications of said applicant and the merits of said application and have determined that said applicant is qualified to hold, operate and conduct Raffles in accordance with the Raffles Licensing Law and the findings set forth in the attached Form 5A of the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk shall be and is hereby authorized and directed to issue a license to the Transfiguration of the Lord Church for the holding, operation and conduct of a raffle on the above date upon payment of a legal fee therefor, subject to the provisions of the Raffles Licensing Law and the rules, regulations and amendments thereto promulgated by said Control Commission.

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

No. 12-18-338

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 rehabilitation and/or an area in need of redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, by resolution the Borough Council authorized and directed the Planning Board to conduct an investigation to determine whether the property commonly known as 31 River Road and identified as Block 183, Lot 24 on the Official Tax Map of the Borough (the "Property") constitutes an area in need of redevelopment according to the criteria set forth in the Redevelopment Law; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid resolution authorized the Planning Board to investigate the Property as a Non-Condemnation Redevelopment Area (as defined in Section 6(a) of the Redevelopment Law), within which the Borough may use all of those powers provided under the Redevelopment Law for use in a redevelopment area, except the power of eminent domain; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board caused Looney Ricks Kiss (the "Planning Consultant") to conduct a preliminary investigation to determine whether the Property should be designated as an area in need of redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board received a report and map depicting the Property prepared by the Planning Consultant, entitled "*Area in Need of Redevelopment Preliminary Investigation of 31 River Road*", dated October 24, 2018 (the "Report"), concerning the determination of the Property as an area in need of redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, on November 8, 2018, the Planning Board reviewed the Report, heard testimony from a representative of the Planning Consultant, and conducted a public hearing during which the owners of the Property and members of the general public were given an opportunity to present their own evidence and/or to cross-examine the Planning Consultant concerning the potential designation of the Property as an area in need of redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Consultant concluded in the Report and testified to the Planning Board on November 8, 2018 that the Property satisfies certain criteria for redevelopment area designation set forth in the Redevelopment Law; and

WHEREAS, after the conclusion of the public hearing described above, the Planning Board determined that the Property satisfied the criteria set forth in the Redevelopment Law for designation as an area in need of redevelopment and determined that it would recommend that the Borough Council so designate the Property; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board adopted a Resolution setting forth such findings and recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council agrees with the conclusions of the Planning Board that the Property satisfies the criteria for redevelopment area designation set forth in the Redevelopment Law and the Borough Council finds that such conclusion is supported by substantial evidence; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council now desires to designate the Property as a Non-Condemnation Redevelopment Area, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-6*; and

WHEREAS, by commission of the Borough Council, the Planning Consultant has prepared a redevelopment plan for the Property entitled the "*31 River Road Redevelopment Plan*" (the "Redevelopment Plan"); and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council desires to refer the Redevelopment Plan to the Planning Board for its review and comment, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-7* of the Redevelopment Law,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and 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. The Borough Council accepts the recommendations and conclusions of the Planning Board.

Section 3. Based upon the findings and recommendations of the Planning Board, and the Borough Council's conclusion that such findings and recommendation are supported by substantial evidence, the Property is hereby designated as a Non-Condemnation Redevelopment Area.

Section 4. The Borough Council hereby refers the Redevelopment Plan to the Planning Board for review and recommendation in accordance with the requirements of the Redevelopment Law, including *N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-7(e)*.

Section 5. The Planning Board is authorized and directed to prepare a report of its recommendations (the "Planning Board Report") to the Redevelopment Plan within forty-five (45) days of the date hereof.

Section 6. The Planning Board Report shall identify any provisions within the Redevelopment Plan that are inconsistent with the Borough's master plan, the recommendations concerning those inconsistencies and any other matters the Planning Board deems appropriate.

Section 7. If the Planning Board Report is not transmitted to the Council within forty-five (45) days of the date hereof, the Borough Council shall be relieved of the requirements to obtain a Planning Board Report for the Redevelopment Plan in accordance with *N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-7(e)*.

Section 8. The Clerk of the Borough shall forward a copy of this Resolution and the Redevelopment Plan to the Planning Board for review pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-7(e)*.

Section 9. This resolution shall take effect in accordance with applicable law.

The following resolution, introduced by the Council as a Whole, was duly adopted as above:
No. 12-18-339

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 2020 in the amount of:

| | |
|------------|-------------|
| DEDR | \$25,551.00 |
| Cash Match | \$ 6,387.75 |
| In-Kind | \$19,163.25 |

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 Health and Human Services Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 12-18-340

WHEREAS the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, United States Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”), under Docket Number USCIS-2010-0012, has published in the Federal Register a proposed rulemaking entitled “Inadmissibility on Public Charge Grounds,” (“ the Proposed Regulation”); and

WHEREAS the Proposed Regulation appears in the Federal Register dated October 10, 2018 Volume 83, Number 196 at pages 51114-51296 and concerns 8 CFR Parts 103, 212, 213, 214, 245 and 248; and

WHEREAS DHS has invited the public to comment on the Proposed Regulation; and

WHEREAS The Highland Park Commission on Immigration and Refugee Affairs (“the Commission”) was created by the Borough of Highland Park, New Jersey to implement the Borough’s commitment to be an inclusive community regardless of immigration status, status as a veteran, national origin, race, ethnicity, language proficiency, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, housing status, financial status, marital status, or status as a victim of domestic violence and to recognize that all members of the Borough Community shall be treated with dignity so that all Borough residents can live in a safe and welcoming environment; and

WHEREAS the Commission has reviewed the Proposed Regulation and made the following findings concerning the Proposed Regulation:

(1) The Proposed Regulation radically changes current Immigration law. For example, for the first time, it proposes to include receipt of Medicaid assistance as a ground on which to disqualify a prospective citizen as a “public charge.” Radical changes in law such as the Proposed Regulation should be made by Congress and not by an administrative agency. The attempt to radically change the law by regulation rather than by legislation is inconsistent with the Trump Administration’s actions in reducing the power of administrative agencies and attacks on those agencies as part of an “administrative state.”

(2) The Proposed Regulation fails to demonstrate that, apart from short term budgetary gains, the radical changes it proposes will serve the national interests of the country. It is clear that one effect of the proposed Regulation will be to reduce substantially the number of persons who will be permitted to become citizens. In an article which appeared in the Wall Street Journal on February 23, 2017 entitled “Hard Line on Immigration Threatens Growth,” Gregg Ip argued that, owing to the decline in the United States birth rate, continued immigration is essential if the country is to achieve economic growth. That article shows that, contrary to the Proposed Regulation, radically curtailing immigration will damage rather than promote the national interest;

(3) The Proposed Regulation rests on untested assumptions. A key assumption is that if a person receives public assistance in certain amounts and for certain periods of time, amounts and time periods which are purely arbitrary, that person will become a “public charge.” The validity of that assumption is not demonstrated. One can only surmise how this country would have been damaged if the rules and assumptions contained in the Proposed Regulation had been in effect in the past, depriving the country of the substantial contributions of poor immigrants who made this country a much better place. Perhaps the quintessential such person is the revolutionary war hero and first Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton;

(4) The Proposed Regulation unduly subordinates one of the central features of our immigration law, that this country should serve as a refuge for decent and hardworking people who have become impoverished through no fault of their own. We must not forget the immortal words of Emma Lazarus which are inscribed on the Statue of Liberty, “Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free.” The Proposed Regulation subverts the ideals and principles enshrined in those words.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park endorses the recommendations made by the Highland Park Commission on Immigration and Refugee Affairs and opposes the Proposed Regulation and respectfully requests that DHS withdraw the Proposed Regulation.

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

No. 12-18-341

WHEREAS, the Government Body adopted Resolution No. 7-16-212, authorizing the ratification and execution of a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Policeman’s Benevolent Association (PBA) Local #64; and

WHEREAS, an amendment has been made to Article 13 (Sick Leave) Section B.2;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Mayor and Borough Council hereby approve the Settlement Agreement;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to execute and attest, on behalf of the Borough of Highland Park, the Settlement Agreement, which agreement shall be in a form approved by the Labor Attorney and attached to the original of this resolution.

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

No. 12-18-342

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park desires to apply for and obtain a Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Fund (HDSRF) Grant from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) for remediation investigation at Classic Cleaners;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Borough Administrator and the Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute and submit the application for said Grant;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Borough Administrator.

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

No. 12-18-343

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park has need for environmental consulting services to provide a Preliminary Assessment (PA) for 101 Raritan Avenue, Block 173, Lot 48, in accordance with letter of proposal from EXCEL Environmental Resources, Inc., dated November 27, 2018, 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, EXCEL Environmental Resources, Inc., is a full service environmental consulting and engineering firm in 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 engineers; and

WHEREAS, funds are available for this purpose in Account Number C-04-55-826-220 in an amount not to exceed \$5,140.00 without further resolution of Council, as reflected by the Certification of Funds by the Chief Financial Officer, shown below;

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 EXCEL Environmental Resources, Inc., 111 North Center Drive, North Brunswick, NJ 08902, a proposed copy of which is attached to the original of this resolution, 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 Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 12-18-344

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park desires to apply for and obtain a Radon Awareness Grant from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Borough Administrator and the Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute and submit the application for said Grant;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Borough Administrator.

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

No. 12-18-345

WHEREAS, overdue payments are owed to the Borough of Highland Park for sewer/water service for Utility Account Number 10100690-0, Block 168, Lot 34 Highland Park Tax Map; and

WHEREAS, the owner of said Property wishes to enter into a payment plan to pay not later than August 15, 2019 the overdue balance.

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

1. The Borough of Highland Park Tax Collector is hereby authorized and directed to enter into a payment plan in order to bring current sewer/water charges which are now overdue and owed for Block 168, Lot 34 Borough of Highland Park Tax Map.
2. The Borough of Highland Park Tax Collector is hereby authorized to delete Block 168, Lot 34 Borough of Highland Park Tax Map from the December 20, 2018 tax sale.
3. A certified true copy of this resolution shall be furnished upon its adoption to Constance S. Ludden, CTC, Borough of Highland Park Tax Collector.

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

No. 12-18-346

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 12/4/2018 can be found in the Bills List Journal Book No. 37.

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

George Hibble, 115 Benner Street, asked what becomes of leaves. Borough Administrator Jover noted that they are taken to a facility where they are composted or recycled.

Matt Hersh, 333 Felton Avenue, thanked Councilman Fine for his remarks. He asked about flushing of the hydrants and the cost to the Borough. Borough Administrator Jover noted that the State establishes the minimum purchase of water on a daily basis. A lot of days, we are buying water we don't use. Mayor Brill Mittler noted that the need to flush for those components has always existed. This year and last year, the amount of rain caused more flushing of the hydrants. By 2021, the completion of the new system will do away with the need for flushing.

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

The following resolution, introduced by the Council as a Whole, 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, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: Councilperson Kim-Chohan.

No. 12-18-347

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:
(Litigation: (a) Property Acquisition; (b) Affordable Housing update)
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 Councilman George, seconded by Councilman Fine, and carried by affirmative voice vote of all Councilpersons present, the meeting adjourned at 8:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Hullings
Borough Clerk