

REGULAR MEETING – JULY 10, 2018

A Regular Meeting of the Highland Park Mayor and Council was held in Borough Hall, 221 South 5th Avenue, on Tuesday, July 10, 2018 and was called to order by Mayor Brill Mittler at 7:09 PM. Mayor Brill Mittler read the Open Public Meetings Statement.

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

Absent: None.

Mayor Brill Mittler noted that Highland Park lost a very special person recently, Susan Roth, former Library Director and long-time Library Board of Trustees Member. She read a Memorial Resolution in honor of Susan Roth and presented a duly embossed copy to Ms. Roth's family along with Councilman Fine. The family thanked the Governing Body on behalf of their mom. The Library meant the world to her and they spent a lot of time there with her.

Mayor Brill Mittler noted that she honored Frances McDonald with a Proclamation on her special birthday. She has served the Borough in many capacities for over 30 years. She will be relocating to the South. Proclamation will be forwarded to her.

Mayor Brill Mittler read proclamation to note and honor Honor Guards Day.

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

Councilwoman Foster-Dublin reported that she will be yielding her report time to allow DeLacy Davis, the Consultant the Borough has commissioned, to do a brief presentation.

DeLacy Davis noted that he is a retired Sergeant from the East Orange Police Department after 20 years of service. He is currently working with a consulting company and is an Executive Leadership doctoral candidate at St. John Fisher College. They have looked at profiling, and explicit and implicit bias and those types of things over the last 15-20 years around this State and other parts of the country and have worked with other governments around some of the law enforcement issues. Based on the meetings they have had they will look at the historical data and archival data presented by the Chief and looking at it in the context of how it is captured. They will look at traffic stops and street stops and is there disproportionality in terms of who gets stopped in the community versus others and how is that impacting the Police and whether or not we can use the academics to report to inform police practice. His dialogue with the Police Chief has been very open and candid in terms of transparency and this being a community policing environment. They are looking at the data very purely and how it has been captured over a time period and then use what is called a veil of darkness approach. They would look at data from a time period of 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. over a period of years, and that would include times when it is daylight savings time, which would include daytime and nighttime hours and would control the idea that Police can look into a vehicle and determine someone's ethnicity. They will report the data, do the analysis, do the interpretation and then make some recommendations based upon the findings.

Mayor Brill Mittler noted that Mr. Davis came to the Borough as a recommendation from the NAACP in the area and the Public Safety Committee has done quite a bit of research on him. He has come to meet with the Borough Council at least 4 or 5 times already. They are looking forward to his proposal and moving forward.

Councilwoman Foster-Dublin thanked Mr. Davis for attending the meeting and making a presentation.

Councilman Fine reported that he has served on the Borough Council since January, 2015. The Borough Council often doesn't have immediate solutions to offer to solve local issues. As a result, I'm sure there are residents that may feel that we are not focusing enough on those issues. However, the Council does continually work on and is committed to addressing local issues such as tax stabilization, downtown development, infrastructure, quality of life and transparency, even if the solutions to the issues take time to achieve. With that said, I think that it is important for the Council to be vocal not only on quality of life/local issues, but state and national issues too. With that said, while we are still exploring the possibility of setting up a charitable fund for Highland Park residents to pay their property taxes to help with the new federal tax law, I will state that I am glad that the State Budget Governor Murphy signed on July 2nd, provides for an increase in the state property tax deduction cap from \$10,000 to \$15,000. Also, even though there is a court order for the Trump administration to reunite children, 5 and under, that were separated from their parents at the US-Mexico Border by today, and to reunite all other separated children with 30 days of the court order, I still think it is appropriate for this Council to consider a resolution to reunite children and parents separated by U.S. authorities under the Trump administration's "Zero Tolerance" policy on tonight's agenda. The resolution urges the Trump administration to develop a plan to reunite the families torn apart by the "zero tolerance" policy immediately, urges the Attorney General to commit to cease and desist directing federal authorities to separate children from their parents under a "zero tolerance" policy, urges the United States Congress to pass a bill appropriating funds to ensure that the requisite efforts are made to reunite the children that federal authorities separated from their parents at the US-Mexico Border between April 6, 2018 and June 20, 2018, and urge the United States Congress to pass the Compassionate Calling and Immigrant Family Reunification Act of 2018. I encourage my colleagues to adopt this resolution tonight.

Councilwoman Kim-Chohan reported that the summer camps are off to an awesome start. Summer Basketball program begins tonight. Fall Soccer registration is now open. Free or reduced lunch participants qualify for lunch from the summer camp program. The Independence Day Fireworks event was a huge success. She thanked all of the sponsors for their generous donations. The Historical Commission is working on the display case in Borough Hall and to move their collection so that the public can view the items during Borough hours. They are finalizing a list of street names based on important

residents. This afternoon, the seniors enjoyed a Blue Grass Jam and an ice cream social event. The seniors will enjoy a trip to Crystal Springs Water Park tomorrow. On July 10th, 50 residents will sail on the Cornucopia for a cruise around the Hudson. On July 16th, there will be a healthy cooking workshop at 12:00 p.m. at the senior center. On July 17th at 10:00 a.m., there will be a taekwondo demonstration. Information on programs is posted on the Borough's website and on their Facebook page. Bus trips are open to all residents. She encouraged residents to check on seniors during extreme heat and noted that the Senior Center is a cooling center. Remember to drink lots of water during extreme heat days.

Councilwoman Welkovits thanked the Mayor for hosting Highland Park's Volunteer Appreciation event last month, where a volunteer from each of the volunteer committees was honored. Additionally, the Special Volunteer of the Year was awarded to Safe Walking and Cycling Committee's Vice-Chair, Sean Meehan. Sean has volunteered at several events to let the public know what their committee is about. He has worked on all of the committee's major projects, including the school travel study, which was the basis for a large SRTS grant that they were awarded. He helped organize the State's first bicycle assessment with transportation coordinators from counties around the State, which was the foundation for their application to join the NJDOT technical assistance program. Aside from getting them all this funding and resources, he also helped paint the pop-up bike lane on Walter Avenue on Earth Day. She thanked Sean for his commitment to Highland Park and its residents. Speaking of the technical assistance program to improve safe walking and cycling in the Borough, they had their kick-off meeting with their consultants, WPS, which have been generously provided to them from the NJDOT, last month and began to review the scope of work. WPS has created a survey and they very much would like as many people to contribute their thoughts and ideas. She asked residents to please take the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HParkCS>, and to please draw on the interactive map at <https://tinyurl.com/HParkBikePed>. If anyone has questions they are encouraged to email HPSWACC@gmail.com. She thanked Siobhan Weinstein and the staff and volunteers at Highland Park's Main Street for hosting a lovely event last month bringing business owners, borough employees and Main Street staff together for an after work mixer at Pino's. She thanked everyone who helped organize another Central Jersey pop-up flea market. Another successful event of taking advantage of temporary space and bringing a unique shopping experience to the town which attracts not only residents, but out of towners that then frequent the other shops and restaurants in town. The Farmer's Market is held on Fridays from 11:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. and was voted one of the best farmer's market in the State. Main Street Music on the Corners is held every Friday in the summer from 7:00 -10:00 p.m. She thanked Brian Ontken, who runs the Highland Park Outdoor Movie Theatre. Kid friendly cartoons begin at dusk about 45 minutes before the main feature, which begins at 9:00 p.m. Coming up on July 21st will be ET; August 4th House Party; August 18th Isle of Dogs and September 1st Castle in the Sky. Highland Park After Dark begins this Thursday and every Thursday throughout July and August. Participating businesses will be open after work and offering special promotions and discounts to shoppers between 5:00 and 9:00 p.m. If you are a business who would like to participate, contact Mainstreethighlandpark@gmail.com. If you are an artist, artisan, vendor or local business, they want you to sign up to be part of Highland Park's annual arts street festival. The 13th Annual Arts in the Park is a juried art show and arts and craft sale in downtown on September 16th. Check mainstreet.org/artsinthepark for more details.

Councilwoman Foster-Dublin reported that the overall volunteer first aid squad has provided decades of exemplary basic life support service to the Borough, augmented since 1982 by RWJ mutual aid for advanced life support. In recent years, expectations around the public health and first response has become more complicated, regulations more demanding, medical practice more complex, medical technology more expensive. Over the same period, economic and political pressures have escalated and volunteerism and charitable giving have waned. In January, 2018, the Borough of Highland Park Health Committee became more concerned about the rising volunteer first aid squad response time and increased reliance by the volunteer first aid squad and the borough dispatch on RWJ mutual aid. By April of 2018 the alarming trend was firmly established and the committee was obligated to establish a more stable and reliable first response option for the Borough. In May of 2018, the Borough Council announced a new structure. All daytime BLS (basic life support) and ALS (advanced life support) calls would be dispatched by RWJ. All evening BLS calls would be dispatched by the first aid squad. RWJ would continue to provide evening advanced life support and backup for mutual aid where necessary, if this could not be filled by the first aid squad on the nighttime crew. At present, the Borough is working with RWJ to negotiate an even more beneficial contractual relationship and analyze the existing contracts that they have with a dozen or so towns that have worked with RWJ in a similar way. In support for public health, the Borough has a long history of 70 years plus of partnership with an all-volunteer first aid squad, whose compassionate and professional service that many families in Highland Park can attest to. Since 1982, the Borough of Highland Park has had a mutual aid agreement with RWJ Hospital, now RWJBH. Through mutual aid RWJ has continued to provide advanced life support as well as basic life support for calls which the first aid squad could not fill within the stated timeframe. Historically, our first aid squad has provided their ambulance and first aid service for free to all 911 callers. Covering the significant cost of providing such a service through combined charitable donations, annual stipends, building and land allowances, worker's compensation insurance that the Borough has provided. Over the past decade there has been a national fall in both volunteer and charitable giving in part attributed to the economic downturn of 2008. Over the same time period, the previous significant infrastructure and service of the first aid squad has begun to fail to keep pace with the demanding additional regulatory and technological expectations of modern public health and first aid response organizations resulting in a slow erosion of a relatively accountable, reliable and professional expertise and expected service for the provider of the Borough. The resulting stress on the relationship contributed into a turn down and deterioration of trust and respect with both parties. Beginning, January, 2018, the first aid squad was increasingly unable to fill the crew to support basic life support within the regulatory 10 minute and 59 second timeframe. This caused the Borough Dispatcher to rely increasingly on mutual aid support from RWJ for basic life support services in addition to advanced life support services. By April of 2018, the trend became more pronounced that the Borough Safety Committee deemed it necessary to implement formal changes which has proceeded through a series of private meetings with the first aid squad leadership, public meetings with concerned citizens, interviews with local hospital first responders, health providers and fact finding visits to other towns which have weathered similar changes in past years. Currently, an affordable

solution to this situation was formalized by the Borough in May of 2018 as follows: In response to 911 calls, RWJ provides basic life support services during the hours 6am to 8pm. The first aid squad will provide basic life support from 8pm to 6am, subject to the availability of a crew to respond. RWJ will step in for basic life support if the first aid squad is unable to field a crew during that time. Advanced life support has been provided since 1982 and RWJ will continue to provide advanced life support when needed. This plan has been proposed and is under consideration and contracts with RWJ are being prepared. As we look ahead, the primary goal to re-establish an accountable, reliable, and professional public safety solution to 911 emergency response in Highland Park has been achieved. However, a number of citizen concerns need to be addressed in formalizing a contractual relationship with RWJ, chief concern is cost. In contrast to the first aid squad's long-standing, free basic life support service to the Borough, RWJ has always billed for advanced life support and many mutual aid calls when needed. They have billed the residents through their standard medical insurance plans. Now that they are contractually formalizing the RWJ relationship, the Borough has an opportunity to negotiate a more favorable return for their citizens. Chief among these desired terms is the possibility of a cap on the number of billing statements advanced on any resident before a hardship waiver or associated chargeback benefit is implemented and the possibility of eliminating balance billing. We are currently reviewing the first responder proposal from RWJ in comparison to their contracts with other New Jersey towns to ensure the best possible result for Highland Park. As a part of the contractual relationship, RWJ has also provided significant additional value to the Borough including basic life support training for the staff, first aid, CPR, defibrillation, and Nar can and ecupen certification, and community service support at the schools and Borough events; in addition to their fleet of 41 state of the art ambulances, predicted positioning of crews and vehicles, based on historical and in the moment data analysis, public health dispatch service and related regulatory reporting systems. We hope to continue to work with the Highland Park first aid squad leadership to re-establish a trusting and respectful relationship through a more structured approach to the Borough first aid squad partners. For example, a single point of contact for communication between the Borough and the first aid squad leadership, weekly documentation of schedule, on-call staff on site, sleepovers, ready to roll staging for all evening/night basic life support crew; enhanced by RWJ first responder training, and the transfer of significant levels of first aid squad reports and obligations to RWJ. As always, the Borough will continue to provide opportunities for the citizens to be aware of and influence the outcome of important decisions.

Councilman George reported that the Department of Public Works has begun working on the Emerald Ash borer problem by marking Borough Ash trees which are showing signs of distress and which have been identified by the Shade Tree Advisory Committee for removal. You'll see a red tape wrapped around the trunk of these trees. The Department of Public Works is working on the routes for the new, second one-man trash removal and they've also done the estimate for purchase of the containers for the route. Planning includes standardizing the units so that they don't have to stock different repair parts, and also will include planning with the Safe Walking and Cycling Committee to maintain routes during pickup times. The Department of Public works has assembled a list of all current contracts for goods and services so that the Borough can track dates for renewal or expiration, and also track costs or payments on those contracts. He's hoping that the Borough can develop a tracking model which can be used across all departments to have better real time cost and effectiveness management.

Borough Administrator Jover reported that the State budget has been adopted and that adjustments have been made to State aid for schools. Therefore, the Borough cannot send out the tax bills yet. A resolution will be passed to extend the time for tax payments. The Borough has started their summer hours for the months of July and August and Borough Hall and the Senior/Youth Center will be closed on Fridays. Notification to residents was made regarding PSE&G doing some infrastructure work. More information will be sent out via Nixel and information will also be posted on the Borough website and Facebook page. Residents should have received direct notification from PSE&G.

Borough Attorney Schmierer - No report.

Councilman Fine – No report.

Borough Administrator Jover reported that adjustments have been made to state aid for schools and they cannot yet send out the tax bills. They will be passing a resolution to extend the time for payment of taxes. The Borough has started their summer hour schedule for the months of July and August. Borough hall will be closed on Fridays and will be open Monday and Wednesday 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tuesday 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Notifications were sent out about PSE&G doing some infrastructure work throughout town and information is posted on the Borough website. Residents in affected areas should have been notified directly.

Borough Attorney Schmierer - No report.

Mayor Brill Mittler reported that she was delighted to spend time at the Senior Center this afternoon to attend the blue grass and ice cream event. It was a wonderful event and is held every year. She hopes to see more people next year and you don't have to be a senior to go and enjoy the blue grass music. Council President George gave an update on the solar field. The Borough received a sizeable grant from the State to conduct a micro grid feasibility study. The data is being crunched right now and they anticipate the analysis and feasibility study will be complete sometime in September. HP Gives a Hoot is a program that was started a few years ago when they found some of the children wandering around looking for lunch when school was not in session. Over the years, they have been funded by donations and some grants, but primarily with donations from residents and others to help keep the children fed. This year, the lunch program has moved over to The Global Grace Café, which is a completely sustainable program. They are able to feed the children lunch while school is closed and also the people who work at the café are recent immigrants or refugees to this country and with them working there they are able to provide a living for themselves. The funding for HP Gives a Hoot not only feeds the children but helps to feed recent residents of Highland Park. She thanked the committee that has been working on this. They say that they are giving 10 meals a day out at the church. Councilman Fine spoke

about resolution #184, which is a resolution that the Council will be voting on later, that condemns what is going on separating children from their parents. She just received a letter today from Assemblywoman Pinkin addressed to the Highland Park Council. It read as follows: "I am commending the proposal and conveying my full support for Resolution No. 7-18-184, which is a resolution to reunite children and parents separated by US authorities under the Trump Administration's Zero Tolerance Policy. Highland Park is taking a bold, but necessary step in standing up against the Zero Tolerance Policy of the Trump Administration and she could not be more proud to represent Highland Park in Trenton. By supporting HR-6254, the compassionate calling of immigrant family reunification act of 2018, sponsored by Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr., you are showing to the world that New Jersey stands against these draconian and immoral practices at every level of our government. Recently, the New Jersey State Assembly passed Resolution ACR-180 urging Congress to support the Keep Families Together Act and it is encouraging to see a similar resolution being considered by the Highland Park Council. A policy of tearing families apart is reprehensible. It is contrary to the ethics that this country stands for. Families come to the United States seeking refuge from war, violence, and economic hardship. Our country was founded by immigrants seeking better lives. It is in these times that we must put ourselves into the positions of those arriving at our borders scared, but hopeful for an opportunity that could change their life for the better. President Trump and Attorney General Sessions must end these policies. Once again I commend you and support the resolution. Every action we take will bring meaningful change." You notice that Councilman Matt Hersh is not sitting in his seat. He had to depart from the Council because of a great opportunity he was given to serve the BPU in Trenton. She was sorry to see him leave the Council. In his short time here, he did some wonderful things for the community, including the immigrant and refugee families we were just talking about. The Council will be interviewing candidates that have been given to them by the Democratic Committee on July 17th and will select one of those three individuals.

Councilwoman Foster-Dublin noted that the Jr. Cadet Academy started this week and she had the opportunity to stop in and visit. They had to turn away students as they were full to capacity.

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

Robin Loewenstein, 116 South 4th Avenue, commented that she is here to set the record straight. She watched the video of last month's Borough Council meeting as well the video of the June 27th Special Meeting about first aid services in Highland Park and there are many contradictions and untruths. At the Special Meeting, residents were frustrated because they heard that bringing in RWJ to answer all daytime calls is related to budget, then they were told it wasn't only because of budget. They were told it was because of response time and then were told it wasn't exactly because of response time. When asked exactly what the issue really is the best answer given was that there are some fuzzy issues. When residents said they had a right to know, they were glossed over and the microphone was handed over to someone else. The first aid squad is a group of very passionate people who desperately want to serve the community. It is not uncommon at our monthly business meetings for members to shout and argue as many of you do in your homes and other organizations. I am not condoning this behavior, but she 100% assures the residents that nobody can ever say that we argue with each other or for that matter act in any way unprofessional on the ambulance. Our punishment, no, the punishment to the residents is that a paid service is being called in to answer calls during the day. The deep dark secret of the Public Safety Committee is that they unknowingly believed information given to them by a few disgruntled squad members, none of whom ride full time on the ambulance. Once it became clear that the majority of what the committee was told was untrue, and even the response time statistics were extremely tainted, it was too late. The rash decision had been made and there was no way for the Council to gracefully turn back. The current negotiation is this. They might consider letting you ride during the day on the weekends if you agree to 17 conditions. The conditions had no connection to their performance on the ambulance. Most of it is about information that they will gladly provide, but had not been asked for prior to now. She urged the Council to stop this balderdash. She is sorry to see that when people give incorrect information, it is taken as truth. The squad was publicly accused at the last meeting of firing two specific people, one of whom moved to California and the other who continues to be a life member of the squad. We very rarely remove anyone and when they do it is generally because they have broken the law. The same source of information indicated that the reason there are so few people available during the day to take your call is because most of our members have left the squad to join the Fire Department or Hatzollah. That is categorically untrue. The reasons that people sometimes find it difficult to get daytime crews have already been addressed, working multiple jobs, employers not letting people leave work to answer, very few shift workers left, etc. Right now they have crews available and they certainly hope that continues to be the case. They only ask to go back to the way things were. If we need to trim down the time to get mutual aid into town, there are ways to do that. Right now there is no contract with RWJ and they come in as mutual aid and can bill anyway they see fit. This has been going on since June 6th. The system is not working. In the past two days there have been several mix ups. On Sunday evening, someone came banging on their door saying someone is having a seizure. The EMT's in her house ran outside and Josh got on his radio and asked dispatch to please call RWJ. Their pagers alerted them about the call. Since it was not their duty hours, luckily they had enough people that heard the alert and answered. There were also enough people to answer the next two calls that were not in their duty time.

David Loewenstein, 116 South 4th Avenue, commented that the real reason it is sometimes difficult to get daytime crews has been addressed. People working multiple jobs, employers not allowing people to leave work to answer, people doing shift work, etc. He called on his radio to dispatch to ask them to dispatch and there was not a single answer on channel 4. It took a firefighter that was at the scene to call on his cell phone to say that they needed an ambulance. He has no idea why nobody is monitoring channel 4. Since it was not our duty hours, we were lucky enough that we had the people to answer. With regard to the two more reasons they were given for coming off the road, we are prepared to absolutely refute the statistics the town has, response time and a clear answer about funding. They were told verbally by a Councilperson that there would be no more funding for the squad. On the video from the last meeting, he believes the Mayor said that it would be effective in 2019. They really need to know

which it is. At last month’s meeting, they asked who would be supplying oxygen to the Police if their funding is cut and they were told it would be discussed. At the Special Meeting, Ms. Foster-Dublin promised residents a spreadsheet regarding the specifics of the breakdown of what expenses the town pays towards the squad. He hopes there are answers to those points available tonight. Last night, at 9:30 p.m., well into their duty time, someone got a paid service bill because the dispatcher didn’t realize what time it was. The system is not working. We need to go back to calling RWJ only when they don’t have a crew available.

Ellen Witt, 20 South 1st Avenue, commented that she appreciates the Council’s decision to adopt a resolution to reunite children and their parents separated under the Trump Administration’s zero tolerance policy. She also thinks the Council should not only call for reunification of families, but also the release of those families and all others from immigrant detention cells and an end to deportation. In New Jersey alone over 1,500 asylum seekers, immigrants seeking legal status and green card holders are languishing in these detention centers. Over a year ago, the Council passed the inclusive community resolution which included a point restricting the use of Borough resources to assist with immigration enforcement. At that time, it was clear that this point would be fleshed out with further details through an executive order from the Mayor and a police directive from the Chief of Police to make it clear to personnel in Highland Park how to respond to any requests from I.C.E. Due to other unrelated issues, the executive order and the police directive have never been issued. She believes the text of the executive order was written months ago and she recognizes that Council Members have been busy with other things, but she thinks it is critical that they get the policies in place now, especially since we know that I.C.E. has been here at least three times in recent months. The final resolution does not appear to be posted on the Borough’s website, only a draft copy is there. She would like to know what steps the Council will take to get the executive order and police directive completed before the next Council meeting. Mayor Brill Mittler noted that she has not seen a copy of the executive order and would have to check with the immigration and refugee task force. Council President George noted that they were watching one of the cases in California as it relates to sanctuary cities and that case was decided last week and they can now move forward with the executive order.

Herb Gross, Adelaide Gardens, commented that he fully supports the Highland Park First Aid Squad. They have given their time and energy to safeguard everyone in Highland Park. RWJ’s first priority is New Brunswick.

Marsha Goldberg, 451 South 5th Avenue, commented about Buck Woods, which is the 4 acre wooded ravine on the south side. At the last Council meeting, she talked about the tree cutting permit that had been granted by the Borough to the owner of the property, Jack Morris, to cut 179 trees for environmental testing. Thanks to the work of the Attorney her husband and she retained, Stuart Lieberman, that permit has been temporarily stayed by the Appellate Court. The permit violated the Borough’s own code for tree removal in several ways. It would have allowed removal of mature trees from very steep slopes, with no provision made for how subsequent destabilization of the slope would affect neighboring property. That is an area with a culverted stream that is home to wildlife, especially deer, that would be displaced. Several knowledgeable people have confirmed for them that cutting trees from steep slopes in order to do such testing is unnecessary, expensive and wasteful. It is a convenient way to prepare property for development. JSM is continuing to challenge the stay that they have obtained and they just found out that there is a court date on July 30th. Meanwhile, during the time that residents with property adjacent to the woods were voicing their concern to the Mayor and Council, the Borough’s consultants negotiated an agreement during a fairness hearing on May 31st. The fairness refers to fair housing. According to a June 20th document from Superior Court, Highland Park has resolved its affordable housing obligations in part by adopting “overlay” zoning permitting 75 dwelling units on the JSM property. According to this court document, the Borough “provided proper and public and actual notice of the fairness hearing” with a deadline of May 7th for any member of the public to file written objections to the settlement and that no such objections were received. She asked how that notice as delivered as she never saw any such thing. Borough Attorney Schmierer noted that it was published in a general circulation newspaper, The Home News Tribune. Ms. Goldberg noted that it is 2018 and many people do not read the newspaper. Borough Attorney Schmierer noted that the Court directed that they publish notice in the newspaper. Ms. Goldberg commented that it does not seem like a fair kind of notice considering that the residents living adjacent to Buck Woods have always been told that they would be kept in the loop.

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

The Clerk reported advertising and notification of Main Street Highland Park 2018 Budget for consideration of passage on final reading by title.

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

Mayor Brill Mittler declared the public hearing on the Budget 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, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

The following resolution, introduced by the Economic Development and Planning Committee, was 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, Kim-Chohan, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Abstained: None.

Absent: None.

No. 7-18-174

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 6-18-151 adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park on June 12, 2018, that approved the Main Street Highland Park Budget for the year 2018; and

WHEREAS, said Budget was advertised in the Home News Tribune issue of June 15, 2018 together with a notice of the public hearing on the Budget scheduled for July 10, 2018 at 7:00 PM in Borough Hall, 221 South 5th Avenue, Highland Park, NJ; and

WHEREAS, said Budget and Notice of Hearing had been posted in the Borough Hall where public notices are customarily posted and was made available to each person requesting the same prior to and during the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, notice had been served on all property owners within the Special Improvement District as certified by the Tax Assessor and as shown by the affidavit of the Borough Clerk attached hereto and a public hearing on the Budget was held on July 10, 2018;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the 2018 Main Street Highland Park Budget hereinbefore set forth is hereby adopted and shall constitute an appropriation for the purposes stated of the sums therein set forth as appropriations, and authorization of the amount of

<u>Income</u>	
Government Grants	25,000.00
Special Assessment (BID)	157,000.00
Sponsorships	64,200.00
Total Income	\$243,200.00
<u>Expense</u>	
Administration and General	\$ 160,431.25
Program Expense	82,768.55
Total Expense	\$243,200.00
<u>Budget Surplus/Carryover</u>	\$0.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to Main Street Highland Park, the Tax Assessor, the Tax Collector and the Finance Director forthwith.

The Clerk reported advertising an ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED, "AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR AND DETERMINE THE RATE OF COMPENSATION OF EACH OFFICER AND EMPLOYEE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK AND THE METHOD OF PAYMENT OF SUCH COMPENSATION", 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 for public inspection as required by law.

On motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilman Fine 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 Fine, the ordinance entitled as above, being Ordinance No. 18-1962, was duly adopted on final reading by title by the following roll call vote, to wit:

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

No. 7-18-175

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED, "AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR AND DETERMINE THE RATE OF COMPENSATION OF EACH OFFICER AND EMPLOYEE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK AND THE METHOD OF PAYMENT OF SUCH COMPENSATION", passed on final reading at this meeting be delivered to the Mayor for his approval, and if approved by him, 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 East Brunswick, New Jersey, a newspaper published in the County of Middlesex and circulating in this municipality, there being no newspaper published in this municipality, in the manner prescribed by law.

The Clerk reported that an ordinance entitled, ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, ADOPTING AN AMENDMENT TO THE HIGHLAND PARK DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT PLAN RELATING TO PROPERTY COMMONLY KNOWN AS 130 AND 134 RARITAN AVE., PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq., had been introduced in writing by the Finance Committee for consideration of passage on first reading by title.

On motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, 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, Kim, Welkovits.
- Opposed: None.
- Abstain: None.
- Absent: None.

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

No. 7-18-176

WHEREAS, an Ordinance entitled, ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, ADOPTING AN AMENDMENT TO THE HIGHLAND PARK DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT PLAN RELATING TO PROPERTY COMMONLY KNOWN AS 130 AND 134 RARITAN AVE., 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, August 14, 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.

On motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilwoman Kim-Chohan, and carried by affirmative voice vote of all Councilpersons present, Resolution No. 7-18-184 was separated from the Consent Agenda.

On motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilman Fine and carried by affirmative voice vote of all councilpersons present, Resolution No. 7-18-180 was tabled from consideration.

Resolution Nos. 7-18-177 through 7-18-193, except Resolution Nos. 7-18-180, and 7-18-184, were duly adopted on motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilman Fine, and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

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

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

A motion was made by Councilman Fine, and seconded by Councilwoman Kim-Chohan to adopt Resolution No. 7-18-184. Councilman George asked if Councilman Fine would accept an amendment to the resolution to add a mandatory directive to request that the Governor of the State of New Jersey, the New Jersey Attorney General and the Commissioner of Health and Human Services to direct the Department of Children and Family Services to immediately inventory every institution in the State of New Jersey which has a contract with the United State Government or any of its branches to determine whether there are any children who are separated by any form and immediately direct that the institutions be closed unless and until those children are repatriated with their parents. Councilman Fine agreed to accept the amendment. Councilwoman Welkovits asked what happens to the children if those institutions are closed. Mayor Brill Mittler suggested that the Council vote on the current version of the resolution since it seems some members of Council would like to discuss this further and voted on an amended resolution at the next Council meeting.

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

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

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

No. 7-18-184

WHEREAS, the Highland Park Borough Council adopted Resolution No. 5-17-159, a resolution upholding respect and protection for historically discriminated populations and promoting community inclusivity for all Highland Park residents on May 12, 2017; and

WHEREAS on April 6, 2018, Attorney General Jeff Sessions directed federal prosecutors "to adopt immediately a zero-tolerance policy for all offenses" related to the misdemeanor of improper entry into the United States, and that this "zero-tolerance policy shall supersede any existing policies"; and

WHEREAS under the Trump administration's "zero tolerance policy, federal authorities separated children from their parents, relatives, or other adults who accompanied them in crossing the border, whether apprehended during an illegal crossing or, in a number of reported cases, legally presenting themselves for asylum; and

WHEREAS federal authorities made the decision to take children from their parents without a plan to reunite families, resulting in numerous cases of parents and children having no contact since being forcefully separated; and

WHEREAS the American Academy of Pediatrics has concluded that the Trump administration's "zero-tolerance" policy has caused "irreparable harm" to the children; and

WHEREAS in April and May 2018, an average of 45 children were taken from their parents per day. According to the Department of Health and Human Services, the policy led to the separation of over at least 2,300 children from their parents; and

WHEREAS it will be difficult to reunite children separated from their parents since parents are sent to federal jails and face criminal prosecution through the US Department of Homeland Security, while children are classified as an unaccompanied alien child" and transferred to the US Department of Health and Human Services. Once a child is separated from its parents, under the Trump administration "zero-tolerance" policy," the federal authorities no longer track them as a family unit and there is no system in place to reunite families; and

WHEREAS the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Highland Park applaud New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy for signing an executive order on 6/19/18, that prohibits any New Jersey resources from being used to assist in the Trump administration's "zero-tolerance" policy of detaining immigrant parents and separating them from their children; and

WHEREAS following President Trump’s June 20, 2018 suspension of the “zero-tolerance” policy, it remains unclear whether the children that were already separated from their parents will be immediately reunited with their families; and

WHEREAS phone rates at immigrant detention centers have been as much as \$8 per minute for detained individuals who are either contacting their children that have been separated from them and placed in detention facilities or to contacting federal agencies to learn where their children are being held; and

WHEREAS the Mayor and Borough Council applaud New Jersey’s 6th Congressional District Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. for introducing the Compassionate Calling and Immigrant Family Reunification Act of 2018 on June 26, 2018, which would ensure that detained parents may make calls to their children that were separated from them or to federal agencies to learn of their children’s whereabouts free of charge;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Highland Park:

- Urge the Trump administration to develop a plan to reunite the families torn apart by the “zero-tolerance” policy immediately.
- Urge the Attorney General to commit to cease and desist directing federal authorities to separate children from their parents under a “zero tolerance” policy.
- Urge the United States Congress to pass a bill appropriating funds to ensure that the requisite efforts are made to reunite the children that federal authorities separated from their parents at the US-Mexico Border between April 6, 2018 and June 20, 2018.
- Urge the United States Congress to pass the Compassionate Calling and Immigrant Family Reunification Act of 2018.
- Urge the United States Congress to pass the Compassionate Calling and Immigrant Family Reunification Act of 2018.
- A copy of this resolution will be sent to the President of the United States, the Attorney General and New Jersey’s 6th Congressional District Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr.

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

No. 7-18-177

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that Resolution No. 1-18-03 adopted by the Borough Council on January 2, 2018, shall be and is hereby amended to read as follows:

“BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Standing Committees of said Council for the year 2018 shall be and are hereby established as follows:

RECREATION AND ARTS	Councilpersons KIM, Foster-Dublin, George.
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING	Councilpersons WELKOVITS, George, _____.
FINANCE	Councilpersons FINE, Kim-Chohan, Foster-Dublin.
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES	Councilpersons _____, Fine, Kim-Chohan.
PUBLIC SAFETY	Councilpersons FOSTER-DUBLIN, Welkovits, Fine.
PUBLIC WORKS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	Councilpersons GEORGE, _____, Welkovits.

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

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

No. 7-18-178

WHEREAS, George Logan Towing, Inc., Dependable Motors, Carguys Auto Repair LLC, Rich’s Towing Service, Inc. and Oasis Towing have filed with the Clerk of this Borough for a Wrecker/Towing License to operate heavy duty wreckers in this Borough under the provisions of the Ordinance providing for such license; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Council hereby determines that said 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 be and is hereby authorized and directed to issue Heavy Duty Wrecker/Towing Licenses to the aforesaid applicants.

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

No. 7-18-179

WHEREAS, advertisement was made for receipt of bids on May 24, 2018, for an annual contract for inspection and maintenance of the sanitary sewer system in the Borough of Highland Park for the years 2018 and 2019; and

WHEREAS, three bids were received as follows:

North American Pipeline Services, Freehold, NJ
2018: \$ 97,275.00
2019: \$ <u>97,275.00</u>
Total: <u>\$194,550.00</u>
National Water Main Cleaning Co.
2018: \$135,785.00
2019: <u>\$135,785.00</u>
Total: <u>\$271,570.00</u>
American Pipe Cleaning
2018: \$206,025.00
2019: <u>\$206,025.00</u>
Total: <u>\$412,050.00</u>

WHEREAS, the Borough chooses to reject the bids as not being in the Borough’s best interests; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the bids received for the above described project on May 24, 2018 shall be and are hereby rejected.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk shall be and is hereby directed to readvertise for receipt of bids for the 2018/2019 Sanitary Sewer Inspection and Maintenance Contract on a date and time to be determined by the Borough Clerk and the Superintendent of Public Works and Public Utilities.

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Safety Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 7-18-181

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park has received a written request authorizing enforcement of traffic regulations on private property pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:5A-1 *et seq.* and specifically requesting that the provisions of Subtitle 1, Title 39, of the Revised Statutes of the State of New Jersey shall be made applicable to the following area:

A. The Crossings at Highland Park, Block 172, Lot 2 and Block 101, Lots 25-30

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park deems that enforcement of traffic regulations on the aforesaid private property will benefit all of the citizens of the Borough.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Police Department of the Borough of Highland Park and other law enforcement agencies be and the same are hereby empowered to enforce the provisions of Subtitle 1 of Title 39 of Revised Statutes of the State of New Jersey.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 7-18-182

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Highland Park, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, that the Tax Collector is authorized to issue an appropriate Duplicate Tax Sale Certificate for #14-00099 in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 54:5-52.1.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk provide a certified copy of this Resolution to the Finance Department and the Tax Collector.

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

No. 7-18-183

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, in an amount not to exceed \$344,700.00; and

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

WHEREAS, the Capital Project Coordinator has prepared the attached Change Order No. 1 and Change Order No. 2 to the said contract to allow for supplemental work for the above referenced project; and

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are available in Account No. C-04-55-826-210 in the amount of \$3,760.90, as reflected by the Certification of Funds Available by the Chief Financial Officer, shown below; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has reviewed the proposed Change Orders for this contract and has approved the same to satisfaction of N.J.A.C. 5:30-11.9 relating to change orders;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that Mayor Gayle Brill Mittler be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute Change Order No. 1 and Change Order No. 2, dated April 23, 2018 for \$3,760.90 to the contract of Tri-Form Construction; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Capital Projects Coordinator, Tri-Form Construction, and the Finance Director forthwith.

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

No. 7-18-185

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park has need of the services of an engineer to provide engineering services in connection with the Implementation of the 2017 and 2018 Roadway Improvements, in accordance with letter proposal from Bruce M. Koch, CME Associates, dated May 14, 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, CME Associates, Parlin, N.J., 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 Account No. C-04-55-822-210 in an amount not to exceed \$111,077.00, as reflected by the Certification of Funds Available by the Chief Financial Officer, shown below; and

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 Bruce M. Koch, 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 Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 7-18-186

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park has need of the services of a Consultant to assist the Borough in the development and design of a new road assessment and prioritization process;

WHEREAS, Research Consulting Services, LLC, Kendall Park, New Jersey, has submitted a proposal to provide these services, said proposal dated February 15, 2018; and

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

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are available in Account No. C-04-55-822-210 in an amount not to exceed \$24,737.00, as reflected by the certification of funds by the Chief Financial Officer, shown below;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Borough Administrator and Borough Clerk are authorized and directed to execute and attest on behalf of the Borough an Agreement for a Pavement Management System with Research Consulting Services, LLC, 9 Talcott Court, Kendall Park, NJ 08824, a copy of which is attached to the original of this resolution.

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

No. 7-18-187

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that approval is hereby given to Main Street Highland Park to hold their Arts Festival activities on September 16, 2018 from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that permission is hereby granted to the Highland Park Police Department to make application to the New Jersey Department of Transportation for a permit to close a portion of Raritan Avenue (Route #27) between 2nd and 5th Avenues on September 16, 2018 between 9:00 AM and 6:00 PM; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Main Street Highland Park will work in close cooperation with the Highland Park Police Department to insure minimum inconvenience to Borough residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Main Street Highland Park; Stephen Rizco, Chief of Police; Police Dept. Traffic Safety Bureau; Highland Park First Aid Squad Capt.; James Polos, Emergency Management Coordinator; Donald Rish, Dept. of Public Works Supt.

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

No. 7-18-188

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 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 the applicants:

1. Said applications are complete in all respects.
2. The applicants have obtained a Special Ruling to permit the filing of renewal application of Inactive Licenses for the 2018-2019 license terms.
3. The applicants 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.
4. 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.
5. 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 application of inactive licenses 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 these licenses shall be granted unless the license is being actively used at an approved site on or before June 30, 2019 to wit:

PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSE

CNS DLS LLC – 1207-33-010-010

PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LICENSE

Kiadan Inc., Highland Park, NJ 08904 - 1207-44-006-009

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk shall be and is hereby authorized and directed to maintain the aforesaid license certificates in the municipal file, which licenses shall be effective July 1, 2018, and shall expire June 30, 2019.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 7-18-189

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Finance Director be and is hereby authorized to remit to the following the amount set opposite, the same being the amount of overpayment of water and sewer charges for the account indicated:

<u>REMITTEE NAME/ADDRESS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Ruth Jansyn Estate 28 Conant Street Concord, MA 01742 (70 Valentine Street)	\$49.04

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Finance Department and the Water and Sewer Department forthwith.

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

No. 7-18-190

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works obtained quotations for the 2018 Tree Planting Project; and

WHEREAS, three companies were contacted, with the below listed company responding, as follows:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
NJ Tree Foundation	\$13,414.00

And

WHEREAS, after review by the Shade Tree Committee and Department of Public Works, it is recommended that the contract be awarded to New Jersey Tree Foundation, Jackson, NJ based on their bid; and

WHEREAS, funds are available for tree planting in the amount of \$13,414.00 in Account No. T-12-56-806-100, as reflected by the certification of funds by the Chief Financial Officer;

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 a contract on behalf of the Borough with NJ Tree Foundation, Jackson, NJ in the amount of \$13,414.00, for the planting of trees as listed in the contract, said contract to be in a form approved by the Borough Attorney.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 7-18-191

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:

HAROLD GLAZER, Public Information Officer/Aide to Mayor, at an annual salary of \$28,600.00 effective July 10, 2018.

KATHLEEN DAVIES, Tax Assessor Clerk, at an annual salary of \$20,000.00, effective July 16, 2018.

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 Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 7-18-192

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park finally adopted its 2018 Municipal Budget on May 15, 2018; and

WHEREAS, because of the late adoption of the New Jersey State budget and calculation of the Tax Rate by the County Board of Taxation and the corresponding late printing of the tax bills, third quarter tax bills will not be mailed by the deadline of July 19, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council believes that the residents of the Borough are entitled to a reasonable time to receive their tax bills for the third quarter and to pay the same without being delinquent and subject to the payment of interest; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to N.J.S. 54:4-66.5 interest at a rate of \$.00000001% shall be charged on unpaid third quarter 2018 taxes provided the same are paid on or before August 30, 2018, and provided further that interest thereafter shall be payable at the rate of 8% per annum on the first \$1,500.00 of the delinquency and 18% per annum on any amount in excess of \$1,500.00 to be calculated from August 1, 2018 until the date of actual payment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Finance Director and Tax Collector forthwith.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 7-18-193

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that all claims presented prior to this meeting as shown on a detailed list prepared by the Borough Treasurer, and which have been submitted and approved in accordance with Highland Park Ordinance No. 1004, shall be and the same are hereby approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk shall include in the minutes of this meeting a statement as to all such claims approved as shown in a Bills List Journal in accordance with said Ordinance.

The bills approved for payment at this meeting, Bills List 7/10/2018 can be found in the Bills List Journal Book No. 37.

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

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

No. 7-18-194

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

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion of any item of appropriation for equal amount;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park, that it hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget for the year 2018 in the sum of \$24,938.36, which item is now available as revenue from State and Federal programs pursuant to the provisions of statute; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a like sum of \$24,938.36 be and the same is hereby appropriated under the caption of:

NJDEP Clean Communities Program \$24,938.36

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above is the result of a grant for Fiscal Year 2018; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that two (2) certified copies of the certification of adoption of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval.

Mayor Brill Mittler appointed Laurent Reyes to serve as a member of the Immigration and Refugee Task Force for a term to expire December 31, 2019.

Mayor Brill Mittler appointed the following to serve as Regular Members of the Historical Commission for terms to expire April 20, 2019:

Michele Racioppi Harold Glazer Jeremy Gross
Ana Pairet Tom Glynn John Beetham

Mayor Brill Mittler appointed the following to serve as Regular Members of the Historical Commission for terms to expire April 20, 2020:

Bernice Bernstein Donald Beetham

Mayor Brill Mittler appointed the following to serve as Regular Members of the Historical Commission for terms to expire April 20, 2021:

Irina Radeva Roald Fradkine

Mayor Brill Mittler appointed Matthew Hersh to serve as a Regular Member of the Human Relations Commission for a term to expire April 17, 2021.

Mayor Brill Mittler appointed Sesh Venugopal to serve as a Regular Member of the Library Board of Trustees for a term to expire December 31, 2022.

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

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

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

Nicholas Weintraub, 215 South 4th Avenue, commented that he is one of the individuals who unfortunately required medical assistance on Sunday night, but was lucky enough to be assisted by the Highland Park First Aid Squad. He knows very little about the decision to use RWJ or the Highland Park First Aid Squad, but he can say that he was treated with the utmost respect and professionalism and he is in their debt. He has been transported to RWJ in the past when he was living on Livingston Campus as a Graduate student at Rutgers and he can say that is mile and a half ambulance ride cost him \$2,000. He received the same treatment in Highland Park for free. Mayor Brill Mittler noted that one of the things they are being sensitive to is the potential cost of the ambulance service. In any contract they might enter into they would want to make sure that payment was being addressed.

Karen, 242 South 6th Avenue, commented that 2 years ago RWJ came and she still has to pay the bill. She called the phone number that RWJ representatives gave her three times to say that she is having a hard time paying the bill and the person on the line said they never heard of that. Mayor Brill Mittler noted that they are very concerned about the cost element and that is something they would have to address in any contract we signed with them.

Angela Perrone, 242 South 6th Avenue, commented that she would like to discuss what is happening on South 6th Avenue. She produced some photos of the problems. She has been working with Mr. Hersh, who is no longer on the Council, Office Gary and the Commission for Universal Access. She has been a resident here for 2 years and is disabled. There is a handicapped ramp that has not been marked. Cars are parking in front of fire hydrants, the sidewalks are in disrepair and the seniors use this. If anybody falls, they will have to call the rescue squad and then they will be charged \$1,000. She asked if these things can be fixed. Mayor Brill Mittler asked that the Borough Administrator direct the Code Enforcement Officer to go out and look at the issues she raised.

Irene Riegner, River Ridge Condos, commented that on June 11th, River Ridge on South Adelaide had a fire on the 8th floor. She lives on the 4th floor and explained what happened to her and what she was told occurred. The 7th and 8th floors were evacuated. Each unit has a fire alarm and she

understands that the fire alarms went off in the units on these floors. She further understands that the 2nd floor was evacuated next and that the fire alarms sounded in each apartment. Then, floors 3 through 6 were evacuated, but instead of sounding the fire alarm, Police or Fire Officials, went from apartment to apartment knocking on doors to get people out. She has a hearing problem and they forgot one person, her. She didn't hear a knock and continued working on her computer in the back room oblivious to what was happening. She didn't know about the fire and didn't know about the evacuation. What if this fire had spread to the lower floors? She would have been trapped in her apartment. As part of the Borough's investigation, she would like to know why the fire alarms on the 3rd through 6th floors were not sounded. The fire alarm works, at least in her unit. The next day, they tested alarm and she had no problem hearing it. She would like to know the result of this investigation and what is being done to correct this. Timely communication, especially in this matter, could be a matter of life. Chief Rizco explained that River Ridge is private property and they maintain their alarm system. Mayor Brill Mittler commented that in some other buildings in town that have someone sitting at the front desk in the building have a list of people who live there. Ms. Riegner noted that from what she understands is that next to where they sound the alarm, they have a list of people who are handicapped. There are many seriously handicapped people that live in the building.

Fred Cole, 214 Donaldson Street, commended Council for their stand against the Trump Administration for the separation of immigrant families. His frustration is with the secrecy of how it is done and the way we find out about it and the out of control feeling that this is being done in the name of the United States of America. He commented about Buck Woods and the response from our Borough Attorney that there was a publication in the newspaper. He wants to know when it was posted and where. He has a concern about Buck Woods, this is a done deal and is being done by power brokers and the Council wants it to happen or if they don't, they are certainly not letting them know what is going on. Mayor Brill Mittler commented that there are protocols that they follow announcing information. In the 21st century, there are other forms of communication that a lot of people go by. The Borough has a Facebook page, and a website where things can be posted. She asked if they are allowed to use other forms of communication, and if they can, they should get into the habit of doing that. Mr. Cole commented that he thinks that is a first step. There are a lot of people that want to see that space remain green and natural and would like to see it developed as a public place that people can use similar to the train tracks in Metuchen where there is a walkway. Mayor Brill Mittler noted that they have been dealing with the Buck Woods situation since 1999 and are in several litigations with this property owner. For years, they have been trying to keep it as open space. Should he be allowed to build something that goes against riparian buffers, etc.? The Borough raised those issues, but the Courts have ruled otherwise. She asked the Borough Attorney if the Court can override the Borough's zoning laws. Borough Attorney Schmierer stated not necessarily. They have been in litigation over this property since 2009 when they refused to issue permits for the removal of the trees. As a private owner, he went to Court and said he believes the property is polluted, and that it needs to be cleaned up and that he owns the property and he wants to do that. That was the basis of his argument to the Court about a year ago that he has a right to test his property and determine where or if its polluted. The debate going on now and which will be discussed with Judge Hurley on the 30th of this month is whether or not it is necessary to take down the trees in order to test for any pollution on the property or can there be a less invasive way to do that. Judge Hurley will discuss this at a case management conference on July 30th. The Borough has discussed with them the purchase of the property over the last 10 years and the individual who owns the property does not want to sell it to the Borough and wants to develop that property.

Yair Rosenthal, 451 South 5th Avenue, commented that he read the agreement, and the Court solicited public response, yet there was no public response on May 7th. He doesn't understand the discrepancy as this has been on the agenda for 17 years, yet the Borough did not find a better way to tell them that they have a right to respond publicly to these plans. Something is wrong. He wants the public to be informed so that they have the opportunity to speak. He is a professor of air science at Rutgers University. In 2000, they studied an ecological impact and a transportation impact and he wondered whether the Borough read the piles of studies that their expert wrote. This would have a huge impact, not just on his property. You will have flooding problems; you have deer problems. This town has any expertise that you want, all of them professors at Rutgers and nobody thought to solicit their input.

Marybeth Schmutz, 55 Lincoln Avenue, commented that she was at the last meeting regarding the EMS situation. They asked for specific information regarding response times. We assumed that the Borough had done a study over a fairly long period of time to figure that out. You were unable to tell us exactly how much the town would save. There was an editorial in the New York Times last week about ambulance services in New York City. It has become a crisis because people are begging the police not to call ambulance services because they can't afford to pay for it. A teacher just told her that it happened in Highland Park High School where a student was injured and begged them not to call an ambulance because she didn't want to pay for it. You also said you were going to cut EMS funding completely over time. How are they going to continue to do this at night? She is skeptical about their ability to control the costs and keep bills from going to collection. That is not how healthcare works. This is not the time, given the crisis in healthcare that is growing in this country, to do anything to increase people's medical expenses. We should tow the line for now; this is not necessary. Lt. Hammill noted that all the information they have is done through a CAD system and those numbers are all available, but it is data mining, and it is going to take some time to compile. Ms. Schmutz pointed out that there are a lot of seniors here tonight who are frightened about the impact this will have on them.

Ruth Bickhardt, 307 Magnolia Street, asked for explanation of item #19 regarding title 39 jurisdiction. Councilman George explained that title 39 is a statutory provision for traffic laws, including parking. This would allow the Police Department to have jurisdiction on specific roads to enforce traffic laws. Ms. Bickhardt asked plastic bags. Councilman George explained that Sustainable Highland Park, starting in March of 2017, began a campaign to reduce the use of one use plastic bags in all the stores. The program ran for a year and they gave out free recyclable bags. The program was closed out after a year and there was a survey done. The survey supports an ordinance in town to either restrict or discourage or ban plastic bags. Ms. Bickhardt commented that close to 30 years ago, one of her

daughters lived in Ohio and when she visited and went shopping with her. If you didn't have a bag you had to pay a nickel. She recycles her plastic bags and uses them for garbage.

Herb Gross, Adelaide Gardens, commented that he spoke with RWJ drivers and that if they are on call in New Brunswick or somewhere else, that is where their priority is. He is in favor of reinstating the Highland Park First Aid Squad. Former Mayor Tanzman and former Mayor Berman would never take the first aid squad out of Highland Park. He is holding the Mayor responsible and feels it is a criminal act and in case of an emergency, he will hold her responsible.

Ira Smith, Lincoln Avenue, commented that he would like to make some observations. He asked whether the Council has made a motion to post information about upcoming events on the website. Mayor Brill Mittler noted that they do not need a resolution to post information. The Borough is in favor of transparency. Mr. Smith noted that he moved to Highland Park from New York City several years ago and he has seen changes in the neighborhoods in NYC and that is part of what New York history is about. He also observed a lot of changes going on in Highland Park over the last 20 years. What he sees happening is rather disturbing. It seems to be a move to turn Highland Park into Staten Island. Every conceivable space where you can put up a condo or building, there seems to be a big rush to do that here. He has seen this with current plans on Walter Avenue and River Road. He sees it concerning Buck Woods as well. He thinks if everyone wants to maintain the character of Highland Park they ought to sit back and take a look and organize and not allow this to turn into Staten Island. What they moved here for is not going to be here for very much longer. He wants everyone to really think about what they want this town to become, why they moved here and why they still live here.

Sonya Hedlum, 133 Benner Street, expressed her sincere thanks to the Mayor and Council, the Police Chief and the Police Department for taking such steps to address racial bias and racial disparity in policing in Highland Park. For some people, it is a personal issue. Based on the earlier presentation, it seems that the scope of the analysis was going to be quite narrow and that he would just be focusing on traffic stops. If that is the case, she encouraged them to take a look at broader issues that include the things that they see, national trends of racial disparity and use of force. Councilwoman Foster-Dublin explained that when they reached out to Mr. Davis, their first concern was the report that was OPRA'd containing the information the Police Department has been collecting for years. They have asked him to go through that report with his team. In 2003, they did a report on the health of the town as it pertains to race relations, how do we see each other, how do we get along, and how do we address the issues that we have in Highland Park. The report was done 15 years ago; it is time to see what the next step is. First the report is going to be done and they will take an inventory of themselves and see how we have progressed and how we will continue to progress and what are the latest issues we should be looking at and how we can address them.

Harold Sackrowitz, 617 South 5th Avenue, commented about Buck Woods. When the court ruled that he could do his testing, he personally does not think the town put in its best effort in fighting that. A lot of them have been dealing with this for 17 or so years and there a lot of things they know that could be presented at a hearing. Before the next court date, he would like to have some sort of meeting and they can tell the Borough what sort of irregularities they see and what things they might present to the court. He was very upset about the comment that it was in the newspaper, because that is a clear indication that they did not give their best effort.

Hannah Shostack, 146 North 6th Avenue, suggested some topics to cover at the meeting. It looks disingenuous because the developer is acting as if there is a development application and were there to be a development application, it would trigger notification. The residents are at a disadvantage, because they don't have the benefit of the notification that would otherwise happen if there was a development application. The Borough should have a public meeting on this because obviously the only information the residents have now are the tree removal permit applications. Mayor Brill Mittler noted that the last time that they had anyone from his organization come to an open public meeting was when he was looking for the 75 trees down the center to be cut down. They should have had more meetings since that time. Ms. Shostack commented about the issue of Mt. Laurel. Mt. Laurel involves the fair share plan and a vacant land inventory. The flattest part of the Buck Woods property is a mapped street on Highland Park's official map. There seems to be some inconsistency about the intention of that property and Highland Park's own documentation. She asked if the Buck Woods property appears as developable in the vacant land inventory. If you look at the model site plan ordinance that was adopted at the state level, this land should probably be exempt based on the steep slope. If it is included in the vacant land inventory, the question is why? If you have to add all that fill, it raises questions about the stability. She asked about condemnation discussions about this property and whether the land is polluted and who is responsible for that pollution. She commented about the destruction of the habitat with the cutting down of trees at the other end of town. They have deer and deer ticks, they have traffic issues with deer all over the place and that will happen with the Buck Woods property if you were to destroy all the trees.

Deborah Burns, 235 Wayne Street, commented that she has lived here for 8 years. She noticed that the habits of the Council in regards to the community is that they miss a chance to have a tremendous amount of support for decent positions by not listening to the people who just spoke. It is very difficult as a resident when something is presented as a done deal when you have not had any notification or any sense that it was going on. The Council should post a list of litigation underway, what's at stake in the litigation, what neighborhoods are threatened by the litigation, etc. The ravine is one of the last remaining spaces in Highland Park and Highland Park is not a particularly green town at this point. There is no reason for it to be paved over, it is not going to anybody any good and we don't need any more housing at this point. He hopes there is a way to put the brakes on this. It would really be a bad thing for the Borough.

Gabrielle Wilders, 24 Walter Avenue, commented that she is here in support of the residents who live near Buck Woods and to reiterate that information from the Borough is a real problem. Although she was saddened to hear of their experience, that is what happened to her and her neighbors on Walter Avenue. They only heard through the rumor mill that the property at 31 River Road was going to be developed with an oversized structure. Her neighborhood collectively wrote a letter to the Mayor's office and were able to be heard. They were able to be seen before the screening committee and were able to give input. However, she has seen a draft of the plan that did not take a lot of their input into consideration. She is disheartened about that. What concerns her even more is the increase in density in Highland Park. It took her 3 traffic lights to get through the intersection of 2nd and Raritan Avenue and it was not during peak time. When you talk about increasing density, whether it is developing Buck Woods, which would be devastating to the environment and their neighborhood, and increasing density in a small little lot on the corner of Walter Avenue and River Road, what will traffic be. How can Highland Park handle the increased traffic? It will have an impact on their lifestyles, on the environment, the schools and everything. Mayor Brill Mittler noted that there are 20,000 cars that go up and down Raritan Avenue on a daily basis. Not all of the traffic in town is from the residents. Ms. Wilders commented about the additional people that will live in these developments and drive cars to work and add on top of that an ambulance that is going to have to come in an emergency from New Brunswick over that bridge into Highland Park, you are asking for a tragedy. Increasing density is going to destroy a small town and she sees these decisions being made all over the place that are bad for the community, bad for people and bad for nature. She is very upset that they continue to not give them information. She has written emails that don't get answered.

Nora Krieger, 19 North 6th Avenue, commented that she is here to support the people who live around the Buck Woods area and she wanted to say that having grown up in New York and having lived here for a very long time now, it is a pleasure to be able to come and talk like this. Mr. Sackowitz brought up the idea of sitting down and discussing all the issues and she thinks that is a good idea. She suggested that the Borough become a plaintiff with the community, especially with Marsha and her husband who have been putting out money for lawyers and for people to test the soil.

Robin Loewenstein, 116 South 4th Avenue, commented that she wanted to address the response times. She spent an enormous amount of time going through, in the most detailed way, based on their statistics and the statistics provided to them through an open public records act. She pointed out to the Mayor and Council that their response times included all of their calls, which includes emotionally disturbed persons, alcohol related incidents, which are a large number of their calls. Those types of calls are not responded to with lights and sirens. Going with lights and sirens is dangerous and those situations could be upsetting to the patient. It takes time to get to the patient if the Police or the psychiatric services on scene ask them to wait until it is appropriate for them to see the patient. The Mayor acknowledged that this all made sense, but said she can only go by what is in her hands. She did not realize that the town's statistics included not just their answering time, but the answering time of mutual aid which automatically got set, to 21 minutes and 59 seconds. The national average is 10 minutes and 59 seconds. They added to that the 11 minutes, but should have been 7 minutes, to get mutual aid called. She cannot think of any time that it took mutual aid 21 minutes and 59 seconds. If you use the town's statistics and remove the 21 minute and 59 second response time, that was automatically put in for the mutual aid, their average response times are always below the national average. When she scrutinized the numbers, she found a random call here or there that took an excessively long time compared to other calls. When she went back and looked it was something along the lines of 3 calls that came in at the same time and this call, by the time it got answered, the person refused medical attention, because if it was a very serious call, it would have gone straight to mutual aid and advanced life support would have been on the way as well. There are some glitches, but when you look at the data you realize some interesting things. She removed the calls that do not go lights and sirens, she did this manually, and she was stricter on the first aid squad by figuring out the response time from when they were dispatched to when they reached the patient's side. In January, their average response time was 5 minutes, 13 seconds; February 9 minutes, 53 seconds; March 10 minutes; 24 seconds; April 9 minutes, 39 seconds; May 10 minutes, 43 seconds and in June, 9 minutes, 43 seconds. Their overall average response time for the first six months of 2018 has been 9 minutes, 49 seconds, which is 1 minute and 10 seconds faster than the national average. Mayor Brill Mittler noted that she would like Ms. Loewenstein and Lt. Hammill sit down and go through all of the data. She wants to make sure that they are looking at apples and apples. Ms. Loewenstein commented that people are saying they are frustrated and the biggest frustration she heard tonight was lack of communication and some underlying rumblings of the Council not listening at all to their constituents. This is the 3rd meeting and she has heard little to no support for bringing in RWJ. She has heard a ton of support for keeping things the way that they were and if it needs to be tweaked, it needs to be tweaked. This was a very, very drastic move and there are things that are not being made clear. There is currently no contract with RWJ. Anything that you are talking about with regard to billing right now, is off the table. RWJ has been allowed and will continue to be allowed to bill however they want. The Councilwoman made a nice speech about how well we've all worked together for years. That is not true. Every year, for years and years, long before this Administration, the first aid squad has been fighting for more money. When new developments started popping up, they pointed out to previous Mayor's that it is very customary for developers to be told by the town to pay something towards emergency services because you are increasing the population, but that has never happened. This has always been an ongoing battle. They have told you in private that they are the most disrespected organization in this town. Ms. Welkovits spoke about the Volunteer Appreciation Event to honor volunteers and the squad was totally forgotten about. They were told the day of the event. It is not true that we have had a beautiful, ongoing relationship. A year ago, they came to the Borough to request more funding and for the first time they were told their monetary stipend would be increased. The stipulation was that you wanted the squad to bill the resident's insurance and the way that money would be handled was whatever money came in from billing the residents would be split between the first aid squad for their budget and the town for their budget. Ever since then, everything has gone more downhill. The squad is never going to make money for the town. The residents need to know the truth about the relationship between the Borough and the first aid squad. We try to have a respectful relationship and we try to work together, but the reality is, a lot of what is being presented is dishonest.

Mayor Brill Mittler noted that Councilwoman Foster-Dublin did say that there has been a lack of cooperation between the two organizations. She did not paint that everything is lovey dovey, because we all know that it is not. When you say the town's money, the town's money is the people's money. Ms. Loewenstein noted that it is inappropriate to raise money for the residents from the work of the first aid squad. Ever since we said no to that, it has been downhill. Mayor Brill Mittler noted that the first aid squad was asked to come in and explain some things to the Borough and you indicated you had not gotten the message and nobody showed up for the meeting. Ms. Loewenstein noted that if you are referring to EMS charts, they told you that is the program they would be using for data collection. Half the squads in the State use that program, and the other half use Image Trend. Mayor Brill Mittler noted that out of respect for the request someone could have explained what the new charge and new responsibilities are. Ms. Loewenstein apologized as that was under a previous Administration and she could not speak to that. Mayor Brill Mittler noted that there is a Public Safety Committee Meeting on Thursday. Ms. Loewenstein commented that if they do everything that is asked of them, they will then be considered to have the privilege of answering during the day on the weekends. People are not going to get a free ambulance service during the week. Tell them it is a done deal and tell them the way it was told to the squad, not up for negotiation, done deal. Tell them you have no intention of listening to their concerns. Mayor Brill Mittler commented that is absolutely not true and anybody who has come to speak with her knows that. Ms. Loewenstein commented that someone who was leaving the room asked if there were going to be any more open public meetings about the first aid squad. She asked if the Mayor is aware of the specific agenda that is set for the meeting on Thursday. Mayor Brill Mittler indicated that she is aware of the agenda topics. Lastly, Ms. Loewenstein asked about getting an answer of whether it is 2018 or 2019 that they will stop seeing donations from the town.

Councilwoman Foster-Dublin commented that this has been one of the problems where there is no respect and there is no professionalism when we get together. Let's have some accountability and talk about professionalism and reliability and have one person within your structure that reports.

Dee Donnelly, 242 South 6th Avenue, commented that she spoke to the two representatives from RWJ and told them that she falls a lot and if they would come and pick her up. She was told that if we pick you up and you stay home, no charge. If we take you to the hospital you will pay \$1,000.

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

There being no further business, on motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilman Fine, and carried by affirmative voice vote of all Councilpersons present, the meeting adjourned at 9:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Hullings
Borough Clerk