

## REGULAR MEETING – MAY 1, 2018

A Regular Meeting of the Highland Park Mayor and Council was held in Borough Hall, 221 South 5th Avenue, on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 and was called to order by Council President George at 7:05 PM. Mayor Brill Mittler read the Open Public Meetings Statement.

Present: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hersh, Kim-Chohan Welkovits; Borough Attorney Schmierer; Borough Administrator Jover; Deputy Clerk Santiago.

Absent: Mayor Brill Mittler; Borough Clerk Hullings.

Proclamation Presentations

Council President George asked the Council members to present their reports.

Councilwoman Kim-Chohan reported the Fireworks logistics meeting was held and the Fourth of July fireworks event will take place at Donaldson Park Monday, July 2nd rain date Tuesday July 3<sup>rd</sup>, Highland Park Summer Camp Jobs are posted on the Employment section of the borough's website and if interested apply by May 5, the Willy Wonka Jr will be performed by the Highland Park Youth Theatre Company on Thursday May 3 and Sunday May 6 in the High School auditorium. A comic book drawing workshop is coming up at the Fallout Shelter Saturday, May 19th 6pm to 9pm Workshop space is limited to 10 participants and registration is required, view the Highland Park arts commission Facebook page for more details. Open Studios will be happening the last weekend of June, registration is now open. Zen Art & Writing Workshop will be in July. The Band Aid bench is in process and the location is being determined. On Wednesday, May 30, 2018 there will be a Meet & Greet Daisy Mae. Daisy is a therapy dog that will be accompanied by her companion Roberta. Daisy Mae will be making monthly visits to our senior center. The Historical Commission will be hosting a walking tour, Wednesday May 23 at 7 pm and Sunday June 3 at 10 am. Details can be found on the Borough's Facebook page. May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. In 1992, the official designation was signed into law and the month of May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States on May 7, 1843. I will announce events as I get them to anyone that would like to participate in festivities.

Councilwoman Welkovits reported last weekend the Safe Walking and Cycling Committee created another pop-up bike lane, this time a contra bike lane on Walter Ave, in anticipation of the traffic to and from our Earth Day celebration at the Environmental Center. A pop-up lane is inexpensive and spray painted quickly. Walter is one way to cars but two ways to bikes. The neighbors immediately felt the traffic calming effects and the bicyclists were thrilled. The markings are still up, but wearing quickly, please enjoy the new lane while it lasts. Big special thanks to SWACC Co-chair Sean Meehan for orchestrating the painting and safe use of the lane all day, with support from Peter Bilton and Ben Arenger. Thanks to Lt Panichella for being part of our committee, and for his invaluable assistance with our projects. And thanks to the Safe Walking and Cycling Committee volunteers who worked a table at Earth Day and spoke to our residents about their needs. Special congratulations to our schools Superintendent Scott Taylor for being nominated, by his peers, as the Middlesex County Superintendent of the Year. Mr Taylor joined us about 3 years ago after a difficult period; he faced the challenge to mend relations between the Superintendents role and staff, parents and the community at large. He set out designing a new strategic plan with input from all stakeholders and has continued to make strong connections within our community. He continues to bring a high level of knowledge and professionalism to the role, and progressive practices for improving academic excellence and equality for our diverse student body. At long last, beautiful spring weather is forecast for this Sunday's 10th Annual 5K & Street Fair. Our 5K is inclusive and open to all runners, walkers and rollers. Did you know the proceeds from the 5K go to benefit our Police Department, Fire Department, First Aid Squad and Library. This is the last chance to pre-register for the HP5K! Sign up online at [runinthepark.org](http://runinthepark.org) and Save time on race morning. Go to the website for full details. HP5K MUG PRIZES: Race winners will get a 16-ounce glass HP5k mug, which can be used for special drink discounts at Pino's or OQ Coffee during the Street Fair that day (11:30-4:30). If you don't win a mug in the race, we will have mugs for sale at the Main Street booth at the Street Fair! Special thanks to all our 5K sponsors: St Peters Hospital, Kinetics, Mini Cooper Edison, Geico Edison, Strub Law, BAyleaf Grill, Caplan Capital, Speakmusic, Running It Softly, Raritan ValleyRoad Runners, Hackensack Medical, RediClinic, Go Owls Athletic Boosters, Saiff Drugs, AllColors, Stages, HPConservative Temple, Mordys, BCB Bank, Pinos, Stop & Shop, Sustainable HP, The Fallout Shelter, OQCoffee, Dunkin Donuts, & Yellow Brick Road. Possibly our biggest Annual event our Street Fair begins later in the day from 11:30-4:30. Come on out for a lovely afternoon with music, food, performances, and more. Downtown Planting Days are May 17 & 19. Please volunteer to help us beautify Raritan Ave. Outdoor Movie Theatre begins May 26 with The Secret of Nimh. She thanked Brian Ontken for bringing us a great lineup each year.

Councilman Hersh reported that the new location of the Borough municipal ids is progressing, as we make sure that the public library is ready and equipped to administer the program and issue the ID. Tomorrow at 10 am he will be at the library with the Borough Administrator installs the machine and helps the staff with technical support. There will be more to come with extended hours, and once the library does start issuing the cards you can choose to have the municipal card be your library card they will affix a bar code on the back. You will still be able to get a regular free library card as well. The Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs will hold its regular meeting on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 7:30 pm at Borough Hall; the Housing Authority will hold its regular meeting on Wednesday, May 9, 2018 @ 6:30 PM at 242 South 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue. He encouraged people to come out to the Highland Park Street Fair, several Boards and Commissions in the Health and Human Services portfolio will be present as well including the Commission of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs and the Board of Health both will be distributing important materials and answering questions. On Friday, June 1, 2018 @ 9:30 am please join the Human Relations Commission and the Pride Center of New Jersey for the annual LGBTQ pride month flag raising outside the Senior Youth Center, there will be some remarks, refreshments and celebration. He announced that the Highland Park Food Pantry has partnered with Feeding Middlesex in order to continue the relationship with the Community Food Bank of New Jersey. The reason that the Highland Park Food Pantry partnered with Feeding Middlesex because the Community Food Bank is not a non-

profit, it is a Borough Agency so the Community Food Pantry of New Jersey has tightened its rules and has stated that it will only deal with 501C3 organizations and we are not a 501C3, even though the donations are tax deductible we had to create this special partnership with Feeding Middlesex in order to keep our relationship going with the Community Food Bank of New Jersey. He said that everything went well and our relationship has gone uninterrupted and said that the Board for the Highland Park Community Food Pantry is the hardest working volunteer board that he has ever worked with, organized and committed. This Saturday, May 5 at 2 pm please join us for a special bench dedication for the late Councilman Jon Erickson who passed away in October 2016, the dedication will take place between South Adelaide and Cedar Avenue. Please join the Highland Park Educational Foundation on Saturday, May 12 @ 7:30 pm for the 2018 Spring fundraiser, they will be honoring Danelle Morgan Highland Park High School Class of 2003 and a member of the Radio City Rockette's, tickets can be purchased on [www.hpefnj.org](http://www.hpefnj.org).

Councilwoman Foster-Dublin reported that Operation Take Back was this past weekend at the Senior Center, they collected a 126 pounds of unused medication which was collected Police Department and turned over to the DEA on Monday. She thanked Highland Park for continuing to do the right thing. She said that if you have other medication you would like to dispose of you could take it to Saiff Drugs. She said that she promised last month that she would give a monthly report of what is going on in the Police Department however today is the first and was unable to get all of the reports together but will have that report available at the next Council meeting, we did not forget and will continue to report and will be available at the next Council meeting. Today is International Labor day and acknowledged all of the hardworking people that make our lives easier.

Councilman Fine reported that the Friends of the Library book sale will be held this coming May 5-6, 2018 and encouraged all Highland Park residents to contribute books that may be sold at the book sale or come purchase some books to support our library.

Councilman George reported that Public Works Department is trying to get to the pothole repairs schedule unfortunately we are just getting down with the removal of the damaged trees that were knocked down during the particularly harsh snow storm that brought down a lot of the trees. At the last Sustainable Highland Park meeting discussed water rates and usage, the Earth Day theme was water and disposable plastic bags was being studied. Earth Day number of discussions about coordinating more efforts in the area regarding planting, a permanent fence was erected to protect the beehives but one beehive was lost, plants were given away which are pollinators. With regard, Sustainable Highland Park to wrap up the plastic bag reduction plan they will be putting out a follow-up survey which follows up in the shorter form and their subcommittee is working on that. He asked everyone to join them on May 5, 2018 to pay your respects to the late Councilman Erickson bench dedication.

Borough Administrator Jover - No report

Borough Attorney Schmierer - No report.

Council President George opened the meeting for public discussion and called upon all those wishing to speak to identify themselves.

Herb Gross, Adelaide Gardens, said he was very happy to announce that the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 370 of New Brunswick, NJ during the month of May nationwide they will be honoring all of the women who have served our country in all branches of service. The women to be honored are all veterans of the National Guard, Army Reserves, Air Force Reserves, Navel Marine Core Reserve, these women nationwide have served our country, and they will be honored in each state and each city. He shared his Veterans of Foreign Wars magazine with the Council Members to read the story on page 5.

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

The Clerk reported advertising an ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK IN MIDDLESEX COUNTY AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK CONCERNING HOURS OF OPERATION FOR AMUSEMENT GAMES 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 Councilwoman Kim-Chohan, seconded by Councilwoman Welkovits and carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote, the above entitled ordinance was taken up on final reading by title.

Council President George 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 Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilwoman Kim-Chohan, the ordinance entitled as above, being Ordinance No. 18-1956, was duly adopted on final reading by title by the following roll call vote, to wit:

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

Opposed: None.

Abstain: None

Absent: None.

No. 5-18-125

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK IN MIDDLESEX COUNTY AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK CONCERNING HOURS OF

OPERATION FOR AMUSEMENT GAMES, passed on final reading at this meeting be delivered to the Mayor for her approval, and if approved by her, that the same be recorded in full by the Borough Clerk in a proper book kept for that purpose, and be advertised by publishing the same by title in the "Home News Tribune", of 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.

On motion made by Councilwoman Kim-Chohan, seconded by Councilman George, the ordinance entitled as above, being Ordinance No. 18-1957, was duly adopted by the following roll call vote, to wit:

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

Resolution Nos. 5-18-126 through 5-18-135, were duly adopted on motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman Hersh, and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

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

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:  
No. 5-18-126

WHEREAS, on July 27, 2016, Merriewold at Highland Park, Kaplan Companies, hereto posted with the Borough of Highland Park a performance bond No. FP0023045, issued by First Indemnity of American Insurance Company in the amount of \$2,669,495.83 and letter of credit issued by Provident Bank in the amount of \$296,610.65, for a total amount of \$2,966,106.48, in connection with a preliminary and final site plan application on the property known as Block 189, Lot 4, in the Borough of Highland Park; and

WHEREAS, the developer for the referenced project has requested that the performance bond be released; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer has conducted a site inspection of this project and found that items remain to be completed and recommends that the Bond be reduced by \$2,076,274.54 to \$899,831.94 subject to the payment of all current inspection fees and/or any other outstanding Borough fees; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that subject to payment of all current inspection fees together with any other outstanding Borough fees, the performance bond heretofore posted may be reduced to \$889,831.94.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, pursuant to Section C.40:55D-43-2e of the Municipal Landuse Law, no further reductions of this Bond shall be recommended until the punch list items have been satisfactorily completed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Finance Department, Borough Engineer, Construction Official and Kaplan Companies.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:  
No. 5-18-127

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 hourly basis, there have been the following changes, to wit:

DECLAN WALSH, Seasonal Recreation, at an hourly rate of \$8.60, effective April 11, 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 Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 5-18-128

WHEREAS, the following has posted a security deposit in the amount \$1,000.00 for use of water meter in connection with the project described:

WATER METER	NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION
	Overlook @ Highland Park c/o Community Management 1030 Clifton Avenue Clifton, NJ 07102	Overlook @ Highland Park

and

WHEREAS, the Director of Public Works and the Tax Collector has verified return of said water meter;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Finance Director shall be and is hereby authorized and directed to remit to Overlook @ Highland Park, c/o Community Management, 1030 Clifton Avenue, Clifton, NJ 07102, the amount of \$1,000.00, the same being the amount of the security deposit posted for use of said water meter;

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

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:  
No. 5-18-129

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park has need of the services of a Special Counsel for the period through December 31, 2018; 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, Joseph Baumann, Esq., is an Attorney at Law of the State of New Jersey with experience in municipal law and has heretofore been appointed as Special Counsel for the above mentioned period; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council desire to provide a written agreement providing for the compensation of the Special Counsel; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council desire to provide for the method of compensation for the Special Counsel; and

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are not to exceed the amount of \$15,000.00 without further resolution of Council; and

WHEREAS, funds will be available for this purpose in the amount of \$15,000.00 in Account No. 8-01-20-170-2AT upon adoption of the 2018 municipal budget, as reflected by the Certification of Funds Available by Chief Financial Officer, shown below;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and 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 Joseph Baumann, Esq., a copy of which is attached hereto, 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 Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 5-18-130

WHEREAS, on May 20, 2010, Francis E. Parker Memorial Home, Inc., heretofore posted with the Borough of Highland Park a Cash Surety Bond in the amount of \$6,695.88, along with Bond No. 1081314 in the amount of \$60,263.00, in connection with amended preliminary and final site plan approval for expansion of an existing parking lot on the property known as Block 189, Lot 3, in the Borough of Highland Park; and

WHEREAS, Francis E. Parker Memorial Home, Inc. has requested that said performance bond be released; and

WHEREAS, CME Associates, Borough Engineer, has reviewed the site in the field and found all of the required work has been completed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the cash surety bond and performance bond heretofore posted by Francis E. Parker Memorial Home, Inc., in the amount of \$6,695.88 (cash surety bond) and \$60,263.00 (performance bond) for the site plan and variance application, shall be and is hereby released subject to the following:

1. Payment of any outstanding engineering inspection fees.
2. Payment of any outstanding Borough fees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Finance Department, Borough Engineer, Construction Official, and Francis E. Parker Memorial Home, Inc.

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

No. 5-18-131

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park has a need of the services of a Municipal Auditor for the calendar year of 2017 for the Redevelopment Agency; 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, Gerard Stankiewicz of Samuel Klein and Company, is a certified Public Accountant and Registered Municipal Accountant of the State of New Jersey with extensive experience in municipal auditing and has heretofore been appointed Auditor for the Redevelopment Agency for 2017; and

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

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are not to exceed the amount of \$1,500.00 without further resolution of Council; and

WHEREAS, funds will be available for this purpose in the amount of \$1,500.00 in Account No. 8-01-20-135-249, upon adoption of the municipal budget, as reflected by the Certification of Funds Available 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 Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized and directed to execute and attest on behalf of the Borough, an Agreement for professional services with Gerard Stankiewicz of Samuel Klein and Company, a copy of which is attached hereto, 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 Safety Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 5-18-132

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park desires to apply for and obtain a Best Buy Community Grants for the Teen Center;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute the grant application for the Best Buy Community Grant on behalf of the Borough.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Public Safety Committee and Finance Director forthwith.

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

No. 5-18-133

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park desires to apply for and obtain a Lowe's Gives Foundation: Community Partners grant for the Teen Center;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute the grant application for the Lowe's Gives Foundation: Community Partners grant on behalf of the Borough.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Public Safety Committee and Finance Director forthwith.

The following resolution, introduced by the Council As A Whole, was duly adopted as above:  
No. 5-18-134

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park intends to file an application with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust to replace customer-owned large diameter water meters with Borough owned meters; inspect and repair/replace existing water main valves and hydrants as well as implement an Asset Management Plan for all horizontal water assets in the Borough system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that Josephine Jover, Borough Administrator be authorized to act as the Authorized Representative to represent the Borough of Highland Park in all matters related to the project undertaken pursuant to the above referenced New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Loan to be executed with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust. The Authorized Representative may be contacted at 221 South 5th Avenue, Highland Park NJ 08904 and 732-819-3789.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Borough Administrator, Superintendent of Public Works and Public Utilities and Finance Director forthwith.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:  
No. 5-18-135

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 5/01/2018 can be found in the Bills List Journal Book No. 37.

Council President appointed the following:

Robert Cahill to serve as a Regular Member of the Employee Safety Committee for a term to expire December 31, 2018.

I hereby appoint the following members serve as a Regular Members of the Human Relations Commission for a term to expire April 17, 2021:

Ashton Burrell  
Luz Tapia  
Dan Jacobs  
John Wenz  
Deanna Stevens  
Julie Luck  
Mary Denver  
Donald Beetham

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

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

Council President George opened the meeting for public discussion and called upon all those wishing to speak to identify themselves.

Dan Battey, 304 Montgomery Street, member of the Committee of Understanding, as a concerned resident, he recognized the steps the Mayor has been trying to make to address our concerns about racial profiling and racial patterns policing by the Highland Park Police Department. He said that he had a few concerns regarding the recent memo from the Mayor. He said that he would like to begin by addressing the statement that was including in the memo related the meeting held on March 25 with himself and Jessica Hunson on behalf of ACLU People Power with the Mayor, Councilwoman Foster-Dublin, Chief Rizco, Lt. Hammill and Sgt. Curbelo and in that meeting there was much discussed, and it was discussed the collection of data as well as analysis, and certainly there is more collection and analysis to be done both quantitatively and qualitatively that is necessary to understand why racial patterns exist across the data that they have collected which includes nearly two years of traffic stop data as well as use of force reports. Therefore it is concerning to him that in point number 2 the Mayor choose to focus specifically on resident initiators suspicious persons reports which have not been carefully analyzed and to provide several sentences that the public is implicated with absolutely no mention of racial patterns that exist in the work of the police. This seems to follow a pattern of avoiding the elephant in the room and unwillingness to acknowledge the incident that occurred on March 5, 2018 as racial profiling as well as resistance to express public concern over racial patterns in the Highland Park Police Department data, which raised important questions about racial basis and the practices of the police. The same unwillingness can be seen in other places within the memo in number one in the Mayor's memo it states that we have begun exploring partnerships with outside agencies that would create a formalize consistent analytical review of our police data and while he thinks it is a step forward to support the police and analyzing the data in a more detailed way and support this in moving towards greater transparencies,

there is no mention of identifying patterns of racial bias. The patterns that have been noted have been race and therefore any partnership that is developed needs to focus on supporting the department and understanding racial patterns and exploring them in depth and understand why they exist. They encourage the police department to develop a transparent process and protocol for regularly analyzing data. In addition there is no mention an independent audit of the police department focused on racial patterns instead the focus in number 3 is on “firms that will assist the Borough’s Police Department from an operational standpoint” this type of audit does not appear to address any of the concerns that we have expressed, the focus of any independent audit needs to identify potential patterns of racial bias in policing. Number 4 of the Mayor’s memo notes that the Council is identifying firms bias training for the police department and he fully supports this effort and hopes the Council will be transparent in their selection criteria and communication of possible firms as they move forward in the process of choosing one focus on this issue. He thinks that was the clearest in the memo about identifying race whereas the first three points really did not address that. The Mayor’s memo and the Council’s work moving forward must be clear it is not just unconscious bias training nor just analyzing data needs to occur but a focused effort to understand racial bias in policing.

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

There being no further business, on motion made by Councilwoman Kim-Chohan, seconded by Councilwoman Welkovits, and carried by affirmative voice vote of all Councilpersons present, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Santiago  
Deputy Clerk

DRAFT