

REGULAR MEETING – MAY 15, 2018

A Regular Meeting of the Highland Park Mayor and Council was held in Borough Hall, 221 South 5th Avenue, on Tuesday, May 15, 2018 and was called to order by Mayor Brill Mittler at 7:08 PM. Mayor Brill Mittler read the Open Public Meetings Statement.

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

Absent: Borough Attorney Schmierer.

Mayor Brill Mittler read proclamation for Gun Violence Awareness Day. Everyone is urged to wear orange on June 1st.

On motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilwoman Welkovits, the minutes of the Regular and Conference Meeting held on January 16, 2018, were approved as distributed by affirmative voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

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

Councilwoman Foster-Dublin reported on last month's police blotter. In total last month, they had 104 calls for the Police Department. There were 4 motor vehicle calls, 38 ambulance calls, 4 assaults, 1 disorderly person, 6 mischief calls, 11 fire calls, 8 harassment calls, 2 missing person calls, 22 motor vehicle incident calls, 1 shoplifting call, 2 theft calls, 2 trespassing calls and 4 warrants for arrests. This week, we pause for Police Memorial Week/Peace Week to remember Officers who died in the line of duty.

Councilman Fine reported that Susan Roth, formerly Highland Park's Children's Librarian and Library Director, and then Library Board of Trustees member for over 25 years, passed away on Sunday, May 13th. Her service to the library and the Borough will always be treasured. The Highland Park Library will be closed in Susan Roth's honor on Sunday, May 20th, when a Celebration of Life Ceremony for her will be held. The next Library Board of Trustees meeting will be held at 7:30 PM on May 21, 2018 at the Library. On May 4th, Governor Murphy signed legislation into law that would allow, but not require, New Jersey municipalities to set up charitable funds to which residents may pay their property taxes. In regard to this law, regulations will be issued out of Trenton by July 3rd. The Finance Standing Committee will continue to explore the possibility of setting up a charitable fund as provided for by the law, so that Highland Park residents may take more deductions for the property taxes than what would currently be allowed under the new federal tax law. He thanked Governor Murphy for commemorating the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the State of Israel, when he signed a resolution yesterday to recognize the historic significance of the occasion, as well as the social, cultural and economic ties between New Jersey and Israel.

Councilwoman Kim-Chohan reported that registration is ongoing for the summer camps. There is day camp, sports camp or theater camp. Sports camps include baseball, softball, basketball, soccer, football, wrestling, tennis and volleyball. There is summer basketball for middle/high school students (boys and girl's teams) on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There will be pickup games plus games with other towns. The program is free, but registration is mandatory. The Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday, May 28th and begins in New Brunswick at 11:00 AM. The Recreation Department will be hosting a sports equipment exchange. Anyone who has sports equipment that is no longer being used or cleats that their children have outgrown, is encouraged to share them with their neighbors at this great community-wide recycling program. The sports equipment exchange will take place on May 28th at the Lukoil parking lot after the Memorial Day Parade. The Independence Day Fireworks will take place on July 2nd with a rain date of July 3rd. Residents are encouraged to join their friends and neighbors for live entertainment, delicious food, and fireworks in Donaldson Park. The event begins at 5:00 PM with children's musician Mr. Ray, followed by the Highland Park Youth Theater Company performing a musical revue with singing and dancing numbers from popular musical theater shows. There will be activities for all, from face painting, to dance, soccer, martial arts and more. The evening continues with local musical groups. The fireworks will go off at 9:20 p.m. This is a fun event for the entire community. Unfortunately, the Recreation Advisory Committee's idea of having a sprinkler fest area during the day at the 4th of July fireworks will not happen this year. They reached out to Middlesex County for water connection and due to Donaldson Park's poor drainage, it was impossible. The Recreation Advisory Committee will go back to the drawing board at the next meeting. The Historical Commission has over 30 people registered for the May walking tour and over 20 registered for June. The Commission is here tonight setting up the display case in Borough Hall. The display will match the theme of the walking tours; life along main street in Highland Park. The Historical Commission will have a table at the Middlesex County History Fair at East Jersey Olde Towne on May 20th. The Arts Commission Comic Book Drawing Workshop to be held at the Fallout Shelter this Saturday is full, standing room only. Open Studios has low registration and they may move the event to the Fall. The meeting with the Band Aid Bench artist, Lucky Jo, went well. They're looking forward to a decision on the exact location of the bench. They are planning a follow up to the Fluxus panel for the end of June. Plans are in the works for the Chalk Art Night for National Night Out. Plans are in the works for a "Music on the Corner" for the summer. The corner would be at North 4th and Raritan, electricity provided by Pino's. Music will be performed from 7PM to 9PM. May is Asian American Pacific Islander Month. On May 20th from 11AM to 8PM, the Asian American Festival will take place at the New Jersey Convention & Expo Center, 97 Sunfield Avenue, Edison, NJ. The festival brings together the diverse Asian American community under one roof to celebrate the Asian American Heritage month. Entertainment, dance performances, food, shopping and children activities. Ramadan Mubarak! To those celebrating tonight.

Councilwoman Welkovits reported that on Saturday, May 5th, several Councilmembers, and friends and family of the late Councilman Jon Erickson, met at Raritan Avenue and South Adelaide Avenue to dedicate a new bus stop in his memory. Always an advocate for the working man, Jon was a well-respected professor, academic, and mentor and guided the Governing Body in best practices. She thanked Jon's wife, Anne Sherber; daughter, Tess, and family members who funded the project and attended this small, moving ceremony to honor Jon and his important work for the community. It was her pleasure to serve with Jon on Council. She thanked members from Main Street; Jim Nichols for drawing up the design; Rebecca Hersh; Siobhan Weinstein; Ali Hack; Stacy Kaplan from Communications; Scott Brescher from Code Enforcement; and Mike Wiczorkiewicz from Public Works for managing the installation. The weather held out on Sunday, May 6th for the biggest events; Highland Park's 5K and Street Fair. The 10th Annual 5K was a smashing success. Runners received t-shirts with a new commemorative logo, and winners received a mug which they could then fill at OQ and Pino's for special discount pricing. The Street Fair was the biggest one yet. She thanked all the sponsors, vendors and all of the volunteers and staff that make these events a success year in and year out. She especially thanked the Director of Main Street, Rebecca Hersh. She provided an update on one of her favorite topics, grants for improved and safer pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure. WSP, the planning firm that was assigned to the Borough by the NJ Department of Transportation to create an improved Bike Walk Plan for Highland Park, had a booth at the Street Fair. Susan Blickstein, one-time resident who worked on the Master Plan years ago, will be working with WSP on the Bike Walk Plan. She was there with a map and asking people about their traffic experiences. They will post a link to their survey on the website and in the e-newsletter. Residents are asked to provide their input at [surveymonkey.com/r/HParkCS](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HParkCS). An update on the Safe Routes to School grant, where the Borough received nearly a quarter million dollars to improve walkability in and around the neighborhoods of Irving and Bartle Schools. Members of the NJDOT met with the Borough Administrator, the Borough Engineer, members of the Safe Walking and Cycling Committee and herself for a kick-off meeting last week. As the original source for these funds is Federal funding, they reviewed the numerous steps and requirements which they'll have to follow, including public outreach to the neighborhoods. Afterwards, she walked their guests up Mansfield Street to assess the intersections at South 5th Avenue and Grove Avenue and to discuss what improvements can be made there. After all assessments, reporting, certificates, etc. are submitted, they expect Federal authorization of funds next summer, and work to begin immediately following. To celebrate May as National Bicycling Month, Keep Middlesex Moving and members of the Safe Walking and Cycling Committee have organized a bike to school for the Middle School on May 25th from Donaldson Park to the Middle School. The younger students at Bartle School can participate in the annual Walk Your Child to School Day. Parents, guardians and students should meet at the Stop & Shop parking lot at 7:40 a.m. on Wednesday, May 16th. Main Street's downtown planting days are Thursday, May 17th and Saturday, May 19th. Join volunteers to beautify the downtown by filling the planters with flowers and decorative plants. The Outdoor Movie Theatre runs from May through September on Saturday nights. Over The Moon Toys will be donating crayons and markers for kids to decorate cardboard boxes into cars, creating a drive-in movie. You are asked to bring your own box. Beginning on May 26th will be the Secret of Nimh. She thanked Brian Ontken for a great line up of movies. On June 9th, the film Brazil will be shown and it is being sponsored by Councilman George. Vintage cartoons are shown at dusk with the main feature being show at 9:00 p.m. in the municipal parking lot on Raritan Avenue between South 2nd and South 3rd Avenues. Beginning June 1st, Music on the Corners will occur on Friday nights through September. She thanked Main Street for booking every Friday night through September. The weekly Farmer's Market, named one of the best in the State, begins Friday, June 1st and runs until December. There are some schedule changes with the summer season. The Main Street Board continues to meet the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at the Senior Center. The Safe Walking and Cycling Committee meets on May 23rd at 7:00 p.m. at the Senior Center and the 3rd Wednesday of the month thereafter. The Planning Board will meet on May 22nd at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall. They will be reviewing the ANT Realty plan which is the property on Raritan Avenue and North 2nd Avenue. The following Planning Board meeting will be June 21st, at which they will be reviewing a subdivision on South 5th Avenue and Mansfield Street. The Zoning Board of Adjustment will meet on May 21st and then continue to meet on the 4th Monday of the month, unless otherwise noticed.

Councilman Hersh reported that he would like to address an issue that has occupied several of his Boards and Commissions for the last few months and specifically address a letter that was submitted to Mayor and Council regarding the incident that happened in the Borough back in March. For nearly two months, the Council has been having an important discussion related to race and racial bias in the community. For a town to tackle so many social justice issues, we clearly as a community have had a difficult time talking about roles in either an academic or a practical way. We have also had a difficult time looking at a complicated issued without partiality when presented with facts and presented with incomplete data. I am confident that as we continue to address this issue that the Council will examine our municipal and policing practices carefully and deliberately, as that is our charge. I want to challenge our activated and organized residents to work with the Council when developing and promoting these policies; just like they did with our inclusive community resolution last year. I am heartened that this letter was signed by so many friends, neighbors and volunteers who have committed countless hours to make Highland Park a more equitable place. But without holding hands to move bravely forward, we all risk working in silos and potentially working against each other's interests. This would be particularly catastrophic to everybody, the Council, the Police and the residents, who signed that letter and the residents who didn't want a better, more equitable Highland Park. This is not the case with our immigration discussion where we have a significant number of residents speaking out against our proposed policies. While many people rolled their eyes on March 20th when several of use said we need to community's help to address racial bias in the community. The fact remains, we need your help. Impact organizing is multi-faceted. Stepping up to the microphone is valuable and is an often necessary facet, but working together is often the more sustainable route. Most other towns don't have even remotely our open door policy for resident engagement. This is how we deal with things in Highland Park and he would not have it any other way. These are anti-bias policies that the Mayor and Council were already pursuing going back before his and Councilwoman Foster-Dublin's February meeting with ACLU People Power as illustrated by the inclusive community resolution passed last year and the work that has been happening for 20 years prior. It is more urgent now and we have reached a critical moment in this

country where we have to defend our principles at every level of government in order for our communities to take the shape of our ideals. As we move forward, we need to show our work and be deliberate and transparent when developing and promoting anti-bias policies or possibly budgeting taxpayer dollars towards addressing this issue. We also need to make clear that we support our Police in this issue. It seems unnecessary to point out the immeasurable benefit our Police provide for our community. They take resident's concerns seriously and want to work toward positive outcomes. It is very important to show that any discussion related to equitable practices is done to improve and bolster municipal services and to make sure our department has the resources it needs to keep our community safe and protected. In the spirit of the inclusive community resolution, our aim is for mutual engagement between residents and municipal agencies. If there are segments of the population that are marginalized, it weakens our overall function and advocacy and furthers disenfranchisement. We need to make clear that we support our residents in this endeavor; who have shown efforts to spur Council into action. This is the essence of community organizing and we need to embrace it and we must act if we want to be a 21st century leader and we will act as we have acted for so many times before to achieve equitable goals and partnership with our police and other municipal agencies. We need to do a better job talking about race, particularly because so much of what this Council does was born out of socio economic necessity. His portfolio is Health and Human Services. The Human Relations Commission fosters understanding and cross culture acceptance. The Food Pantry serves residents who lack adequate resources for food. The Highland Park Housing Authority provides subsidized access to our wonderful town. HP Gives a Hoot provides lunch for students in need when school is not in session. The Commission for Universal Access ensures safe access points for residents with limited physical abilities. The Board of Health, who's statutory charge is to conduct inspections, conducts programmatic initiatives intended to educate residents in a myriad of public health issues. As you know, the pursuit of environmental justice is a major hallmark of equitable, inclusive communities. All of these things feature an explicit and implicit racial and socio economic component and we should not be afraid to look at all of our municipal functions, not through a racial lens, but a lens of equity. Tomorrow, he, Mayor Brill Mittler, and Councilwoman Foster-Dublin will review two proposals by Elizabeth Riley from the American Conference on Diversity. One proposal is for a series of workshops that address diversity and inclusion and the other is for a consultation that will provide them with guidance on their policies moving forward. Last night, HP Gives a Hoot held its regular meeting and they heard from John Hume, who organizes the summer league basketball program. Councilwoman Kim-Chohan, Mayor Brill Mittler and himself will meet next week to discuss possible hoot grant opportunities. HP Gives a Hoot is offering 10 scholarships for K-6 youth for the 2018 summer day camps. Please email igaveahoot@gmail.com for a copy of the application or obtain it at the Clerk's Office. As Housing Liaison, he has been fielding several calls related to tenant and landlord related issues. Please remember that it is illegal to discriminate against any one group based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, family status or disability. What should you do if you think your fair housing rights have been violated? There is help available. You can reach out to anyone on Council or the Clerk's Office. Housing discrimination complaints can also be filed by phone or in writing with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and/or with the NJ Division of Civil Rights. You can file an online complaint at the HUD website. You can also contact the local HUD Office at 1-800-496-4294. You may file a complaint with the NJ Division of Civil Rights within 190 days of the alleged violation and the complaint must be filed at any one of the regional office in the State. Last week, the Board of Health met where they called and left a voicemail for the winner of the Board of Health's Fitbit Challenge. Participants contributed to the public health survey at Sunday's Street Fair and the winner was randomly chosen at the meeting. The Board of Health will be hosting 2 mosquito trap workshops in the Council Chambers on May 24th and May 30th at 7:00 PM. There will be 2 experts educating residents on how to use the traps and there will be 24 free traps given out on a first come, first serve basis. On June 1st at 9:30 AM, the Mayor and Council, the Human Relations Commission and the Pride Center of New Jersey will be hosting the annual Pride Month Flag raising at the Senior/Youth Center. He thanked members of the Board of Health, the Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs and the Human Relations Commission for having tables at the Street Fair.

Councilman George reported that tonight on the agenda there is an item to move forward with the Borough's sustainability program and a step towards instituting a micro grid, we will approve the submission of the closure plan and post-closure plan for the Meadows. The Borough has finally broken the logjam to get this site approved and closed with assistance from the Governor's Office. This will allow the Borough to move forward significantly with the actual planning and implementation, the way it was originally planned. It is a major step and he is very excited about it as well as PSE&G. The Department of Public Works, in cooperation with the Shade Tree Advisory Committee is working on the running problem that you hear about every week, the Emerald Ash Borer plan, which unfortunately is a significant natural disaster that we are undergoing in a slow motion way. The Emerald Ash Borer destroys all ash trees and there is basically no known treatment other than a rather expensive chemical treatment that has to go on for 25 years. It is resulting in most municipalities' planning to remove their ash trees so that they don't eventually die off and create a significant public safety hazard. The Shade Tree Advisory Committee, with its GIS mapping that was done under a grant to identify and mark all the Borough trees, and the Department of Public Works, working with a plan to start the removal this year. He has reached out to the County on several occasions and is waiting for a response to a general thought that Councilman Fine and he had to recycle in place. One of the biggest expenses is carting the large chips away to be disposed of. The Borough has to pay a transportation fee and a tipping fee and then the chips are sold by the commercial disposals back to Home Depot and all the garden centers. They have come up with a possible plan in conjunction with the Meadows Trail volunteers to recycle in place and hopefully they will be able to move to a shared services agreement in the coming year on that. There will be trees planted on Borough streets as well as at the Native Plant Reserve. Working on cleanup at the Native Plant Reserve and volunteers are needed for this weekend beginning at 9:00 AM. The Shade Tree Advisory Committee had some extra stock of viburnum, which is a pollinator, and they decided to plant them around the Environmental Center. This will provide pollination for the Borough beehives. Sustainable Highland Park has developed their questionnaire and will be rolled out very shortly as part of their grant program and part of their ongoing interest in plastic bag reduction. There is a closure questionnaire, shorter form, to close out the program and discuss a number of issues and plans going forward that the Borough can do. They are moving forward with this year's planning and even a middle

school group, who attends the meetings, with regard to other forms of plastic reduction such as micro plastics in water. The Shade Tree Advisory Committee is finalizing some new sections to their revised five-year plan and is working with the Arborist who has developed most of the plan.

Borough Administrator Jover reported that she received the reports from the Local Government Energy Audits conducted last week. The reports are very detailed and she is looking forward to exploring options to save money.

Borough Attorney Tauriello - No report.

Mayor Brill Mittler reported that serving as the Mayor is one of the most rewarding experiences. It can be the best volunteer job in the world, especially in a town like Highland Park, where you can really make a difference. We are all neighbors; you've heard me say that before. We have common goals and right now, one of those common goals is to ensure a high level of quality of life for all of our residents. I know there's racism in the world we live in. It is her responsibility to ensure that Highland Park does its best to not perpetuate racial and ethnic biases on our streets. To that end, she has been receiving a good deal of input regarding the Police Department and the evaluation of the stop data they collect. She's delighted that Chief Rizco and the Highland Park Police Department welcome the help in analyzing the data they collect. In fact, Chief Rizco and the rest of the Police Management have asked for this help. As far as they know, no other Police Department in Middlesex County collects this kind of data. Last week, they had a very productive meeting with the NAACP. They are providing guidance and sources to aid the Police Department in this data collection. A copy of their letter to the Borough about this is available on the table in front of her. She has appointed Councilman Hersh and Councilwoman Foster-Dublin, representing their Human Relations and Public Safety Council Members, to spearhead the Governing Body's efforts. Their first steps will include the hiring of an unbiased outside consultant to analyze the data that is collected by the Police Department. They are looking at two of the organizations recommended by the NAACP and Councilwoman Foster-Dublin has already reached out to them. The analysis of the data will lead to a recommendation for the type of training that will be required. Any funding required for this new training will be made available in the coming year, if it is not already available this year. Councilman Hersh and the Human Relations Commission are working on a parallel line in providing training for the Borough and also for residents. He has already reached out to Elizabeth Riley-Williams of the American Conference on Diversity for proposals to provide additional guidance. The Mayor and Council received a letter from People Power that outlined the concerns expressed by some of the residents, including suggested next steps. Councilman Hersh shared it on Facebook in an effort to be transparent. It outlines some of the steps the Governing Body has already taken since the last meeting with the NAACP. She urged those of you who signed the letter to work with them. Reach out to her or any of the Borough Council members whenever you have some questions or concerns. She is in her office at Borough Hall Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and works from home on Monday and Friday. Her door and cell phone are always open, or on. If you prefer not to come to the office, feel free to contact her on her cell phone at 732-336-0030. We aren't a big city, but together we can make a big change. We all live within these 1.76 square miles. If we work together, we can accomplish so much more. That's what she loves about this community. Work with them.

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

Ellen Roesener, 242 South 6th Avenue, commented that she is now fighting for her own rights. She asked about an independent body for resident complaints that have not been dealt with. She asked what the relationship is between the Borough and the HUD building. She is not willing to depend on the management of that building. Councilman Hersh asked whether she has been to a Housing Authority meeting. Ms. Roesener noted that she tried to contact him via email. She would love to set up a meeting with him. Councilman Hersh encouraged her to attend the Housing Authority meetings. There is a tenant member that sits on the Board.

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

The Clerk reported advertising an ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, CHAPTER 328, "SEWER AND WATER", 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 Hersh 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 Councilwoman Welkovits, the ordinance entitled as above, being Ordinance No. 18-1960, 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.

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

No. 5-18-136

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, CHAPTER 328, "SEWER AND WATER", 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.

The Clerk reported advertising an ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR A SURCHARGE FOR METERED WATER USAGE CALENDAR YEAR 2017, 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 Hersh 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 Hersh, the ordinance entitled as above, being Ordinance No. 18-1961, was duly adopted on final reading by title by the following roll call vote, to wit:

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

Opposed: Councilperson Kim-Chohan.

Abstain: None

Absent: None.

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

No. 5-18-137

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR A SURCHARGE FOR METERED WATER USAGE CALENDAR YEAR 2017, 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.

The Clerk reported advertising Resolution 4-18-122, Amendments to the 2018 Municipal Budget and Water and Sewer Budget, for consideration of passage on final reading by title.

On motion made by Councilman Fine, seconded by Councilman George, and carried by affirmative voice vote of all Councilpersons present, the amendments to the budget were taken up on final reading by title.

Mayor Brill Mittler opened the public hearing on the budget amendments and called upon all those wishing to speak for or against the budget amendment to do so.

No one appearing to be heard, the Mayor closed the public hearing on the budget.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, 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, Hersh, Kim-Chohan, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

No. 5-18-138

WHEREAS, the local municipal budget for the year 2018 was approved on the 20th day of March, 2018, and

WHEREAS, the public hearing on said budget has been held as advertised, and

WHEREAS, it is desired to amend said approved budget, dependent on approval from the Division of Local Government Services;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park, County of Middlesex, that the following amendments to the approved budget of 2018 be made:

		<u>CURRENT FUND</u>	
		<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Current Fund - Anticipated Revenues:			
General Revenues			
(A) Operations within "CAPS"			
Police			
	Salaries and Wages	3,410,893.00	3,430,393.00
	Other Expenses	195,549.20	176,049.20
	Total Operations (Item 8A) within "CAPS"	11,049,965.50	11,049,965.50
	Total Operations Including Contingent within "CAPS"	11,066,750.56	11,066,750.56
Detail:			
	Salaries and Wages	6,667,518.24	6,687,018.24
	Other Expenses	4,399,232.32	4,379,732.32
(E) Deferred Charges and Statutory Expenditures -			
Municipal within "CAPS"			
	Deficit - Water and Sewer Utility Operations - Current Year	-	86,067.00
	Total Deferred Charges and Statutory Expenditures -		
	Municipal within "CAPS"	1,591,936.13	1,678,003.13
(H-1) Total General Appropriations for Municipal Purposes			
	within "CAPS"	12,658,686.69	12,744,753.69
8. General Appropriations			
(A) Operations Excluded from "CAPS"			
(E) Deferred Charges - Municipal - Excluded from "CAPS"			
	Deficit - Water and Sewer Utility Operations Current Year	86,067.00	
	Total Deferred Charges Municipal Excluded from "CAPS"	86,067.00	
(H-2) Total General Appropriations for Municipal			
	Purposes Excluded from "CAPS"	2,769,793.01	2,683,726.01
(O) Total General Appropriations- Excluded from "CAPS"			
		2,769,793.01	2,683,726.01
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that two (2) certified copies of this resolution be filed forthwith in the			
Office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for certification of the 2018 Local			
Municipal Budget so amended.			

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, 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, Hersh, Kim-Chohan, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

No. 5-18-139

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park, County of Middlesex, that the 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:

- (a) \$12,121,710.84 (Item 2 below) for Municipal Purposes
- (e) \$448,713.63 (Item 5 below) for Minimum Library Tax

Current Fund:

SUMMARY OF REVENUES

1. General Revenues		
Surplus Anticipated		800,000.00
Miscellaneous Revenues Anticipated		2,258,055.23
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes		-
2. Amount to be Raised by Taxation for Municipal Purposes (Item 6(a), Sheet 11)		12,121,710.84
5. Amount to be Raised by Taxation - Minimum Library Tax (Item 6 (c), Sheet 11)		\$448,713.63
Total Revenues		<u>15,628,479.70</u>

SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS

5. General Appropriations:

Within "CAPS"	
(a&b) Operations Including Contingent	11,066,750.56
(e) Deferred Charges and Statutory Expenditures - Municipal	1,678,003.13
Excluded from "CAPS"	
(a) Operations - Total Operations Excluded from "CAPS"	1,144,845.01
(c) Capital Improvements	233,334.00
(d) Municipal Debt Service	1,305,547.00
(e) Deferred Charges - Municipal	-
(m) Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	\$200,000.00
 Total Appropriations	 15,628,479.70

It is hereby certified that the within budget is a true copy of the budget finally adopted by resolution of the Governing Body on the 15th day of May, 2018.

It is further certified that each item of revenue and appropriation is set forth in the same amount and by the same title as appeared in the CY 2018 approved budget and all amendments thereto, if any, which have been previously approved by the Director of Local Government Services.

Resolution Nos. 5-18-140 through 5-18-150, were duly adopted on motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilwoman Welkovits, 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 Economic Development & Planning Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 5-18-140

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park has need of architectural services in connection with the structural investigation and roof design for a single family dwelling, known as 35 Harrison Avenue; and

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

WHEREAS, James Ramentol, Architect, GRA Architects, Inc., Berkeley Heights, NJ, has submitted a proposal to provide said services for an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council desire to provide compensation for the Architect and funds will be available for this purpose in Account No. 8-01-20-155-245, in the amount of \$15,000.00, upon adoption of the 2018 municipal budget, as reflected by the certification of funds by the Chief Financial Officer, shown below;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized and directed to execute and attest on behalf of the Borough an Agreement for Professional Services with James Ramentol, Architect, GRA Architects, Inc., 312 Springfield Avenue, Suite 2, Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922 for architectural services in connection with the structural investigation and roof design for a single family dwelling, known as 35 Harrison Avenue, said agreement to be in a form approved by the Borough Attorney, 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. 5-18-141

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park desires to apply for and obtain a permit from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) for the closure and post-closure care plan for the Highland Park Borough Landfill; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Borough Administrator, in coordination with the Borough Engineer, is hereby authorized to sign and submit the permit application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP).

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

The following resolution, introduced by the Recreation and Arts Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 5-18-142

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of Highland Park of the Borough of Highland Park that the Independence Fireworks Display will be held on Monday, July 2, 2018 with a rain date of Tuesday, July 3, 2018.

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

No. 5-18-143

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:

CONNOR MURCIER, Seasonal Recreation, at an hourly rate of \$8.60, effective May 1, 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. 5-18-144

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 #16-00035 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 Safety Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 5-18-145

WHEREAS, Guaranteed Motor Towing Service, Inc., 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 applicant and has reported favorably upon said application;

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

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

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 5-18-146

WHEREAS, the property owner for 338 Graham Street made an online water & sewer payment of \$322.61 on April 26, 2018 to the account for 114 North 2nd Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the payment should have been for 338 Graham Street, but the property owner inadvertently clicked on the wrong property when making the online payment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Finance Director and/or Tax Collector is hereby authorized to transfer the posting of said payment for water & sewer from Account #10010440-0 (114 North 2nd Avenue) to Account #20190210-0 (338 Graham Street) in the amount of \$322.61.

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

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 5-18-147

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Finance Director be and is hereby authorized and directed to remit to the following the amount set opposite, the same being the amount of overpayment of 2nd Quarter 2018 taxes for the property indicated:

<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>LOT</u>	<u>REMITTEE</u>	<u>AMOUNT TO BE REMITTED</u>
120	1	Simplicity Title 70 Grove Street Somerville, NJ 08876 (203 Dartmouth Street)	\$2,262.53
70	36	Victoria Abstract 200 Route 9 South, Suite 200 Manalapan, NJ 07726 (229 Inza Street)	\$1,863.83

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

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 5-18-148

WHEREAS, the Highland Park Conservative Temple – Congregation Anshe Emeth applied for a Raffle License to conduct a silent auction; and

WHEREAS, the raffle license fee of \$20.00 was paid for said license; and

WHEREAS, subsequent to issuance of said raffle license, it was determined that a raffle license is not needed and therefore a refund of said fee is due to the applicant; and

WHEREAS, the administrative fee for refunds charged by the Borough Clerk pursuant to Section 5 of Highland Park Resolution No. 01-18-18 adopted by the Borough Council on January 2, 2018 shall be waived;

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 Linda Tondow, 11 Elbert Court, Highland Park, NJ 08904, on behalf of the Highland Park Conservative Temple – Congregation Anshe Emeth, the amount of \$20.00, the same being the amount of refund due for submittal of raffle license application

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

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:
No. 5-18-149

WHEREAS, Scott Title Services, LLC and the property owner, during the closing of the sale of property, both remitted payments for 1st quarter water and sewer charges on a property known as 334 Felton Avenue. Account #20180130-0 in the amount of \$130.53; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector recommends that Scott Title Services, LLC be refunded \$130.53 from water and sewer;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to issue a refund in the amount of \$130.53 from the water and sewer account to Scott Title Services, LLC, 268 Broad Street, Red Bank, NJ 07701.

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

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

No. 5-18-150

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 5/15/2018 can be found in the Bills List Journal Book No. 37.

Mayor Brill Mittler appointed Rodolfo Juliano to serve as a member of the Community Emergency Response Team for a term to expire December 31, 2018.

The above appointment was confirmed on motion made by Councilwoman Foster-Dublin, seconded by Councilwoman Welkovits 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.

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

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

There being no further business, on motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilman Hersh, and carried by affirmative voice vote of all Councilpersons present, the meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Hullings
Borough Clerk