

**Meeting Minutes
Hightstown Borough Council
Regular Meeting
February 17, 2015
7:00 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Quattrone at 7:00 pm and he read the Open Public Meetings Act statement which stated, "Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice was sent to the *Trenton Times* and the *Windsor-Hights Herald*, and is posted in the Borough Clerk's office."

The flag salute followed Roll Call.

	PRESENT	ABSENT
<i>Councilmember Bluth</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Hansen</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Kurs</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Misiura</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Montferrat</i>		✓
<i>Councilmember Stults</i>	✓	
<i>Mayor Quattrone</i>	✓	

Also in attendance: Margaret Riggio, Deputy Borough Clerk; Henry Underhill, Borough Administrator; George Lang, CFO.

Resolution 2015-65 Appointing a Deputy Borough Clerk

Councilmember Kurs moved Resolution 2015-65; Councilmember Hansen seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Hansen, Kurs, Misiura and Stults voted yes.

Resolution adopted 5-0.

Resolution 2015-65
*BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN
COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY*

APPOINTING A DEPUTY CLERK

WHEREAS, the appointment of a Deputy Clerk is needed so that the services of a Deputy Borough Clerk may be utilized to perform the duties of the Borough Clerk at meetings and in the Office of the Borough Clerk where attendance by the Borough Clerk may not be convenient or possible; and

WHEREAS, Margaret M. Riggio has been employed in the Office of the Borough Clerk of Hightstown Borough since 2010; and

WHEREAS, Margaret M. Riggio has served as Deputy Registrar for Hightstown Borough since 2013 and is so certified; and

WHEREAS, Margaret M. Riggio has performed the duties of the Municipal Clerk at meetings when the Municipal Clerk was not available, in the capacity of "Acting Borough Clerk" to the satisfaction of the Borough Council; and

WHEREAS, Margaret M. Riggio is currently enrolled in Municipal Clerk certification courses; and

WHEREAS, the position of Deputy Clerk requires appointment by the Borough Council on an annual at-will basis; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of Borough Council to appoint Margaret M. Riggio as Deputy Clerk for the Borough of Hightstown for the remainder of 2015; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that Margaret M. Riggio is hereby appointed as Deputy Clerk effective immediately for the remainder of 2015.

Councilmember Kurs requested that Resolution 2015-79, Making and Confirming Appointments to the Board of Health, be removed from the Consent Agenda and voted on independently.

Councilmember Misiura moved the agenda as amended for approval; Councilmember Hansen seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Hansen, Kurs, Misiura and Stults voted yes.

Agenda approved at amended 5-0.

Resolution 2015-79 Making and Confirming Appointments to the Board of Health

Councilmember Kurs moved Resolution 2015-79; Councilmember Stults seconded

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Hansen, Kurs, Misiura and Stults voted yes.

Resolution Adopted 5-0.

Resolution 2015-79

*BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN
COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY*

MAKING AND CONFIRMING APPOINTMENTS FOR BOARD OF HEALTH

BE IT RESOLVED that the following appointments are hereby made and confirmed by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown:

Robin Conrad	3 yrs.	December 31, 2017
Nancy Distelcamp	Alt. #2 UX 2 yrs.	December 31, 2015

At this time, Mayor Quattrone asked Nancy Distelcamp to come forward and he administered her Oath of Office.

Councilmember Misiura moved the February 2, 2015 executive session minutes for approval, Councilmember Kurs seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Hansen, Kurs and Misiura voted yes. Councilmember Lee Stults abstained.

Minutes approved 4-0, with 1 abstention.

Councilmember Misiura moved the February 6, 2015 open session minutes for approval; Councilmember Kurs seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Hansen, Kurs, Misiura and Stults voted yes.

Minutes approved 5-0.

Councilmember Bluth moved the February 6, 2015 executive session minutes for approval; Councilmember Stults seconded.
February 17, 2015

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Hansen, Kurs, Misiura and Stults voted yes.

Mayor Quattrone opened public comment period I and the following individuals spoke:

Lynn Woods, 315 Park Avenue – Regarding the Frank Marchione investigation; Pleaded with Council to please ask questions when they receive the report back from the investigation. You have a decision to make that will affect a man’s life and career. Also asked why Scott Jenkins was not part of the internal investigation.

Doug Mair, 536 South Main Street – Talked about the responsibility of Councilmembers in their liaison positions. Most of the committees are behind on getting their meeting minutes posted to the website. Said that he emailed Mayor and Council asking about this matter and that the Mayor did not respond to his email at all. He can help identify problems within the Borough. A good leader should reach out and use all of their resources.

Rob Thibault, 504 South Main Street – Questioned why Resolution 2015-69 was on a consent agenda. This resolution rejected all bids received for solid waste and recycling. This is an item that should have discussion. Also questioned the executive session resolution, it did not state “no action will be taken”. In regards to the Fire Department, Council has oversight of the department and can question them about behavior and can remove them.

Eugene Sarafin, 628 South Main Street – Hightstown Borough Council – Anybody with good business sense would buy the Rugmill property as a government and control it and then find a developer. Leaving it in Wolfington’s hands means he can sell it to whoever he wants to. He wants a say with what happens to the mill property. We have \$2,500,000. We need to buy the property. Tell the insurance company that we are building a Borough Hall and Police Station up on the hill out of the flood plain. Take the \$2,500,000 and control that property.

There being no further comments, Mayor Quattrone closed the public comment period

Resolution 2015-66 Authorizing Payment of Bills

Councilmember Hansen moved Resolution 2015-66; Councilmember Stults seconded.

Councilmember Bluth questioned a bill for Winner Ford. This was for the purchase of a vehicle for Public Works. The resolution to purchase the vehicle is in the consent agenda. That resolution should be passed before authorization for payment of the bill.

Councilmember Hansen withdrew her motion; Councilmember Stults seconded. All ayes.

Consent Agenda – Resolutions 2015-67, 2015-68, 2015-69, 2015-70, 2015-71, 2015-72, 2015-73, 2015-74, 2015-75, 2015-76, 2015-77, 2015-78

Councilmember Bluth moved the consent agenda; Councilmember Hansen seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Hansen, Kurs, Misiura and Stults voted yes.

Resolutions adopted 5-0.

Resolution 2015-67

*BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN
COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY*

**AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS
PRIOR TO ADOPTION OF THE 2015 BUDGET**

WHEREAS, an emergent condition has arisen with respect to inadequate appropriation balances remaining in some line items of the 2015 temporary budget; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 provides for the creation of emergency appropriations for the purposes above mentioned; and

February 17, 2015

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Mayor and Council to create emergency temporary appropriations as set forth on Schedule “A,” attached; and

WHEREAS, the total emergency temporary appropriations in resolutions adopted in the year 2015 pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 (Chapter 96, P.L. 1951, as amended), including this resolution, total:

	<i>THIS RESOLUTION</i>	<i>PREVIOUS TOTAL</i>	<i>CUMULATIVE TOTAL</i>
Current	3,500.00	0.00	3,500.00
Capital Outlay – Current	0.00	0.00	0.00
Debt Service - Current	0.00	0.00	0.00
Water/Sewer	150,000.00	0.00	150,000.00
Capital Outlay – W/S	0.00	0.00	0.00
Debt Service - W/S	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	153,500.00	0.00	153,500.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hightstown (not less than two-thirds of all the members of thereof affirmatively concurring) that, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20:

1. An emergency temporary appropriation is hereby made for each item listed on the schedules that are attached hereto and made a part hereof;
2. Each emergency appropriation listed will be provided for in the 2015 budget under the same title as written herein;
3. One certified copy of this resolution will be filed with the Director of Local Government Services, and a copy provided to the Treasurer.

Resolution 2015-68

*BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN
COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY*

AUTHORIZING A TRANSFER OF FUNDS IN THE 2014 BUDGET

Whereas, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-59 provides that the governing body may authorize a transfer of funds in the budget during the first three months of the following year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the following transfers in the 2014 budget are hereby authorized:

<u>Current:</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Legal Settlements		
Other Expenses	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
Legal Services and Costs		
Other Expenses	-	10,000.00

TOTALS \$ 10,000.00 \$ 10,000.00

Resolution 2015-69

*BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN
COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY*

**REJECTING ALL BIDS FOR SOLID WASTE AND
RECYCLING COLLECTION SERVICES**

WHEREAS, three (3) bids were received on December 18, 2014 for Solid Waste and Recycling Collection Services; and

WHEREAS, all bids received for Solid Waste and Recycling Collection Services exceed the amount budgeted for this service; and

WHEREAS, the bids have been reviewed by the Superintendent of Public Works and the Borough Administrator and it is the Superintendent of Public Works and Borough Administrator's recommendation that all bids received for Solid Waste and Recycling Collection Services be rejected in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-13(2); and

WHEREAS, the Borough Attorney and Qualified Purchasing Agent concur with the Superintendent of Public Works and Borough Administrator's recommendation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that all bids received on December 18, 2014 for Solid Waste and Recycling Collection Services are hereby rejected.

Resolution 2015-70

*BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN
COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY*

AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF TAX OVERPAYMENT FROM 2014 TO 2015

WHEREAS, an overpayment of taxes was made for Block 52, Lot 1, 114 Orchard Avenue, in the amount of \$772.11 due to an overpayment; and

WHEREAS, the payer, Jeffrey A. Gearhart, 114 Orchard Avenue, Hightstown, New Jersey, 08520 has requested that the 2014 overpayment of \$772.11 be transferred to the 2015 balance; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has requested that said overpayment be transferred to the 2015 balance in the amount of \$772.11.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to transfer the 2014 overpayment in the amount of \$772.11 to the 2015 balance for Block 52, Lot 1, 114 Orchard, representing the tax overpayment as set forth herein.

Resolution 2015-71

*BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN
COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY*

AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENT

February 17, 2015

WHEREAS, an overpayment of taxes was made for Block 10.01, Lot 60, 3 Ashton Lane, in the amount of \$2,922.52 due to a double payment; and

WHEREAS, the payer, Guillermo & Carmen Merino, 3 Ashton Lane Hightstown, New Jersey, 08520 has requested that a refund be issued for the overpayment in the amount of \$2,922.52; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has requested that said overpayment be refunded in the amount of \$2,922.52.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the Tax Collector and Treasurer are hereby authorized to issue a refund in the amount of \$2,922.52 to Guillermo & Carmen Merino, 3 Ashton Lane, Hightstown, New Jersey, 08520, representing the tax overpayment as set forth herein.

Resolution 2015-72

*BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN
COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY*

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT FOR CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN THE HOMES INVESTMENTS PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM CONSORTIUM WITH THE COUNTY OF MERCER

WHEREAS, the HOME Investment Partnerships Program seeks to expand the supply of decent and affordable housing, particularly rental housing, for low and very low income Americans; and,

WHEREAS, the HOME Investment Partnerships Program seeks to strengthen the abilities of state and local governments to design and implement strategies for achieving adequate supplies of decent, affordable housing; and,

WHEREAS, the HOME Investment Partnerships Program seeks to extend and strengthen partnerships among all levels of government and the private sector, including for-profit and non-profit organizations, in the production and operation of affordable housing; and,

WHEREAS, the HOME Investment Partnerships Program provides state and local governments with the flexibility to decide what kind of housing assistance, is most appropriate for meeting their housing needs; and,

WHEREAS, the HOME Investment Partnerships Program encourages state and local governments to use HOME funds efficiently and to undertake the most cost-efficient housing activities requiring the smallest state and local matching contributions for Federal funds; and,

WHEREAS, in order to qualify for funding under this program, a municipality or consortium of municipalities must have a minimum 'critical housing need' of \$500,000.00; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Trenton is the only municipality within Mercer County eligible, on an independent basis for HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds; and,

WHEREAS, the remaining Mercer County municipalities interested in participating in the HOME Investment Partnerships Program must pool together into a consortium to be eligible for funding; and,

WHEREAS, there is no cost to municipalities to participate in the Mercer County HOME Investment Partnerships Program Consortium, aside from the required matching funds for any project a municipality may undertake; and,

WHEREAS, the Mercer County HOME Investment Partnerships Program Consortium would be a source of funding for a project the Borough of Hightstown may undertake in its own affordable housing program without requiring the Borough of Hightstown to undertake any specific projects; and,

WHEREAS, participation by the Borough of Hightstown in the Mercer County HOME Investment Partnerships Program
February 17, 2015

Consortium would be beneficial to its relations with other Mercer County municipalities, and as a whole, meet the eligibility requirements for participation in the HOME Investment Partnerships Program; and,

WHEREAS, this agreement shall automatically be renewed for the Consortium's participation in successive qualification periods of three federal fiscal years each. No later than the date specified by HUD's consortia designation notice or HOME Consortia web page, Mercer County shall notify each Consortium Member in writing of its right to decide not to participate in the Consortium for the next qualification period and Mercer County shall send a copy of each notification to the HUD Field office; and,

WHEREAS, if a Consortium Members decides not to participate in the Consortium for the next qualification period, the Consortium Member shall notify Mercer County, and Mercer County shall notify the HUD Field Office, before the beginning of the new qualification period; and,

WHEREAS, the automatic renewal of the agreement will be void if; Mercer County fails to notify a Consortium member or the HUD field office as required under this automatic renewal provision or Mercer County fails to submit a copy of each amendment to this agreement as required under this automatic renewal provision; now,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, participation in the Mercer County HOME Investment Partnerships Program Consortium is hereby endorsed; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and the Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute said Mercer County HOME Investment Partnerships Program Consortium Agreement.

Resolution 2015-73

*BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN
COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY*

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF AN AUCTION LICENSE - EMPIRE ANTIQUES

WHEREAS, an application for a license to hold an auction on Saturday, March 14, 2015 at 278 Monmouth Street in the Borough of Hightstown has been submitted by Empire Antiques, together with the required fee; and

WHEREAS, the application has been reviewed and approved by the Police Department; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Mayor and Council that a license be issued to Empire Antiques for this event.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to issue a license to Empire Antiques for their auction to be held on Saturday, March 14, 2015, at 278 Monmouth Street.

Resolution 2015-74

*BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN
COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY*

**ACCEPTING MEMBERSHIP OF MICHAEL R. BOLLENTIN IN
HIGHTSTOWN ENGINE CO. NO. 1**

WHEREAS, Michael R. Bollentin of Hightstown, New Jersey has applied for membership in Hightstown Engine Company No. 1; and

WHEREAS Mr. Bollentin has undergone and passed the required physical examination, and his membership application has been reviewed and approved by Fire Chief Scott Jenkins;

February 17, 2015

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the membership of Michael R. Bollentin in Hightstown Engine Company No. 1 is hereby accepted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to Hightstown Engine Co. #1.

Resolution 2015-75

*BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN
COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY*

**ACCEPTING MEMBERSHIP OF ERIC J. SIDES IN
HIGHTSTOWN ENGINE CO. NO. 1**

WHEREAS, Eric J. Sides of Mount Laurel, New Jersey has applied for membership in Hightstown Engine Company No. 1; and

WHEREAS Mr. Sides has undergone and passed the required physical examination, and his membership application has been reviewed and approved by Fire Chief Scott Jenkins;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the membership of Eric J. Sides in Hightstown Engine Company No. 1 is hereby accepted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to Hightstown Engine Co. #1.

Resolution 2015-76

*BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN
COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY*

**ACCEPTING MEMBERSHIP OF JOSEPH C. ZULLO IN
HIGHTSTOWN ENGINE CO. NO. 1**

WHEREAS, Joseph C. Zullo of Hightstown, New Jersey has applied for membership in Hightstown Engine Company No. 1; and

WHEREAS Mr. Zullo has undergone and passed the required physical examination, and his membership application has been reviewed and approved by Fire Chief Scott Jenkins;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the membership of Joseph C. Zullo in Hightstown Engine Company No. 1 is hereby accepted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to Hightstown Engine Co. #1.

Resolution 2015-77

*BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN
COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY*

**AUTHORIZING A STATE CONTRACT PURCHASE FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT -
TRUCKS**

WHEREAS, there is a need for a dump body truck, pick-up truck and utility truck for use by the Hightstown Department of Public Works; and

WHEREAS, the Hightstown Borough Council has authorized the purchase of these vehicles with the adoption of Bond Ordinance 2014-13; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Superintendent has found pricing and availability for a Dump Body & Chassis as needed under New Jersey State Contract A83559 in the amount of \$33,963.00; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Superintendent has found pricing and availability 4WD Regular Cab Utility vehicle and an Extended Cab 4WD Pickup Truck as needed under New Jersey State Contract A83576 at a cost of \$34,655.00 and \$30,477.00; and

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Agent has reviewed the findings of the Public Works Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Purchasing Agent and Public Works Superintendent that these vehicles be purchased from Winner Ford, 250 Haddonfield Berlin Road, Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08034 under state contract for an amount not to exceed \$99,095.00; and

WHEREAS, the treasurer has certified that funds are available for this purchase.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the Purchasing Agent is hereby authorized to purchase a Dump Body & Chassis, 4WD Regular Cab Utility vehicle and an Extended Cab 4WD Pickup Truck from Winner Ford, 250 Haddonfield Berlin Road, Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08034 under New Jersey State Contracts A83559 and A83576 for an amount not to exceed \$99,095.00.

Resolution 2015-78

*BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN
COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY*

**RESOLUTION DESIGNATING SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2015 AS
ARBOR DAY IN THE BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN**

WHEREAS, it is widely reported as historical fact that, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees; and

WHEREAS, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires, raw material for sculpture and painting and limitless works of art, and source materials for countless other wood products; and

WHEREAS, trees in our Borough increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community and spiritual renewal; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown hereby does proclaim and designate Saturday, April 25, 2015, as **ARBOR DAY** in the Borough of Hightstown;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown, that all residents and members of our community are urged and encouraged to support efforts to protect our trees, walkways, riparian banks and woodlands throughout our Borough and our surrounding environment;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all residents and members of our community are urged and encouraged to plant trees where appropriate, to gladden hearts and promote the well-being of present and future generations.

Resolution 2015-66 Authorizing the Payment of Bills

Councilmember Hansen moved Resolution 2015-66; Councilmember Bluth seconded.

Councilmembers Bluth, Hansen, Kurs, Misiura and Stults voted yes.

Resolution adopted 5-0.

Resolution 2015-66

*BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN
COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY*

AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

WHEREAS, certain bills are due and payable as per itemized claims listed on the following schedules, which are made a part of the minutes of this meeting as a supplemental record;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the bills be paid on audit and approval of the Borough Administrator, the appropriate Department Head and the Treasurer in the amount of \$102,181.91 from the following accounts:

Current		\$48,801.43
W/S Operating		17,699.60
General Capital		30,477.00
Water/Sewer Capital		12.00
Grant		800.00
Trust		391.88
Housing Trust		0.00
Animal Control		0.00
Law Enforcement Trust		0.00
Housing Rehab Loans		4,000.00
Unemployment Trust		0.00
Escrow		<u>0.00</u>
Total		<u>\$102,181.91</u>

At this time, Councilmember Montferrat joined the meeting.

Mayor Quattrone opened the public comment period II and the following individuals spoke:

Eugene Sarafin – There are openings on the Environmental Commission. He has submitted his volunteer application and is waiting to hear from someone.

J.P. Gibbons, 602 North Main Street – Congratulated Mayor Quattrone. Talked about an article that he read about Moonachie were they turned down FEMA’s initial payment after Hurricane Sandy and ended up with 4.6 Million dollars. Also talked about how Princeton University denying their tax exempt status on 15 properties in the Municipality. If Princeton University is denied this status why can’t Peddie be touched? Don’t do things in the dark.

Doug Mair, 536 South Main St. – Doesn’t understand the contamination at the Rug Mill. Use the Borough Code to make the owners clean. Or we can clean it up and charge the owner. Or we can seize the property under eminent domain.

Problem solved. You have an obligation to take care of the public and keep them from harm. Feels that all of the Council members mislead voters during their campaigns. They all campaigned about wanting to get the Rug Mill developed. Now they are saying it is not up to us to get it developed. The failure is on the Council. He wants Council for fight for the residents.

Lynn Woods, 315 Park Avenue – Asked by the Borough Attorney was not at the meeting again. This is the 2nd meeting in a row that the Borough Attorney was not in attendance.

Rob Thibault, 504 South Main Street – Talked about outsourcing the Police. Questioned salaries in the Borough. Wanted to know why Police salaries were up only 1% over the last 3 years compared to increase of 14% for Borough Employees.

There being no further comments, Mayor Quattrone closed the public comment period.

Mayor/Council/Administrative Comments and Committee Reports

Councilmember Stults – Downtown Hightstown is receiving proposals for downtown development. Once someone is chosen, they will hold meetings to update Council and the public.

Councilmember Kurs – Talked about the discolored water at the Housing Authority. This was a problem with their boiler not a Borough issue. Construction Official is investigating all issues that are brought to his attention and issuing summonses when necessary. The Police Department is continuing to work on traffic issues. Discussions regarding the ladder truck for the Fire Department are ongoing. First Aid is putting together bid specs to replace their ambulance that was totaled in an accident. Thanked Public Works for all of their hard work in the extreme cold. 12 Farms Restaurant just opened. There will be a new deli opening on West Ward Street in June. Hightstown High School will be putting on the play Seussical March 7, 8 & 9. He encouraged the public to attend and support the children in the community.

Councilmember Bluth – Address Mr. Thibault regarding rejecting the solid waste and recycling bids. This was discussed at the February 2, 2015 Workshop meeting. Addressed Mr. Mair regarding the minutes for Parks and Rec. She is working with the new chairperson of Parks and Rec on getting the minutes up to date.

Councilmember Montferrat – Apologized for arriving late. The HPC is looking into getting grants. Thanked Public Works for the wonderful job they do on plowing our streets. Had dinner at 12 Farms Restaurant and it was wonderful. Also encouraged the public to support the students at Hightstown High School by attending the spring musical.

Councilmember Misiura – The Environmental Commission is planning a Cheesecake and Wine Event. Date to follow. Their goals for this year are: to maintain Sustainable New Jersey status; Progress on completing Greenway; Reaching out to Hightstown High School and the Peddie School. The Health Department met on February 11th. They will be working to amend the Borough Health Code. That part of the Borough code is mandated by the State. Some of the things that they will be looking into are Quality of Life Issues. Another issue is how to deal with foreclosed property. Once they have the language worked out this is something that we can include in other portions of the code. Housing Authority Meeting will be February 18 and he will be attending. He will report back at the next meeting.

Council President Hansen – Regarding Water/Sewer. Grant application being prepared by Roberts Engineering for UV system at the WWTP is on target to be submitted March 6th. The work at the WWTP will need to be completed by 2017. That is when the DEP will penalize if we are not meeting certain levels. This is a huge expense. Receiving the Grant would mean a major reduction in the interest rate. The water quality report was just posted on the website. New consulting engineering at the WWTP is looking at what occurs there. What systems we're using and the effect of grease and septic. We are looking at a lot of capital expense there. Engineer is offering professional information to us.

Borough Administrator Underhill – Talked about having 3 water main breaks in 48 hours. Our Public Works Department were out fixing them.

Mayor Quattrone - Taxi cab parking – The Police Department cannot enforce the ordinance without signs. The Borough Engineer is looking into this. Workshop meetings will be the first meeting of the month. This is where discussion on items will take place. Formal action will take place at the second meeting of the month which will be the business meeting. He addressed J.P. Gibbons regarding Moonachie's FEMA money. That was for Hurricane Sandy not Hurricane Irene. Addressed Doug Mair,

February 17, 2015

Apologized for not returning his email. The Borough Attorney and Engineer were not present at the meeting because there was no reason for either one of them to attend.

Resolution 2015-80 Authorizing a Meeting Which Excludes the Public

Councilmember Montferrat moved Resolution 2015-80. Councilmember Hansen seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Hansen, Kurs, Misiura, Montferrat, Stults voted yes.

Resolution adopted 6-0.

Resolution 2015-80

*BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN
COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY*

AUTHORIZING A MEETING WHICH EXCLUDES THE PUBLIC

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that this body will hold a meeting on February 17, 2015 directly following the general meeting in the First Aid Building located at 168 Bank Street, Hightstown that will be limited only to consideration of an item or items with respect to which the public may be excluded pursuant to section 7b of the Open Public Meetings Act.

The general nature of the subject or subjects to be discussed:

Contract Negotiations – Shared Services (Various – Police/Dispatch/Court)

Stated as precisely as presently possible the following is the time when and the circumstances under which the discussion conducted at said meeting can be disclosed to the public: May 18, 2015 or when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

The public is excluded from said meeting, and further notice is dispensed with, all in accordance with sections 8 and 4a of the Open Public Meetings Act.

Councilmember Stults moved to adjourn into Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. Councilmember Hansen seconded. All ayes.

Councilmember Misiura motioned to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. Councilmember Stults seconded. All ayes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret M. Riggio
Deputy Borough Clerk