

OPEN SESSION

Mayor Robert Patten called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and read the Open Public Meetings Act statement which stated that adequate notice and posting of the meeting had taken place in accordance with the requirements of P.L. 1975, Chapter 231.

The flag salute was followed by the roll call.

ROLL CALL

	PRESENT	ABSENT
<i>Mayor Patten</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Harinxma</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Quattrone</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Rosenberg</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Schneider</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Sikorski</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Thompson</i>	✓	

Also in attendance: Candace Gallagher, Borough Clerk/Administrator; Carmela Roberts, Borough Engineer; James M. Eufemia, Chief of Police and Frederick Raffetto, Esq., Borough Attorney.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was amended to include in the scheduled Executive Session a discussion of tax appeal litigation. It was then moved as amended by Council President Sikorski, seconded by Councilmember Schneider and approved by all.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the February 20, 2007 open and closed sessions were moved by Council President Sikorski, seconded by Councilmember Quattrone and unanimously approved as submitted.

PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Patten read aloud and presented proclamations to the 2006 E.M.T., Firefighter and Policeman of the Year. He said that he was proud to be a part of this, and that the Borough's emergency services are "the best in the world."

2006 E.M.T. of the Year – Alex Contreras

Whereas, *Alex Contreras* is performing a valuable service to the residents of Hightstown as a volunteer Emergency Medical Technician with the Hightstown First Aid Squad; and

Whereas, *Mr. Contreras* currently holds the office of Sergeant, and serves on the Squad's House, Computer, Publicity and Membership Committees; and

Whereas , Mr. Contreras has contributed a great deal of his time and talent to the Hightstown First Aid Squad, creating a publicity flyer, designing and maintaining the Squad's online calendar and website, and serving as the Squad's official photographer; and

Whereas , Mr. Contreras rides on a duty crew and also responds to calls from his home, and he participates in many First Aid Squad activities, such as parades, drills, standbys and maintenance of the ambulance and building; and

Whereas , the volunteer services provided to the Borough of Hightstown by Alex Contreras have helped to enhance the safety, well being and peace of mind of Borough residents; and

Whereas, Mr. Contreras has been chosen by his peers as 2006 E.M.T. of the Year;

Now, Therefore, Be It Proclaimed *by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that **Alex Contreras** is hereby recognized as **2006 E.M.T. of the Year**, and that he is commended for his commitment, dedication and devoted service to the Borough of Hightstown and its residents as a volunteer E.M.T. with the Hightstown First Aid Squad.*

2006 Firefighter of the Year – Brian Johnson

*Whereas, **Brian Johnson** is performing a valuable service to the residents of Hightstown by serving as a devoted, reliable and hard-working volunteer member of Hightstown Engine Company No. 1; and*

Whereas, Brian joined Hightstown Engine Co. No. 1 in 1994 as a Junior Fireman, and was brought in as a regular firefighter in June, 1997; and

Whereas, Brian has become an excellent pump operator and has maintained his assigned truck in a professional manner, always making sure that it is ready for the next call; and

Whereas, Brian now heads the Junior Firefighter program, and has improved that program significantly, imparting his skills and enthusiasm for community service to the next generation of Hightstown firefighters; and

Whereas, Brian Johnson has been honored by Hightstown Engine Co. No. 1 as 2006 Firefighter of the Year;

Now, Therefore, Be It Proclaimed *by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that **Brian Johnson** is hereby recognized as **2006 Firefighter of the Year**, and is thanked and commended for his bravery, commitment and dedicated service to the Borough of Hightstown and the surrounding community.*

2006 Policeman of the Year – Patrolman Frank Marchione

Whereas, Patrolman Frank Marchione is beginning his sixth year as a police officer with the Hightstown Police Department; and

Whereas, Patrolman Marchione strives to be productive, exhibits good judgment and has demonstrated an overall improvement in all aspects of police work, and he is a "team player" in every sense of the word; and

Whereas, Patrolman Marchione's ability, job knowledge and positive attitude have been apparent while assisting with the training of Ptl. Khalifa, and he continues to mentor her during her field training period; and

Whereas, Patrolman Marchione has earned the respect of his peers and of this community, and has been chosen by his fellow officers as 2006 Policeman of the Year;

Now, Therefore, Be It Proclaimed by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that **Patrolman Frank Marchione** is hereby recognized as **2006 Policeman of the Year** and is commended for his professionalism, dedication to law enforcement and committed service to the Borough of Hightstown and its residents.

PUBLIC COMMENT I

Mayor Patten opened the floor for public comment.

Glenn Johnston, East Windsor resident and stepfather of Brian Landry¹, thanked the Mayor and Council on behalf of the Brian Foundation for their support. He said that last week's event was successful.

Torry Watkins, 68 Meadow Drive, asked if the salary ordinance would be introduced in executive session. He was advised that the Ordinance would be discussed in closed session and introduced after returning into open session.

J. P. Gibbons, 602 N. Main Street, asked if any deadline dates have been established with respect to the designation of Greystone as conditional redeveloper. He said that it may be reasonable to "establish some drop dead date." Mr. Gibbons went on to say that he had seen quotes of a \$5,000 to \$10,000 cost for professional fees that could be needed if the Borough opts to seek another redeveloper, and stated for the record that, rather than see things stalled for that reason, "I would pay out of my own pocket to move it along if that is what the Borough needs."

No one else came forward and the floor was closed.

ENGINEER'S ITEMS

RESOLUTION 2007-82, AWARDING CONTRACT FOR PURCHASE OF ODOR CONTROL CHEMICAL

Following a brief review by Ms. Roberts, Resolution 2007-82 was moved by Councilmember Quattrone and seconded by Council President Sikorski.

Roll Call: Councilmembers Harinxma, Quattrone, Rosenberg, Schneider, Sikorski and Thompson voted yes.

Resolution adopted, 6-0.

RESOLUTION 2007-82 AWARDING CONTRACT FOR PURCHASE OF ODOR CONTROL CHEMICAL (GEORGE S. COYNE CHEMICAL CO., INC.)

WHEREAS one (1) bid was received on November 21, 2006, for the provision of an odor control chemical for the two-year period running from January 1, 2007, through December 31, 2008; and

WHEREAS the bid, submitted by George Coyne S. Chemical Co., Inc. of Croydon, PA was for an "equal" product, which required testing by our Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant prior to awarding the contract; and

WHEREAS said testing has been conducted, and it has been determined by the Superintendent of the Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant that the odor control chemical proposed by Coyne Chemical is equal to that specified in the bid specifications; and

WHEREAS the Borough Engineer has recommended the award of a contract for same to the George Coyne S. Chemical Company; and

¹ See Council meeting minutes of February 5, 2007.

WHEREAS the Borough Attorney has reviewed the bid documents submitted by Coyne Chemical and has found them to be in order;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown as follows:

1. The contract for provision of an odor control chemical for the approximate two-year period running through December 31, 2008 is hereby awarded to George Coyne S. Chemical Co., Inc. of Croydon, PA for the unit price of \$10.85 per gallon and a total amount not to exceed Seventeen Thousand Nine Hundred and Two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$17,902.50).
2. The Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to execute an agreement with the George Coyne S. Chemical Co., Inc., subject to approval of the Borough Attorney.
3. This contract is contingent upon provision of adequate funds in the budgets for the years 2007 and 2008.

RESOLUTION 2007-87, RESOLUTION OF CONSENT TO SUBMIT TREATMENT WORKS APPROVAL PERMIT APPLICATION AND BUREAU OF SAFE DRINKING WATER APPLICATION

Ms. Roberts reviewed the provisions of Resolution 2007-87, which would authorize the submission of certain permit applications relative to the planned expansion at Meadow Lakes². She recommended its approval, noting that "this continues the process for permitting at the State level, which must happen in order for them to work things out at the local level.

Resolution 2007-87 was moved by Councilmember Quattrone and seconded by Council President Sikorski.

Roll Call: Councilmembers Harinxma, Quattrone, Rosenberg, Schneider, Sikorski and Thompson voted yes.

Resolution adopted, 6-0.

RESOLUTION 2007-87 RESOLUTION OF CONSENT TO SUBMIT TREATMENT WORKS APPROVAL PERMIT APPLICATION AND BUREAU OF SAFE DRINKING WATER APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the Presbyterian Home at Meadow Lakes has received approval from the East Windsor Planning Board to construct a new 60-unit apartment building at Meadow Lakes to be located entirely within the Township of East Windsor; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hightstown is the provider of water and sanitary sewer facilities for the entire Meadow Lakes facility, and as such the Mayor's signature will be needed for certain NJDEP permit applications; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer has recommended that the Mayor be authorized at this time to sign consent forms related to a Treatment Works Approval Permit Application and a Bureau of Safe Drinking Water Permit Application for this project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown as follows:

1. The Mayor and Council consent to water and sewer extensions associated with new construction by the Presbyterian Home at Meadow Lakes as described herein, and to the submission of a Treatment Works Approval Permit Application and a Bureau of Safe Drinking Water Permit Application to NJDEP for same.
2. The Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to sign the Treatment Works Approval Permit Application Consent Forms and the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water Application forms as referenced herein.

² See minutes of February 20, 2007.

ORDINANCES

PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL READING: ORDINANCE 2007-06, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF BOROUGH-OWNED PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE

Following a brief review by Ms. Gallagher, Mayor Patten opened the public hearing on Ordinance 2007-06.

J. P. Gibbons, 602 N. Main Street, asked for clarification regarding the process for sale of this property to the adjacent owners. Ms. Gallagher explained that, because the lots are undersized, state statute provides that they may be sold by auction among the contiguous property owners. However, if interest is expressed by other parties prior to the auction, Council may opt to auction the property publicly. She noted that the auction will not be conducted for at least 30 days following adoption of the Ordinance.

Eugene Sarafin, 600-628 South Main Street, questioned why the minimum bid was set at \$185,000 and said that it seemed high. Ms. Gallagher explained that this was discussed in closed session with the Borough Tax Assessor and the consensus was to set the bid at that price. The price was established taking into consideration the value of the parcel if combined with an adjacent parcel.

No one else came forward and the hearing was closed.

Ordinance 2007-06 was moved by Council President Sikorski and seconded by Councilmember Thompson.

Roll Call: Councilmembers Harinxma, Quattrone, Rosenberg, Schneider, Sikorski and Thompson voted yes.

Ordinance adopted, 6-0.

ORDINANCE 2007-06 ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF BOROUGH-OWNED PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b)(5) mandates that surplus Borough property less than the minimum size required for development under the Borough zoning ordinance and without any improvement hereon, be auctioned off in an auction among all contiguous lot owners; and

WHEREAS, Block 40, Lot 28, is such a property;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED, by the Mayor and Council of Hightstown as follows:

Section 1.

- A. Pursuant to the aforementioned statute, an auction in accordance with the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b)* will be held among the owners of Block 40, Lot 27; Block 40, Lot 29; and Block 40, Lot 5.02 at a date and time to be set by the Borough Administrator, which date shall be not less than 30 days following final adoption of this Ordinance.
- B. Said lot owners shall be notified by certified mail at least (2) two weeks prior to said auction.
- C. In accordance with the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b)*, offers for the purchase of Block 40, Lot 28 may be made to the Borough through the office of the Borough Administrator for a period of 20 days following advertisement of this finally adopted Ordinance, at no less than the minimum price, by any prospective purchaser, real estate broker or other authorized representative. In the event that any such offers are received, the governing body may reconsider this Ordinance, not later than 30 days after its enactment, and advertise the property in question for public sale pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a)*.
- D. The Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to execute all documents necessary for the conduct of

this auction and for conveyance of said property to the highest bidder.

- E. The minimum amount that may be bid for this property, as determined by the Borough Tax Assessor, is \$185,000.00 Dollars.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication as provided by law.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 2007-80, AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF TAXI OWNER'S LICENSE – MEGA TAXI

Following a brief review by Ms. Gallagher, Resolution 2007-80 was moved by Council President Sikorski and seconded by Councilmember Rosenberg.

Roll Call: Councilmembers Harinxma, Quattrone, Rosenberg, Schneider, Sikorski and Thompson voted yes.

Resolution adopted, 6-0.

RESOLUTION 2007-80 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF TAXI OWNER'S LICENSE – MEGA TAXI

WHEREAS in accordance with Section 4-21.4 of the *Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown*, applications for renewal of a taxicab owner's license for 2007 has been submitted by Cesar Guzhnay and Rosa Mora (Mega Taxi Corp) for the following vehicles:

Vehicle Description	VIN #
2000 Ford Crown Victoria Plate # OXY2780	12FAFP71W1YX110253
1998 Ford Crown Victoria Plate # OXY2754	2FAFP71W4WX145947
2004 Mercury Plate # OXY2820	22MEFM74W34X625536

together with payment of the required fees; and

WHEREAS the application has been reviewed by the Hightstown Police Department and the company found to be in good standing to be approved by the Borough Council to operate within this jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, Mega Taxi has been operating since January 1, 2007 under a temporary extension of their 2006 license approved by the Borough Council on December 27, 2006; and

WHEREAS, at that time, Mega Taxi was notified that the Borough Code does not permit the operation of taxicab businesses, in the manner that they were then being operated, within zoning districts of the Borough which are primarily residential in character, and that they would not be permitted to operate that business from their location on Maxwell Avenue after March 5, 2007; and

WHEREAS, as a result of such notification, Mega Taxi has relocated its operations to the Empire Antiques building at 278 Monmouth Street, and the Zoning Officer has approved and issued a commercial certificate of occupancy for them to operate a taxicab business at that location;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown as follows:

1. The Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to issue a 2007 taxicab owners license to Mega Taxi Corp for the vehicles set forth herein.
2. Said license shall state specifically that Mega Taxi may operate its business only from the approved location at 278 Monmouth Street.

3. Any change in the location where Mega Taxi conducts its business shall require the approval of the Zoning Officer, Chief of Police and the Borough Council.

RESOLUTION 2007-81, AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF TAXI DRIVERS' LICENSES

Ms. Gallagher noted that these driver's licenses are for drivers who work for Mega Taxi, whose owner's license was just authorized for renewal with the prior Resolution.

Resolution 2007-81 was moved by Councilmember Quattrone and seconded by Council President Sikorski.

Roll Call: Councilmembers Harinxma, Quattrone, Rosenberg, Schneider, Sikorski and Thompson voted yes.

Resolution adopted, 6-0.

RESOLUTION 2007-81 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF TAXI DRIVERS' LICENSES

WHEREAS in accordance with Section 4-21.5 of the *Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown*, applications for renewal of taxicab owner's licenses for 2007 have been submitted by the following drivers for Mega Taxi:

Cesar Guzhnay
Luis Sanchez
Teofilo Mora
Rosa Hicks

together with payment of the required fee; and

WHEREAS the applications have been reviewed by the Hightstown Police Department and the drivers found to be in good standing to be approved by the Borough Council to operate within this jurisdiction; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to issue 2007 taxicab driver's licenses as set forth herein, subject to final approval by the Chief of Police.

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolutions 2007-83, 84, 85 and 86 were moved by Council President Sikorski and seconded by Councilmember Schneider.

Roll Call: Councilmembers Harinxma, Quattrone, Rosenberg, Schneider, Sikorski and Thompson voted yes.

Resolutions adopted, 6-0.

RESOLUTION 2007-83 AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF RAFFLE LICENSE #RL-173 TO THE COMMUNITY ACTION SERVICE CENTER

WHEREAS, the Community Action Service Center, Inc. wishes to hold an on-premises merchandise raffle at the Hightstown High School on March 24, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the group has submitted application number RA-173 for this raffle; and

WHEREAS, no fees are due for this raffle because the total value of the prizes offered does not exceed \$400.00; and

WHEREAS the group is currently registered with the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission, holding registration identification number 209-4-36750, which registration expires on March 2, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Clerk and the Chief of Police have reviewed the application and have determined that the requirements of N.J.S.A. 5:8-53, regarding the applicant, the members in charge of the game, and the game itself, have been met;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the Borough Clerk is authorized to issue Raffle License No. RL-173 to the Community Action Service Center for their raffle to be held on March 24, 2007 as outlined herein.

RESOLUTION 2007-84 AUTHORIZING CANCELLATION OF CERTAIN SURETY BONDS

WHEREAS, for many years, the Borough of Hightstown has maintained statutorily required surety bond coverage through Allen & Stults Insurance Company of Hightstown, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, the Mid-Jersey Joint Insurance Fund (JIF), of which the Borough is a member, began offering surety bond coverage at a savings to its member towns; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator has consulted with the Chief Financial Officer and Borough Auditor and it has been determined that the coverage provided by the JIF meets all statutory requirements, and she has recommended that the Borough cancel its existing policies with Allen & Stults; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the Borough will save up to \$1,300.00 annually by making this change;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the Borough Administrator is hereby authorized to provide for surety bond coverage through the Mid-Jersey JIF in accordance with statutory requirements, and to cancel all existing surety bond coverage by Allen & Stults Insurance Company.

**RESOLUTION 2007-85 AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS
PRIOR TO ADOPTION OF THE 2007 BUDGET**

WHEREAS, an emergent condition has arisen with respect to inadequate appropriation balances remaining in some line items of the 2007 temporary budget; and

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

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 2006 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	\$45,300.00	144,351.25	189,651.25
Capital Outlay – Current	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Debt Service - Current	0.00	152,603.00	152,603.00
Water/Sewer	\$180,570.00	302,332.00	482,902.00
Capital Outlay – W/S	0.00	0.00	0.00
Debt Service - W/S	0.00	146,580.00	146,580.00
TOTAL	\$225,870.00	750,866.25	\$976,736.25

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 hereof³.
2. Each emergency appropriation listed will be provided for in the 2007 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 2007-86 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 and the Treasurer in the amount of **\$1,010,560.50** from the following accounts:

Current	\$ 864,333.79
W/S Operating	118,042.22
General Capital	16,669.92
Public Defender	1,000.00
Trust	3,222.68
Grant	1,464.00
Escrow – Subdivision & Site Plan (First Washington Bank)	<u>5,827.89</u>
Total	<u>\$1,010,560.50</u>

NEW BUSINESS

REQUEST BY UNITED TAXI FOR ADDITIONAL EXTENSION OF TIME IN WHICH TO OPERATE

Ms. Gallagher reviewed a request received from United Taxi for an additional extension of time in which to operate their taxicab business. On December 27, 2006, Council approved an extension of time until March 5, 2007 for both Mega Taxi and United Taxi to operate, and each was informed that they would not be able to continue to operate out of a residential area beyond that date. Mega Taxi has recently relocated, and their 2007 taxi licenses were approved earlier in this meeting. The attorney for United Taxi is in the process of filing an application with the Planning Board to obtain approval to operate their business from 209 Franklin Street, and has requested an additional "reasonable extension of time" for them to operate in the meantime. Council discussed and generally agreed that a 60-day extension should be granted.

Motion: It was moved by Councilman Thompson that an additional 60-day extension to operate their taxicab business be granted to United Taxi. A roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call: Councilmembers Harinxma, Quattrone, Rosenberg, Schneider, Sikorski and Thompson voted yes.

Motion approved (extension granted), 6-0.

³ Included at the end of these 3/5/07 minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT II

Mayor Patten opened the floor for public comment.

Eugene Sarafin, 600-628 South Main Street, asked Council to support the Mayor "when he makes certain requests about finances." He said that Mayor Patten was justified in requesting data from the Fire Company, and that "you owe it to the Mayor and the citizens to say 'we will have financial statements from all nonprofits who get money from the Borough.'" He expressed his "total support" for Mayor Patten's request. Mr. Sarafin also stated, referring to comments at the last meeting, that it is "inappropriate for us to attack ... our neighbors." "They're bigger," he said, "and the war won't work. Hightstown should be called Middle East Windsor."

J. P. Gibbons, 602 N. Main Street, cautioned the governing body regarding any arrangement they may be considering with Cost Recovery Corporation⁴ for recovery of certain police and fire costs through insurance billings. "In order to be a legitimate chargeback," he said, "you must establish a rate structure and have chargebacks reasonable within that rate structure." He said that some states put caps on that, and it could affect other state funding we receive. He asked if nonresidents would be charged differently than residents, and on what basis charges are determined. "Is it based on who caused the accident?" he asked. "Does the police department become our agents in determining that?" Mr. Gibbons stated that he has experience in this area, and would be available to assist the Borough at no charge if we decide to move forward with this. He added that it could be "a slippery slope."

John Archer, 131 Bennett Place, stated that he wished to "address the barrage of junk in the paper" and that things were printed incorrectly. The Hightstown Fire Company, he said, is a nonprofit, and their financial information is filed each year on tax forms which are available to the public. "It creates a lot of furor," he said, "when you ask for books. It makes it seem that you aren't trusting [the fire department]." He said that they will not bring the books to the Borough, but the information that the Mayor is seeking is publicly available. "We are doing enough for this town," he said, and stated that the total that they spend in Borough funds is about \$68,000 per year. "If you want to know what a paid fire department costs," he added, "just walk down the road."

Torry Watkins, 68 Meadow Drive, expressed support for Mayor Patten in his "efforts to make all organizations accountable in every sense of the word."

Council President Sikorski thanked Ms. Gallagher and the Borough staff for the relocation of paintings and wall hangings in the courtroom, and for their efforts in installing pews in the courtroom and obtaining them for a nominal cost.

Mr. Watkins spoke briefly again to question whether the installation of church pews in the courtroom could represent a violation of the First Amendment.

No one else came forward and the floor was closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution 2007-77, authorizing a closed session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations, tax appeal litigation and personnel, was read aloud and in full by Ms. Gallagher. It was noted that action was expected to be taken following the executive session. The Resolution was moved by Council President Sikorski and seconded by Councilmember Quattrone.

⁴ See minutes of February 20, 2007.

Roll Call: Councilmembers Harinxma, Quattrone, Rosenberg, Schneider, Sikorski and Thompson voted yes.

Resolution adopted, 6-0.

RESOLUTION 2007-77 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 March 5, 2007 at approximately 7:40 p.m. at Borough Hall 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 – Emergency Medical Services
Tax Appeal Litigation (Hightstown Development Association)
Personnel**

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: June 5, 2007 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.

Upon reconvening into open session, the meeting continued.

**INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING: ORDINANCE 2007-07,
AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH SALARY RANGES FOR CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES
OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN**

Following a brief review by Ms. Gallagher, Ordinance 2007-07 was moved for introduction by Councilmember Schneider and seconded by Councilmember Quattrone.

Roll Call: Councilmembers Harinxma, Quattrone, Rosenberg, Schneider, Sikorski and voted yes.
Councilmember Thompson voted no.

Ordinance introduced, 5-1.

The public hearing and final reading for Ordinance 2007-07 was set for March 19, 2007.

**RESOLUTION 2007-78, AUTHORIZING INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP FOR
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

Following a brief review by Ms. Gallagher, Resolution 2007-78 was moved by Councilmember Quattrone and seconded by Councilmember Harinxma. Councilman Quattrone expressed his strong support for this arrangement with Washington Township.

Roll Call: Councilmembers Harinxma, Quattrone, Rosenberg, Schneider, Sikorski and Thompson voted yes.

Resolution adopted, 6-0.

RESOLUTION 2007-78**AUTHORIZING INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

WHEREAS, representatives of Hightstown Borough and Washington Township have worked together to formulate a proposed interlocal agreement between the two municipalities for the provision of emergency medical services; and

WHEREAS, the Interlocal Services Act, N.J.S.A. 40:8A-1 et seq. authorizes the approval of Interlocal Service Agreements by Resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have reviewed the proposed Interlocal Services Agreement for Emergency Medical Services for the period beginning on or about March 6, 2007 and continuing for a period of three years, which agreement is attached hereto and made a part hereof; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified the extent to which funding for this expenditure is available in the 2007 temporary budget; and

WHEREAS it is the intention of the Mayor and Council to provide adequate and complete funding for this expenditure in the 2007 budget and in the budgets of succeeding years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown as follows:

1. The attached Interlocal Service Agreement with the Township of Washington for Emergency Medical Services for the period beginning on or about March 6, 2007 and continuing for a period of three years is hereby approved, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40:8A-4.
2. The Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the attached agreement for same, or one which is substantially similar thereto, subject to approval of the Borough Attorney.
3. This agreement is approved subject to the provision of adequate funding in the Borough's 2007 budget and in the budgets of succeeding years.

**RESOLUTION 2007-79, AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH MONMOUTH OCEAN HOSPITAL SERVICE
CORPORATION (MONOC) FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ON A PER DIEM BASIS**

Following a brief review by Ms. Gallagher, Resolution 2007-79 was moved by Councilman Quattrone and seconded by Council President Sikorski. Councilman Quattrone expressed his support for this Resolution as well.

Roll Call: Councilmembers Harinxma, Quattrone, Rosenberg, Schneider, Sikorski and Thompson voted yes.

Resolution adopted, 6-0.

RESOLUTION 2007-79**AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH MONMOUTH OCEAN HOSPITAL SERVICE CORPORATION
(MONOC) FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ON A PER DIEM BASIS**

WHEREAS, the Borough has contracted with Monmouth Ocean Hospital Service Corporation ("MONOC") for the provision of professional emergency medical services from January 2006 through March 5, 2007; and

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2007, the Borough Council approved an interlocal services agreement with Washington Township for the provision of emergency medical services, to begin on or about March 6, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator has recommended that an agreement with MONOC be approved to continue to provide such services on a per diem basis until such time as Washington Township is fully prepared to begin servicing the Borough; and

WHEREAS, MONOC has proposed to provide continued service to the Borough at the rate of \$710.00 per 24 hours of coverage;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hightstown, in the County of Mercer and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Borough Administrator is hereby authorized to retain MONOC for the provision of emergency medical services on a day to day basis as needed, and as outlined herein, at the rate of \$710.00 per 24 hours of coverage.
2. The Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute all documents necessary to effectuate the intentions of this Resolution, which documents shall be in a form acceptable to the Borough Attorney.
3. A certified copy of this Resolution shall be provided to each of the following:
 - a. MONOC (Attn: Vincent Robbins, President and CEO)
 - b. Arlene O'Rourke, Borough Treasurer
 - c. George Lang, Borough Chief Financial Officer
 - d. James Eufemia, Borough Police Chief
 - e. Hightstown First Aid Squad
 - f. Frederick C. Raffetto, Esquire, Borough Attorney

There being no further business, adjournment was moved by Council President Sikorski, seconded by Councilman Thompson and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Candace B. Gallagher, RMC
Borough Clerk