

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 Bond</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Harinxma</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Quattrone</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Rosenberg</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Schneider</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Sikorski</i>	✓	

Also in attendance was Candace Gallagher, Borough Clerk/Administrator.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Deleted from the agenda was the introduction and first reading of an ordinance to amend inspection and permit fees for the Bureau of Fire Safety. The agenda was moved as amended by Council President Sikorski, seconded by Councilmember Quattrone and approved by all.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The February 4, 2008 open and closed session minutes were moved by Council President Sikorski, seconded by Councilmember Quattrone and unanimously approved as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT I

Mayor Patten opened the floor for public comment.

Eugene Sarafin, 600-628 South Main Street stated that he was disturbed by the lawsuit filed against the Borough by Meadow Lakes, and that the Borough should not require payment from Meadow Lakes toward a new water tower because, he said, the Borough has known for 10 years that it needs more water pressure in that area.

Carol Montferret, 414 Stockton Street, stated that she had heard that the issue of the chickens on Stockton Street was "between two neighbors," but, she said, it has affected the entire neighborhood. She said that she loves her neighbors, and hasn't spoken out on this yet because she felt that the Balcewicz's presented strong enough facts and claims in

defense of their case; however, she "is surprised that Council hasn't come up with a decision yet" and this has heightened her concern for the neighborhood and the town. "Farm animals belong on a farm," she said. "An ordinance or regulation has to be made – they shouldn't be allowed. It affects the quality of life and the appearance of the town." She added that, if nothing is done, it will open the doors for others to bring in other farm animals. "I wouldn't want to live next door to that," she added, and asked Council "to make a decision that will work for all the houses in Hightstown," so that neighbors can "live together in harmony."

Jan Guthrie, 425 Stockton Street, said that she tries to do her best for her family and herself by gardening, cooking food "from scratch" and not smoking, and this is done without degrading the quality of life for others. Residents "come again and again," she said, to say that allowing farm animals is affecting the quality of life for neighbors, "and you still think that people should have farm animals in a residential neighborhood." She added that her daughter urged her to bring chicken feces and caged rats to the meeting in order to make her point.

Elizabeth Balcewicz, 413 Stockton Street, stated that when they purchased their home, they were told by then-Mayor Turp of the plans for what would, years later, become the Hightstown Bypass. She said that she served on the committee that was formed to "enlighten the State regarding its importance," and feels that that committee had an impact on the building of it. "Committees working in Hightstown today try to preserve our town also," she said. "It may seem like these are small issues, but I applaud people for giving their time and energy."

No one else came forward and the floor was closed.

ORDINANCES

PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL READING: ORDINANCE 2008-03,

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE *REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN*, CHAPTER 7 THEREOF, REGARDING PARKING IN THE STOCKTON STREET PARKING LOT

Ms. Gallagher provided a brief review of the provisions of Ordinance 2008-03, which was recommended by Chief Eufemia and which would de-designate certain permit parking spaces in the Stockton Street parking lot. Those spaces would then become 2-hour time limit parking spaces available to patrons of the Borough's downtown businesses.

Mayor Patten opened the public hearing on Ordinance 2008-03.

Eugene Sarafin, 600-628 South Main Street, expressed support for the Ordinance.

No one else came forward and the hearing was closed.

Ordinance 2008-03 was moved for adoption by Council President Sikorski, seconded by Councilmember Bond.

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

Ordinance adopted, 5-0.

ORDINANCE 2008-03 **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE *REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN*, CHAPTER 7 THEREOF, REGARDING PARKING IN THE STOCKTON STREET PARKING LOT**

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police has recommended that certain parking spaces in the Stockton Street parking lot which are currently designated as permit parking spaces be re-designated for time limit parking; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council concur with the Chief's recommendation and desire to amend the Borough's ordinance to effect such change;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that Paragraph (d), "Permit Parking," of Section 7-37.1, "Regulation for the Movement and the Parking of Traffic on Municipal Property and Board of Education Property" of the *Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown* is hereby amended to DELETE the reference contained therein to "Lot A" in the Stockton Street parking lot, such that the parking spaces located within Lot A shall no longer be designated as permit parking spaces; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon final passage and publication in accordance with the law; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all other Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING: ORDINANCE 2008-04,

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH SALARY RANGES FOR CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN

Ms. Gallagher reviewed the provisions of Ordinance 2008-04, noting that it would set the 2008 salary ranges for every title other than those included in the police salary ordinance. The listed ranges, she said, will accommodate a 3.5% salary increase for all employees, but the ordinance itself does not set the salaries. That will be done by Resolution following adoption of this Ordinance.

Council President Sikorski objected to granting 3.5 percent salary increases in light of the fact that the 2008 cost of living adjustment for social security purposes was set at 2.3%. He added that the percentage increase for those at the lower end of the scale does not amount to as much as the same percentage for those at the upper end, and he would prefer to exclude those individuals at the upper end.

Ordinance 2008-04 was then moved for introduction by Councilmember Quattrone and seconded by Councilmember Schneider.

Roll Call: Councilmembers Harinxma, Bond, Quattrone, Rosenberg, and Schneider voted yes. Council President Sikorski voted no.

Ordinance introduced, 5-1.

The public hearing and final reading for Ordinance 2008-04 was set for March 3, 2008.

CONSENT AGENDA

At the request of Council President Sikorski, Resolution 2008-70, which would authorize the issuance of a provisional taxi driver's license, was pulled for separate consideration.

Resolutions 2008-55 through 69 were then moved by Council President Sikorski and seconded by Councilmember Quattrone.

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

Resolutions adopted, 6-0.

RESOLUTION 2008-55**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 **\$982,286.05** from the following accounts:

Current	\$ 800,974.36
W/S Operating	165,494.46
General Capital	1,518.80
W/S Capital	1,485.44
Animal Control Account	91.40
Trust Account	2,322.00
Grant	4,227.49
Escrow – Subdivision & Site Plan	<u>6,172.10</u>
Total	\$ <u>982,286.05</u>

RESOLUTION 2008-56**AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS
PRIOR TO ADOPTION OF THE 2008 BUDGET**

WHEREAS, an emergent condition has arisen with respect to inadequate appropriation balances remaining in some line items of the 2008 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 2008 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	16,725.00	149,830.00	166,555.00
Capital Outlay – Current	0.00	0.00	0.00
Debt Service - Current	0.00	0.00	0.00
Water/Sewer	32,200.00	299,111.00	331,311.00
Capital Outlay – W/S	0.00	0.00	0.00
Debt Service - W/S	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	48,925.00	448,941.00	497,866.00

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 2008 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 2007-57**AUTHORIZING SOFTWARE SUPPORT AGREEMENT - EDMUNDS & ASSOCIATES**

WHEREAS, the need exists for software support services for 2008 for MCS Tax Collection, Utility Billing, Financial Accounting, Escrow Accounting, Payroll and Electronic Requisition software; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Mayor and Council to engage Edmunds & Associates, Inc. of Northfield, NJ, to provide those services at a cost of \$11,460.00;

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

1. The Borough is hereby authorized to engage Edmunds & Associates, Inc. to provide support services as outlined above for the period January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008, at a total cost not to exceed \$11,460.00.
2. It is the intention of the Mayor and Council to provide adequate funding for this expenditure in the 2008 budget.

RESOLUTION 2008-58**AUTHORIZING INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH HAMILTON TOWNSHIP FOR HEALTH SERVICES (STD CLINIC)**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hightstown is responsible by law for the protection of public health and wishes to provide certain clinic services relative to sexually transmitted diseases (STDs); and

WHEREAS, the Township of Hamilton is agreeable to providing clinic services relative to STDs to the Borough of Hightstown for the period January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008 for a fee of \$25 per patient; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Borough Council to enter into an interlocal agreement with the Township of Hamilton for provision of these services; and

WHEREAS, such agreements are authorized pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40:8A-1 et seq*;

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

1. An interlocal services agreement between the Borough of Hightstown and the Township of Hamilton for the provision of professional health clinic services for sexually transmitted diseases for the period January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008, which agreement is attached hereto and incorporated herein, is hereby authorized and accepted.
2. The Mayor and Clerk are authorized and directed to execute said agreement.

RESOLUTION 2008-59**AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF FUNDS REMAINING IN ESCROW- PEDDIE SCHOOL (FIRE PUMP HOUSE)**

WHEREAS Peddie School posted funds in escrow with the Borough relative to their Planning Board application for the Fire Pump House; and

WHEREAS the work is now complete, and the Borough Engineer has recommended release of all remaining escrow held by the Borough on the school's behalf, subject to payment of any outstanding fees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to return to Peddie School any and all funds remaining in their escrow account for the Fire Pump House, as detailed herein.

RESOLUTION 2008-60**AWARDING CONTRACT FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF OUTCALT STREET**

WHEREAS, eleven (11) bids were received on February 5, 2008 for the reconstruction of Outcalt Street in the Borough of Hightstown; and

WHEREAS, the bids have been reviewed by the Borough Engineer and it is the firm's recommendation that the contract be awarded to the low bidder, Lucas Construction Group, Inc. of Old Bridge, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Attorney has reviewed the bids and has determined that the bid submitted by Lucas Construction Group is in order with respect to legal compliance; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds for this expenditure;

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

1. The contract for the reconstruction of Outcalt Street is hereby awarded to Lucas Construction Group, Inc. of Old Bridge, New Jersey in the amount of One Hundred Ninety-Five Thousand Three Hundred and Seventy-One Dollars (\$195,371.00).
2. The Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to execute an agreement with Lucas Construction Group subject to approval of the Borough Attorney.
3. Approval of this agreement is subject to the approval of the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

RESOLUTION 2008-61

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH ARTUR TSATURYAN

WHEREAS, Artur Tsaturyan was employed by the Borough of Hightstown Public Works department from May 21, 1999 through June 14, 2007; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tsaturyan has submitted a letter of resignation from the Borough's employment effective that date, along with a signed Settlement Agreement and General Release, which document is on file in the Borough Clerk's office; and

WHEREAS, said agreement calls for a one time severance payment to Mr. Tsaturyan in the amount of \$14,000.00, less applicable withholdings; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funding for this expenditure;

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

1. The Mayor is hereby authorized to execute, on behalf of the Borough of Hightstown, the settlement agreement with Mr. Tsaturyan referenced herein, and the Borough Clerk is authorized to attest to same.
2. A certified copy of this Resolution shall be provided to:
 - a) Artur Tsaturyan
 - b) OPEIU Local 32
 - c) Arlene O'Rourke, Treasurer
 - d) Larry Blake, Superintendent of Public Works
 - e) Richard Shaklee, Esq., Labor Counsel

RESOLUTION 2008-62

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE ON AN ONLINE AUCTION WEBSITE

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hightstown has determined that certain property is no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey permits the sale of surplus property no longer needed for public use through the use of an online auction service, pursuant to the Local Unit Electronic Technology Pilot Program and Study Act, P.L. 2001, c.30.; and

WHEREAS, the Borough owns the following property and desires to sell it online:

1979 Hahn Telesquirt Fire Truck

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

1. The Borough Clerk/Administrator is hereby authorized to post an offer to sell the items listed herein on an auction website as follows:

Online auction site:	ebay
Length of Auction:	10 days
Account:	hightstownnj
Auction fees:	As per ebay fee schedule, attached
Method of Payment:	Borough Check or, if necessary, personal credit card of Candace Gallagher, Borough Clerk/Administrator
Shipping:	n/a
Possession:	Upon full payment by cash or certified check
Minimum Bid:	\$15,000.00
2. The Borough Clerk/Administrator is hereby directed to take all steps necessary to advertise this sale as required by law.
3. The Borough Clerk/Administrator is hereby authorized to effect the transfer of the herein listed property to the winning bidder upon full payment as detailed herein, without any further action by Council.

RESOLUTION 2008-63 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF TAXI DRIVER'S LICENSE – JOSE LEON

WHEREAS, Section 4-21 of the *Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown* provides that a taxicab may not be operated within the Borough of Hightstown unless the owner and driver are licensed by the Borough; and

WHEREAS, said Ordinance further provides that accepting a passenger to be transported for hire from a point of departure within the Borough to a destination within or without the Borough shall be considered "operation of a taxicab" within the Borough; and

WHEREAS, an application for renewal of a taxicab driver's license, which application complies with Section 4-21 of the *Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown*, has been submitted by Jose B. Leon, driving for Pepito Taxi, operating out of 403 Kellington Drive, East Windsor, New Jersey, together with the required fee; and

WHEREAS, the Hightstown Police Department has reviewed the application and has approved issuance of the license;

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 2008 taxicab driver's license to Jose B. Leon, 403 Kellington Drive, East Windsor, New Jersey.

RESOLUTION 2008-64 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF TAXI OWNER'S LICENSE – PEPITO TAXI

WHEREAS, Section 4-21 of the *Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown* provides that a taxicab may not be operated within the Borough of Hightstown unless the owner and driver are licensed by the Borough; and

WHEREAS, said Ordinance further provides that accepting a passenger to be transported for hire from a point of departure within the Borough to a destination within or without the Borough shall be considered "operation of a taxicab" within the Borough; and

WHEREAS, an application for renewal of a taxicab owner's license for 2008, which application complies with Section 4-21.4 of the *Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown*, has been submitted by Pepito Taxi, operating out of 403 Kellington Drive, East Windsor, New Jersey, for two vehicles owned by the company:

1998 Toyota Siena
VIN 4T3ZF13C8WU084672
NJ Plate # OXY8298

2002 Chevrolet Venture
VIN 1GNDX13E72D209880
NJ Plate #OXZ1331

together with the required fees; and

WHEREAS, these taxicabs will not be housed in or operate out of the Borough of Hightstown; and

WHEREAS, renewal of this license will allow Pepito Taxi to continue to accept passengers to be transported for hire from a point of departure within the Borough to a destination within or without the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Hightstown Police Department has reviewed the renewal application and has no objections to its approval;

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 2008 taxicab owner's license to Pepito Taxi, operating out of 403 Kellington Drive, East Windsor, New Jersey, for two vehicles as set forth herein.

RESOLUTION 2008-65 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 2008 has been submitted by Cesar Guzhnay (Mega Taxi Corp) for the following vehicles:

Vehicle Description	VIN #
2000 Ford Crown Victoria Plate # OXY2780	12FAFP71W1YX110253
2004 Mercury Plate # OXY2820	22MEFM74W34X625536
1999 Chevrolet wagon Plate # OXZ2289	1C4GP54LOXB614220
2002 Chevrolet wagon Plate #OXZ2279	1GNDU03E52D284774

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;

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 2008 taxicab owner's license to Mega Taxi Corp, 276 Monmouth Street, Hightstown, New Jersey for four vehicles as set forth herein.

RESOLUTION 2008-66 AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF TAXI DRIVER'S LICENSES – MEGA TAXI

WHEREAS in accordance with Section 4-21.5 of the *Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown*, applications for renewal of taxicab driver's licenses for 2008 have been submitted by the following drivers for Mega Taxi:

Yolanda C. Bravo
Michael R. Vargas

together with payment of the required fees; 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;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to issue 2008 taxicab driver's licenses to Yolanda C. Bravo and Michael R. Vargas as set forth herein.

RESOLUTION 2008-67 AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF TAXI DRIVER'S LICENSES – SUPER TAXI EAST WINDSOR

WHEREAS, Section 4-21 of the *Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown* provides that a taxicab may not be operated within the Borough of Hightstown unless the owner and driver are licensed by the Borough; and

WHEREAS, said Ordinance further provides that accepting a passenger to be transported for hire from a point of departure within the Borough to a destination within or without the Borough shall be considered "operation of a taxicab" within the Borough; and

WHEREAS, applications for 2008 taxicab driver's licenses, which applications comply with Section 4-21.5 of the *Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown*, have been submitted by the following drivers for Super Taxi East Windsor NJ Corp, operating out of 659 Abbingdon Drive, East Windsor, New Jersey, together with the required fees:

Yolanda P. Pulla
Angel E. Tapia
Lourdes Delgado

; and

WHEREAS, the Hightstown Police Department has reviewed the applications and has approved issuance of the licenses;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to issue 2008 taxicab driver's licenses as detailed herein.

RESOLUTION 2008-68 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF TAXI DRIVER'S LICENSE – MARIA E. ALVAREZ (TU AMIGO)

WHEREAS, Section 4-21 of the *Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown* provides that a taxicab may not be operated within the Borough of Hightstown unless the owner and driver are licensed by the Borough; and

WHEREAS, said Ordinance further provides that accepting a passenger to be transported for hire from a point of departure within the Borough to a destination within or without the Borough shall be considered "operation of a taxicab" within the Borough; and

WHEREAS, an application for renewal of a taxicab driver's license, which application complies with Section 4-21.5 of the *Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown*, has been submitted by Maria E. Alvarez of Tu Amigo Taxi, 79 Twin Rivers Drive North, East Windsor, New Jersey, together with the required fees; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police has reviewed the application and has approved issuance of the license;

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 2008 taxicab driver's license to Maria E. Alvarez of Tu Amigo Taxi, 79 Twin Rivers Drive North, East Windsor, New Jersey.

RESOLUTION 2008-69 AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF TAXI DRIVER'S LICENSE – NELLY RIVERA (UNITED TAXI)

WHEREAS in accordance with Section 4-21.5 of the *Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown*, an application for issuance of a taxicab driver's license for 2008 has been submitted by Nelly R. Rivera, driving for United Taxi, 112 North Main Street, Hightstown, New Jersey, together with payment of the required fees; and

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

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 2008 taxicab driver's license to Nelly Rivera as set forth herein.

With respect to Resolution 2008-70, Mr. Sikorski expressed concern about the driving record of the applicant and requested further information about the offenses involved. He made a motion that the Resolution be postponed to the following meeting. His motion was seconded by Councilmember Bond and unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT II

Mayor Patten opened the floor once again for public comment.

Eugene Sarafin, 600-628 South Main Street, said that he was at the Governor's recent Town Hall Meeting at Hightstown High School, and Mayor Patten "did a fantastic job" in speaking and "showing the Governor the problems that occur." "What was disappointing," he said, "were our Republican legislators who used that forum to say that they would not support any forum to pay off debt or anything else." Mr. Sarafin went on to say that he's "had eight years of this President" and there are Republican legislators in Washington, and "what we're getting is a government that is dysfunctional, that can't seem to look at the needs of our society and recognize that we have a crisis in the financial industry that has been hidden because we've never experienced it before. ... What we'll get is a potential collapse."

Torry Watkins, 68 Meadow Drive, noted an "excellent column" by George Amick in the February 18 *Trenton Times* "taking the so-called political leaders of the State to task." Those who are "pooh-poohing the Governor's plan," he said, including our three State legislators, have no plan of their own, and just want to "bring him down." Mr. Watkins added that Senator Beck was "telling lies about the Governor's plan" by saying that he is "proposing to take out a new credit card to pay off an old credit card." "That is simply not the case," Mr. Watkins said, and added, "You owe it to everyone you talk to to set them straight, and tell them the truth. The Governor has a defined and dedicated revenue stream from toll increases to pay down debt, and is not borrowing to do that." He added that the event was reported very well by the *Windsor Hights Herald*.

No one else came forward and the floor was closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Gallagher read aloud Resolution 2008-54, authorizing a closed session to discuss contract negotiations and litigation. The Resolution was moved by Council President Sikorski and seconded by Councilmember Quattrone.

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

Resolution adopted, 6-0.

RESOLUTION 2008-54 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 19, 2008 at approximately 7:30 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 – Temporary Use and Lease of Borough Property
LITIGATION – Presbyterian Home at Meadow Lakes v. Borough of Hightstown;
Greystone Capital Partners NJ, LLC v. Borough of Hightstown**

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 19, 2008 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, Councilmember Quattrone recused himself, and Resolution 2008-71 was moved by Council President Sikorski and seconded by Councilmember Harinxma.

Roll Call: Councilmembers Harinxma, Bond, Rosenberg, Schneider and Sikorski voted yes. Councilmember Quattrone had recused himself.

Resolution adopted, 5-0.

RESOLUTION 2008-71 AUTHORIZING TEMPORARY USE AND OCCUPANCY AGREEMENT WITH THE AMERICANA DINER
(included at end of these 2/19/08 minutes)

Resolution 2008-72 was then moved by Council President Sikorski and seconded by Councilmember Harinxma.

Roll Call: Councilmembers Harinxma, Bond, Rosenberg, Schneider and Sikorski voted yes. Councilmember Quattrone had recused himself.

Resolution adopted, 5-0.

RESOLUTION 2008-72 AUTHORIZING LEASE OF BOROUGH-OWNED PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE
(included at end of these 2/19/08 minutes)

There being no further business, adjournment was moved by Council President Sikorski, seconded by Councilmember Harinxma and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Candace B. Gallagher, RMC
Borough Clerk