

**Meeting Minutes
Hightstown Borough Council
Workshop Meeting
October 5, 2016
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-Heights 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: Debra L. Sopronyi, Borough Clerk; Henry Underhill, Borough Administrator; and Fred Raffetto, Borough Attorney.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution 2016-173 Authorizing a Meeting that excludes the Public

Council President Hansen moved Resolution 2016-173; Councilmember Stults seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Council members Bluth, Hansen, Kurs, Misiura, Montferrat and Stults voted yes.

Resolution adopted 6-0.

Resolution 2016-173

*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 October 5, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Hightstown Engine Co. #1 Fire House Hall located at 140 North Main 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:

Personnel – Professional Services
Contract Negotiations – Court

Insurance

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: January 5, 2017, 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.

Mayor Quattrone called the public meeting to order at 7:46 p.m. and again read the Open Public Meetings Statement.

The Flag Salute followed roll call.

George Lang, CFO, arrived at this time and was now present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Quattrone requested that resolution 2016-178 which authorizes the Borough Engineer to bid the UV project, be added to the consent agenda.

Councilmember Montferrat moved the agenda as amended; Councilmember Kurs seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Council members Bluth, Hansen, Kurs, Misiura, Montferrat and Stults voted yes.

Agenda approved as amended 6-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Kurs moved the September 6, 2016 Workshop Session minutes for approval; Councilmember Hansen seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Council members Bluth, Hansen, Kurs, Misiura, Montferrat and Stults voted yes.

Minutes approved 6-0.

Councilmember Kurs moved the September 6, 2016 Executive Meeting minutes for approval; Councilmember Stults seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Council members Bluth, Hansen, Kurs, Misiura, Montferrat and Stults voted yes.

Minutes approved 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Doug Mair, 536 S. Main Street – commented that he has requested an ordinance for filming in town; and that he feels Council is not doing a good job.

Jean M. Ruggiero Mair, 536 S. Main Street – Yielded her time to Doug Mair.

Doug Mair, 536 S. Main Street – continued to comment regarding filming in the Borough and his discontent with Council; he requested that his comments be placed in the minutes verbatim.

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

Council President Hansen noted that the first public comment period is for items on the agenda. Mr. Mair stated that the information he spoke about is in the minutes that are on the agenda for approval this evening.

ORDINANCES

2016-21 Final Reading and Public Hearing – An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 2, Entitled “Administration”, Section 2-31, Entitled “Board of Recreation Commissioners”, Subsection 2-31.2, Entitled “Appointment; Terms of Office” of the “Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown, New Jersey” Regarding Membership

Borough Attorney Raffetto noted that there has been a change in the ordinance since introduction which is not substantive; the number which constitutes a quorum was revised to match the new number of members. Council must vote to amend the ordinance before adoption.

Councilmember Bluth moved the amendment to ordinance 2016-21 for the number of members that constitutes a quorum, Councilmember Stults seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Council members Bluth, Hansen, Kurs, Misiura, Montferrat and Stults voted yes.

Ordinance amended 6-0.

Mayor Quattrone opened the public hearing on ordinance 2016-21 and the following individuals spoke:

Doug Mair, 536 S. Main Street – commented that the ordinances this evening increase the number of members to make a quorum, if they are not getting a quorum now, why increase the membership?

There was discussion regarding members missing meetings and alternates having the ability to vote in place of the regular membership.

There being no further comments, the public hearing was closed.

Councilmember Misiura moved to amend the ordinance by removing the first whereas clause because Parks and Recreation is in need of more members to complete their tasks, not make a quorum, Councilmember Bluth seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Council members Bluth, Hansen, Kurs, Misiura, Montferrat and Stults voted yes.

Ordinance amended 6-0.

Councilmember Bluth moved ordinance 2016-21 for adoption as amended, Council President Hansen seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Council members Bluth, Hansen, Kurs, Misiura, Montferrat and Stults voted yes.

Ordinance adopted as amended 6-0.

Ordinance 2016-21

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

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 2, ENTITLED
“ADMINISTRATION”, SECTION 2-31, ENTITLED “BOARD OF RECREATION COMMISSIONS”,
SUBSECTION 2-31.2, ENTITLED “APPOINTMENT; TERMS OF OFFICE” AND SUBSECTION 2-31.3,
ENTITLED “OFFICERS; ORGANIZATION OF THE “REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE
BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN, NEW JERSEY” REGARDING MEMBERSHIP AND QUORUM**

WHEREAS, the Hightstown Borough Council finds that a change in the membership of the Board of Recreation Commissioners will enable the Parks & Recreation Commission to perform their function more efficiently and serve the Borough effectively.

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40:12-1 authorizes an increase of the board from five to seven members and requires that the additional commissioner appointments shall be, one for four years and one for five years; thereafter all appointments shall be for five years.

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

Section 1. That Chapter 2, entitled “Administration”, Section 2-31, entitled “Board of Recreation Commissioners”, Subsection 2-31.2, entitled “Appointment; Terms of Office”, and Subsection 2-31.3 entitled “Officers; Organization” are hereby amended to read as follows (underline for additions, strikethroughs for deletions):

Subsection 2-31.2 Appointment; Terms of Office.

The Board shall consist of seven (7) members who are citizens and residents of the municipality, each appointed by the Mayor for a five-year term. The appointment of members of the first Board shall be one (1) for a one-year term, one (1) for a two-year term, one (1) for a three-year term, one (1) for a four-year term and one (1) for a five-year term. Thereafter, each appointment shall be made for five (5) calendar years. There shall be appointed two (2) alternate members, designated as "Alternate No. 1" and "Alternate No. 2." The initial appointment of Alternate No. 1 shall be for a five-year term, and the initial appointment of Alternate No. 2 shall be for a four-year term. Thereafter, both alternate members shall be appointed for terms of five (5) calendar years. Members shall serve until their successors are appointed and qualified. (Ord. No. 1998-18 § 1)

Subsection 2-31.3 Officers; Organization.

The Board shall elect one of its members as Chairman and one as Vice-Chairman. The Board shall keep a correct record of its proceedings and shall meet at regularly scheduled times. Meetings of the Board shall comply with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-1 et seq. and minutes of each meeting shall be placed on file in the office of the Borough Clerk. Four members of the Board which may include alternate members filling the vacancies of regular members, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Any formal action taken by the Board shall be by resolution or by motion duly recorded in the minutes. (Ord. No. 1998-18 § 1)

Section 2. Severability. If any sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance, or the application thereof to any persons or circumstances shall be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, or if by legislative action any sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance shall lose its force and effect, such judgment or action shall not affect, impair or void the remainder of this Ordinance.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon final passage and publication in accordance with the law.

Section 4. Repealer. All other Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

2016-22 First Reading and Introduction – An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 2, Entitled “Administration”, Section 2-45, Entitled “Historic Preservation Commission”, Subsection 2-45.3, Entitled “Establishment of the Historic Preservation Commission”, Item (M) Entitled “Meetings, Quorum” of the “Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown, New Jersey” Regarding a Quorum

Councilmember Misiura moved ordinance 2016-22 for introduction, Councilmember Bluth seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Council members Bluth, Hansen, Kurs, Misiura, Montferrat and Stults voted yes.

Ordinance introduced 6-0. Public Hearing to be held on October 17, 2016.

Ordinance 2016-22
*BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN
COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY*

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 2, ENTITLED
“ADMINISTRATION”, SECTION 2-45, ENTITLED “HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION”,
SUBSECTION 2-45.3, ENTITLED “ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION
COMMISSION”, ITEM (M) ENTITLED “MEETINGS, QUORUM” OF THE “REVISED GENERAL
ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN, NEW JERSEY” REGARDING A QUORUM**

WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) has had difficulty in acquiring a quorum for HPC meetings, and the Hightstown Borough Council finds that a change in the membership of the HPC will enable the HPC to perform their function more efficiently and serve the Borough effectively; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council adopted ordinance 2016-16 which amended the number of members on the Historic Preservation Commission; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend the number of members which constitutes a quorum at the Historic Preservation Commission meetings.

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

Section 1. That Chapter 2, entitled “Administration”, Section 2-45, entitled “Historic Preservation Commission”, Subsection 2-45.3, entitled “Establishment of the Historic Preservation Commission”, Item (M) entitled “Meetings, Quorum” is hereby amended to read as follows (underline for additions, strikethroughs for deletions):

Subsection 2-45.3: Establishment of the Historic Preservation Commission.

(M) Meetings, Quorum:

1. The Historic Preservation Commission shall establish and post in the Municipal Building a regular schedule of meetings, which shall include a minimum of one meeting per month. Regular meetings shall be held as scheduled unless canceled for lack of quorum, lack of applications to process or for other good reason(s), which shall be noted in the minutes.
2. The Historic Preservation Commission shall hold public meetings to review all applications for HPC Opinions, referrals of development applications and other business which comes before the Commission.
3. The presence of three (3) members, which may include alternate members filling the vacancies of regular members, shall constitute a quorum. Liaison and Advisor person(s) are not entitled to vote and shall not be counted towards achieving a quorum. A majority vote of those present and voting shall prevail, and shall be sufficient to render an HPC Opinion or other business matter. Not less than a majority of the appointed membership shall be required to designate or change a Historic Landmark or Historic District designation or to render an HPC Opinion for demolition or use changes of an historic landmark or a resource within a Historic District.

Section 2. Severability. If any sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance, or the application thereof to any persons or circumstances shall be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, or if by legislative action any sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance shall lose its force and effect, such judgment or action shall not affect, impair or void the remainder of this Ordinance.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon final passage and publication in accordance with the law.

Section 4. Repealer. All other Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

2016-23 First Reading and Introduction – An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 4, Entitled “Licensing”, Subsection 4.1-4, Entitled “Fee Schedule” of the “Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown, New Jersey” in Order to Establish a Fee for Massage Parlor Licenses

The Borough Attorney explained that this ordinance is to add the fee for the massage parlor licensing ordinance which has already been adopted. He noted that the codifier caught that the fee had not been added to the fee ordinance.

Councilmember Hansen moved ordinance 2016-23 for introduction, Councilmember Bluth seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Council members Bluth, Hansen, Kurs, Misiura, Montferrat and Stults voted yes.

Ordinance introduced 6-0. Public Hearing to be held on October 17, 2016.

Ordinance 2016-23

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

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 4, ENTITLED “LICENSING”, SUBSECTION 4.1-4 ENTITLED “FEE SCHEDULE” OF THE “REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN NEW JERSEY,” IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH A FEE FOR

MASSAGE, BODYWORK AND SOMATIC THERAPY ESTABLISHMENT LICENSES

WHEREAS, The Hightstown Borough Council has adopted ordinance 2016-13 establishing the requirements for the licensing of Massage, Bodywork and Somatic Therapy Establishments; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend chapter 4, subsection 4.1-4 of the “Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown New Jersey” to include the associated licensing fee.

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

Section 1. That Chapter 4, entitled “Licensing”, Subsection 4.1-4, entitled “Fee Schedule” is hereby amended to read as follows (underline for additions, strikethroughs for deletions):

4-1.4 Fee Schedule.

- a. Fees shall be as follows:

<u>License</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Peddlers, hawkers and vendors	\$75.00 per year
Solicitors and canvassers	\$75.00 per month
Charitable solicitations	No fee
Movie theatres	\$50.00 per year
Pool and billiard parlors	\$50.00 per year
Coin-operated vending machines (in coin-operated laundries):	
Automatic washers	\$10.00 per machine per year
Dryers	\$10.00 per machine per year
Coin changers	\$10.00 per machine per year
Soap-dispensing machines	\$10.00 per machine per year
Automatic vending machines:	
Vending merchandise or service of any description (Non-food)	\$40.00 per machine per year
Amusement, skill and video machines	\$100.00 per machine per year

Weighing scales	\$30.00 per machine per year
Coin-operated phonographs	\$75.00 per machine per year
Coin-operated reproducing machines	\$60.00 per machine per year
Going-out-of-business sales	\$150.00 per sale
Circuses and traveling shows	\$100.00 per day
Auctions	\$100.00 per day
Massage, Bodywork and Somatic Therapy Establishments	\$500.00 per licensing cycle
Boardinghouses, rooming houses and rooming units*	
1 to 3 boarders or roomers	\$5.00 per boarder or roomer per year
4 or more boarders or roomers	\$3.00 per boarder or roomer per year

b. Fees shall be paid on an annual basis. However, in the event of a partial year of operation, the payment due shall be prorated to provide that one-fourth of the fee shall be paid for each quarter or partial quarter of operation.

c. Fees listed in Section 4-1.4 shall be waived for any organization qualified as nonprofit under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. (1991 Code § 133-4; Ord. No. 860 § 2; New; Ord. No. 1999-01 § 2; Ord. 2000-15, Amended, 07/21/2000; Ord. 2008-09)

2. That all other Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistencies.
3. That in the event that any portion of this Ordinance is found to be invalid for any reason by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall be limited in its effect only to that portion of the Ordinance actually adjudged to be invalid, and the remaining portions of this Ordinance shall be deemed severable there from and shall not be affected.
4. That this Ordinance shall take effect following final passage and publication in accordance with the law.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2016-174 Authorizing Payment of Bills

Councilmember Bluth requested that item W1122 be pulled from the Bill List and voted on separately.

Councilmember Kurs moved Resolution 2016-174 without item W1122; Councilmember Stults seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Council members Bluth, Hansen, Kurs, Misiura, Montferrat and Stults voted yes.

Councilmember Hansen moved item W1122 for payment; Councilmember Kurs seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Council members Hansen, Kurs, Misiura, Montferrat and Stults voted yes. Councilmember Bluth abstained.

Resolution adopted 5-0 with 1 abstention.

Resolution 2016-174

*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 \$71,452.49 from the following accounts:

Current		\$30,542.66
W/S Operating		18,790.77
General Capital		59.00
Water/Sewer Capital		2,104.50
Grant		1,161.55
Trust		239.76
Housing Trust		0.00
Animal Control		0.00
Law Enforcement Trust		0.00
Housing Rehab Loans		0.00
Unemployment Trust		0.00
Escrow		<u>18,554.25</u>
Total		<u>\$71,452.49</u>

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Montferrat moved the consent agenda which consisted on resolutions 2016-175, 2016-176, 2016-177 and 2016-178; Councilmember Hansen seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Council members Bluth, Hansen, Kurs, Misiura, Montferrat and Stults voted yes.

Resolutions adopted 6-0.

Resolution 2016-175

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

**APPOINTING AND AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT FOR SPECIAL LABOR
COUNSEL SERVICES FOR A SPECIFIC LABOR MATTER – JOHN M. BOWENS, ESQ.**

WHEREAS, there exists the need for specialized legal services relative to a specific personnel matter during 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council wishes to appoint John M. Bowens, Esq. of Schenck, Price, Smith & King, LLP of Florham Park, New Jersey as Special Labor Counsel for a specific personnel matter at a rate of \$130.00 per hour; and

WHEREAS, the cost for the proposed services shall not exceed \$3,500.00 without further approval by the Borough Council; and,

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose will be made available in the 2016 budget; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Attorney will review and approve the contract for execution by the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated term of this contract shall be until the special labor matter for which the Special Labor Counsel as assigned is resolved.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the Mayor is authorized to execute and the Borough Clerk to attest an agreement between the Borough of Hightstown and John M. Bowens, Esq. for professional labor counsel services for a specific labor matter.

Resolution 2016-176

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

**AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH HAMILTON
TOWNSHIP FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF RECORDS**

WHEREAS, there is a need for the destruction of Hightstown Borough records in accordance with the New Jersey State Records Retention Schedule; and

WHEREAS, Hamilton Township has offered to shred the records currently awaiting destruction in Hightstown Borough, at no charge to the Borough, due to special circumstance; and

WHEREAS, Hightstown Borough and Hamilton Township wish to encourage inter-municipal cooperation; and

WHEREAS, Hightstown Borough and Hamilton Township recognize that shared service agreements may yield

certain economies and efficiencies to the residents of the Parties in the delivery of the services; and

WHEREAS, the “Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act,” N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 *et seq.*, authorizes local units of this State to enter into a contract with any other local unit or units for the joint provision within their several jurisdictions of any service which any Party to the agreement is empowered to render within its own jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, Hightstown Borough and Hamilton Township agree that Hamilton Township will shred the documents currently awaiting destruction in Hightstown Borough at no charge.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the Shared Services Agreement with Hamilton Township, Mercer County for the destruction of records is hereby approved and the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the agreement for same.

Resolution 2016-177

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

AUTHORIZING RECEIPT OF BIDS FOR CHEMICALS

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the Borough Engineer is hereby authorized to prepare specifications and advertise for bids for Chemicals for the Water and Waste Water Treatment Plants, and that the Borough is authorized to receive same after proper advertisement

Resolution 2016-178

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

AUTHORIZING RECEIPT OF BIDS FOR ULTRAVIOLET DISINFECTION AND TERTIARY FILTER PROJECT

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the Borough Engineer is hereby authorized to prepare specifications and advertise for bid for the Ultraviolet Disinfection and Tertiary Filter Project for the Waste Water Treatment Plant, and that the Borough is authorized to receive same after proper advertisement.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD II

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

Scott Caster, 12 Clover Lane – asked for clarification of the first public comment period and what is considered an agenda item, the minutes are on the agenda for approval so Mr. Mair can comment on them; expressed concern regarding the impending storm and whether Hightstown is prepared.

Doug Mair, 536 S. Main Street – advised he is still waiting for an answer from the Borough Attorney regarding a case on the timeliness of minutes; commented the bridge to nowhere is not needed; property maintenance ordinance is not working and it is revenue driven; requested that his comments be placed in the minutes verbatim.

Milton Matamoros, 135 Purdy Street – commented regarding littering and loitering at the Westerlea Apartments and High School; he has concern with vehicles with New York tags and tinted windows being parked in the Borough; commented regarding protecting our children; inquired if Hightstown is a sanctuary city and has a don't ask policy; commented that bicycles on the sidewalks and the intersection at Main and Franklin Streets are dangerous.

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

DISCUSSION

Letters of Support for Alternatives Transportation Grant Application

The Borough Clerk advised that letters of support are needed to be submitted with the grant application; the information has been posted to the website.

Parade Permit Ordinance Revision

Mayor Quattrone explained that the revisions to the parade permit requirements have been brought forward by the Police Chief; more time is needed between the application and the time of the event so the PD can plan accordingly for proper officer support.

There was discussion and Council requested that the ordinance be placed on the next agenda for introduction.

MAYOR/COUNCIL/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Councilmember Stults

Downtown Business Meeting – The next meeting for business owners is scheduled for next Monday at 8:30 am at OGP; he is working on establishing a business list for the Borough; 4 Get Me Not, a new business in the Borough, had a grand opening ribbon cutting on Saturday; Downtown Hightstown is meeting with a consultant on Tuesday regarding the Lakefront project.

Construction/Zoning Office – Violations are being followed up; new businesses are coming to town; they are working with the banks on vacant property maintenance; people are taking notice that the Borough is enforcing its ordinances; he is working with the Board of Education to get Realtors to promote the schools; homes are turning over quickly.

Councilmember Bluth

Parks & Recreation – Stated that the meeting is next week.

Cultural Arts Commission – noted that they are sponsoring a Halloween Party on October 29th at the Firehouse, and will also have a booth at the fair on Saturday.

Councilmember Montferrat

Commented that it is painful to hear such negativity when the Council is working so hard; the public is the eyes and ears of Council.

Harvest Fair – noted that the Fair is all set for Saturday and it was advertised on the radio.

Councilmember Misiura

Development – the Developer with whom they met regarding the Lakefront project has sent follow-up e-mails looking for demographic information, which is a good sign that they are still interested.

Public Comments – the Police Department is here to serve and they should be called about strange vehicles that are of concern.

Councilmember Kurs

Public Comments – Noted that Hightstown Borough is not, nor has it ever been, a Sanctuary City; it is a talking point that some people bring up time and time again, but we have never done a resolution or ordinance making Hightstown a Sanctuary City. The Hightstown Police Department has always adhered to the Attorney General guidelines as to reporting to ICE and Homeland Security; that has never changed and they are cooperating as required to be in compliance. He then confirmed this information with Mr. Raffetto, who confirmed he is correct.

He continued that “if you see something, say something”; He grew up in this area and has noticed an improvement to Hightstown, it is foolish that anyone would think that the Council is attempting to downgrade Hightstown; we are all up here to do what is best for the Borough and have a vested interest in seeing Hightstown succeed.

As far as putting comments in the minutes verbatim, it must be noted that once the minutes go up on the website, everyone can read them. When negative comments are projected repeatedly from our residents it gives a negative impression of Hightstown and does not encourage people to come here. A wise individual pointed out that we only have a few people attend our meetings because we are doing something right, because if we were not, the public would come to this forum and let us know. We are making Hightstown better, and that is why only a few people show up to the meetings.

Councilmember Kurs then commented that Mr. Mair is a little misinformed; he voted against the smoking ordinance. Mr. Mair interrupted Councilmember Kurs. Councilmember Kurs then gave his reasons for voting against the smoking ordinance.

Council President Hansen

Housing Authority – the budget passed at the Housing Authority meeting; they are not happy with rusty water in one apartment in building 7 and she will address it with Mr. Underhill to evaluate and resolve the issue; water department employees have put a lot of energy into researching the issue and we hope to find a solution.

Comments – she is glad to hear about working with the Realtors, the full day kindergarten is a big draw for young families; she does not recall anyone ever speaking about minutes that are on an agenda for approval before, so she apologizes for questioning Mr. Mair’s comments during the first public comment period.

George Lang, CFO

Advised that we have received a couple small grants that will be put into the budget by resolution on the next meeting agenda; the budget requests have been sent out to the various departments for the 2017 budget.

Mr. Underhill inquired as to the status of the insurance claims regarding Hurricane Irene. Mr. Lang noted that he is working on it with the insurance carrier and is exchanging information with them.

Borough Clerk Sopronyi

Reminded the public that the Harvest Fair is Saturday and promises to be a fun time for the entire family.

Administrator Underhill

Advised that the person who came forward regarding an inaccurate water bill received a new meter, and the old meter has been tested and found to be in good working order. He will be sending her a letter notifying her of the results and that the payment for the water recorded is due to the Borough.

He noted that the mechanism on the dam gate has been replaced; we are under a drought warning, so we cannot lower the lake early due to the impending storm.

Mr. Underhill noted that residents have complained that they cannot legally cross North Main Street until you get to the intersection of Franklin. He advised that the County does like mid-block cross walks and the corners on North Main do not match, so we cannot put in crosswalks.

He advised Council that the abandoned property ordinance will be discussed at the next meeting and Dave Bell will attend to discuss it with Council; Larry Blake will be following up on the rusty water situation at the Housing Authority; a resident on Stockton is also complaining about rusty water, but that is partly due to the need for a new water main or re-lining.

There was discussion regarding the water lines in the area.

Mayor Quattrone

Advised that a new business opened in town this past weekend; they refurbish old furniture and it is a very nice shop; noted that he met with a developer and received a call from another regarding the Lakefront Project; The Mill Property has been surveyed and a demo permit issued, a fence should be installed soon.

Mayor Quattrone then noted that Council wants to help, but the order of business is family/business/Council. He has never seen Hightstown in a better place, and he was born and raised here. He encouraged Council to keep plugging along; they are doing a good job.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Kurs moved to adjourn at 9:10 p.m.; Councilmember Montferrat seconded. All ayes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra L. Sopronyi, RMC
Borough Clerk