

**Meeting Minutes
Hightstown Borough Council
April 16, 2019
7:00 p.m. – Executive Session
7:30 p.m. – Public Session**

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

The flag salute followed Roll Call.

	PRESENT	ABSENT
<i>Councilmember Bluth</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Egan</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Jackson</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Misiura</i>		✓
<i>Councilmember Musing</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Stults</i>	✓	
<i>Mayor Quattrone</i>	✓	

Also in attendance: Margaret (Peggy) Riggio, Deputy Borough Clerk; Debra Sopronyi Borough Clerk/Administrator and Fred Raffetto, Borough Attorney.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution 2019-84 Authorizing a Meeting that Excludes the Public

Moved by Councilmember Musing; Seconded by Councilmember Stults.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmember Bluth, Egan, Jackson, Musing and Stults voted yes.

Resolution adopted 5-0.

Resolution 2019-84

*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 April 15, 2019 at the Hightstown Fire House 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:

Contract Negotiations – Local 32

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: July 15, 2019, 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 7:31 and again read the Open Public Meetings Statement. Borough Engineer, Carmela Roberts, arrived after executive session and is now present.

The Flag Salute followed roll call.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Quattrone requested that a Resolution Supporting an Application for a limited Brewery License be added to the agenda. Deputy Clerk, Peggy Riggio, assigned #2019-93 to the resolution. Councilmember Stults requested that Resolution 2019-89 be taken out of the Consent Agenda and voted on separately. Councilmember Musing moved the agenda as amended. Councilmember Egan seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmember Bluth, Egan, Jackson, Musing and Stults voted yes.

Agenda approved as amended 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 28, 2019 - Visioning Workshop

Moved by Councilmember Stults; Seconded by Councilmember Bluth.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Jackson, Musing and Stults voted yes. Councilmember Egan abstained.

Minutes approved 4-0 with one abstention.

April 1, 2019 – Public Session

Moved by Councilmember Bluth; Seconded by Councilmember Jackson.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Jackson, Musing and Stults voted yes. Councilmember Egan abstained.

Minutes approved 4-0 with one abstention.

PUBLIC COMMENT I

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

Joe Cicalese, 136 Broad Street – Stated for the record that in the minutes from the Visioning Workshop, March 28, 2019, he requested that space is needed for boards and committees, specifically, the Harvest Fair Committee.

Eugene Sarafin, 628 South Main Street – Stated that he does not know why Council insists on saying the Pledge of Allegiance. There is no liberty in this Country anymore since Trump is destroying society.

Scott Caster, 12 Clover Lane – Spoke regarding the Shared Services Agreement for the Senior Center in East Windsor. We are paying money to East Windsor for a tax-exempt property. Also spoke about the tax rate in Hightstown; stated that banks question the tax rate when applying for mortgages. Also stated that wealthy people are not moving into Hightstown.

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

ENGINEERING ITEMS

Improvements to Sunset Avenue and Maple Avenue

The Borough Engineer reviewed her letter of April 9, 2019. The scope of work was replacing sidewalks on Maple as needed. Now that that is completed, what remains looks bad. She also stated that there have been residents on Sunset inquiring as to why they are not getting sidewalks. Ms. Roberts spoke with the contractor to obtain pricing for installing sidewalks on one side of Sunset and replacing all sidewalks on Maple. Discussion ensued. Council authorized the Borough Engineer to reevaluate the sidewalks on the Maple and Sunset project and she is to negotiate to get as many as sidewalks as possible to stay within the 20% change order maximum.

Improvements to First Avenue – Update

Ms. Roberts stated that we are about 2 weeks into the project and are little over budget. Public Works modified the stormwater system by the First Avenue water tower so that they can have a dedicated route when the water tower overflows. If you loose power or something doesn't operate properly the water comes down and smashes into the cell antenna box and continues to flow down First Avenue onto Summit. We had included some additional storm pipe on First Avenue into Summit. We did not have pipe planned for going into the water tower property. That has been added. We can take care of it for a few thousand dollars extra.

The contractor ran over a water valve box which broke it. The contractor will replace at their expense. Because of this the water needed to be turned off at the main. We found that it is a galvanized pipe that is very old and is bad for water quality. We authorized the contractor to change to copper. We do not have any reason to believe there are any more. When you run into this, you replace one at a time as you find them. The Borough provided all the fittings, contractor put in the labor and replaced water valve box to make sure all is correct. We minimized the cost to the Borough as much as possible.

The contractor was excavating for a new inlet on Summit Street and hit an unmarked gas main. Pipe bent but did not break. Everything was repaired. If we get a charge from the contractor, we should charge back to public service since it was not marked.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2019-85 Payment of Bills

Moved by Councilmember Egan; Seconded by Councilmember Bluth

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Egan, Jackson and Musing voted yes. Councilmember Stults abstained.

Resolution adopted 4-0 with 1 abstention.

Resolution 2019-85

*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 \$235862.20 from the following accounts:

Current		\$108,852.83
W/S Operating		93,074.48
General Capital		17,228.95
Water/Sewer Capital		12,666.50
Grant		700.00
Trust		1,379.69
Housing Trust		0.00
Animal Control		0.00
Law Enforcement Trust		0.00
Housing Rehab Loans		0.00
Unemployment Trust		0.00
Escrow		<u>1,959.75</u>
Total		<u>\$235,862.20</u>

Resolution 2019-86 Authorizing Payment #6 – WSP USA, Inc. (NJDOT Safe Routes to Schools – Improvements to Stockton Street & Joseph Street

Moved by Councilmember Musing; Seconded by Councilmember Stults.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Egan, Jackson, Musing and Stults voted yes.

Resolution adopted 5-0

Resolution 2019-86

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

AUTHORIZING PAYMENT #6 – WSP USA INC. (NJDOT SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS – IMPROVEMENTS TO STOCKTON STREET & JOSEPH STREET)

WHEREAS, on November 7, 2016, the Borough Council awarded a contract for Preliminary Engineering and Final Design and Construction Support activities related to the Improvements to Stockton Street and Joseph Street in the Borough to Parsons Brinckerhoff, Inc., of Dallas, Texas at the price of \$103,819.36; and

WHEREAS, Since the time of award, Parsons Brinckerhoff has changed the company name to WSP USA Inc. and all future payments should be made accordingly; and

WHEREAS, the engineer has submitted payment request #6 for work completed on the project from December 29, 2018 – March 1, 2019 in the total amount of \$14,071.31; and

WHEREAS, the CFO has certified that funds are available for this expenditure; and

WHEREAS, this payment shall be contingent upon approval being provided by FHWA and NJDOT through the Safe Routes to School Design Assistance Program; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that Payment Request #6 to WSP USA, Inc., P.O. Box 732476, Dallas, Texas, 75373-2476, in the total amount of \$14,071.31 is hereby approved as detailed herein, and the CFO is authorized to issue same.

Resolution 2019-87 Authorizing Renewed Shared Services Agreement with East Windsor Township for Senior Services

Moved by Councilmember Bluth; Seconded by Councilmember Stults.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Egan, Jackson, Musing and Stults voted yes.

Resolution adopted 5-0

Resolution 2019-87

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

AUTHORIZING RENEWED SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH EAST WINDSOR TOWNSHIP FOR SENIOR SERVICES

WHEREAS, with the adoption of Resolution 2018-83 on April 2, 2018, the Borough Council approved a Shared Services Agreement with the Township of East Windsor for the provision of Senior Services for the period March 1, 2018 through February 28, 2019 at a cost of Forty-Five Thousand Nine Hundred Forty-two Dollars and Fifty Two Cents (\$45,842.52) for the 12-month period; and

WHEREAS, the parties desire to enter into a successor agreement to continue the provision of Senior Services to the Borough by the Township of East Windsor through February 29, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, N.J.S.A. 40:65-1 et seq. authorizes the approval of Shared Services Agreements by Resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have reviewed the proposed Shared Services Agreement for Senior Services for the period March 1, 2019 through February 29, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Borough's net share of costs for these services, by the terms of this agreement, for the period March 1, 2018 through February 29, 2020 will be Forty-Eight Thousand Two Hundred Thirty Nine Dollars and Sixty Four Cents (\$48,239.64) for this 12-month period; and

WHEREAS it is the intention of the Mayor and Council to provide adequate funding for this expenditure in the 2019 and 2020 budgets;

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

1. The Shared Services Agreement with the Township of East Windsor for Senior Services for the period March 1, 2019 through February 29, 2020 is hereby approved, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40:65-1 et seq.
2. The Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the agreement for same.
3. This agreement is approved subject to the provision of adequate funds in the Borough's 2019 and 2020 budgets.

Resolution 2019-88 Resolution Authorizing a 3rd Amendment to the Lease Agreement for the Borough's Continued Use of Portion of the Property Known and Designated as Block 61.01, Lots 43, 44 & 45, Commonly Known as 415A Mercer Street, Hightstown, New Jersey

Moved by Councilmember Musing; Seconded by Councilmember Stults.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Egan, Jackson, Musing and Stults voted yes.

Resolution adopted 5-0

Resolution 2019-88

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

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A 3RD AMENDMENT TO THE LEASE AGREEMENT FOR THE
BOROUGH'S CONTINUED USE OF A PORTION OF THE PROPERTY
KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS BLOCK 61.01, LOTS 43, 44 & 45,
COMMONLY KNOWN AS 415A MERCER STREET,
HIGHTSTOWN, NEW JERSEY.**

WHEREAS, the Hightstown Borough Governing Body previously adopted Ordinance No. 2014-02 which authorized the Borough of Hightstown (the "Borough") to enter into a Lease Agreement (the "Agreement") with Hights Realty, LLC, regarding the Borough's temporary use of a portion of the premises located at 415 Mercer Street in the Borough, commonly known and designated as Block 61.01, Lots 43, 44 and 45 on the Borough's Tax Map (hereinafter referenced as the "Property"), for the relocation of the Borough's Police Department and associated operations; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement was executed by the parties on February 1, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the parties previously executed a “1st Amendment to Lease Agreement and First Renewal Thereof” (the “1st Amendment”), which modified the renewal terms set forth in the initial Agreement; and
WHEREAS, the parties subsequently executed a “2nd Amendment to Lease Agreement (the “2nd Amendment”), which further modified the renewal terms set forth in the initial Agreement;

WHEREAS, the term of the 2nd Amendment has expired as of January 31, 2019;

WHEREAS, the parties wish to renew the said Agreement for a third renewal term, which constitutes a one (1) year period retroactive to February 1, 2019, which shall expire on January 31, 2020, including the option to renew for one additional one (1) year period commencing on February 1, 2020 and expiring on January 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Parties have negotiated a 3rd Amendment to Lease Agreement (the “3rd Amendment”), which sets forth the renewal terms and conditions, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council wish to authorize the Borough to enter into this 3rd Amendment, or one which is substantially similar thereto and which meets with the approval of the Borough Attorney, and to authorize the Mayor and Borough Clerk to execute the same on behalf of the Borough.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute and the Borough Clerk to attest the attached 3rd Amendment, or one which is substantially similar thereto and which meets with the approval of the Borough Attorney, on behalf of the Borough.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution shall be provided to each of the following:

1. Hights Realty, LLC
2. Robert Brown, Esq.
2. Frederick C. Raffetto, Esq., Borough Attorney
3. Police Chief Frank Gendron.

At this time, Councilmember Stults recused himself from the meeting.

Resolution 2019-93 Supporting and Application for a Limited Brewery License

Councilmember Musing fully supports this license. Having an establishment such as this in town will help make Hightstown more of a destination town.

Moved by Councilmember Musing; Seconded by Councilmember Jackson.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Egan, Jackson and Musing voted yes.

Resolution adopted 4-0.

Resolution 2019-93
BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN
COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

SUPPORTING AN APPLICATION FOR A LIMITED BREWERY LICENSE

WHEREAS, Hightstown Borough has been notified by the New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control that an application for a new Limited Brewery License has been filed by Old Hights Brewing Company, LLC; and,

WHEREAS, the applicant requests that this license privilege be sited at 123 West Ward Street in the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council hereby support this business in the Borough and the issuance of the appropriate Alcoholic Beverage Control license; and

WHEREAS, Old Hights Brewing Company, LLC must still comply with all municipal and state regulations in establishing said business.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Borough of Hightstown, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey supports a new Limited Brewery License for Old Hights Brewing Company, LLC to be located at 123 West Ward Street, Hightstown, New Jersey; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough Clerk shall forward a certified copy of this Resolution to:

1. State of New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control
2. Hightstown Borough Planning Board
3. Old Hights Brewing Company, LLC

Resolution 2019-89 Authorizing Release of Performance Bond Funds – Hanover Construction

Moved by Councilmember Bluth; Seconded by Councilmember Egan.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Egan, Jackson and Musing voted yes.

Resolution adopted 4-0.

Resolution 2019-89

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

**AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE BOND FUNDS
HANOVER CONSTRUCTION**

WHEREAS, Hanover Construction, LLC deposited performance bond funds in the amount of \$1,000.00 for Demolition Permit #2019-0069; and

WHEREAS, Hanover Construction, LLC has requested that the performance bond funds on deposit with the Borough for Demolition Permit 2019-0069 be released; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Construction Official has issued a Certificate of Approval for the permit and has recommended that the performance bond funds be released.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the CFO is authorized and directed to release the performance bond funds on deposit with the Borough to Hanover Construction, LLC, P.O. Box 158 Wrightstown, NJ 08562, representing Demolition Permit 2019-0069 in the amount of \$1,000.00

A certified copy of this Resolution shall be provided to the following:

- a. Hanover Construction, LLC
- b. George Lang, Borough CFO
- c. George Chin, Borough Construction Official

Councilmember Stults returned at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Bluth moved Resolutions 2019-90; 2019-91 and 2019-92; as a Consent Agenda; Councilmember Stults seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Egan, Jackson, Musing and Stults voted yes.

Resolutions adopted 5-0.

Resolution 2019-90

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

AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR A RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT

WHEREAS, the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act, P.L. 1987, c. 102, has established a recycling fund from which tonnage grants may be made to municipalities in order to encourage local source separation and recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent and spirit of the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act to use the tonnage grants to develop new municipal recycling programs and to continue and expand existing programs; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy has promulgated recycling regulations to implement the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act; and

WHEREAS, the recycling regulations impose on municipalities certain requirements as a condition for applying for tonnage grants, including, but not limited to, making and keeping accurate, verifiable records of materials collected and claimed by the municipality; and

WHEREAS, a resolution authorizing this municipality to apply for the 2018 tonnage grant will memorialize the commitment of this municipality to recycling, and will indicate the assent of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown to the efforts undertaken by the municipality and the requirements contained in the Recycling Act and recycling regulations;

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

1. The Borough of Hightstown hereby endorses the submission of a 2018 recycling tonnage grant

application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

2. Mayor Lawrence Quattrone, 156 Bank Street, Hightstown, New Jersey 08520, is hereby designated and directed to ensure that the application is properly completed and timely filed;
3. Monies received from the recycling tonnage grant shall be deposited in a dedicated recycling trust fund to be used solely for the purposes of recycling.

Resolution 2019-91

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

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR & CLERK
TO SIGN CANCELLATION OF TAX LIEN FOR
BLOCK 61.01 LOT 34**

WHEREAS, on October 20, 2017 Borough of Hightstown acquired a tax lien at a sale held by Angela LoConte, Collector of Taxes, Borough of Hightstown for certain property described as Block 61.01 Lot 34 of the Borough of Hightstown Tax Map, more commonly known as 387 Mercer St., Hightstown, NJ certificate #17-00015 and,

WHEREAS, the Tax Sale Certificate issued was recorded November 08, 2017 in the office of the Mercer County Clerk in Mortgage Book 11309, Page 901, and

WHEREAS, this tax sale certificate issued has been satisfied by payment in full and the Tax Collector does so certify.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk be and are hereby authorized to sign the tax sale certificate for the property known as Block 61.01 Lot 34 on the Borough of Hightstown tax map, more commonly known as 387 Mercer St, Hightstown, NJ.

Resolution 2019-92

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

**AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS
PRIOR TO ADOPTION OF THE 2019 BUDGET**

WHEREAS, an emergent condition has arisen with respect to inadequate appropriation balances remaining in some line items of the 2019 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 2019 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	1,800.00	870,565.00	872,365.00
Capital Outlay – Current	0.00	0.00	0.00
Debt Service - Current	0.00	0.00	0.00
Water/Sewer	115,000.00	144,093.00	259,093.00
Capital Outlay – W/S	0.00	0.00	0.00
Debt Service - W/S	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	116,800.00	1,014,658.00	1,131,458.00

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 2019 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 Chief Finance Officer.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD II

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

Eugene Sarafin, 628 South Main Street – Spoke regarding Mr. Caster’s comments. There are not new immigrants moving into town, these people of have been here and their children are graduating from the high school at the top of their class. Wealthy people are moving into town. Four percent of a home is taxable in all of New Jersey. He disagrees with Mr. Caster.

Keith LePrevost, 213 Greely Street – Spoke regarding the stream cleanup, shredding event and tree planting that the Environmental Commission sponsored for Arbor Day. The Housing Authority has been working on the RAD agreement. The Housing Authority will be having their annual Easter Egg Hunt on Thursday at 2:15. Asked if we are adding sidewalks to Sunset, can we think about adding trees. Why can’t special assessments be done to add sidewalks, saving the Borough money. Attended the budget meeting last week. It’s difficult to talk about the budget when there are no numbers to look at.

Frank Rivera, 110 Broad Street – Stated that a petition was brought to Council 2 weeks ago regarding curb cuts and discharge of stormwater on Broad Street. Wants a response to the petition. What is the progress.

Joe Cicalese, 136 Broad Street – Seconds Mr. Rivera. There is always water on Broad Street. Hopes to get a resolution soon.

Scott Caster, 12 Clover Lane – Stated that some people don’t want sidewalks; why is it assumed that everyone wants a sidewalk in front of their home. At the last meeting there was discussion regarding appointing a Councilmember to the RISE Board. There is no resolution on the agenda for this. Councilmember Musing stated that RISE recently changed their by-laws and there are no more mayoral appointments. He will be joining the Board as a Hightstown resident. Mr. Caster questioned if there was a conflict of interest by being a voting member of the RISE Board and a Councilmember.

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

DISCUSSION

Zoning Changes; Downtown Gateway (DTG) and Downtown Core (DTC)

Councilmember Musing reviewed the proposed zoning changes. He stated that this is all in line with Hightstown's Master Plan, which was reexamined in 2014. Councilmember Stults stated that he felt this was a good place to start. After discussion, it was stated that the changes will need to go to the Planning Board for discussion and comments. Deputy Clerk, Peggy Riggio, will send the proposed changes to the Planning Board. Council will wait for their comments before introduction.

Harvest Fair Liaison

Mayor Quattrone asked Council if anyone wanted to volunteer to be the liaison to the Harvest Fair Committee. Discussion ensued. Council would like to know what the committee is expecting from a liaison. Deputy Clerk, Peggy Riggio, will attend the next meeting to have this discussion with the committee.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember Stults stated that the subcommittee for the Municipal Facilities is meeting with the architect next week to review the concept plan for the YMCA building. The PRC group should be closing on the Mill property any day.

MAYOR/COUNCIL/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Councilmember Bluth

Cultural Arts Commission will meet Wednesday and the Environmental Commission will meet next Tuesday. Stated that the issue on Broad Street needs to be addressed. In order for better communication with the residents, Hightstown needs to look to move to an electronic newsletter.

Councilmember Stults

Downtown Hightstown flower baskets are underway. The Historical Society will be offering walking tours on Saturdays from May – October. They will be working with local restaurants for discounts after the tour. The Business group is looking to get car magnets made for Hightstown. They are also redesigning a business map. Restaurant week was a success. Fernando's, 12 Farms and the Diner all said that they were turning people away. The Housing Authority will meet on Wednesday. Spoke regarding the distracted driving crackdown April 1- April 21. Reviewed the latest report from the Construction office. Forty-three (43) construction permit applications were received in the month of March. All you have to do is walk around Hightstown, and see houses being repainted and reconstructed. He disagrees with Mr. Caster. There are people who are choosing to move here. We have done a lot and there is still more we need to do. Focus on the positive, we have a lot of great things happening in this town.

Councilmember Egan

Attended the Board of Health meeting on April 5th. There are 13 cases of the measles in New Jersey. Talked about a booster for the measles vaccine.

Councilmember Musing

Stated that the water on Broad Street needs to be looked at. While he understands that some people do not want sidewalks, Council needs to do what is best for the Borough as a whole. Ended by stated that he is an immigrant to this country, and he loves the flag. He thinks that the pledge is important, and he hopes that we continue to recite it.

Councilmember Jackson

Was able to attend the Mayor's Legislative Day with Mayor Quattrone on April 5th. Parks and Rec are looking into providing a sports program this summer.

Debra Sopronyi, Borough Administrator/Clerk

Attended the first progress meeting for the bridge. They will be meeting every 2 weeks for progress updates. Hope to be breaking ground within 6 – 8 weeks. The sump pump issue on Broad Street is being handled internally. In the meantime, the Environmental Commission would be happy to help homeowners try to alleviate the issue. The installation of curbs and sidewalks on Sunset are part of the Complete Streets program making Hightstown a walkable community.

Peggy Riggio, Deputy Borough Clerk

Stated that the Harvest Fair is October 12, 2019. The first committee meeting is tomorrow night. Voter registration for the June 4th Primary is due May 14th.

Fred Raffetto, Borough Attorney

Stated that he does not see any conflicts with Councilmember Musing serving on the Board of RISE.

Mayor Quattrone

Stated that Ken Lewis, DPW, is working with the gas company to get Broad Street paved. The gas company is paving half the street. We are looking into see what is involved in getting the whole street paved. We are a part of the complete streets program and safe routes to school so whenever possible; we will install sidewalks to make Hightstown more walkable. This year is the 99th Memorial Day Parade. We are already looking forward to the 100th Anniversary next year. The first Wellness Walk of the year will be April 27th starting at Memorial Park. Thanked the Environmental Commission for sponsoring the shredding event. Ended by stating that he believes that Hightstown is moving in the right direction.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Stults moved to adjourn at 9:13; Seconded by Councilmember Musing. All ayes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret M. Riggio
Deputy Borough Clerk