

**Meeting Minutes
Hightstown Borough Council
December 21, 2020
6:30 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Quattrone at 6:33 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 on the Borough website.” Do to COVID-19 and self-distancing protocols, this meeting was held remotely through freeconferencecall.com.

The flag salute followed Roll Call.

	PRESENT	ABSENT
<i>Councilmember Bluth</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Cicalese</i>		ARRIVED AT 6:45 PM
<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; Carmela Roberts, Borough Engineer and Fred Raffetto, Borough Attorney.

The Flag Salute followed roll call.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Bluth requested that Resolution 2020-248 be removed from the Consent Agenda and voted on separately. Mayor Quattrone requested that Contract Negotiations – Housing Authority and Contract Negotiations – Robbinsville.

Moved as amended by Council President Musing; Seconded by Councilmember Stults.

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

Agenda approved as amended 6-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

November 16, 2021 – Public Session

Moved by Councilmember Stults; Seconded by Councilmember Jackson.

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

Minutes approved 6-0.

November 16, 2021 – Executive Session

Moved by Councilmember Bluth; Seconded by Councilmember Stults.

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

Minutes approved 5-0 with 1 abstention.

PRESENTATIONS

Jay Shumsky - Eagle Scout Project

Jay Shumsky, reviewed his project and shared his presentation for a Pollinator Garden in Rocky Brook Park. He thanked Gary Grubb for his assistance with this project.

Councilmember Cicalese joined the meeting during the presentation.

Mayor Quattrone Commented on the excellent presentation.

Council President Musing commented on the great job that Jay did with the presentation. He questioned if the bee hive currently at Rocky Brook Park is active. He also asked about irrigation. Jay replied that yes, the hive is active. He stated Mr. Grubb advised him the sprinkler system can be moved to help watering the garden. Mr. Grubb also advised Jay that Parks and Recreation Commission will take care of ongoing maintenance.

Councilmember Bluth stated that this was incredible. Amazing, well planned, well thought out and can't wait to see it complete.

Councilmember Stults commented on a great presentation, very well thought out. Stated that this will enhance what's already there. Thanked Jay for his efforts.

Councilmember Jackson commented that this was a great presentation. This will really enhance the park. Can't wait to see the finished project.

Councilmember Misiura commented that this was a great presentation. Great project. Liked the effort put into the planning. Thank you for bringing this to Hightstown.

Mobility Study Proposed Amendment to Master Plan

Bev Asselstine, Planning Board and Complete Streets Committee reviewed the process for the proposed amendments. Planning Board approved the amendments and are looking for Council's comments. Discussion ensued. Mayor Quattrone asked for a motion to send the amendments back to the Planning Board with no comments.

Moved by Councilmember Stults; Seconded by Councilmember Jackson.

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

Amendments to Master Plan sent to Planning Board 6-0.

Downtown Hightstown Presentation

Cristina Fowler, Downtown Hightstown Business Group informed Council that there was a fundraiser through Old Hights Brewing Company that raised funds for this project. They have come up with a QR code on 4x7 cards free to all businesses. Customers scan the QR code and a list of all shops, restaurants and special events in town will be displayed. They are now looking to place signs around town in key locations. She has worked with Borough Administrator, Debra Sopronyi, and Zoning Official, George Chin, to choose 10 locations throughout town to place the QR signs.

Mayor Quattrone stated that he has spoken to the Post Office to get permission to have a sign there.

Councilmember Misiura asked if you would be able to tell which sign was scanned. Ms. Fowler answered that this is not possible.

Mayor Quattrone commented that this is an excellent way to promote Hightstown.

Councilmember Stults commented that the business group is doing an excellent job promoting themselves.

Borough Administrator/Clerk, Debra Sopronyi, stated that she appreciates all that the business group has done. The signs are tastefully done and fits into Hightstown.

Councilmember Cicalese thinks this is a brilliant idea; signs don't have to be changed; that it links right to an updated web page.

Resolution 2020-244 A Resolution of the Borough of Hightstown Supporting the Downtown Hightstown QR Code Program

Moved by Councilmember Jackson; Seconded by Councilmember Stults.

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

Resolution adopted 6-0.

Resolution 2020-244

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

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN SUPPORTING THE DOWNTOWN HIGHTSTOWN QR CODE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Downtown Hightstown has developed a QR Code Program from which Residents and Visitors to the Borough can conveniently get current information about Borough businesses, and entertainment and event opportunities in the Borough; and

WHEREAS, Downtown Hightstown has worked with the Borough Administrator and Zoning Official to establish convenient, compliant, and safe installation locations for the QR Code Program signs; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council are supportive of the businesses in the Borough and find that such a program is beneficial to businesses and visitors in the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hightstown wishes to support the Downtown Hightstown QR Code Program and allow for signs to be posted in the Borough at which visitors can scan their phone and receive business, and entertainment and event opportunities in the Borough.

WHEREAS, the placement of the signs shall be coordinated with the Zoning Official to assure compliance with safety and sign regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hightstown that Downtown Hightstown is hereby authorized to install QR Code program signs in the Borough to promote business, and entertainment and event opportunities in the Borough; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the installation of said signs shall be at the direction of the Zoning Official.

ENGINEERING ITEMS

Improvements to Springcrest Drive, Taylor Avenue, Spruce Court and Glen Drive

Borough Engineer, Carmela Roberts, stated that she needs direction on the Taylor Avenue project to move forward on design. The Borough is under a tight deadline to award the contract in March of 2021. The design needs to be sent to DOT by January 3, 2021. She has met with Planning Board and The Complete Streets Committee. She reviewed concepts sent to Council 11/24. The Planning Board and Complete Streets are in favor of the 42 foot concept. The Superintendent of Public Works preference is 42 feet. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Quattrone, Councilmember Misiura, Council President Musing and Councilmember Misiura all stated that they were in favor of concept 3. Council instructed Ms. Roberts to move forward with concept #3.

Schuyler Avenue Water Main

Borough Engineer, Carmela Roberts, reviewed her letter to Council dated December 15, 2020. During the week of December 9th, the Borough experienced a water main break on Schuler Avenue. This is the 5th break within 100-foot length of the pipeline within 4 years. Public Works Superintendent, Ken Lewis, has requested that the water main be replaced in its entirety. This work could be incorporated into the Springcrest project. This would save the Borough the cost of separate advertisement, mobilization costs and other costs such as the contractor's administration, insurance and bonding. Replacement of the entire water main (approximately 400 feet), one water service connection, valves and reconnection to the water system is estimated at \$85,000. Engineering design \$4,000; Additional inspection \$7,800. Ms. Roberts recommends this as the most economical way to complete this project. Discussion ensued. Council voiced its concerns about the effect this will have on the Water-Sewer Budget. Borough Administrator, Debra Sopronyi, stated that bidding this project on its own would more than double the cost of the project. It was noted that we are starting to run into millions of dollars with water-sewer projects. We need to take a closer look at the upcoming Water-Sewer Projects to plan in our capital budget. Ms. Roberts and Ms. Sopronyi are still looking into the USDA grants. Ms. Roberts will come back to Council with how much of a grant can be obtained. Ms. Roberts also stated that a stepped approach can be taken with the work on the water towers. Council will need to advise her if that is the path they would like to take. Mayor Quattrone directed CFO, George Lang, to show the impact all of the upcoming projects will have on the water-sewer budget. Council unanimously agreed to have Ms. Roberts add the Schuler Water Main to the Springcrest project.

PUBLIC COMMENT I

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

Jordan Adler - 186 Mill Run East – Stated that he is here to listen to Council discussion regarding the Mercer at Play Grant. Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission are here to listen and answer any questions. They did not know that this was on the agenda until this morning. No notice was given to the chair or vice chair of the commission.

Eugene Sarafin, 628 South Main Street - Stated that the Boy Scout presentation was fantastic.

E. Martin Davidoff, 9 Ashton Lane - Thank you to Jason for the presentation. Also thanked Gary Grubb for his support of the project. He is here to listen Council's discussion for Mercer at Play grant. He is disappointed that these improvements have not been made. Please do what you can to cut the bureaucracy let's get this done. He appreciates the open and transparent review. Would like to see this project complete by the time warm weather is here. Thanked Stacey Judge and Jordan Adler for their leadership.

Stacey Judge, 307 Morrison Avenue, Chair, Parks and Rec Commission - It was only brought to her attention that the Parks and Rec Commission was on the agenda for discussion. She would have appreciated the time to prepare answers to questions that Council may have had. This speaks to the lack of proper communication. She is very disappointed in the time that it has taken to get this project done. She is happy to answer any questions. Her main objective is to move this forward. This grant was executed in May of 2019. A lot is being asked of the commission. All of the changes and requirements are increasing the cost of the project.

Stephanie Spann, 115 Morrison Avenue - Stated that she is here to listen and looks forward to Council's discussion.

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

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2020-245 Authorizing Payment of Bills

Moved by Council President Musing; Seconded by Councilmember Cicalese

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

Resolution adopted 6-0.

Resolution 2020-245

*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 \$1,231,517.11 from the following accounts:

Current		\$955,135.08
W/S Operating		50,609.57
General Capital		221,892.03
Water/Sewer Capital		0.00
Grant		0.00
Trust		0.00
Housing Trust		0.00
Animal Control		0.00
Law Enforcement Trust		0.00
Tax Lien Trust		0.00
Public Defender Trust		0.00
Escrow		<u>3,880.43</u>
Total		<u>\$1,231,517.11</u>

Resolution 2020-246 Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement Relating to the Construction of a Fence within a Borough-Held Drainage easement Located on and Across the Property Located at 408 Grant Avenue (Block 9, Lot 32.07)

Moved by Council President Musing; Seconded by Councilmember Stults.

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

Resolution adopted 6-0.

Resolution 2020-246
BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN
COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT
RELATING TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FENCE WITHIN A BOROUGH-HELD DRAINAGE
EASEMENT LOCATED ON AND ACROSS THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 408 GRANT AVENUE
(BLOCK 9, LOT 32.07)**

WHEREAS, the owners (Tyson and Kimberly Hoeflinger) of the property located at 408 Grant Avenue in the Borough of Hightstown (the property”), more commonly known and designated as Block 9, Lot 32.07 on the official

Borough Tax Map, have requested the Borough's permission to construct a privacy fence along the rear property line of the property, which faces the Grace Rogers Field, which fence would be situated within an existing fifteen foot (15') wide drainage easement that is held by the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the proposed fence is intended to be six feet (6') in height and shall be composed of a vinyl material, and shall extend for a distance of approximately eighty feet (80') along the rear property line; and

WHEREAS, the property owners have agreed to assume all liability associated with the proposed fence, and will be responsible for all costs and expenses if the fence is ever required to be removed or dismantled (in whole or in part) by the Borough for any purpose, including the responsibility for all costs and expenses related to repair of any damages incurred to the fence or related to its reconstruction; and

WHEREAS, the property owners have agreed to execute an Agreement with the Borough in order to memorialize their assumption of all liability relating to the proposed fence, along with any and all other terms and conditions deemed necessary by the Borough Attorney.

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

1. That the Borough hereby provides its consent to the property owners for the construction of a privacy fence along the rear property line of the property, which fence shall be situated within an existing fifteen foot (15') wide drainage easement that is held by the Borough, subject to the terms and conditions set forth above and also subject to any other terms and conditions that are deemed necessary by the Borough Attorney (which shall be included in an Agreement between the Borough and the property owners).
2. That the Mayor or Borough Administrator is hereby authorized to execute, and the Deputy Municipal Clerk to attest, an Agreement on behalf of the Borough, which Agreement shall be in a form satisfactory to the Borough Attorney, relating to the above issues. The execution of said Agreement shall be a prerequisite to the issuance of any permits associated with the construction of the said fence.
3. **That a certified copy of this Resolution shall be provided to each of the following:**
 - a. Debra L. Sopronyi, Borough Administrator/Clerk; and
 - b. George Chin, Zoning Officer; and
 - c. Frederick C. Raffetto, Esq., Borough Attorney.

Resolution 2020-248 Amending the Personnel Policy Manual of the Borough of Hightstown

Moved by Councilmember Stults; Seconded by Councilmember Jackson.

Councilmember Bluth asked for an explanation for the amendment.

Borough Administrator, Debra Sopronyi, stated that the amendment to the Personnel Policy is in line with union negotiations that recently took place. The extra personal day was one of the benefits given to union members. Statutory staff must have same benefits as union benefits. This change is effective January 1, 2021.

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

Resolution adopted 6-0.

Resolution 2020-248

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

**AMENDING THE PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL
OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the following sections of the *Personnel Policy Manual of the Borough of Hightstown* are hereby amended effective January 1, 2021 as follows (additions underlined, deletions in ~~strikeout text~~):

5-12. Personal leave with pay.

An employee may be granted ~~three (3)~~ four (4) personal leave days each calendar year, but not in conjunction with vacations or holidays. The employee requesting such leave shall do so by providing his/her department head with notification at least one (1) week in advance except in the case of an emergency. Newly hired employees during the remainder of their first calendar year of service shall be granted ~~one and one-half (1½)~~ one (1) days of personal leave or absence with pay for each three (3) months of service, to the limit of ~~three (3)~~ four (4) days. The said ~~three (3)~~ four (4) days may be used for emergencies, personal business or other personal affairs. Employees hired after June 30th shall not be entitled to more than ~~one and one-half (1½)~~ two (2) days of personal leave or absence with pay during their first year of employment.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Stults moved Resolutions 2020-247; 2020-249; 2020-250; 2020-251; 2020-252 and 2020-253 as a Consent Agenda; Councilmember Jackson seconded.

Resolution 2020-247

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

AUTHORIZING A REIMBURSEMENT FOR CELL PHONE USAGE

WHEREAS, the Borough finds it cost effective to permit certain employees to utilize their private cell phone for Borough business throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to authorize a reimbursement for private cell phone usage during 2020 to Geetanjali Jain, Public Health Nurse; Jill Swanson, Health Officer; and Margaret Riggio, Deputy Clerk for the period January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 in the amount of \$150.00; and

WHEREAS, the funds for this reimbursement are available and the CFO has so certified in writing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the Finance is authorized to issue reimbursement as stated above for private cell phone usage during 2020.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution shall be given to the Finance Office, Geetanjali Jain, Jill Swanson and Margaret Riggio.

Resolution 2020-249

BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN

*COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY*

**ACCEPTING MEMBERSHIP OF JHON S. RIVERA IN
HIGHTSTOWN ENGINE CO. NO. 1**

WHEREAS, Jhon S. Rivera, of Hightstown, of New Jersey has applied for membership in Hightstown Engine Company No. 1; and

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

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

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

Resolution 2020-250

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

**ACCEPTING MEMBERSHIP OF ROBIN E. GERBER IN
HIGHTSTOWN ENGINE CO. NO. 1**

WHEREAS, Robin E. Gerber, of Hightstown, of New Jersey has applied for membership in Hightstown Engine Company No. 1; and

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

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

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

Resolution 2020-251

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

RE-APPOINTING SETH A. KURS AS MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE

WHEREAS, Judge Seth A. Kurs currently serves as Municipal Court Judge and his term expired on October 2, 2020; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Mayor and Council to reappoint Judge Kurs for a subsequent three-year term in accordance with the provisions of section 2-24.2 of the *Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown*; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that Seth A. Kurs, of Hightstown, New Jersey, is hereby reappointed as Municipal Court Judge effective October 2, 2020 for a

three-year term ending October 1, 2023.

Resolution 2020-252

BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN
COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

AUTHORIZING A TRANSFER OF FUNDS IN THE 2020 BUDGET

WHEREAS N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58 provides that the governing body may authorize a transfer of funds in the budget during the last two months of the fiscal year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the following transfers in the 2020 budget are hereby authorized:

<u>Current:</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Engineer		
Other Expenses	5,000.00	
Legal		
Other Expenses	10,000.00	
Gasoline		
Other Expenses	10,000.00	
Landfill		
Other Expenses		20,000.00
Data Processing		
Other Expenses		5,000.00
TOTALS	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00

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

**REQUESTING APPROVAL FOR INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE
IN THE 2020 BUDGET**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown hereby request the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of a special item of revenue and equal appropriation in the budget of the Borough of Hightstown for the year 2020 as follows:

Source	Amount	Revenue Title	Appropriation Title
State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services	\$ 106,389.61	Local Government Emergency Fund	Local Government Emergency Fund

NEW BUSINESS

Boards and Committee Vacancies

Mayor Quattrone presented his suggestions for Boards and Committee Vacancies. There was no discussions. Vacant positions will be filled at the annual Reorg Meeting.

2022 Reorg Meeting Date

Council discussed the date for the 2022 Reorg meeting. Council agreed to have the 2022 reorg meeting Monday, January 3, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. At present time, and until further notice, all 2022 Borough Council meetings will be held virtually due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

Parks and Recreation Commission

This was brought to the Mayor from Councilmember Jackson. Parks and Rec thinks the project should be moving along more quickly. Mayor Quattrone explained that there are rules that need to be followed in government contracts and purchasing especially when a grant is involved. Three quotes are needed before a contract can be executed. Debra Sopronyi, Borough Administrator, explained that specifications are out to approximately 8 vendors for like quotes. The Borough Engineer put out specs for like quotes for the project. This grant was awarded a year ago. We are trying to get this project started. Ms. Bluth questioned if additional work was being added to the project that was not covered in the grant. Ms. Sopronyi stated like quotes are needed and there was some additional work due to stormwater regulations.

MAYOR/COUNCIL/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Councilmember Bluth

Environmental Commission has their meeting tomorrow night. The Cultural Arts Commission is planning a "Hightstown's Got Talent Show" for spring 2021. They are planning to hold this event virtually. Wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Councilmember Jackson

Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Councilmember Stults

Downtown Hightstown is mapping out events for next year. The Hop and Shop was a successful event. They are looking to do more throughout the year. There are a few new businesses getting involved. This is his last meeting as a Councilmember. He commented on how nice it was to work with such a professional group of people. Hightstown residents are in good hands with the Borough staff and its elected officials.

Councilmember Misiura

He was unable to attend the First Aid meeting but he is aware that they have concerns about LOSAP. He will sit down with them and find out what's going on. Happy about the work that Downtown Hightstown is doing. We have to support our local businesses. Stated that it was a pleasure to work with Councilmember Stults. He will be missed. Asked the Deputy Clerk if we could look into a new virtual platform.

Councilmember Cicalese

Stated that Councilmember Stults has left an impact on Council and on the town. He is excited to welcome Cristina Fowler to Council. Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Deputy Clerk, Peggy Riggio

Taxi, Pet and Food License Renewals have all been mailed. All licenses must be renewed by mail as the Borough Offices are closed to the public. Reorg 2021 is schedule for Monday, January 4, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. and will be held virtually through www.freeconferenceall.com. Stated that Councilmember Stults will be missed and wished him luck. Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Borough Administrator/Clerk, Debra Sopronyi

Councilmember Stults will be missed and she thanked him for his work. There were questions regarding Lincoln Avenue residents as to who shovels sidewalks. According to Borough Code, residents are responsible to clear sidewalks after a snowstorm. Since the sidewalks on Lincoln Avenue are new and this is new to these residents, the Zoning office was informed not to issue summons but educate residents that this is their responsibility. Ms. Sopronyi gave an update on the snowstorm from last week. Because the Governor declared a State of Emergency, we will be reimbursed a percentage of our expenses. Wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Borough Attorney, Fred Raffetto

Stated that it has been a pleasure to work with Councilmember Stults. He looks forward to seeing him again soon.

CFO, George Lane

He is working on numbers for the end of the year. It looks like there may be a shortfall. There are still moving parts. He will need to cancel and transfer money before the end of the year. He is requesting a special meeting Tuesday, December 29th at 6:30 p.m. Council agreed to meeting. This will be held virtually.

Council President Musing

Stated that it was a pleasure being Council President. It has been a pleasure working with Councilmember Stults. He will be incredibly missed. His ideas and vision for the town are light years ahead of a lot of things. He has been a driving force in what we have achieved. That's something to be very proud of. Council President stated that he agrees into looking into a new virtual platform. Thanked all our staff and professionals for getting us through 2020. Happy New Year.

Mayor Quattrone

Stated that he is very proud of this town. Working with Councilmember Stults was phenomenal from day one he has made things happen. Infrastructure is the infrastructure. It needs to be done. We have to take care of infrastructure to take care of residents. Our professionals have been wonderful. Asked that Council to let him know which boards, commissions, or departments they are interested in being a liaison for.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution 2020-254 Authorizing a Meeting that Excludes the Public

Moved by Councilmember Misiura; Seconded by Councilmember Cicalese

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

Resolution adopted 6-0.

Resolution 2020-254

*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 December 21, 2020, via www.freeconferencecall.com, 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:

Attorney Client Privilege

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 March 21, 2021, 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.

Council adjourned to Executive Session at 9:14 p.m.

Council reconvened to the Public Session at 10:13 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Stults moved to adjourn at 10:14 p.m.; Council President Musing seconded. All ayes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret M. Riggio
Deputy Borough Clerk