

Meeting Minutes
Hightstown Borough Council
August 1, 2022
6:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Quattrone at 6:30 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 www.zoom.com.

The flag salute followed Roll Call.

	PRESENT	ABSENT
<i>Councilmember Susan Bluth</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Joseph Cicalese</i>	ARRIVED LATE	
<i>Councilmember Cristina Fowler</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Joshua Jackson</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Steven Misiura</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Frederick Montferrat</i>	✓	
<i>Mayor Quattrone</i>	✓	

Also in attendance: Margaret (Peggy) Riggio, Borough Clerk; Dimitri Musing, Borough Administrator; Fred Raffetto, Borough Attorney and George Lang, CFO

The Flag Salute followed roll call.

Councilmember Cicalese joined the meeting at this time.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Councilmember Jackson; Seconded by Councilmember Montferrat.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Cicalese, Fowler, Jackson, Misiura and Montferrat voted yes.

Agenda approved 6-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 7, 2022 – Public Session

Moved by Councilmember Bluth; Seconded by Councilmember Cicalese.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Cicalese, Fowler, Misiura and Montferrat voted yes; Councilmember Jackson abstained.

Minutes approved 5-0 with 1 abstention.

March 7, 2022 – Executive Session

Moved by Councilmember Cicalese; Seconded by Councilmember Fowler.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Cicalese, Fowler, Misiura and Montferrat voted yes; Councilmember Jackson abstained.

Minutes approved 5-0 with 1 abstention.

March 21, 2022 – Public Session

Moved by Councilmember Jackson; Seconded by Councilmember Fowler.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Cicalese, Fowler, Jackson, Misiura and Montferrat voted yes.

Minutes approved 6-0.

March 21, 2022 – Executive Session

Moved by Councilmember Montferrat; Seconded by Councilmember Cicalese.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Cicalese, Fowler, Jackson, Misiura and Montferrat voted yes.

Minutes approved 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Heather Morgan, 131 Monmouth Street – Spoke about the no parking restrictions on Cranbury Station Road. She has been parking n on Cranbury Station Road for over 20 years. She only found out about the change to no parking when a flyer appeared on car. She has no driveway at her home. Cranbury Station Road is the only place she has to park. She feels that by forcing truck traffic to Cranbury Station Road we are creating a hardship on residents. Asked Council if there is there anything that can be done help residents.

Eugene Sarafin, 628 South Main Street – Spoke against the candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania. Spoke against Federal government.

Edward Grimes, Stavia Cross 501c3 – Spoke about disabled people and thanked Council for having meetings online which is accommodating for disabled persons. Also spoke about opening medical dispensaries.

Jeff King, 24 Elizabeth Parkway – Spoke about medical cannabis. Stated that more medical cannabis facilities are needed in the State.

Marina Rudman, 30 Borrell Square, Parlin – Spoke about medical cannabis. Spoke about her experience with medical cannabis.

There being further comments, Mayor Quattrone closed the public comment period.

ORDINANCES

Ordinance 2022-15 Public Hearing and Final Reading An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Section 7-1-14, Entitled “Parking Prohibited at All Times on Certain Streets,” of Article 7-1, “On-Street Traffic Regulations,” of Chapter 7, “Traffic”, of the “The Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown”

Mayor Quattrone opened the public hearing and the following individuals spoke:

Eugene Sarafin, 628 South Main Street – Supports this ordinance.

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

Moved for adoption by Councilmember Montferrat; Seconded by Councilmember Fowler.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Cicalese, Fowler, Jackson, Misiura and Montferrat voted yes.

Ordinance adopted 6-0.

ORDINANCE 2022-15

BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN
COUNTY OF MERCER
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING SECTION 7-1-14, ENTITLED “PARKING PROHIBITED AT ALL TIMES ON CERTAIN STREETS,” OF ARTICLE 7-1, “ON-STREET TRAFFIC REGULATIONS,” OF CHAPTER 7, “TRAFFIC,” OF “THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN”

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hightstown (the “Borough”) has previously established certain traffic regulations within the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the previous regulations as referenced above, which are codified in Chapter 7 of the Borough Code, shall be collectively referenced herein as the “prior traffic regulations”; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council have determined to revise the prior traffic regulations as set forth herein.

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

Section 1. That the prior traffic regulations are hereby revised as set forth in more detail herein.

Section 2. That Section 7-1-14, entitled “Parking Prohibited at All Times on Certain Streets,” of Article 7-1, “On-Street Traffic Regulations,” of Chapter 7, “Traffic,” of “The Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown” (the “Borough Code”), is hereby amended and supplemented in certain limited respects as follows (additions are shown with underline):

§ 7-1-14. Parking Prohibited at All Times on Certain Streets.

No person shall park a vehicle at any time upon any streets or parts thereof described. Notwithstanding the same, the Chief of Police shall be authorized in his/her sole discretion to permit parking where it is otherwise prohibited pursuant to this Section, on a temporary basis, in circumstances where deemed necessary in furtherance of the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Borough and/or to facilitate the operational needs of the Borough.

Name of Street	Side	Location
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Academy Street	North	Mercer Street to easternmost Post Office driveway
Academy Street	North	Railroad Avenue to 100 feet east
Academy Street	North	For a distance of 170 feet west of Mercer Street
Academy Street	South	Mercer Street to Railroad Avenue
Academy Street	East	From Park Avenue to Stockton Street
Academy Street	East	From Rogers Avenue to Railroad Avenue
Academy Street	East	From Stockton Street to Rogers Avenue
Academy Street	West	From Park Avenue to Grant Avenue
Bank Street	North	From North Main Street to Mechanic Street
Bank Street	North	From the westerly curbline of the driveway entrance of the water plant, a distance of 30 feet east and 30 feet west
Bank Street	South	From North Main Street to Academy Street
Center Street	West	From Stockton Street to Morrison Avenue
Church Street	East	From Rogers Avenue to Stockton Street
Clinton Street	North	From Cole Avenue to Maxwell Avenue
Clinton Street	South	From the westerly curbline of Cole Avenue for a distance of 70 feet east
Cole Avenue	Both	From Franklin Street to Clinton Street
Cranbury Station Road [5-2-2022 by Ord. No. 2022-08]	Both	From Monmouth Street to Wyckoff Mills Road
Dutch Neck Road	North	From the southerly curbline of Stockton Street 665 feet southwesterly
Dutch Neck Road	Southeast	From Gilman Place to Stockton Street
Etra Road	Both	From South Main Street to the Borough line
First Avenue	North	From Outcalt Street to Joseph Street
Forman Street	West	From the southerly curbline of Stockton Street for 205 feet south
Grape Run Road	North	From Westerlea Avenue to Pershing Avenue
Grape Run Road	South	From the easterly curbline of Westerlea Avenue to a point 120 feet east
Grape Run Road	Both	From Westerlea Avenue to Mercer Street
Hagemount Avenue	West	From Lincoln Avenue to Rocky Brook Court
Harron Avenue	East	From Stockton Street to Morrison Avenue
Hutchinson Street	East	From Grant Avenue to Park Avenue
Joseph Street	East	From Stockton Street to Second Avenue
Leshin Lane	North	From a point 50' west of the western side of the driveway of 16 Leshin Lane to Westerlea Avenue
Leshin Lane	South	From a point 50' west of the western side of the driveway of 17 Leshin Lane to Westerlea Avenue
Lincoln Avenue	North	Between Hagemount Avenue and Hutchinson Street
Monmouth Street	North	From North Main Street to a point opposite the east curbline of Broad Street
Monmouth Street	South	From the east curbline of Manlove Avenue 652.67 feet east
Monmouth Street	South	From Pennsylvania Railroad to Broad Street
North Main Street	East	From the northerly curbline of Franklin Street to a point 80 feet north
North Main Street	West	From a point 239.5 feet north of the north curbline of Stockton Street to a

		point 242 feet north
North Main Street	North	From Monmouth Street to Sunset Avenue
North Main Street	South	From the Borough Line to Monmouth Street
Oak Lane	East	From Stockton Street to the north curbline of Lincoln Avenue; thence from Lincoln Avenue for 397 feet north
Oak Lane	West	From the northerly curbline of Stockton Street to a point 450 feet north
Outcalt Avenue	East	For a distance of 50 feet north or south of the First Avenue and Second Avenue intersections
Outcalt Street	West	From Rogers Avenue to Morrison Avenue
Park Avenue	South	From the westerly curbline of Academy Street to a point 50 feet west
Pershing Avenue	West	From Grape Run Road to South Street
Purdy Street	East	From Bank Street to Reed Street
Railroad Avenue	East	From Stockton Street to Academy Street
Railroad Avenue	West	From Stockton Street to Rogers Avenue
Reed Street	North	From Mechanic Street to Rev. Powell Drive
Rev. Powell Drive	East	From Reed Street to Chamberlin Avenue
Rogers Avenue	North	From Stockton Street to Mercer Street
Second Avenue	North	From Outcalt Street to Joseph Street
Second Avenue	North	From Summit Street to Joseph Street
South Main Street	West	From Ward Street to Mercer Street
South Street	North	From Mercer Street to South Main Street
Stockton Street	North	From Mercer Street to South Main Street for 199 feet west
Stockton Street	South	From Main Street to the west curbline of Dutch Neck Road; thence on Dutch Neck Road for 624 feet
Ward Street	North	From Mercer Street to South Main Street
Ward Street	North	From the easterly curbline of South Main Street to a point 793.25 feet east
Ward Street	South	From the southeasterly curbline of Mercer Street to a point 57 feet east
Ward Street	South	From the easterly curbline of South Main Street to a point 2,241 feet east
Westerlea	West	Leshin Lane to Grape Run Road

Section 3. That all other provisions of Section 7-1-14 of the Borough Code which are not referenced with underline in Section 2 of this Ordinance shall remain unaffected/unchanged and remain in full force and effect.

Section 4. That all parts and provisions of any Ordinance which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance shall be repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 5. That the provisions of this Ordinance shall be severable. 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 the portion of the Ordinance actually adjudged invalid and shall not be deemed to affect the operation of any other portion thereof, which shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 6. That this Ordinance shall become effective upon final passage and publication in accordance with the law, following the receipt of any approvals deemed necessary by any other governmental agencies or authorities which may have jurisdiction over the matters set forth in the within Ordinance and the installation of proper signage by the Borough of Hightstown and/or the County of Mercer.

George Lang, CFO, joined the meeting at this time.

Ordinance 2022-16 First Reading and Introduction An Ordinance to Establish Salary Ranges for Certain Officers and Employees of the Borough of Hightstown

Moved for introduction by Councilmember Bluth; Seconded by Councilmember Cicalese.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Cicalese, Fowler, Jackson, Misiura and Montferrat voted yes.

Ordinance introduced 6-0.

Public Hearing scheduled for August 15, 2022.

Ordinance 2022-16

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

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

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown, as follows:

Section 1. The following official employment designations are hereby confirmed and the rate of compensation of each officer and employee of the Borough of Hightstown, excluding longevity, whose compensation shall be on an annual basis, is:

	RANGING FROM:	TO:
Mayor	\$5,800.00	\$5,800.00
Councilmember	\$4,600.00	\$4,600.00
Borough Administrator	\$30,000.00	\$96,000.00 <u>\$145,000.00</u>
Borough Clerk	\$40,000.00	\$87,000.00
Deputy Borough Clerk	\$30,000.00	\$69,000.00
Computer Systems Administrator	\$3,000.00	\$7,000.00
<u>Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA)</u>	<u>\$12,000.00</u>	<u>\$20,000.00</u>
Registrar of Vital Statistics	\$2,500.00	\$6,000.00
Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics	\$1,000.00	\$5,000.00
Chief Financial Officer	\$2,000.00	\$56,000.00
Deputy Chief Financial Officer	\$10,000.00	\$75,000.00
<u>Part Time Treasurer</u>	<u>\$15,000.00</u>	<u>\$32,000.00</u>
Accounts Payable Clerk	\$30,000.00	\$64,000.00

	RANGING FROM:	TO:
Tax/Water/Sewer Collector	\$20,000.00	\$84,000 .00
Part-Time Tax/Water/Sewer Collector	\$10,000.00	\$27,000.00
Deputy Tax/Water/Sewer Collector	\$10,000.00	\$69,000.00
Tax/Utility Clerk	\$7,000.00	\$54,000.00
Tax Assessor	\$7,500.00	\$22,000.00
Municipal Magistrate	\$30,000.00	\$54,000.00
Police Chief	\$120,000.00	\$167,000.00
Records Management and System Administrator and Administrative Assistant to the Police Department	\$32,000.00	\$59,000.00 <u>\$65,000.00</u>
Planning Board Secretary	\$1,000.00	\$27,000.00
Technical Assistant	\$28,000.00	\$43,000.00
Construction Code Official	\$18,000.00	\$38,000.00
Fire Subcode Official	\$3,500.00	\$9,000.00
Building Subcode Official	\$3,500.00	\$9,000.00
Building Inspector	\$3,500.00	\$6,000.00
Zoning Official	\$6,000.00	\$13,000.00
Superintendent of Public Works	\$50,000.00	\$113,000.00 <u>\$130,000.00</u>
Assistant Superintendent of Public Works	\$50,000.00	\$71,000.00
Water Plant Superintendent (Part-Time)	\$10,000.00	\$27,000.00
Senior Water Plant Operator	\$35,000.00	\$85,000.00
Superintendent of AWWTP	\$50,000.00	\$114,000.00 <u>\$130,000.00</u>
Assistant Superintendent of AWWTP	\$45,000.00	\$96,000.00
Lab Manager – AWWTP	\$35,000.00	\$85,000.00
Health Officer	\$8,000.00	\$16,000.00
Secretary Board of Health	\$100.00	\$2,000.00
OEM Coordinator	\$2,000.00	\$ 12,000.00

Section 2. The following official employment designations are hereby confirmed and the rate of compensation of

each officer and employee of the Borough of Hightstown, whose compensation shall be on an hourly basis, is:

	RANGING FROM:	TO:
Administrative Assistant/Payroll Clerk Payroll/Benefits Specialist	\$10.00 \$15.00	\$36.00
Clerical Assistant Executive Administrative Assistant	\$10.50 \$15.00	\$22.00 \$40.00
Administrative Assistant	\$13.50 \$15.00	\$32.00 \$36.00
Public Health Nurse	\$25.00	\$48.00
Senior Public Health Nurse	\$39.00	\$50.00
Special Officer I	\$8.00	\$20.00
Special Officer II	\$18.00	\$32.00
Public Works Foreman	\$17.00	\$43.00
Public Works Heavy Equipment Operator	\$16.00	\$43.00
Public Works Automated Vehicle Operator	\$16.00	\$38.00
Public Works Driver/Laborer	\$15.00	\$38.00
Public Works Laborer	\$14.00	\$38.00
Public Works Municipal Building Maintenance	\$8.00	\$38.00
Public Works Mechanic	\$16.00	\$38.00
Seasonal/Temporary Labor	\$10.00	\$22.00
Assistant Water Plant Operator	\$15.00	\$27.00
Water Plant Operator	\$25.00	\$38.00
Water Plant Lead Operator	\$40.00	\$54.00
AWWTP Maintenance	\$16.00	\$32.00
AWWTP Operator	\$15.00	\$32.00
Recreation Director (part-time)	\$20.00	\$43.00 \$45.00
Assistant Recreation Director (part-time)	\$8.00	\$22.00
Junior Recreation Counselor (part-time)	\$6.00	\$16.00
Housing Inspector	\$14.00	\$38.00
Fire Inspector	\$14.00	\$38.00
Building Inspector	\$14.00	\$38.00
Code Enforcement Officer	\$15.00	\$38.00
Fire Officer	\$14.00	\$38.00

	RANGING FROM:	TO:
Zoning Official	\$14.00	\$38.00
Electric Subcode Official	\$14.00	\$54.00
Plumbing Subcode Official	\$14.00	\$54.00

Section 3. The following official employment designations are hereby confirmed and the rate of compensation of each officer and employee of the Borough of Hightstown, whose compensation shall be on a daily basis, is:

	RANGING FROM:	TO:
School Crossing Guard	\$50	\$75

Section 4. This Ordinance shall take effect after final passage and publication as provided by law.

Section 5. The salary ranges established in this ordinance supersede any established for the same positions in previous salary ordinances and will remain in effect until changed by the adoption of a new or amending Salary Ordinance.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2022-143 Authorizing Payment of Bills

Moved by Councilmember Jackson; Seconded by Councilmember Bluth.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Cicalese, Fowler, Jackson, Misiura and Montferrat voted yes.

Resolution adopted 6-0.

Resolution 2022-143

*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 \$307,400.87 from the following accounts:

Current		\$190,479.49
W/S Operating		78,034.52
General Capital		14,430.75
Water/Sewer Capital		8,362.75
Grant		0.00
Trust		1,064.76
Unemployment Trust		0.00
Animal Control		0.00
Law Enforcement Trust		0.00
Tax Lien Trust		0.00
Public Defender Trust		0.00
Housing Trust		0.00
Escrow		<u>15,028.60</u>
Total		<u>\$307,400.87</u>

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Jackson moved Resolutions 2022-144, 2022-145, 2022-146, 2022-147, 2022-148 and 2022-149 as a Consent Agenda; Councilmember Cicalese seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Cicalese, Fowler, Jackson, Misiura and Montferrat voted yes.

Resolutions adopted 6-0.

Resolution 2022-144

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

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN TO
APPLY TO THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
(NJDC) FOR A 2022 AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FIREFIGHTER GRANT**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hightstown will apply for a 2022 American Rescue Plan Firefighter Grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (NJDC) for much needed firefighting equipment including purchase of a gear washer and extractor with drying rack, and 10 full turn out sets (coats and bunker pants) boots, helmets, gloves, and hoods;

WHEREAS, the purchase of the equipment will cost \$75,000 and the Borough of Hightstown is requesting \$67,500 in 2022 American Rescue Plan Firefighter Grant funds and will provide a 10% match of \$7,500 with local funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Borough of Hightstown does hereby authorize the application for such a grant; and,
2. Recognizes and accepts that the Department may offer a lesser or greater amount and therefore, upon receipt of the grant agreement from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, does further authorize the execution of the grant agreement; and, also, upon receipt of the fully executed agreement from the Department, does further authorize the expenditure of funds pursuant to the terms of said agreement between the Borough of Hightstown and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the persons whose names, titles and signatures appear below are authorized to sign the application and that they or their successors in said titles are authorized to sign the agreement and any other documents in connection therewith:

Resolution 2022-145

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

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE AMERICA'S 9/11 RIDE

WHEREAS, Hightstown Borough, has been privileged to be a participant and pass-through town of the America's 9/11 Ride for several years; and

WHEREAS, the America's 9/11 Ride began in November of the year 2001 to honor those who died in the September 11, 2001 attacks on America's citizens, and those who protect us in our daily lives; and

WHEREAS, America's 9/11 Ride is sponsored by the Americas 911 Foundation which was founded in 2004; and

WHEREAS, the America's 9/11 Ride is anxiously awaited and well attended by the citizens of Hightstown Borough and its neighboring communities; and

WHEREAS, the America's 9/11 Ride consists of active Police, Fire and EMTs; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 ride will take place August 17th – August 20th with the ride passing through Hightstown on August 18th; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hightstown is in full support of America's 9/11 Ride throughout the country and honored to have Hightstown continue to be a part of this.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that Hightstown Borough and its residents support the America's 9/11 Ride and look forward to participating again this year.

Resolution 2022-146

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

**AMENDING RESOLUTION 2022-26 AUTHORIZING DEPOSITORIES AND
SIGNATURES FOR BOROUGH ACCOUNTS**

WHEREAS, resolution 2022-26 authorized officers of the Borough of Hightstown to sign for the payment of money from the accounts that the Borough if Hightstown; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend resolution 2022-26 by removing the name of Nicolette Devish as a designated officers who is authorized to sign checks for the payment of money from the accounts of the Borough of Hightstown.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that resolution 2022-26 shall be amended by removing Nicolette Devish as an officer who is authorized to sign checks for the payment of money from the accounts of the Borough of Hightstown.

Resolution 2022-147

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

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE PROPOSED INCREASES TO
THE STATE HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the State Health Benefits Program (SHBP), governed by N.J.S.A. 52:14-17.25 et seq., offers medical, prescription drug, and dental coverage to qualified State and participating local government public employees, retirees, and eligible dependents; and

WHEREAS, all SHBP plans are self-funded meaning that the money paid out for benefits comes directly from a SHBP fund supplied by the State, participating local employers, and member premiums; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Pensions and Benefits is responsible for the daily administrative activities of the SHPB, the State Health Benefits Commission is the executive organization responsible for overseeing the SHBP; and

WHEREAS, the State Health Benefits Commission, comprised of state officials and union representatives, annually consider the calendar year premium levels for the Local Government Employer Group of the SHBP based on recommendations found in the Rate Setting Recommendation Analysis of the Local Government Employee Group; and

WHEREAS, the preliminary rate increase for the 2023 Local Government Employer Group included a 24% increase for Active Medical, a 3.7% increase for Active Pharmacy, a 15.6% increase in Early Retiree Medical, and a 0.7% increase for Medicare. Early Retiree Pharmacy has a 5.7% decrease; and

WHEREAS, subsequent news accounts has Department of Treasury noting “rates for active members and early retirees would likely be increase between 12-20% across the various plans for the upcoming year”; and

WHEREAS, such proposed exorbitant rate increases will fall upon the local property taxpayer along with the local public employees at a time where there is record inflation, and

WHEREAS, the proposed premium increase for most active employees will take thousands more out of their paychecks annually and lead to huge costs for local governments that will translate into higher property tax bills for struggling families; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing body of the Borough of Hightstown in the county of Mercer call upon the State Health Benefit Commission to reconsider the rate increase and strike a rate increase that is appropriate in the current economic conditions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOVLED, that the governing body of the Borough of Hightstown in the county of Mercer urge the legislature to adopt legislation expanding the composition of the State Health Benefits Commission

to include representatives from both municipal and county government management; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Murphy, State Treasurer Muoio, Senate President Scutari, Assembly Speaker Coughlin, Senator Linda Greenstein, Assemblyman Daniel Benson, Assemblyman Wayne DeAngelo, and New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

Resolution 2022-148

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

RESOLUTION FOR ACH AND ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Hightstown deems that it is in the best interest of the Borough of Hightstown to make certain financial transactions by using electronic transactions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hightstown that the following policy shall govern the use of electronic transactions:

- (a) The CFO or Deputy CFO shall be responsible for establishing all ACH arrangements for the local unit;
- (b) The CFO or Deputy CFO shall follow the attached ACH and Electronic Transaction Policy to be followed and presented to the governing body;
- (c) The CFO or Deputy CFO shall be responsible for payment approval, accounting, reporting, and generally overseeing compliance or shall appoint an employee to perform such duties;
- (d) The CFO or Deputy CFO shall submit documentation to the governing body, or person responsible for approving payments by resolution, detailing goods and services purchased, the cost of goods or services;
- (e) All ACH transactions shall be approved by the CFO or Deputy CFO before payment is made.

Resolution 2022-149

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

**AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS
PRIOR TO ADOPTION OF THE 2022 BUDGET**

WHEREAS, an emergent condition has arisen with respect to inadequate appropriation balances remaining in some line items of the 2022 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 2022 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	206,800.00	2,126,902.00	2,333,702.00
Capital Outlay – Current	0.00	0.00	0.00
Debt Service – Current	0.00	0.00	0.00
Water/Sewer	130,000.00	913,575.00	1,043,575.00
Capital Outlay – W/S	0.00	0.00	0.00
Debt Service - W/S	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	336,800.00	3,040,477.00	3,377,277.00

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 2022 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.

Borough of Hightstown
 Emergency Temporary
 8/1/2022

SCHEDULE "A"

Current Fund

Administrative and Executive	Salaries and Wages	7,000.00
Mayor and Council	Salaries and Wages	3,000.00
Finance	Salaries and Wages	7,000.00
Tax Collector	Salaries and Wages	5,000.00
Engineer	Other Expenses	4,000.00
Historical Commission	Other Expenses	1,500.00
Municipal Court	Salaries and Wages	5,000.00
Police	Salaries and Wages	70,000.00
Uniform Fire Safety Act	Salaries and Wages	1,300.00
Streets and Roads	Salaries and Wages	15,000.00
Other Expenses	Other Expenses	10,000.00
Sanitation	Salaries and Wages	4,000.00
Sanitation	Other Expenses	7,000.00
Board of Health	Salaries and Wages	5,000.00
Board of Health	Other Expenses	2,000.00
Parks and Recreation	Salaries and Wages	5,000.00
Parks and Recreation	Other Expenses	2,000.00
Recreation and Open Space Park Comm	Salaries and Wages	10,000.00
Gasoline	Other Expenses	5,000.00
Landfill	Other Expenses	8,000.00
Uniform Construction Code	Salaries and Wages	11,000.00
Housing	Salaries and Wages	4,000.00

Health Shared Service	Other Expenses	5,000.00
Social Security	Other Expenses	<u>10,000.00</u>
Total Current Fund		<u>206,800.00</u>
Water-Sewer Operating Fund		
Salaries and Wages		70,000.00
Other Expenses		60,000.00
		<u> </u>
Total Water Sewer Operating		<u>130,000.00</u>
Total		<u><u>336,800.00</u></u>

DISCUSSION

Fire Prevention Ordinance Changes

Chad Reed, Fire Marshall, joined the meeting at this time.

Mr. Reed explained the changes to the ordinance which added definitions of life hazard and non-life hazard. There is also a change to annual inspections. After discussion, Council decided to introduce this ordinance at the August 15th meeting.

Parking on Monmouth Street

Mr. Musing stated that with establishing the do not enter on Wyckoff Mills Road, we are required by the County to provide an alternate route. One of the routes is Cranbury Station Road. Since Cranbury Station Road is narrow, it was decided to prohibit parking there. One of the unintended consequences is that several homes on Monmouth Street have no driveways and park on Cranbury Station Road. One side of Monmouth Street has no parking from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Discussion ensued. It was decided that we will temporary permit parking on both sides of Monmouth Street 24/7 and revisit in November.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

East Ward Street Bridge Committee – Continues to meet every 2 weeks.

MAYOR/COUNCIL/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Councilmember Cicalese

Complete Streets – At that last meeting, they discussed plans for the Harvest Fair.

Councilmember Bluth

National Night Out – Tomorrow night at Association Park.

Cultural Arts Commission – August 25 – 27 Plein Air where artists paint outside. Porchfest will be coming this fall. October 29, Light up the Lake at Memorial Park.

Borough Clerk, Peggy Riggio

Cameras have been received. Dave Bell is working on getting them installed in the Stockton Street Parking Lot.

Borough Administrator, Dimitri Musing

Due to the lack of rain, Governor Murphy has asked residents to water lawns every other day instead of daily.

Borough Attorney, Fred Raffetto

Working on moving forward with the Comcast Franchise renewal.

Mayor Quattrone

Complimented the Woman's Club for taking care of the flowers by the lake.

We are monitoring traffic and crosswalks in town. Please pay attention when driving in Hightstown.

He has placed a \$5,000 spending cap on all purchases without authorization.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution 2022-150 Authorizing a Meeting that Excludes the Public

Moved by Councilmember Bluth; Seconded by Councilmember Fowler.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Bluth, Cicalese, Fowler, Jackson, Misiura and Montferrat voted yes.

Resolution adopted 6-0.

Resolution 2022-150

*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 August 1, 2022, via www.zoom.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 November 1, 2022, 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.

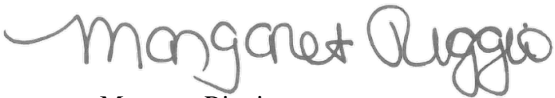
Council adjourned to Executive Session at 7:53 p.m.

Council returned to Public Session at 8:51 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT 8:52 p.m.

Moved by Councilmember Misiura; Seconded by Councilmember Montferrat. All ayes.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margaret Riggio". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Margaret Riggio
Borough Clerk

Approved by Hightstown Borough Council: November 7, 2022