

Minutes of a Council Meeting of the Borough of Hillsdale held at 7:31 PM on Tuesday, April 7, 2015, in the Council Chamber, Borough of Hillsdale, Hillsdale, New Jersey.

The meeting was called to order by Council President Pizzella, who also led the Salute to the Flag.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT:

This is a meeting of the Hillsdale Borough Council on this 7th day of April 2015. Notice of the time and place of this meeting has been provided to The Ridgewood News, Pascack Press, The Record and Community Life; a copy was posted on the bulletin board outside of this meeting room and provided to any interested parties.

Please notify the Municipal Clerk for any disability requirements necessary for attendance at Mayor and Council meetings. The fire exits are located through the double doors to your left. Please silence all cell phones and pagers.

ROLL CALL:

On a roll call those in attendance were Council Members DeGise, DeRosa, Looes, Meyerson, Ruocco, and Council President Pizzella. Also in attendance were Borough Attorney Madaio and Borough Clerk Witkowski. Mayor Arnowitz was absent.

APPOINTMENTS/OATH OF OFFICE: none

RECOGNITION: none

PROCLAMATIONS:

Distracted Driving Crackdown – April 1-21, 2015

Borough of Hillsdale

Council President Pizzella

Proclamation

Supporting the
2015 UDrive. UText. UPay.
Distracted Driving Crackdown
April 1-21, 2015

WHEREAS, distracted driving is a serious, life-threatening practice that is preventable; and

WHEREAS, distracted driving can result in injuries and deaths to all road users (motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists); and

WHEREAS, distracted driving occurs when drivers divert their attention away from the task of driving to focus on another activity instead; and

WHEREAS, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) estimates that at any given moment during daylight hours, 660,000 drivers are using hand-held cell phones while driving; and

WHEREAS, NHTSA further estimates that thousands of people are killed each year in distracted driving crashes and nearly a half million people are injured; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey will participate in the nationwide *Distracted Driving 2015 Crackdown* from April 1 - 21, 2015 in an effort to raise awareness and decrease driver distraction through a combination of enforcement and education; and

WHEREAS, the national slogan for the campaign is UDrive. UText. UPay; and

WHEREAS, a reduction in distracted driving in New Jersey will save lives on our roadways;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Borough of Hillsdale declares its support for the Distracted Driving 2015 Crackdown both locally and nationally from April 1-21, 2015, and pledges to increase awareness of the dangers of distracted driving.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Max Arnowitz, Mayor of the Borough of Hillsdale, have hereunto set my hand this 7th day of April, 2015.

Motion to approve by Council Member Meyerson, second by Council Member DeGise, and unanimously approved.

PRESENTATIONS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *for April 14, 2015*

Work Session Meeting March 3, 2015; Regular Meeting March 10, 2015; Closed Session March 3, 2015, and March 10, 2015.

PROFESSIONALS REPORTS:

(The following correspondence on file in Borough Clerks Office)

Borough Engineer – dated March 31, 2015

Greg Polyniak of Neglia and Associates presented the Engineer's Report. The first item relates to the Bergen County Historic Preservation grant with respect to the train station, which is a \$100,000 matching grant from Bergen County. Based upon correspondence with the County, it appears that the Borough is receiving favorable consideration for the grant. In May or June, a list will be forwarded to the Borough County Freeholders, including the proposed project, which will be reviewed at that time with the potential for the grant funds to be awarded.

The second item has to do with the Hillsdale landfill with respect to the second quarter methane testing. Testing will occur during the week of April 20. Neglia and Associates issued a recommendation for award of a contract for the building methane sensors, which is on the agenda for consideration tonight. Mr. Polyniak was informed that Ms. Witkowski will provide his office with a pay-for-play package, which will be forwarded to the contractor, after which time the Borough Council could consider the award of that contract.

Regarding the methane sensor system for the field, comprising the stainless steel box with the alarm light that is located on the field, the DPW has opened the box and turned on the alarm, which is functioning. However, it needs to be repaired and calibrated. Mr. Russell, Superintendent of the DPW, has contacted the service company and the contractor who initially installed the system, and is acquiring quotes for the Council to consider for the repair of that system.

Mr. Polyniak moved on to discuss the air pollution control permit for the landfill, which was found to be delinquent. Last month, the Borough Council awarded a contract to First Environment to perform that work. At that time, First Environment began the work, and have now completed a draft permit, which would be filed within the next two weeks, to bring the Borough in compliance with permit requirements. With respect to the Hillsdale Public Library elevator project, the cab has now been raised, and the shaft has been cut, completing the initial phase of the project. Based upon Mr. Polyniak's initial review of the situation and the location, it appears that all of the hydraulic fluid was captured within the shaft, and within the sump pit. However, one thing that occurred was that Neglia and Associates wanted to determine where the sump pump was being discharged to ensure that it discharges to a sanitary sewer, and not to a storm sewer where it would occlude a waterway requiring remediation. After the well was pumped, it was determined that the sump pump is not functioning, and needs to be repaired prior to performing the dye test. The DPW is obtaining quotes to repair the pump. Subsequent to that repair, Neglia and Associates will perform the dye test to determine if there is a connection to the sanitary sewer. If that is found, Mr. Polyniak's office would recommend skipping the environmental phase, which was the second phase of the project, and move immediately to repairing the elevator itself. Quotes have already been solicited from contractors, and Neglia Associates is prepared to issue a recommendation letter relating to the award of the contract for the third phase of the project, which is below the \$36,000 threshold, meaning that bids will not be necessary. No award recommendation will be made until after the dye test is complete in order to ensure that the second test can be skipped.

The next item on the list was the storm water annual report, which is a NJDEP compliance item. Mr. Russell has prepared the report, and Mr. Polyniak's office reviewed it. They then met with Ms. Witkowski, as well as Mr. Russell, to complete the report. Mr. Russell submitted the report to NJDEP, saving the Borough several thousand dollars by preparing it himself.

Finally, Mr. Polyniak reported on roadway estimates. His office received lists from the Police Department and the DPW. They compared both lists, looked at the roadways that were highly ranked on

both lists, as well as roadways that appeared on both lists, and they selected Sycamore, Lafayette, Everdell (including the area from Piermont to East Liberty), and Hillsdale Avenue (from Cedar Lane to Kinderkamack Road), and provided those estimates to the Borough Council for consideration. Mr. Polyniak reminded the Council Members that his office cannot guarantee grant funding for any roadways or projects, so he mentioned that the Borough Council might want to wait for doing any work on Hillsdale Avenue, which is a road that connects two County roadways. In addition, it fronts a municipal facility (Beechwood Park), and has sidewalks that are utilized by people to access Borough facilities. Therefore, it would score very high on the NJDEP municipal aid grant project. The only issue there is that the program typically comes out with its request for projects in September or October of each year, and funds are usually awarded in May or June of the following year, so the Borough would be looking at the potential of receiving funds in 2016, and the work could occur thereafter.

Council Member Meyerson mentioned that the Borough received two grants last year, which Mr. Polyniak sought to combine. Council Member Meyerson asked if the Borough is waiting for the results of any grant applications that were made last year for this year. Mr. Polyniak said yes, because the Borough is waiting for the Municipal Aid grant for the continuation of Saddlewood (second section). Mr. Polyniak stated that construction is expected to begin in that area, with a second notice to the residents, because the project was delayed due to winter weather conditions. That work is expected to occur sometime around the end of April or the beginning of May. The Borough has received the money, in the form of one grant that was approximately \$250,000, and another grant in the amount of \$149,000. Council Member Meyerson asked for confirmation that the work will be done this year, which Mr. Polyniak confirmed. A grant has been received for the second section of the Saddlewood work, because the funding would not cover its completion. Council Member Meyerson asked how much money has been requested, and Mr. Polyniak replied that the Borough has asked for more than \$300,000 for the remainder of the roadway. Typically, NJDOT awards funding in approximately \$150,000 increments, and Hillsdale is lucky to receive \$250,000, which is in excess of what a typical NJDOT grant would be. There was also a grant from the Historic Preservation Commission for the train station, which is also outstanding. Council Member Meyerson noted that it is a matching grant, which Mr. Polyniak expects Hillsdale will receive. Mr. Polyniak mentioned another grant with respect to the train station, which is a community block grant, and would be received in the summer, to cover the ADA restroom in the interior of the train station.

Council Member Meyerson had a separate question about the train station, but he wanted to go back to discussing the roads. He asked about the Safe Routes grant, and whether it had been funded. Mr. Polyniak answered that it had not. There was only \$5 million available in funding provided by the State, with over \$100 million in projects submitted by all of the municipalities in New Jersey. Because Hillsdale received \$250,000 in discretionary aid in a prior year, that was apparently a factor in deciding not to give the money to Hillsdale. Council Member Meyerson asked for clarification that Mr. Polyniak stated that Hillsdale Avenue could be given a high priority for that same grant in the following year. Mr. Polyniak answered that it is a different grant. The prior grant was the Safe Routes to School grant, and the one currently being discussed is a Municipal Aid grant, which is similar to the situation with Saddlewood Road, Kent Road, and Baylor Avenue.

Regarding the train station, Council Member Meyerson stated that the current grant application is for a \$100,000 matching grant, which Mr. Polyniak confirmed. It means that Hillsdale would have to come up with \$100,000, which Mr. Polyniak also confirmed. Council Member Meyerson asked if the grant is awarded, when would the money be received. Mr. Polyniak answered that the money will be sent immediately, but the Borough would have two years to complete the project. Council Member Meyerson noted that there was discussion about looking for another grant to make up the additional 50%, or the matching part of it. Mr. Polyniak said it was his understanding that there were discussions with New Jersey Transit to obtain some of the funds. Council President Pizzella interjected that there was a discussion about whether the Borough could use another grant that was already obtained to pay for a component, but it was discovered that the Borough could not do that. The Borough is now attempting to ask New Jersey transit if they will contribute to either a matching grant, or pay for the matching grant, because the Borough was proactive in taking the initiative on this issue. Council Member Meyerson asked if an application was submitted to New Jersey Transit at this time. Council President Pizzella responded to there is a request for a meeting. However, there has already been one meeting, and as a result, New Jersey Transit temporarily repaired the roof, which was purpose for the grant application. Because New Jersey Transit paid for the roof repair, and it is hoped that when their representatives come for the meeting and visit the train station, they will agree to pay for some of the matching funds. Ms. Witkowski added that she received an email from Mr. Del Colle saying that he would get in touch with his people to arrange a date for the meeting. Ms. Witkowski hopes to hear within the next couple of weeks. Council Member Meyerson said his concern is that this was not put in

either the operating or capital budget, although Council Member Ruocco said it is the capital budget.

Regarding the library elevator expense, Council Member Ruocco told Mr. Polyniak that he is not inclined to remove this expense from the capital budget until Council Member Ruocco is informed definitively that the dye test was successful. Mr. Polyniak agreed with this.

Council Member Looes asked if the Community Development Block Grant for the ADA-compliant bathroom is a matching grant, which Mr. Polyniak confirmed. That grant is 100% fully funded.

Council President Pizzella noted that, with respect to Centennial Field, the Environmental Commission discussed the possibility of giving monetary aid. Mr. Polyniak sent Council President Pizzella a form, which seems like it could be completed by a layperson. Mr. Polyniak explained that there is an inspection form that is utilized as a basis for performing inspections at Centennial Field on a quarterly basis. The form is very simple to complete. The person completing the form would have to walk the field, determine if there are any erosion issues relating to the slope; determine if there are any vegetation issues; and determine if there is any settlement, low points, or waters collecting on the field, all of which someone with any kind of environmental expertise should be able to do. Council Member Meyerson raises a good point with respect to having a volunteer performing the task. If that volunteer was dedicated, s/he would have the knowledge required to do it. It is important to remember that this would have to be done quarterly, because there could be some enforcement action taken if the schedule was not followed. Council Member Meyerson noted that he wrote that email in response to a proposal that was made, when he questioned whether volunteers could do such tasks. He reminded everyone that there is a problem with NJDEP, and the Borough must comply with whatever is requested by NJDEP. Council Member Meyerson mentioned that his experience with volunteers at that level has not been good. He does not believe it is fair to rely on volunteers to perform these jobs, and he is not sure that is an appropriate solution. Council Member Ruocco stated that, having read the checklist, his impression was similar to that of Council President Pizzella, that someone who has the dedication and knowledge to do it on a quarterly basis, as well as some training, could do that quarterly inspection. He cited examples of someone who majored in environmental science or geology in college, who might have enough knowledge to perform such a task. Mr. Polyniak agreed, if the Borough chooses to proceed in that fashion, someone from his office would be glad to walk with the person completing the report to point out what would need to be reviewed and completed to give them a reference point for completing the report.

Council President Pizzella commented that, in looking at the form, it seems like a typical monitoring type of form, which could be done by one of the professionals on the Environmental Commission board. This is a great way to involve the Environmental Commission in more Borough activities. He asked Mr. Polyniak how much money could be saved by doing that. Mr. Polyniak noted that it would probably save approximately \$2,500-\$3,000 annually to perform the inspections and submit the forms. Council President Pizzella commented that it could be formally addressed at meeting next week.

Mr. Polyniak pointed out that Mr. Russell has been using this forms to complete the reports, which he completed in January and April.

Council Member Looes asked why Mr. Russell should not continue with that work.

Mr. Polyniak mentioned a meeting with PSE&G approximately a month ago relating to the power station located on Patterson Street and Knickerbocker Avenue. PSE&G were hoping to construct some improvements at that location, and one item that they requested the Borough to consider was the dead end that abuts the brook at the terminus of Knickerbocker Avenue, which PSE&G would like the Borough to consider vacating. Mr. Polyniak stated that his company has concerns with the existing utilities and that roadway, and the Police and Fire Departments would like to inspect the roadway to ensure that they would be adequate safety and firefighting capabilities there. Another aspect of that issue is whether the Borough would like for Neglia and Associates to review the area, PSE&G should post an escrow so that the necessary inspections could take place, with a recommendation to the Borough Council. That package is being submitted to the Borough for review. Council President Pizzella asked if, in Mr. Polyniak's experience, the Borough Engineer (whether in Hillsdale whether in Hillsdale or another municipality) submits those plans for that type of work. Mr. Polyniak answered that if it relates to a public improvement, such as the right-of-way, the Borough Engineer would submit such plans.

Council Member Ruocco stated that when he read the background documents, he was not sure what it means for the Borough to "vacate" the property over to PSE&G. He asked if it means that the area in question is politically no longer part of the town, and Mr. Polyniak confirmed that it would become part

of the PSE&G block and lot. However, Council Member Ruocco asked if the property abutting it is private property, and Mr. Polyniak explained that it is his understanding of both lots would revert to PSE&G. Mr. Polyniak added that PSE&G is trying to purchase the lot on the opposite side, so they will have the property on both sides. Therefore, if the Borough chose to vacate the area in question, half of it would go to PSE&G, and the other half would go to PSE&G. Council President Pizzella asked if this would have an impact on any businesses in that area. Mr. Polyniak answered that he is not done a detailed review of the issue, but based on the termination of the roadway, he does not believe it will create any issues with respect to the vacation of the roadway. Council Member Meyerson pointed out that it would merge the two lots into one lot, which Mr. Polyniak confirmed. The issue would be with respect to the utilities under the roadway, including drainage, which is owned by the Borough. There is also a sewer system located there, and any other water and gas utilities located in that area would have to be considered. Council Member Meyerson asked if the two lots abut each other in any other way besides along the roadway. Mr. Polyniak pointed out that the roadway runs the whole length of the lots. Council Member Meyerson reiterated that the lots are not contiguous, other than on the roadway. He asked if either of the lots is non-conforming. Mr. Polyniak said he is not yet done an analysis of that area. Council Member Meyerson surmised that there would be no merger if that were the case, which Mr. Polyniak confirmed. Mr. Madaio added that if they are conforming lots, they will merge. President Pizzella asked if merging lots will have an impact on taxes, which Council Member Meyerson confirmed. Council President Pizzella asked if it means that the taxes will decrease. Council Member Meyerson answered that if one of the lots is non-conforming, it will be necessary to ensure that it is owned by two different entities, under two different names. That would effectively stop a merger, and would have an impact on taxes.

Council President Pizzella asked if it would be safe to assume that they might try to negotiate this with the Borough. Mr. Polyniak answered that PSE&G would like to combine their lots, because they plan to construct new infrastructure on the properties, and merging the lots would enable them to create a better design, although it might not be favorable to Hillsdale. Council Member Meyerson pointed out that it could end up costing the Borough money. He added that it is very negotiable, because as a condition for vacating the lots, the Borough could insist that PSE&G taxes as if it were two lots. That is something that would have to be worked out with the Tax Assessor. Council President Pizzella asked where the application would go, and Mr. Polyniak responded that it would appear before the Planning Board, and would then be sent to the Borough Council for approval. Mr. Polyniak added that PSE&G provided the plans for the power station improvements at the original meeting. There are also some improvements to be done to the lots, relating to building improvements and other on-site operations, which would have to go before the Planning Board.

Council Member Ruocco stated that, as he understands the documentation, the reason why PSE&G wants to do this is because moving up the platform prevents flooding in other outages that occur on a near-regular basis in Hillsdale, as well as in other areas. Mr. Polyniak agreed, adding that goal of PSE&G is to raise the equipment so that during a flood, there is little to no impact on the equipment.

MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Ambulance Corps – none

Construction Department – none

DPW – Donald Russell, Superintendent of the Department of Public Works, presented the report for the month of March. Mr. Russell gave a follow-up report on Centennial Field. He has done the last two inspections in January and April, and Mr. Russell noted that it was made much easier with the help of Neglia and Associates by providing the form discussed by Mr. Polyniak. Regarding the methane detectors, Mr. Russell stated that a contractor will be meeting with him on Friday to walk the entire slope and check out all the manholes to see what detectors are already in place. From the contractor estimates, the detectors have been inactive for approximately 10 years. When the entire scope of the work is determined, and what needs to be done for NJDEP, Mr. Russell stated that pictures will have to be taken before and after. The manholes will be painted in order to identify them, and a list will be forthcoming.

Regarding the Public Library elevator, Mr. Russell stated that a sump pump will be plugged in tomorrow. He believes that the power might be shut off at that location, which created a problem with previous efforts to drain the area. There was not a lot of oil in the area, and Mr. Russell believes it has been contained. Once that is done, Mr. Russell will let Ms. Witkowski know and Mr. Polyniak, and the dye test will be formed with the assistance of Neglia and Associates.

As far as the asphalt requisitions are concerned, Mr. Russell stated that as March 10, approximately 31

tons of asphalt had been laid. Mr. Russell was able to improvise with the procedure that he used in another municipality in which they threw old carpets over the asphalt to keep it hot, because the hotbox truck is currently being used for salting and snow removal.

Stonybrook and Beechwood Park have been seeded and aerated. Mr. Russell pointed out that the football field at Beechwood Park gets chewed up.

A storm drain and sewer cap rebuilds that were collapsing were done couple of weeks ago to save the Borough some money, one of them was at 31 Farview Avenue, and the other one at 187 Arthur Street. A storm drain and sewer cap was collapsing.

Finally, Mr. Russell noted that the ball fields are ready, but rain is expected all week.

Council Member DeRosa thanked Mr. Russell for the carpet idea to keep the Asphalt warm, and forgetting the fields ready.

Council President Pizzella asked about the bids for grass cutting and tree trimming, and wondered why the DPW does not do that work. Mr. Russell answered that his staff can do minor tree trimming; there is a basket that can be fitted to the loader for that purpose. However, the truck we go up to a certain height, and some of the taller trees require tree trucks, or cranes, which are very costly. As far as cutting the grass is concerned, Mr. Russell mentioned that the Borough has no lawnmower. If the Borough Council which is to consider purchasing one, that could be considered in the future. He added that certification required in order to drive and operate a tree truck; the truck must be purchased; and a lot of insurance is required.

Fire Department – February 2015

Fire Chief James Domville gave the report. For the period covering January-March, the Fire Department answered 61 calls. There was also an active extrication last night on the Garden State Parkway. A woman was trapped in her car and had to be airlifted. As it turns out, Jo Solda happens to be a flight nurse, and was able to save the woman's life.

Chief Domville mentioned a couple of events, including one that occurred on January 14, in which the Fire Department responded to a call at 106 Pascack Road, which was an oven fire. Officers Sayers and Constantine were able to evacuate everyone, arriving at the scene a few moments before Chief Domville and Captain Kelley, and they were able to contain the fire with the extinguishers in the police vehicles. Chief Domville believe that if it had taken him and Captain Kelley a minute longer to arrive, half of the structure would have been lost in the fire. That is why working with the Police Department has been a huge benefit, as well as with other services in the Borough.

Recently, Chief Domville met with Mayor Arnowitz and Council Member Looes, who brought the French Club to visit the Fire Department. A Fire Department cadet and Eagle Scout candidate, Chris Conti, has decided that his Eagle Scout project will be to identify all of the Borough fire hydrants. Chief Domville and Chris are currently working on an electronic process to create an app to identify hydrants and locate them. Chief Domville noted that many residents are not aware that the Fire Department is an all-volunteer force, and they cannot always go out the same day to dig out fire hydrants when there is snow. In addition, Chief Domville mentioned Matt Jeffery, who finished his Fire I course. That is the basic course needed in order to become a firefighter in New Jersey, consisting of 168 hours of instruction. It takes approximately 6-7 months of dedicated time to complete. The candidate must pass written and practical exams.

Some other things that the Fire Department has been working on include combination training with the Police Department and EMS. At the end of March, there was an extrication exercise in the parking lot of St. John's Academy, in which emergency personnel worked on different scenarios involved with removing people from cars. They were lucky enough to obtain a drone, so that active video is available from the drone and still cameras. Chief Domville hopes to take the videos to Pascack Valley High School to educate high school students.

The Association is working on awarding scholarships at the high school and that George White School for education, as well as being Little League sponsors. They are also working on the opening day of fishing, as well as their free pancake breakfast. In addition, they are coming up with ideas for the annual open house in October.

Chief Domville mentioned that Fire Official Blankenbush has given a lot of assistance in updating and restoring Knox-Boxes, which are the boxes used to access commercial buildings Tracy Jeffery has also been doing a wonderful job of the education program.

Finally, Chief Domville noted that he and the Superintendent have been working together to get into a town-wide sharing program. The Fire Department uses extrication saws, and when they are not being used, Mr. Russell has borrowed them to save the Borough money. After Mr. Russell uses the saw, his Department services and cleans it, which saves Chief Domville money by having it done in-house.

Chief Domville mentioned that he was interested in the discussion about the power plants, and as it pertains to access for Fire Department apparatus. His department would not be entering that structure, but they would need to have exterior access to the plant to protect the neighborhood.

Chief Domville invited people to join the Fire Department, which has been making house calls since 1902.

Council Member Looes commented that she heard from a State Trooper that was on-site last night, who commended the professionalism of the Hillsdale rescue team. They were very impressed with the way the rescue team handled the situation. Chief Domville thanked Council Member Looes, and added that there is an access road on Bedford Lane, and one of the Fire Department lights were clipped during the extrication. Someone installed a pole at that location, without notifying the Fire Department. The Fire Department accesses the Garden State Parkway from that location on Bedford Road. Council President Pizzella and noted that when the our Department goes up Hillsdale Avenue toward Demarest Farms, and turn left at the very last street on the left (Paul Court), at the Very End of Paul Court, there is a fence, and Council President Pizzella wondered if the Fire Department had ever considered using access to the Parkway from that point. This was pointed out to Council President Pizzella by a resident in that area who has a disabled daughter, and during Hurricane Sandy, the resident had issues with being able to get his daughter out of the house, and considered the option of cutting that fence. Chief Domville answered that it would be up to the Borough with respect to whatever Easement is available there and he would have to speak with Mr. Russell. The equipment is very heavy, and the current access to the Parkway is a paved street to the end, and the Borough controls that access. It would be very convenient to have another way to access the Parkway, but Chief Domville did not know the answer to the question. Council President Pizzella acknowledged that many Hillsdale residents do not realize that the Fire Department is a volunteer department, and in many ways, such volunteer organizations are pillars of the community, and he expresses appreciation for all of the work done by the Fire Department. Chief Domville said that is why they call it a “family,” because without the social interaction once a month, when the Department members eat together, they would not be that feeling. The Health of Our Department does not respond to calls with 2-3 people, but with 10-12 to an initial call. The call last night involved 27 people. It was necessary to use Woodcliff Lake to create a landing zone and put the helicopter down on the Parkway, because the woman was in very bad shape. Personnel are asked to leave their homes the middle of the night, on holidays, weekends, and they are not paid for this. They often miss meals, family birthdays, and other family events to answer calls. Furthermore, Fire Department Officers are required to have further education to be certified at each level. These are State regulations.

Board of Health – March 2015

Hillsdale Public Library –

Police Department – March 30, 2015

Chief Francaviglia presented the report. He wished Mayor Arnowitz a speedy recovery. This past week, Chief Francaviglia mentioned that there were several car burglaries in the Saddlewood Drive area. He reminded residents to keep their car doors locked, and they should not store anything of value in their cars. No windows were broken, nor were any locks compromised; the cars had been left unlocked. There were 93 dispatching shifts last month, with no overtime. There were 311 traffic/motor vehicle stops, and 135 motor vehicle summonses issued. Officer Camporeale arrested a female from Union City for DWI. Officer Tom Smith arrested a suspicious male who had an outstanding warrant in Rutherford. In addition, Chief Francaviglia mentioned the Distracted Driver Grant. Sergeant McLaughlin applied and received \$5,000 in grant funds for this project, which puts extra enforcement on the roadways. The campaign started on April 1, and will end on April 21. It is part of a national enforcement campaign entitled “U drive. U text. U pay.” The first offense is \$200-\$400; the second offense is \$400-\$600; and the third and subsequent offenses are \$600-\$800. Sergeant McLaughlin also applied for a “Click It or Ticket” grant, which is now in the process of being approved. Chief Francaviglia thanked Mr. Russell and his staff for some of the alterations done to Police Headquarters. He especially thanked Barry

Peterson for his meticulous efforts, which included the creation of a designated Sergeants' Room.

Finally, Chief Francaviglia corrected with a statement made in the last budget meeting, when it was reported that the 19th officer requested was withdrawn. Chief Francaviglia stated that he is not withdrawing that request, but will continue to push for the 19th officer. He understands that the Finance Committee said it would not be possible this year, but he will not withdraw it because he wants to use that person for a full-time School Resource Officer.

Council Member Ruocco apologized for misusing the word "withdraw," noting that there will be another discussion about this next year.

Council President Pizzella congratulated Chief Francaviglia for being accepted to another training program, and only 65 people in the tri-state area were selected for the program. He commended the level of professionalism and all of the Borough Departments. Council Member Meyerson asked what the training is about. Chief Francaviglia explained that it is training given by the FBI, and in order to be selected, one must meet certain criteria and educational levels. Only 40% of the applicants are accepted for the program.

Recreation/Stonybrook – April 2015

Board of Education –

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Council Member DeGise – no report

Council Member DeRosa: Council Member DeRosa reported that with respect to Stonybrook and the Department of Recreation, for April 2015, they are trying to get sponsors for the Senior Luncheon, because there will be no funding coming from the County from July 2015-June 2016. Letters were sent to all senior care facilities in the area, local food establishments, and other professionals asking for responses. So far, four lunches out of the 10 schedule lunches will be covered. The next luncheon is scheduled for April 15 at the St. John's Parish Center, with approximately 8 participants. The Tuesday programs are going well, with approximately 22 people attending weekly. With respect sports, the youth basketball season has ended, with another great season. The championship games went well, and the season ended last month. A total of 335 children participated. Girls' volleyball and soccer had successful seasons, and they have just finished. Wrestling ended this month with 100+ kids enrolled in the program. With respect to the spring programs, men's and women's softball registration is available online, and the season will start in June. A tennis and golf spring and summer program will also be offered as well is the ongoing military bridge program. The annual Easter Eggs Hunt was also a success; it was held on March 28 at Beechwood Park. Council Member DeRosa thanked everyone on the Recreation Commission for their assistance. The annual Hillsdale Summer Camp will be held June 29-July 31 at three locations: Smith School (grades 1-4); Holy Trinity Church (grades 5-6); and Pascack Bible Church (grades 7-9). All aftercare will be at Smith School. The scheduled field trips for this year include painting in Ridgewood; bowling in Oakland; and tennis and golf instruction.

At Stonybrook, the pool will open on April 16, weather permitting. A private swim team will be renting the facility once it has opened for use of the competition pool from April 20-July. Stonybrook will host an open house on May 25, from 11:00 AM-5:00 PM. It will be advertised in local newspapers, and a letter will be sent offering a 15% discount to new members who join the pool. At the Pool Managers' Association Dinner held on March 11, Patti Hughes was given a distinguished facility award in recognition of her years of contribution to the activities and programs of an Association, and by generously volunteering the facility for Association events.

The Ambulance Corps will be holding a beefsteak fundraiser on May 16 at St. John's. Council Member DeRosa reminded everyone that the Ambulance Corps gets a very small amount of funding from the Borough, but the majority of their funding comes from donations. He encouraged everyone to attend the beefsteak fundraiser and contribute.

Council Member Looes: Council Member Looes began with a report on the Board of Health, which was meeting at the same time as the Borough Council. They postponed their February 8 meeting due to the passing of their employee and Board of Health secretary, Sarah Jeune. The new Board of Health Secretary is Denise Kohan, who has always been the Registrar, and will now also serve as the secretary. The February activities report for the Board of Health is included in the Council Members' packets. Births for the month of February totaled one male and two females, bringing the total year-to-date to

four males and four females. Death for the month of March included three males and six females, with a year-to-date total of five males and 13 females.

Council Member Meyerson: Council Member Meyerson reminded everyone that the Borough Council authorized Shared Services to start discussions with Woodcliff Lake with respect to their DPW to see if there are any services that can be shared. This is an effort to combine equipment first, and then see what kind of services can be combined in the future. An initial meeting was held, and a second meeting was scheduled, which unfortunately had to be rescheduled due to the illness of Mayor Arnowitz.

Council Member Ruocco: With respect to the Finance Committee, Council Member Ruocco discussed the hazard mitigation grant that was given to the Office of Emergency Management. The grant is for \$56,475, which has to be used by March 13, 2017. However, based on information obtained from Butch Franklin, OEM Coordinator, Council Member Ruocco stated that the Borough cannot proceed after the agreement is signed until FEMA accepts Bergen County's hazardous mitigation plan. It is hoped that the acceptance will be coming soon. The Hillsdale OEM personnel are meeting with the New Jersey State Police soon to discuss the next step. The Police Department reminded Council Member Ruocco that they have a ride along program for Hillsdale residents. Residents can ride with Police Department personnel in their vehicles day or night to get an opportunity to see what a typical event is like. Council Member Ruocco has been in discussions with Councilman Montana in Westwood with respect to sharing a senior van, but unfortunately, there is no opportunity for the next two years for the van to be shared. The only possible day on which the van might be shared was Friday, but that is not work for Hillsdale. Therefore, for the next couple of years at least, there seems to be no potential to enter into a Shared Services agreement with Westwood. They have one in place with River Vale. However, they told Council Member Ruocco that they are interested in any other ideas with respect to Shared Services on any particular level, and would be open to suggestions from Hillsdale. Council Member Ruocco believes that Councilman Montana is genuinely interested in sharing services. Council Member Meyerson pointed out that Hillsdale, Westwood, and River Vale agreed to spend the money to hire an expert to look into merging in sharing the municipal courts, and Ms. Witkowski can attest to the fact that meetings were held with the other two towns, with a proposal that Westwood would be the "hub". However, Westwood pulled out of that project. Council Member Ruocco reminded everyone that Senior Citizens' Day is coming up at Pascack Valley High School, on April 16 from 8:30 AM-2:30 PM. Senior citizens have an opportunity to attend classes, enjoy the band performance, dine with students, and talk with them.

Regarding the Finance Committee, Council Member Ruocco said he would discuss the capital budget later. However, in the capital budget, which was discussed on March 23, there is approximately \$500,000 budgeted for DPW equipment, of which \$208,000 is for a J-hook truck with a plow, and an F450 dump truck. After speaking to Mr. Russell, that could conceivably be deferred 1-2 years, but Council Member Ruocco asked Council Member DeRosa if he could meet with Mr. Russell to ensure that Mr. Russell's needs are adequately covered in the capital budget to reduce borrowing down the road, while at the same time, equipment replacement needs are not ignored. He asked if Council Member DeRosa could do this before the next meeting, at which the budget will be discussed. Council Member Meyerson thought that the capital budget had to be discussed by the entire Borough Council, because Council Member Meyerson is not sure that he agrees with reducing or delaying what Mr. Russell said were priority issues. In addition, Council Member Meyerson believes that the DPW's needs have been ignored for far too long. He added that delaying the equipment expenditures could mean borrowing money every year, as opposed to borrowing a larger sum of money for this year. Council President Pizzella pointed out that just because the money is there, that does not mean it has to be spent. Council Member Meyerson noted that if the money is taken out of the capital budget, it cannot be spent. Council Member Ruocco pointed out that two of the items he mentioned are in red in the capital budget, which are items that were added for 2015. However, Mr. Russell said that it was not absolutely necessary to have those pieces of equipment for 2015-2016. This was an effort to keep the amount that would be bonded to a more reasonable level, but Council Member Ruocco wants to make sure that Mr. Russell still believes there is a good reason to include them in the budget now, and that they do not need to be delayed. Council President Pizzella stated that it is important to discuss that with the Finance Committee. Council Member Looes suggested that, instead of having Council Member DeRosa speak to Mr. Russell, there should be no discussion until after the Finance Committee meets. Council Member Ruocco thought that Council Member DeRosa would have to speak to Mr. Russell in order to ensure that the DPW Liaison and DPW Superintendent are in agreement and terms of the needs of the DPW. Council Member DeGise noted that it was Mr. Benecke's suggestion that if the Borough Council is going to borrow money, it will be borrowed in 2015, and none of these type of expenditures will be undertaken in 2016. The DPW needs attention, and the Borough Council cannot delay what they promised to do in January, which was to build the community up to where it should be as far as

infrastructure is concerned. Council Member Looes commented that Mr. Russell needs to let the Borough Council know if these equipment needs are ones that can be delayed, or if it is necessary to purchase these pieces this year. Council Member Ruocco also recalled that Mr. Benecke left possibility open to go into the bond market in the second year, or in the fourth year, but it is necessary to get the timing of the equipment needs fixed. Council Member DeRosa said he would have a conversation with Mr. Russell. Council Member DeGise noted that the DPW Committee has not met with Mr. Russell as a group this year, and perhaps it is time to have such a meeting. Council Member Meyerson said if it is to be done, it should be done in the next several days. Council President Pizzella stressed that the Finance Committee should meet to discuss first.

Council President Pizzella: Council President Pizzella started his report with the Chamber of Commerce, which is currently reaching out to various business owners to confirm their interest in joining the Chamber of Commerce, because the next step after that is to get documentation, like bylaws and State registration, in place. It is also necessary to ensure that there is a fairly substantial list of business owners, because Council President Pizzella can only encourage business owners to join; he cannot force them. James Alba, the owner of The Beehive, has taken the lead in this initiative. Council President Pizzella is encouraging Mr. Alba to get the list finalized, and Council President Pizzella will help him as much as he can with the necessary documentation. Council President Pizzella also understands that the group of business owners, including Mr. Alba, who have agreed to be part of the Chamber of Commerce, are hoping to have a kickoff event in the summer, which will involve the restaurants in Hillsdale, and might also include the sports associations. More information about this will follow.

Regarding the Environmental Commission, Council President Pizzella reminded everyone that April 26 is the start of the Earth Week fair, which will be bigger than it was last year. The Environmental Commission sponsors event, and they would like to know if they can put up a larger banner than what is allowed under the current sign ordinance. Council President Pizzella asked if there was any objection to allowing them to have a larger banner for this one event, which is a rather substantial event for downtown Hillsdale. Council Member Looes asked where the banner would be hung, and Council President Pizzella stated that last year, it was hung along Hillsdale Avenue, on the Veterans Park side. Council Member Meyerson asked the other Council Members if they were planning to ignore an ordinance. Council President Pizzella noted that there is a current Borough ordinance that states that a sign can only be two by three feet, but the Borough Council is in the process of formulating a new Borough ordinance. Council Member Meyerson commented that until a new ordinance is passed, this question is not appropriate. He wondered if the Borough Council can ignore them, and it can choose some organizations over others with these types of requests are made. Mr. Madaio responded that it is fairly common for many towns to have banners that hang across roadways, such as at holiday times. Council Member Meyerson stated that he has seen such banners, but he is not familiar with the sign ordinances in other towns. Mr. Madaio stated that he has no problem with the Borough making a determination in this case to issue a special permit, or to suspend the ordinance, for these types of public events, if the Council Members see fit to do so. He does not think it is necessary to enforce the current ordinance, especially if the Borough Council votes to suspend enforcement of the ordinance for this purpose. Council Member Meyerson asked how long would it be in effect, and Council President Pizzella noted that the group would like to put up the sign as soon as possible, and leave it through the event, which starts April 26, which is two weeks. Council Member Meyerson asked if the ordinance allows the Borough Council to grant such variances, and Council President Pizzella said he believes it does, but he was not sure. However, Mr. Madaio stated that in any case, the Borough Council, as the governing body, can do that. He added that the Borough Council can allow other signs to be put up, such as ones encouraging people to shop in Hillsdale for the holidays. Council Member Meyerson asked what criteria must be met in order for the Borough Council to suspend an ordinance. Mr. Madaio answered that there is no set criteria for such an occurrence, but that any governing body can make that decision. He also stated that it should not be done willy-nilly, but should be given consideration in each event. Council Member Meyerson is concerned that the Borough Council would be accused of treating some organizations differently than others. Mr. Madaio answered that there is a possibility, or that the Mayor and Council could adopt an ordinance allowing banners to be displayed, with very specific criteria. Council Member Meyerson mentioned that his concern stems from such things as organizations that host 5K and 10K runs, requiring a lot of work by the Police Department, the Fire Department emergency personnel. Hillsdale has turned down some organizations that have made such requests, and their applications were just as reasonable as the applications that were granted. Mr. Madaio responded that there are many different reasons for not granting such applications, including scheduling conflicts with respect to dates or times of the events. Council Member Meyerson mentioned that there are some organizations to host annual events, and if other organizations ask for permission to host events on those days, those requests are automatically denied. It seems to Council Member Meyerson that preferential treatment in that practice. Council President Pizzella noted that in the proposed sign ordinance, there is

a provision for special events, with criteria specified. In the past, there have been requests made to allow these types of signs for temporary periods of time. This particular request will be voted on next week. Moving on to the Historic Preservation Committee, Council President Pizzella mentioned that they met for the first time last evening. They are in the process of doing some fund-raising to match the grant for the train station. The train station will be their focus this year. The Committee members also want to involve the schools in some of their educational programs, as well as creating a Facebook page for the train station, and possibly a website, as well.

Regarding the Open Space issue, Council President Pizzella reported that with respect to the Tandy/Allen property, it was recommended to the Freeholders that the full amount requested be granted, and the Freeholders are expected to have a final vote in July. Council President Pizzella also understands that the attorneys for the Tandy/Allen owners, as well as the Open Space Institute, are finalizing an option agreement. Once that agreement is completed, it will activate a Phase I Environmental Assessment, and also commission the survey.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Status of Sports Association Agreements

Council Member DeRosa reported that he is prepared to go to the sports associations with this agreement, but he wants the Borough Council to consider two things before that is done. The first is the payment or non-payment for field lighting, and whether the associations should be responsible for liability insurance. Currently, all of the recreation programs in Hillsdale are charged for the Borough insurance. The quasi-groups are not paying, so the burden of insurance is being borne by participants in the recreation programs. Council Member DeRosa was able to get copies of similar agreements in other towns, and there are some towns that do charge for lighting, while others do not. Council Member DeRosa pointed out that the discussion about field lighting amounts to a philosophical opinion with respect to how much is the government obligated to provide, and whether field lighting has an intrinsic benefit to everyone, and other items of that nature. Council Member Meyerson asked if the Council Members decide that the Borough will provide the lighting, with no other financial assistance, was this provided in the budget. Council Member Ruocco answered that no other financial input was assumed as part of this, and it was assumed that the Borough would cover the cost. Councilmember Meyerson stated it is a discussion that needs to take place as it has been a topic for the past couple years. Council Member DeRosa pointed out that some sort of flat rate could be charged to the sports associations for lighting the fields, and he would like that discussion to be held next week.

NEW BUSINESS:

DISCUSSION:

1. Outdoor Dining, Zoning Official

Council President Pizzella explained that the reason why this is on the agenda is because at the previous Borough Council discussion, the issue of wheelchair accessibility was left to the discretion of the Code Official. However, making such determinations, such as whether there is enough room for wheelchair access on a public street, requires certification. Ms. Witkowski gave an update on that part of the discussion. She noted that she and the Zoning Official had a conversation, which included Mr. Polyniak, who informed them of the ADA regulations. This was all part of an attempt to determine if there was enough room for wheelchair access by the waffle blocks. The Zoning Official has since determined that there will be no outdoor dining at that location, which is by the trees, and there is a maximum of a one quarter inch difference between the pavers in the concrete surface. However, the Zoning Official is not certified, and she has asked for assistance from Neglia and Associates with this matter, but moving forward, there will be a recommendation to the Borough Council to amend the ordinance. The new ordinance will require anyone who wants to set up this type of dining must be very specific with respect to what is to be put out on the sidewalks, including measurements, pictures, drawings, and then either someone from Neglia and Associates or the Zoning Official will perform inspection to make sure it is compliant. It was noted that the waffle blocks are now considered to be essentially part of the roadway, and cannot be included in any wheelchair access.

BUDGET:

1. Interlocal with Paramus for Street Sweeping Services

Awaiting for an Interlocal Agreement to be approved, but it will be approved by Paramus first. The contract has been increased to include three street sweeps, and an additional one for special events, such as Memorial Day. Mr. Russell has requested to have the first one done next week, which has been approved by Paramus.

2. Pedestrian Solar Sign – Broadway and Park Avenue Crosswalk

Ms. Witkowski explained that this is something that the Finance Committee Discussed. Chief Francaviglia approached the Finance Committee about a solar powered pedestrian street sign for the intersection of Broadway and Park Avenue, by Starbucks. One of the estimates was a bit more than was expected without installation, and Ms. Witkowski asked Mr. Russell if he could do anything to help find a more reasonably priced one. Mr. Russell presented a different version, in which the street sign is in the middle of the street, but it is much cheaper. However, Ms. Witkowski and Chief Francaviglia discussed it further, and Chief Francaviglia believes the pedestrians will get hit and the Borough cannot recoup the funds paid. Chief Francaviglia noted that the issue with crossing there has been a problem for a long time, and he and Ms. Witkowski have been trying to find a different one than is currently put up in the middle of the road. Chief Francaviglia considers of traffic hazard, and the roadway is narrow. Police officers responding to calls in that area have an issue with it, because they must avoid hitting the sign, and pedestrians and cars are trying to go around the signs. There is also regular vehicle traffic to consider. First estimate submitted was \$14,000, but Chief Francaviglia found another one available for \$7,200. It includes a two-sided sign, one that faces north, and the other faces south. There will be remote buttons at each corner to enable pedestrians to cross. When the button is pressed, the signs will flash to alert drivers that someone is in the crosswalk. The signs will be on the corners along Broadway, facing north and south. Council Member Meyerson asked if a driver would be able to see that, and Chief Francaviglia answered that the signs come with poles. They have been investigated by the Traffic Sergeant, and they do include flashing lights, which should be very visible to drivers. Council President Pizzella asked if there is any enforcement element that goes with these types of signs. Council Member Meyerson pointed out that according to law, failure to yield to pedestrians is a violation, and signs should not be needed to remind drivers of this. Chief Francaviglia added that this is a solution that he and Ms. Witkowski were discussing as an option to see how it works. There are a couple of hotspots in town, and if this works, Chief Francaviglia will ask for another one. Council Member Ruocco asked if the Pedestrian fails to push the button, does that have any impact on any violation. Chief Francaviglia explained that there is no difference, because drivers must always yield to pedestrians. This is just another way to alert motorists that there are pedestrians who want to cross the road. It will also encourage pedestrians to use the crosswalks, instead of crossing in the middle of the street, which impedes traffic. Chief Francaviglia mentioned that the Police Department will be conducting pedestrian crossing details as the weather improves.

3. Award LOSAP Payments Fire Department

4. 2015 Road Program

Council Member Meyerson pointed out that this is part of the capital budget. Council Member Ruocco noted that the DPW and the Police Department were asked to recommend the most urgent road improvements in Hillsdale, and they came up with for proposals, which totaled approximately \$844,000 for 2015. Neglia Associates broke them down into four individual projects. Council Member Ruocco noted that two of the four needed improvements are very clear, at Sycamore Street and Lafayette Avenue, which are in dire need of attention. The total for those two areas is \$255,000. The other two projects as proposed are not as convincing to Council Member Ruocco, but he wanted to find out how the other Council Members felt about them. One of them is at Everdell Avenue, between East Liberty and Piermont Avenues, at a cost of \$121,000; another is an Hillsdale Avenue between Kinderkamack Road in Cedar Lane, for approximately \$500,000. Council Member Meyerson noted that Mr. Polyniak advised that the Borough might want to wait before undertaking the work on Hillsdale Avenue, because that work might be a high priority for purposes of getting a grant. Council Member Ruocco agreed, and pointed out that Mr. Polyniak also agreed that east of Everdell Avenue to Cedar Lane might not need any work done, because it is in very good shape. However, the area west of Everdell Avenue to Kinderkamack Road has some issues. At this point, Council Member Ruocco thinks the Council Members should consider putting aside the project on Hillsdale Avenue, and discuss the Everdell Avenue project between East Liberty and Piermont Avenues. Council Member Looes stated that she noted that there were some problems with the road, not with potholes, but due to the fact the road buckles. It looked to her like the roadway was separating from itself, and she is not sure who would be the one who takes care of that, the Borough Engineer, or the DPW. Council Member Ruocco commented that Everdell has been patched numerous times, and it seems serviceable to him. Mr. Russell explained that some of the patches must settle in before they will become smoother. There is certainly the option for the Borough Council to decide that they do not want to proceed with the work on Everdell Avenue, but certainly Sycamore and Lafayette need some attention. Council Member Looes stated that she was actually talking about the area along the sides of the road, by the curbs, where there is buckling. Council Member Ruocco also pointed out that the list did not include any of the roads that were on the list from last year's \$100,000 road improvement program. Those streets were Forest Road, Demarest Road, Sherwood Lane, Cedar Street, and Maple Avenue. He estimated that Forest/Sherwood/Maple are probably heavily traveled roads, and although Demarest Avenue is also heavily traveled, Council Member Ruocco stated that after riding and walking along it, it does not seem to be in bad condition. That is why he is dismissed Demarest Avenue from that group, and leaving the other four. He noted that Cedar Street is

particularly bad, but it is not a heavily traversed road. It is a side road. Council Member Ruocco wanted to make the other Council Members aware of the situation, so that they could have an informed discussion about which roads should be included in the program. Council Member Looes suggested that everyone should walk and drive along the roads in question.

5. Borough Planner Proposal for COAH

Council President Pizzella stated that the proposal was in the Council Members' packets, and he urged them to review those documents before next week. Ms. Witkowski stated that this will be time sensitive, and once approved, the Borough Planner can work on it, after which she and the Borough Attorney will be working together on the affordable housing plan.

6. Install Street Lighting at Broadway and Park Avenue

Ms. Witkowski explained that because some residents were concerned about it, and brought those concerns to the Borough Council's attention about the area being too dark, and pedestrians are not seen as well in that area. Ms. Witkowski contacted someone at PSE&G and explained what the Borough would like to do. PSE&G stated that they would send a representative out to investigate, who Ms. Witkowski presumes would be here within a week. The representative will make a recommendation about what kind of lighting, the wattage, and the location. This will require a one-year commitment from the Borough, and the only cost to the Borough will be approximately \$20 monthly. The Borough does not have to pay for the parts or the installation.

7. Approval of Generator Application for Shelter by OEM

Council President noted that this is a grant that the Borough Council must vote on to accept. The Borough budgeted \$70,000 for this.

8. Award Contract for Year 2015 Landscape Chemical and Fertilization through SOCCP to TruGreen Limited Partnership, Stonybrook Pool (\$485)

Ms. Witkowski explained that when the TruGreen representative came out to give the estimate for the properties last month, it was discovered that he missed Stonybrook. This is the last piece of property which he needs to inspect.

9. Approved Proposal for Methane Detectors at Centennial Field

Ms. Witkowski stated that this has to do with the pay to play documents.

10. Authorize Borough Clerk to Advertise for Grass Cutting

11. Authorize Borough Clerk to Advertise for Tree Services

Ms. Witkowski commented on this and the grass cutting item that the QPA has bids ready to go, so as soon as this is approved, it will be advertised. Mr. Russell also noted that the timing would be good, because the treatment will be done for maintenance, and by the time these services are implemented, all of the areas will be ready.

12. Award Contract to Lehman Pool for Opening and Closing of Stonybrook Pool, 2015-2016

13. Introduction of the 2015 Municipal Budget

14. Award Contract for Methane Sensors for Centennial Field House

15. Authorization to Lerch, Vinci & Higgins to Review Financial Statements per Engagement Letter of 2014 – LOSAP Review

The amount is \$2,500, which is the agreed-upon the fee.

16. Letter Dated March 20, 2015, from County of Bergen Department of Planning & Economic Development, Workshop Floodplain Protection Program, April 23, 2015

Council President Pizzella stated it is his understanding that this is specific to understanding the buyout process. Ms. Witkowski will be attending.

17. Authorize Borough Planner to File COAH Monitoring Report

Council President Pizzella explained that this is an annual report that is routinely filed.

18. Authorize Tax Refund 6 Lesa Lane, Varghese, Block 302, Lot 37

19. Authorize Telecom Services

Ms. Witkowski explained that the telecom/Internet services are expiring, so she will have an award letter ready for next week.

POLICY:

1. Employee Handbook

Council President Pizzella said he understands that this is a work in process, and Ms. Witkowski will follow up with Ray Wiss, the Labor Attorney, who is preparing a memorandum to be presented to the Borough Council, including suggestions about what to do, as well as some alternatives.

2. Polling Location Update

Council President Pizzella noted that every year, Ms. Witkowski must certify the polling locations in Hillsdale. There was a discussion last month regarding talking to the Board of Education, the Superintendent of Schools, etc., and Ms. Witkowski must certify the locations by April 1. Therefore, Ms. Witkowski Certified the locations is the same ones that were used in the past. If any changes occur before November, she must be notified. Council Member Ruocco stated that he believed that the outcome of the discussion was that they would stick to the status quo. Council Member Meyerson pointed out that it was the consensus of the Council to do that, but the same discussion keeps arising, and the consensus remain.

3. Resolution to Support Transparent Tax Act of 2015

Council President Pizzella pointed out that there was a sample of this enclosed in each packet, and he asked each Council Member to review it for next week. Council Member Meyerson pointed out that the Tax Act dealt with printing separate tax bills showing different information, and he wondered if there was any indication about how much it would cost the Borough to do that. Ms. Witkowski responded that Hillsdale usually print in-house. Council Member Meyerson asked if this would be a substantial increase in work to do this, and Ms. Witkowski explained that it is the same as doing estimated tax bills. Council President Pizzella asked if it is not the same thing as when someone files a tax appeal, and if the tax appeal goes through, the Borough gets money back from the county the following year. Council Member Meyerson explained that the bill would permit local jurisdictions to print separate tax bills to each taxpayer, one showing the amount of property taxes due and payable for municipal tax purposes, and the other must state the amount the amount of property taxes due and payable for County purposes. Council Member Ruocco pointed out that the second part of the bill discusses refunds for the following tax year, and that is how the Borough gets money. Council Member Meyerson commented it was his understanding that State law prohibits the Borough doing this, and he is not sure what this will accomplish. Mr. Madaio said he would be happy to look at the bill for next week. Council President Pizzella and Council Member Meyerson wanted to know if this bill has any chance of passing, and how much it would cost the Borough if it does. Mr. Madaio noted that, at the very least, it would require the Borough to print two tax bills, which would incur some incremental printing costs. The Council Members are also curious to know if it means that the Board of Education will be sending money to the Borough. Mr. Madaio will review the bill for next week, and Ms. Witkowski will check with the Tax Collector to get an estimate on the cost of sending duplicate tax bills.

MISCELLANEOUS:

1. Approval of Raffle License #715, American Legion Post 162 – Off-Premise 50/50, 7/11/2015

Mayor Arnowitz asked if this concerns specific officers, and how is it relevant to item number six.

2. Approval of Raffle License #716, St. John the Baptist Church – On-Premise Merchandise, 7/26/2015

3. Approval of Bingo License #717, Pascack Valley Regional High School, 5/6/2015

4. Approval of Raffle License #718, Pascack Valley Regional High School, On-Premise Merchandise, 5/6/2015

5. Approval of Raffle License #719, Pascack Valley Regional High School, On-Premise 50/50 Cash, 5/6/2015

6. Bergen SWAN Watershed Institute Grant Presentation – May Meeting

Ms. Witkowski suggested that this be done with the first meeting in May, because the second meeting will be the budget proposal.

7. Authorization to Vacate Knickerbocker Avenue

8. Approve Sundial Garden Club Permission to Use Hillsdale Railroad Station for Annual Plant Sale,

May 9, 2015

9. Accept Correspondence from EJIF Property Inspection/First Environment, Block 1109, Lot 3; 46 Beachwood Drive

Ms. Witkowski explained that this is for the Gassib property, and it was the insurance company's recommendation that they be allowed to come out and do what amounts to a phase 1 study of the property before moving forward. They did come out, and stated that because there was a lot of snow on the ground, they could not observe very much. Council President Pizzella noted that this is basically an environmental assessment that should be done before the Borough accept the property. Council Member Ruocco asked if the study was valid, given the fact that they admitted that they could not see a lot of the ground. Mr. Madaio pointed out that this was not a phase 1 study, and if the Borough wants a phase 1 study, they must pay for one. This situation is when the JIF does a preliminary investigation of the property and when they do so, they essentially notify the Borough whether they believe the property is a high or moderate risk, and will suggest the purchase of insurance in accordance with the estimated risk. The EJIF indicated that this property is a low-risk concern, and they did suggest that the Borough purchase insurance through them for the property. Mr. Madaio suggested that if the Council Members are comfortable with that needs direction as to how to move forward. Council Member Meyerson asked a generic question about phase 1 studies, noting that phase 1 only gives information about the previous history of the property, but nothing about the soils, which Mr. Madaio confirmed. No soil sampling is done in a phase 1 study. Mr. Madaio explained that phase 1 is essentially a documentary investigation. Council Member Meyerson asked if the Borough should ever accept the property without soil sampling. Mr. Madaio responded that he would always recommend a phase 1 study for any property, and work with the Borough Engineer to determine if a phase 2 is necessary. If the Borough Engineer is willing to sign off on the absence of need for a phase 2 study, Mr. Madaio is comfortable with that. However, if it is suggested that a phase 2 is necessary, then the Borough should proceed with that. Council Member Meyerson asked how the Borough would ever know if anyone put anything in the soil of any particular property, without doing a soil sample. Mr. Madaio answered that it would never be known, based on the fact that the property could have been used for 100 years or more. Council Member Meyerson stated that his concern is that with respect to empty properties, many people dump things on those properties, and the actual use that is shown in the property records has nothing to do with what was done while the property was empty. Mr. Madaio pointed out that there are many times that commercial properties are transferred without any phase 2 studies, with good and bad results. However, the Borough needs to decide if it wishes to move forward with the transfer of the Gassib property, or if the Council Members want more time to think about it. Council President Pizzella asked if it would be possible to have EJIF come back, because the initial assessment was done in the snow. Ms. Witkowski and Mr. Madaio said they would ask. Council Member Meyerson stated that he was going to abstain with respect to the Gassib property. Council President Pizzella noted that it was the consensus of the Council Members that Ms. Witkowski would ask EJIF to come back and re-assess the property, and then Mr. Madaio could proceed based on those results. Council President Pizzella suggested to Ms. Witkowski that this might also be a good opportunity to ask Bergen SWAN if they would be willing to help the Borough in this situation, especially if EJIF refuses to come back.

10. Approve Friends of the Pascack Brook Permission to Use Police Booth, and Set up Tables/Tents in Veterans Park for 23rd Annual Kids' Fishing Contest – April 18, 2015

11. Approve Hillsdale Volunteer Fire Department Permission to Use the West Borough Parking Lot for Annual Carnival, May 3-May 10, 2015

12. Accept Correspondence from State of New Jersey DOT, Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program

13. Authorize Submission of Tonnage Grant Year 2014

Ms. Witkowski commented that at the last meeting, the BCUA was authorized to sign off on the tonnage grant. However, the Borough needs to pass a resolution submitting the tonnage grant.

ORDINANCES: (for agenda April 14, 2015)

ADOPTION:

15-10: CALENDAR YEAR 2015 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget up to 1.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale in the County of Bergen finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2015 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council hereby determines that a 2 % increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$ 186,703 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS the Mayor and Council hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale in the County of Bergen a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2015 budget year, the final appropriations of the Borough of Hillsdale shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$326,730, and that the CY 2015 municipal budget for the Borough of Hillsdale be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

INTRODUCTION:

15-11: ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF HILLSDALE, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO AMEND CHAPTER 292 OF THE BOROUGH CODE ENTITLED "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC"

WHEREAS, the Chapter 292 of the Borough Code of the Borough of Hillsdale pertains to Vehicles and Traffic; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 292-37 establishes restricted parking spaces for handicapped persons; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 292-57 establishes certain locations where parking is prohibited at certain times; and

WHEREAS, the Borough desires to add specific locations and/or time restrictions to each of the aforesaid sections.

NOW BE IT ORDAINED, BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF HILLSDALE AS FOLLOWS:

1. The following shall be added to §292-37 Schedule VI: Handicap Parking:

A designated space on Hillsdale Avenue, north side, from Trinity Place to a point 125 feet westerly therefrom (Trinity Church entrance).

2. The following shall be added to §292-57 Schedule XVI Parking Prohibited Certain Hours:

Name of Street	Side	Hours/Days	Location
Trinity Place	East	8 am to 4 pm School Days	From Hillsdale Avenue to Washington Ave

All Ordinances of parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed as to such inconsistencies only.

In the event that any word, phrase, clause, section or provision of this Ordinance is found by any Court of competent jurisdiction to be unenforceable, illegal or unconstitutional, such word, phrase, clause or provision shall be severable from the balance of this Ordinance and the remainder of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication as provided by Law.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Denis Ferraro, 84 Parkview Drive, stated that he has lived in Hillsdale for 35+ years, and he and his wife are now hoping to move on, and they have put their house up for sale. Mr. Ferraro stated that there has been a trailer parked in front of his driveway, not on the side of the house, which can clearly be seen. The first two people who came to look at his house asked why the trailer was parked there. Mr. Ferraro does not understand why it is still sitting there after seven months. He spoke with the Zoning Official, who explained that it is not in the front yard, although Mr. Ferraro said he can see it clearly in the front of his house. Mr. Ferraro cannot understand why it takes so long to remedy these situations. Council President Pizzella asked if Mr. Ferraro filed any documentation when he spoke with the Zoning Official. Mr. Ferraro answered that Ms. Jeffery asked if he wanted to file a complaint, and he said that he did, and he was willing to come to Borough Hall to do so, but she said she could take care of it via telephone. Mr. Ferraro does not know what happened from that point. Council President Pizzella advised Mr. Ferraro to come to Borough Hall if he has a complaint, and meet with the Borough representative who handles that type of complaint. Mr. Ferraro commented that over the years, this is not the first time that this type of thing has happened. He has looked the other way for a long time, but now he has had enough. Mr. Madaio asked what type of trailer it is, and Mr. Ferraro explained that it is a landscaping trailer, and has been sitting there for months. It is an open trailer, and is an eyesore. Mr. Madaio advised Mr. Ferraro to come in and speak to Ms. Jeffery directly, and he asked if this case went to Ridgewood, which Mr. Ferraro confirmed. Mr. Madaio stated he would need more background information. Mr. Ferraro's mentioned that the comment made to him was that the trailer was not in the front yard, that as far as Mr. Ferraro is concerned, the fact that it is completely exposed to the front of the street should be considered to be in the front yard. Council President Pizzella asked if Ms. Witkowski had any information to add. Ms. Witkowski stated that the only information she had was that Mr. Ferraro had called today because he was very concerned about the trailer, especially since he has put his house up for sale, and Ms. Jeffery asked if Mr. Ferraro wanted to fill out a complaint. Mr. Ferraro said he did, and asked if it would be necessary to come to Borough Hall to do so. Ms. Jeffery stated that she would be able to help him over the phone, as she does with everyone. That is all the information Ms. Witkowski has, and if Mr. Ferraro gave any other information to Ms. Jeffery, Ms. Witkowski would follow up with her to get it. Mr. Madaio asked what the outcome was in municipal court, and Ms. Witkowski said she did not have that information, because she has not yet received the official documents. Council President Pizzella asked Mr. Ferraro to come in tomorrow to ensure that a document was filed on this matter, and make sure that Ms. Witkowski gets a copy of the document. Ms. Witkowski will look into it, and Mr. Madaio will get information about the proceedings in Municipal Court in Ridgewood.

Kevin O'Brien, 61 Parkview Drive, wished the best of luck to the mayoral candidates.

The agenda for tonight's meeting make reference to the appointment of Ms. Witkowski as the Registered Municipal Clerk, but that does not show on the agenda that was passed out at the beginning of this meeting. Mr. O'Brien was curious, and asked for an explanation. Council President Pizzella responded that the item in question was pulled off the agenda by Mayor Arnowitz. He reminded everyone that Mayor Arnowitz creates the agenda, and Council President Pizzella facilitates it. Ms. Witkowski stated that she received a request from Mayor Arnowitz. Mr. O'Brien is concerned that matters involving employment as a result in Closed Session, rather than in Open Session. However, he has not seen any discussion or reference to the appointment of the Registered Municipal Clerk, and there was a resolution listed in Closed Session. Mr. O'Brien noted that there was a QPA appointed at the March 23 meeting, and he wondered who was the QPA before that time. Ms. Witkowski stated that there was no QPA before then. Mr. O'Brien mentioned that in December 2014, the Borough spent \$20,924, which is 27.68% higher than that allowed by law, without going out to bid, and without a QPA who was designated and certified by the State of New Jersey, and Mr. O'Brien asked why. Council Member Looes asked what was purchased, and Mr. O'Brien responded that it was for the repair of a 1988 industrial dump truck/salter, with a check in the amount of \$20,924, check number 24240, dated December 9, 2014. That amount was well above the statutory limit of \$17,500. Ms. Witkowski explained that the salter was included in the budget last year. Mr. O'Brien said that was not his point, and his question was that under New Jersey law, if there is no QPA designated and

certified by the State, anything above \$17,500 must be put out for bid. Mr. Madaio pointed out that it could have been something that was under State contract, in which case no bid is required. Ms. Witkowski said she would find out.

Referring to earlier comments made by Mr. Ferraro, Mr. O'Brien stated that he was the party who took the owner of 71 Parkview Drive to the Ridgewood court. That resulted in the current situation, which resembles a trailer park. Mr. O'Brien added that this has also been brought before the Planning Board. He stated that under Borough ordinance 310-113, there is a reference to off-street parking. Section 310-157 makes reference to one vehicle, and Mr. O'Brien pointed out that the current situation involved two vehicles. The off-street parking regulations require that the vehicle be screened from any side that adjoins or faces premises situated in a residential district. The property line ends at the tree (Mr. O'Brien provided photographs), which is known because property owners submitted a survey, which Mr. O'Brien requested via an OPRA request. The question now is if it is clear that there is only one trailer allowed, and the trailer must be screened, why is the property owner not getting any violations. The Ridgewood court asked Mr. O'Brien to refrain from writing any other tickets for at least 30 days, but that does not prevent anyone else from doing so. The objective is not to collect fines. The Borough could send a notice of violation, which is not a summons, and mandate that the property be in compliance by the end of April, or fines will start accruing as of May 1. Mr. Madaio asked what the decision of the judge was in the Ridgewood case. Mr. O'Brien answered that the judge ruled that the front of the home, because the garage is attached to the home, is considered frontage. Whether the garage is entered from the front of the house, or from the side, it is part of the primary structure. The property owner has ample room, if they clean up the junk in their yard, to put one trailer behind the fence, which would resolve the problem. Mr. Madaio asked if the judge found guilty, and Mr. O'Brien responded that he did. Mr. Madaio asked if the property owners were fined, and Mr. O'Brien answered that they were fined for having the trailer in front of the garage. Mr. Madaio asked if the question is why Hillsdale is not issuing any additional summonses, or why Hillsdale has not issued any summonses. Mr. O'Brien asked why the Borough did not issue a summons in the summer of 2014, when there were two trailers behind the side of the fence, although according to the Borough official, they cannot be seen. However, Mr. O'Brien was able to take photographs to present as evidence in Montvale. Judge Norton in Montvale ruled that the property owner was guilty. Council Member Meyerson asked for confirmation that there were guilty rulings in Ridgewood and in Montvale, which Mr. O'Brien confirmed. He added that the judges determined that there were violations, which the Borough Code Official said were not violations. Council Member Meyerson asked if the Code Official determined there were no violations, how were any complaints filed. Mr. O'Brien suggested that all the Code Official would need to do is to send a notice of violation to the property owner to move the trailers by the end of the month. Council President Pizzella asked if the Borough had a copy of the court results, which Ms. Witkowski said she was awaiting. Ms. Jeffery has requested them. Council President Pizzella said he appreciated Mr. O'Brien's concerns, and said that he would have Ms. Witkowski get the results from the courts in Ridgewood in Montvale, and the Borough Attorney and Ms. Witkowski would try to resolve this informally with the help of the Zoning Official. Council Member Meyerson asked if the Ridgewood judge explained why he asked for a 30-day moratorium on summonses. Mr. Madaio suggested that he could have been hoping for a cooling-off period, or opportunity for the parties to resolve the situation. Council Member Meyerson asked if the judge explained why, on the record. Mr. O'Brien said he did not, although Mr. O'Brien showed him the photographs. Judge Pfund told Mr. O'Brien to do nothing for 30 days, although it was not in order, but a suggestion. Ms. Witkowski commented that the Court Administrator is on medical leave, and there are part-time workers in her office working.

Another ongoing challenge mentioned by Mr. O'Brien at the same home, behind the fence, where many tires are being stored in the yard. According to the Zoning Official, the property owners can store as many tires as they wish as long as they are covered. Mr. O'Brien does not understand why they are allowed to do this.

At that same residence, this past Saturday, an ATV exited the property onto the street, and Mr. O'Brien nearly hit it. Mr. O'Brien complimented Sergeant McLaughlin, who responded to his call, and wrote summonses to the owner of the ATV, who is from New York. Mr. O'Brien stated that this is the second time when he is noticed people from New York riding their ATVs on the streets with no helmets, they have no insurance, nor are their vehicles registered.

Finally, Mr. O'Brien noted that in 2012, he asked for an inspection of emails sent to a particular person during a particular time frame. However he received a response to his request did not identify with reasonable clarity the specific government records sought. On March 31, 2015, Mr. O'Brien asked for a copy of all inspection reports and pictures taken at 71 Parkview Drive on or about July 27, 2014. Council President Pizzella asked to whom the request was directed. Mr. O'Brien responded that he asked the Borough Clerk to provide these documents. However, the response he received was that he should clarify and identify the records requested. He stated that he wanted a copy of the inspection report, as well as the

photographs taken. Ms. Witkowski was the person who did the inspection, and Mr. O'Brien wanted to know how he could have made things clearer, as well as how he could have made a better identification for the documents being requested. He referenced the inspection report, as well as the pictures, yet he was asked for clarification. Ms. Witkowski explained that there was a discrepancy with the date, because the date referenced by Mr. O'Brien did not provide the documents he was requesting. Mr. O'Brien sent an email on July 28, 2014, to the Borough Clerk, Borough Attorney, and all of the Council Members, thanking them for the response, and noting that Ms. Witkowski offered to meet with him the next day. Once again, Mr. Madaio asked what Mr. O'Brien was requesting specifically. Mr. O'Brien responded that he wanted a copy of the inspection report and any photographs taken of the property at 71 Parkview Drive on or about July 27, 2014. That is the home of Ms. Elgert, who is also a Borough employee. A response was sent, please clarify the record. The email sent by Mr. O'Brien, which is also now a government record, makes clear reference to his request on July 28, 2014.

Mr. O'Brien also stated that emails from Ms. Witkowski's computer were extended to Ms. Elgert over the extension cords run through the window to support power outside of the house. Yet Ms. Witkowski asked Mr. O'Brien to clarify and identify what he was requesting. Mr. O'Brien charged that when Ms. Elgert made a similar request of information with respect to Mr. O'Brien's charges against the Elgert family and property since March 2014, she was treated much differently. Mr. O'Brien does not understand why he is being treated differently by Ms. Witkowski with respect to an OPRA request. Mr. Madaio explained that he was not the Borough Attorney at that time, but he was looking at the original request made by Mr. O'Brien, which referenced a copy of an inspection report taken on or about July 27, 2014. The response to Mr. O'Brien was to please clarify, and Mr. O'Brien apparently did that. Council President Pizzella asked if it would be possible to explain to Mr. O'Brien how he could better clarify it. Ms. Witkowski said she is not allowed to do that, because under the OPRA rules, she is not allowed to tell people what to request; they are supposed to identify the records they need. Mr. O'Brien noted that the OPRA request is one issue, but the request from the neighboring property owner is extremely vague, and is in the same format as that used when Mr. O'Brien was denied in August 2012. He asked why residents are forced to support two different standards. Council President Pizzella stated that the Borough Clerk could get the documents requested, but it is probably a moot point by now, because Mr. O'Brien has taken his claim to court, and it has been resolved. Council President Pizzella asked if Mr. O'Brien would accept getting the documents that were originally requested. He mentioned documents that were available as court exhibits, and Ms. Witkowski stated that she has no way of knowing what he presented in court. Council Member Meyerson asked if Mr. O'Brien was given copies of his documents by the court, and he said that they were not, which is why he made an OPRA request to get them. Mr. Madaio commented that there seem to be a couple of questions. One is that Mr. O'Brien requested a copy of an inspection report and photographs taken on or about July 27, 2014. The response to that was a request to please clarify his original request. Mr. O'Brien's question now is how he could be even clearer that he was. Attorney Madaio asked Ms. Witkowski to pull a copy of the request and review it. The next point made by Mr. O'Brien is that he initiated an OPRA request regarding the property, and the response was that his request was overly broad. However the response to the property owner against whom Mr. O'Brien had a complaint, who is also a Borough employee, was broader in scope, yet her request was honored. Mr. O'Brien wanted to know why he was being treated differently. Mr. Madaio said it would seem that if the requests are equal, the responses should be equal. Therefore, Mr. Madaio said that leads to the question of whether the requests were equal. Mr. Madaio said he would have to compare Mr. O'Brien's request with the request made by the other party to get an idea of whether they are, in fact, equal or substantively equal, and if so, why were the responses unequal.

Mr. O'Brien also pointed out that he and his neighbors were told in the summer that they could not see beyond the fence at that property, yet there are pictures showing that what is beyond the fence is visible. In the summer of 2014, there was a discussion about the electrical cords that were run out the windows, which Mr. O'Brien shared with several police officers. Yet Mr. O'Brien said he was told by Ms. Witkowski that the situation was resolved, but two days later, the extension cords were again running through their windows. Mr. O'Brien also charged that Ms. Witkowski gave the property owner, a Borough employee, 48 hour notice of the intent to inspect the property. Mr. O'Brien inquired at the Health Department whether businesses are normally provided 48 hour notice when sanitary inspections are performed, and the response was no. Council Member Looes interjected that the Health Department actually stated that they do not usually call in advance, but in certain circumstances, if they should step into a business, they might tell the business owner that they would return, if necessary. Mr. O'Brien also mentioned when the Bergen County Mosquito Control visited the property in question, and the inspector said it was the worst site he had seen in 30+ years. When the Health Department refused to take proactive steps, representatives from the Bergen County Mosquito Control came out the next day to treat the area. Mr. O'Brien asked again why there is a different standard for these property owners, as opposed to how he and the other neighbors are treated. Council President Pizzella answered that the Borough Attorney will meet with Ms. Witkowski and go through Mr. O'Brien's requests to get him the requested documentation. In addition, Ms. Witkowski and Mr. Madaio will make sure that they get the court responses, and they will take that up with the Zoning Official

to ensure that she understands that situation.

At the beginning of the year, Mr. O'Brien notified the Bergen County Freeholders and the County Executive to ask for more trees, especially in support of the tennis courts. However, he was told that there are no trees left in the County. It is possible that, through a Shared Services Agreement with Paramus, the Borough could get some trees. Mr. O'Brien asked if he should ask for the trees, or if the Borough Council would make that request.

Regarding the outdoor dining situation, Mr. O'Brien noted that Stickey's has their tables out year-round, and they also have umbrellas. There has been no planning board review, and there are four seats per parking space. Mr. O'Brien stated that there are not enough parking spaces at that parking lot, although he does like the concept of outdoor dining. However, there is not enough room between the railings in the building to have access to the door for the stairwell.

Earlier tonight it was suggested that the municipal court might be combined with that of Westwood, and Mr. O'Brien suggested that perhaps Hillsdale could combine with Old Tappan and River Vale, as well as possibly Woodcliff Lake, instead.

Mr. O'Brien also agrees with Council Member Meyerson regarding phase 2 soil sampling. He referenced the Mulholland project in Woodcliff Lake, where the building went up around that property, although it was contaminated.

Regarding the situation with PSE&G, Mr. O'Brien noted that they often put a black tarp on the ground, with a skirt, and Mr. O'Brien wondered if they need a permit to do that. Council President Pizzella asked if Mr. O'Brien was referring to a road or on property, and Mr. O'Brien stated that it was on their property. Mr. Madaio pointed out that the tarp could be used to contain any fluids that might leak. Mr. O'Brien asked if they need a permit for that, Mr. Madaio said he could not think of any reason why they would need that for their own property.

There were no other public comments at this time, and Council President Pizzella closed the time for public comments.

COUNCIL COMMENTARIES:

Council Member DeGise stated that Mayor Arnowitz asked him to attend the meeting about wildlife management. Local municipalities are being solicited to support wildlife management, and as of now, eight municipalities are adopting resolutions in support of a wildlife management program. He will have more information next month.

Council Member Ruocco reiterated that the United Methodist Church has a coordinator whose name is Ellen Stratton, and she is looking for project ideas from the Borough for their church members to engage in on Sunday, May 17. Mr. Russell and Ms. Kates will be following up with Council Member Ruocco, and who will discuss it with Ms. Witkowski. Mayor Arnowitz would like to have Mr. Russell and Ms. Kates involved.

Council Member Meyerson wished Mayor Arnowitz a quick recovery. He also mentioned that all the newspapers carried the story that Hillsdale was sued under the Fair Housing Act, and special counsel has been appointed by resolution at the beginning of the year. Council Member Meyerson believes a motion might be necessary, because of the passage of time, and he moved that the Borough should send this matter immediately to the special counsel, and engage the services of Eric Bernstein to handle the federal case. Council Member DeGise seconded the motion, and it was unanimously passed by all Council Members.

Council Member DeRosa reminded everyone that due to the weather, baseball opening day was postponed until April 18. He invited everyone to come out to support Hillsdale baseball.

Council Member Looes pointed out that April 18 is also the annual Kids' Fishing Contest. Council Member Looes was contacted by a former classmates to inform her that on April 18, there will also be a drive at Veterans Park from 10:00 AM-4:00 PM to delete blood cancer. People can get a cheap swab to determine if that person is a match for Anthony Daniels, who is suffering from Hodgkin's lymphoma for the third time.

Ms. Witkowski mentioned that the Youth in Government event will be on Wednesday, May 12. Mr. Franklin met with representatives from FEMA, and the Hillsdale has received some reimbursements for Hurricane Sandy. On May 5, James Hayden will be recognized for his years of service to the Board of Education. Regarding the senior van, Ms. Witkowski noted that the applications came out. On March 30, she printed one out, and discussed with New Jersey Transit the agencies that are associated with Hillsdale. She was able to ascertain that Hillsdale could be eligible to receive the grant, which is due by May 1. Mrs.

Witkowski is trying to find out if they are willing to hold a public hearing after the fact, given the closeness of the deadline. She will follow up tomorrow, and continue with the grant application. Ms. Witkowski is also working on two different sources for senior citizen lunches for 2016.

Council President Pizzella reminded everyone that April 26 is the Earth Fair, and May 16 is the beefsteak fundraiser, and he encouraged everyone to please support the Ambulance Corps. Council President Pizzella said that as a resident, is very nice to see all of the departments working together. He also thanked everyone for their patience with him as he was running this meeting. Council President Pizzella wished Mayor Arnowitz a speedy recovery.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION: @10:13 PM

R15083 To provide for a meeting not open to the public in accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act N.J.S.A. 10:4-12

– litigation; attorney/client; personnel (discussion of the CFO, as well as issues regarding legal advice with respect to the Board of Health, the Building Department, and the Tax Assessor).

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Hillsdale is subject to certain requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq; and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 provides that an Executive Session not open to the public may be held for certain specified purposes when authorized by Resolution; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Borough Council of the Borough of Hillsdale to discuss in a session not open to the public certain matters relating to the item or items authorized by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) and designated below:

___ (1) Matters required by law to be confidential.

___ (2) Matters where the release of information would impair the right to receive funds.

___ (3) Matters involving individual privacy.

___ (4) Matters relating to collective bargaining agreements

___ (5) Matters relating to the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property or the investment of public funds.

___ (6) Matters relating to public safety and property.

X (7) Matters relating to litigation, negotiations and the attorney-client privilege-*personnel cfo/board of health/building/tax assessor*

___ (8) Matters relating to the employment relationship

___ (9) Matters relating to the potential imposition of a penalty.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Hillsdale assembled in public session this date that an Executive Session closed to the public be and the same is hereby authorized for discussion of matters relating to the specified items designated above. It is anticipated that the deliberations conducted in closed session may be disclosed to the public upon the determination of the Borough Council that the public interest will no longer be served by such confidentiality.

Motion by Council Member Looes, Second by Council President Pizzella.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council Members DeGise, DeRosa, Looes, Meyerson, Ruocco, and Council President Pizzella

RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING: @11:04 PM

Motion to reconvene regular session was made by Council Member Looes, Second by Council Member Meyerson.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council Members DeGise, DeRosa, Looes, Meyerson, Ruocco, and Council President Pizzella

Borough Attorney Madaio said let the record reflect all members of the governing body present for commencement of the executive session and are present for the recommencement of the open session as well as the Borough Clerk/Borough Administrator and the Borough Attorney.

ADJOURNMENT: @11:05 PM

Motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Meyerson, second by Council Member DeGise.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council Members DeGise, DeRosa, Looes, Meyerson, Ruocco, and Council President Pizzella

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL WILL BE
TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2015 – BEGINNING AT 7:30 P.M.**

Susan Witkowski, Municipal Clerk

APPROVED AS PRESENTED
MAY 12, 2015

Susan Witkowski, Municipal Clerk