

Council Meeting  
January 15, 2013

The Regular Meeting of the Municipal Council of the Borough of Hillsdale was held on the above date at 7:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 380 Hillsdale Avenue, Hillsdale, NJ 07642.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Arnowitz who also led the Salute to the Flag.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING

Mayor Arnowitz stated, "This is a Meeting of the Hillsdale Borough Council on this 15th day of January 201. 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

Municipal Clerk Witkowski called the roll those present being as follows: Councilmembers DeGise, Frank, Kelley, Looes and Meyerson. Also in attendance Borough Administrator DeJoseph, Borough Attorney Bernstein and Clerk Witkowski.

#### OATH OF OFFICES

Mayor Arnowitz administered the Oath of Office to Alyssa Zoll, Teenage Member of the Recreation Commission expiring December 31, 2014.

#### PRESENTATIONS

Presentations for Sustainable Jersey.

Meredith Kates was present on behalf of the Green Team which she has been chairing for about three years. She said the website has a background about Sustainable Jersey. The Green Team was formed about three years ago by the Council because we were going after certification for a particular program called Sustainable Jersey, which is in at least 86 towns in New Jersey. The benefits to the town have been that we have been able to receive grant money, such as a Forestry Grant received. Our certification is up for renewal this year for Hillsdale. We need direction from the Council, if this is a program we would like to continue. Heading the committee, the certification process would be equivalent to a full-time job which the volunteers were willing to put in. We have a very talented group of people working hard because we believe in the benefits of some of the projects we have done such as the recycling bins in town. There may be other things such as ample harvest we could start in the town. We have somebody at the food pantry collecting fresh produce every Sunday from spring until the fall and coming back on Monday to help the food pantry workers to make sure there is healthy food. There are many levels in the town; she could

prepare something to show what the Green Team has been doing.

We need to decide if we will move ahead towards recertification with Council supporting the actions that we are going to need to take. There are a lot of ordinances that have to be passed. The first round was for things that were easy to get. This time we really have to dig in and figure out what we want to do and how do we feel about the state of the community, does this work or not. If we do not proceed with the program, the Green Team can still be active in the programs that we do. The past year we were more as a community group, we haven't really worked with the Council and the departments like we did the first year. We worked closely with Keith Durie and Chip Stalter. It should be all the departments working together, not a group of citizens working on their own. It is something to consider and let the Green Team know any ideas you may have.

Mayor Arnowitz pointed out to the Council that the bins downtown were obtained for free because of the efforts of the Green Team. We have been able to get various grants. When he met here with the BPU about the solar panels, before the meeting the first thing the Chairperson of the BPU said we were the first to qualify for this. We don't have solar panels on our poles but we will be putting one at the landfill and having a farm. These are the types of ideas this group put together, they are extremely hard working and very active. If you walk the town there are a lot of recyclables being thrown on the side, recyclables still in our garbage stream even though we have a very good recycling rate; we could do a lot more. This is an extremely effective very dedicated group.

Meredith Kates said Mark Becker is part of our group and he is an expert on watershed. There are a lot of problems with flooding and dealing with on a large scale, and there are other things we can do on a smaller scale. He is a wonderful adviser and if the Green Team doesn't continue in terms of obtaining certification, we really should keep this group active and have the Council privy to some of our ideas. It is a no cost program. There is a hot line set up and you would be surprised at the number of calls we get weekly from residents about their concerns.

Councilmember Frank is definitely in favor of going for the Silver Level. He saw the reaction at the League when the award was given to the members and liaisons. It is a great thing and he can see the enthusiasm through all the towns in New Jersey.

Meredith Kates said she can prepare an action plan and which would be due in the fall. We should be realistic about getting feedback on things the town will prioritize. There is a lot we can do; we meet regularly with Park Ridge and the other local Green Teams every quarter. They have solar panels on their schools for free and they have given us presentations on how to do it. The Team does not want to put that effort again to get ordinances passed that are not going to bear any weight. If those are passed just for points and we really don't believe in them, then she doesn't see a strong point to working with the program. .

Councilmember Frank said this has to be completed by the fall.

Mayor Arnowitz asked for a list of items that she thinks we need. It is not an outrageous list, they are all attainable.

We will have this on the Agenda for February and give Meredith an answer in February.

Meredith Kates said there are literally hundreds of actions that can be taken. She could mention those that would be close to getting but there are hundreds of things that could be undertaken. It is a matter of time frame and what we would like to do.

Mayor Arnowitz said he has presentations; we went through Super Storm Sandy and while we did not get the horrible results that south Jersey had, we did get hit. We had a lot of emergency services people in town that went above and beyond the call of duty to keep Hillsdale a safe community. That includes all emergency services, police, fire, ambulance, OEM, police reserve; he had certificates that he would like to present.

The Mayor presented a Certificate to Police Chief, Chip Stalter; Jason Durie, Deputy Fire Chief, William Franklin, OEM, and Borough Administrator DeJoseph.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes of the Reorganization Meeting of January 6, 2013.

Motion to approve was made by Councilmember Kelley, seconded by Councilmember Looes.

#### Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Frank, Kelley, Looes, Meyerson  
and DeGise

Nays: None

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

1. LETTER DATED JANUARY 8, 2013, - ROVER AND CLOVER 5K COMMITTEE REQUESTING PERMISSON TO SCHEDULE 8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL 5K RUN/WALK AND DOG WALK FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2013.

Motion to receive, file and approve was made by Councilmember Looes, seconded by Councilmember DeGise, and unanimously carried.

#### DISCUSSION:

- 1) Council Vacancy-entire Council.

Mayor Arnowitz said we have a Council vacancy, we received three names from the County Committee: Frank Pizzella, Anthony DeRosa and Frank D'Amico. He asked if the new members had the opportunity to meet with them.

Councilmember DeGise said there is a letter from Mr. Bernstein on the issue.

Borough Attorney Bernstein said the recommendation was that the governing body hold a special meeting between now and the end of the month to interview the candidates, and provide resumes to determine their experience if they so wish and set it up at 30 minute intervals and then deliberate whether they want to appoint, defer or let it go to the Republican Committee for selection.

Mayor Arnowitz asked if they would appoint the candidate on the night of the special meeting.

Councilmember Meyerson said the important part of that letter from Mr. Bernstein is that this is pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act and the potential Councilmembers receiving a RICE notice as this will be done in Closed Session.

Mayor Arnowitz said they are not employees.

Borough Attorney Bernstein said N.J.S.A.10:4-12D8 are not employees but prospective employees. It is official the number of appointees and they are required to be RICED as with anyone else.

Councilmember Frank said in the past interviews were done ad hoc by Councilmembers never more than a quorum and after that at the public meeting there would be a vote to select one. He read from the League website but could not tell whether that was o.k. It seemed to be o.k. to do it that way.

Attorney Bernstein said it is a violation of the act of approving members in order to avoid a quorum. The problem is you invite three and not four and that is a violation of the Public Meetings Act. We allow the governing body to have a meeting, conduct the interviews in executive session, and then deliberate.

A special meeting has been scheduled for January 24 at 6PM.

Motion to hold the special meeting January 24, 2013 at 6 p.m. that will be advertised was made by Councilmember Meyerson, seconded by Councilmember Kelley.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers DeGise, Frank, Kelley, Looes and Meyerson

Nays: None

2) Hiring of Professionals.

Mayor Arnowitz said he has been requested to hold off for a period of time so this will not be discussed.

3) Amendment to the By-Laws.

Administrator DeJoseph referred to D3. All purchase orders must be received back by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month to be processed for the following month. He is looking for clarification as to the way it is worded.

Borough Attorney said if the 25<sup>th</sup> of month happens to be a Saturday or Sunday, the following Monday is set forth for processing is amended: Section 1 of Article 14 of the Council By-Laws setting forth the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month for payment.

Motion to approve was made by Councilmember Looes, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers DeGise, Frank, Kelley, Looes and Meyerson

Nays: None

4) American Water Resources.

Borough Administrator DeJoseph said this was sent to the Administrator and Borough Clerk and the Mayor and Council wished to proceed with this. American Water Resources is not our utility here; it is an insurance type of program covering the water and sewer lines going to the house. Paragraph 4 states they would share revenue with the borough.

Mayor Arnowitz said United Water has a similar program that we don't derive any benefit from. It is not something we force on residents, if a resident chooses to take it, we would receive revenue.

Councilmember Looes said it reads that if we partner with them we are trying to educate the residents about this need. They use the word partner and right above it and all of the sudden we are the representatives.

Mayor Arnowitz said he has a majority of the Council that said that we are not interested.

Councilmember Meyerson agreed, this is a way we are going to get ourselves involved in selling an item.

Mayor Arnowitz said there is no need to vote, we won't take any action.

5) Joan Angela D'Alessandro Memorial Foundation, Inc. Vigil.

They want the Mayor and Council to be involved in this vigil which is an anniversary. A young girl in town, 1973 was going door to door and the next door neighbor killed her and took her body to Harriman Park. She was seven years old. He directed the Borough Administrator to contact Joan A. D'Alessandro and support this vigil. We did allow her to put a banner on the RR station and if she wishes to do that and the Council does not have a problem with it, he asked if anyone would have a problem with that. The Council was in agreement.

6) Budget and Finance Committee Meetings.

Mayor Arnowitz said two meetings are already scheduled.

Councilmember Meyerson said we are having department heads come to the Finance Committee to discuss their aspect and proposals of the budget.

Mayor Arnowitz said they have the right if they wish or if any Councilmember wishes to have them come before the entire Council, but it takes a lot of problems out of the process. That is the way we used to do it and felt it was the better way to do it.

Councilmember Meyerson said we had a discussion about that and it was the general consensus to go back to the old way. We are scheduled for tomorrow night, next Tuesday and all day next Friday. We will have a day meeting starting at 8AM.

Mayor Arnowitz said we need sufficient time to schedule the Council.

Councilmember Meyerson said we scheduled the presentation for March 12.

Mayor Arnowitz said that is the Introduction. We have to have meetings before that. There should be at least one, two possible scheduled meetings. We should schedule two public meetings so that the public has the opportunity to speak, as they do not get the opportunity to speak at committee meetings.

Councilmember Meyerson asked if the public has to hear the presentation of the budget before they get the opportunity to comment.

Mayor Arnowitz said they have come to our meetings before a public meeting; one or two come up and comment about the budget and their feelings as to what went on at that meeting. He is looking for the purpose of the Council people who are not on the Finance Committee to have an opportunity to become cognizant. The budget is the most important thing we do, every Council person should be cognizant of everything that is being done in the budget and have a feel for the budget. Go through each budget, ask your questions.

Councilmember Meyerson said we scheduled all department heads to be completed by next week. We are not going to get a final last year comparison until sometime the end of January or beginning of February. We are not going to be able to come to the Council with full information.

Mayor Arnowitz said we have to look at spending; once you get done with the budget and the Council reviews the budget, then the Administrator says based on this if everything stays the same as last year and if we know of any increases, this is the rate. With the 2% Cap at that point of time we have to start cutting. We revisit the budget and take out items.

Councilmember Meyerson did not know when we are getting last year's actuals.

Administrator DeJoseph said the financial statement around February 10<sup>th</sup>. The biggest question is the fund balance and how it is going to affect the budget.

Councilmember Meyerson understood the proposals by the department heads have to do with spending, but until we know what the fund balance is, it is very hard to take a real close look at those proposals with cutting in mind or acceptance until we know the AFS from last year.

Mayor Arnowitz said we will not get a lot more from the state and we are going to have a reduction in some of the grant money we got because everything is drying up. It is very simple to do a budget if we spent 100 and looking to spend 110. You schedule your meetings; once you are done with department heads we can pick two dates, probably the first or second week of February and have the whole Council meet. At that time we bring the Auditor in and at that time you make a report to the entire Council. If you don't have all the numbers, we can push the meeting back if necessary.

Councilmember DeGise said until we have all the numbers it is impossible.

7) ADA Ramp Project.

Engineer Statile handed out a photo of the ADA ramp, one of several different types. He provided a street map of Hillsdale listing. This map is updated annually. In blue is indicated the roads the county wants to pave in the next couple of years. The county receives money from the state as the state mandates that all corner ramps have to handicap accessible. We augment the construction of the ramps and the county reimburses the town. We purchase the material for the ramps; there is \$100,000 worth or ramps that county paid for. The sooner the ramps are constructed the sooner the county will pave the streets. The county wants to pave Hillsdale Avenue, Wierimus Lane, Kinderkamack Road as well as Washington Avenue and Pascack Road. They asked to go ahead with the construction of those ramps. He has discussed with Administrator DeJoseph to go out to bid for our own contractor for a better price. Again, the county would reimburse for the costs.

Administrator DeJoseph said his thought was we would have a little more control over the contractor because it is all in town and we might be able to save some money vs. the county coop contractor. It is an option. The engineer has the spec from the county and it would not be much of a cost for the town to put out the bid and with the possibility of Washington Avenue and the ADD grants we could possibly add on to our NJDOT project for Central Avenue and Cross Street. It would be one bid and we could probably get a better price.

Councilmember Frank asked if we go out for bid privately and it comes in where it is marginal, do we still have an option or are we required to go with low bid.

Engineer Statile said we can do anything we want. We administer the project either way.

Administrator DeJoseph stated last year the borough entered into a grant agreement project and were reimbursed for the grant work, design work as well as inspection.

Engineer Statile said he has to certify to the county for all ramps. When the county has money for resurfacing go ahead.

Administrator DeJoseph said we need direction on this for our budget.

Councilmember Frank asked how that would be a revenue item if it is also an appropriation.

Administrator DeJoseph said a revenue grant and an appropriation. Clean Community recycling trust.

Councilmember Frank said we have to do it either way whether we go with the county or whether we do it privately, it is the same thing.

Mayor Arnowitz said it looks like we are going to have two contractors, one the county who is going to pave Washington Avenue and Hillsdale Avenue and a second contractor in town that is doing Cross Street and Central. In the past when we have had things like this going on one of the problems he had are the time restraints. When the paver comes in to do Washington Avenue, you have to have the ramps done. Usually the paver is the same who does the concrete work.

Engineer Statile said our projects yes, the county just paves.

Mayor Arnowitz said there wouldn't be a problem with the time frame to make sure the ramps are done by the time the paving is ready to be done.

Engineer Statile said the county will not schedule paving until the ramps are done.

Mayor Arnowitz asked about Central Avenue if we go with the county ramp contractor.

Engineer Statile said Central Avenue is not involved in this. We have a deadline; award the contract in spring time.

Mayor Arnowitz said some of the paving jobs we had in late fall peeled up.

Engineer Statile said that is why we bid now and get a March/April contract.

Mayor Arnowitz asked the pleasure of the Council, put out two bids and then make a decision? The Council was in favor of this.

Mayor Arnowitz received a call from the county on Hillsdale and Washington Avenue apologizing for not paving the street. They were not going to pave it but through the efforts of the Administrator and Engineer and their Engineer, they are paving Washington and Hillsdale.

#### 8) Extension of Gabion Baskets.

Engineer Statile spoke of the Gabion Baskets on Wierimus Lane and showed photographs of water over Wierimus Lane. There is a very deep culvert and Gabion Baskets were installed about 2005 to protect the culvert. Erosion took place of one of the embankments with the Gabion basket. A Gabion basket is a wired basket installed with rip rap stone wired together to provide flood protection as a retaining wall. We received three contractors with price proposals, pretty high. He suggested we bid this out to possibly get better prices. There may be FEMA money.

Mayor Arnowitz said with the extra help we have at the DPW and it was for storm related work would it be feasible for us to have extra DPW people to replace the Gabion Baskets.

Engineer Statile said this is heavy work.

Mayor Arnowitz said we received \$5000 or \$6000 and the lowest bid was \$25,000.

Administrator DeJoseph will confirm the numbers from FEMA.

Mayor Arnowitz suggested we rebid and see what prices come back on the second round. This needs to be done in a timely fashion.

Mayor Arnowitz asked if there is any further discussion on the topics discussed.

GENERAL PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Arnowitz invited comment from the audience.

Victor Tourian, 61 Trinity Place - approached the podium

Mayor Arnowitz addressed Mr. Tourian, since his last letter to us, included the Mayor's property. The Borough Attorney agreed that he should not take part in this discussion. so he stepped down from the dais during the discussion. Councilmember DeGise also stepped down from the dais as he is an active member of the church.

Mr. Tourian wants the Council to discuss and put in writing. He received a letter on something else and he found that the fence was built on his property by the church, a section of it. He has to hire a engineer, pay them, take it to the court and his lawyer at cost to the church or town or both. Is there a way of solving once and for all an agreement that meets all the state laws, borough ordinances? Where is it now or where it will soon go.

Administrator DeJoseph said DPW Superintendent Keith Durie to address.

Councilmember Kelley said the Superintendent was here, he left for a rescue call.

Mr. Tourian (Contd).

He wrote me a letter and there is no permit whatsoever for the fence and it is built on his property. He is saying it is not the town's responsibility. However, since there is no permit, it indirectly establishes the date on which the work was done and he did not answer whether or not he did inspect the work or whatever the town is required to do. In that respect, he is glad he wrote back because it established two things; it establishes the date and that there is no permit for this work. How do we know the fence and site work is done according to law. This needs to be discussed with the church and all parties involved to gather the facts.

Councilmember Kelley said he will discuss this with the Code Compliance Officer.

Mr. Tourian (Contd).

He asked if he read the other letter he sent to the state. It was a long letter and listed everything. He listed six complaints; he will include the real estate taxes he paid over and above because he was assessed wrongly by the Assessor.

Councilmember Kelley said he will speak with Keith Durie and if a response is warranted, we will send a letter if necessary.

Mayor Arnowitz and Councilmember DeGise returned to the dais.

Frank Pizzella, 247 Hillside Avenue -

This is a request for help. There is a resident of Hillside, a mom of a Kindergarten child, who requires a bone marrow transplant. Her family asked if he could help them in establishing a drive so we are in the process of registering a drive. He requested the town to allow this drive to be posted on the borough's website or if an e-blast could be sent communicating with the community letting people know we have a registered donor drive and are trying to get a bone marrow match.

Mayor Arnowitz said we never had such a request.

Borough Attorney Bernstein said in the absence of a policy it is understood that the next time someone comes and makes a request, there could be the same issue. There probably should be something in place for contact information on the website with someone to contact.

Mayor Arnowitz said you could put email through the schools, through ours; he would suggest that you have either a phone number or email address so that people could respond so that the borough hall staff would not have to respond to calls and forwarding information. He suggested Mr. Pizzella get together with the Borough Clerk and set up an email account so that the information can be sent to someone who is willing to go through all the emails and compile the information. Obviously there are parents out there that would help you. All we would do is send out the emails and anyone wishing to donate or get involved, please contact xyz.com. He is not in favor of getting the borough hall involved other than sending out the email.

Councilmember Frank had a problem as there is a privacy policy on the email sign up on our website. It says you will only get emails for the areas that you request and those areas are town notices, Stonybrook notices, Recreation and Public Works. If we open up our internal email for all kinds of organizations, you will have to change your policy.

Borough Attorney Bernstein suggested that if the Mayor and Council has no problem in allowing the organization to place a blurb on the website with an email link, whatever email account they want, that is fine. For privacy reasons that is fine.

Mr. Pizzella (Contd).

You would put it on the website but we wouldn't send email or any e-blast out.

Mayor Arnowitz said if we had the policy and in the past someone wanted to do something, they can't do it. It really is not fair from what I am hearing from our attorney. It sounds reasonable, we don't want to get involved in that. He is sure someone would be willing to help in any way in this matter, he would volunteer himself.

Councilmember Kelley suggested an email be sent to Councilmembers.

Mayor Arnowitz said Kim Saul is present and raised her hand and suggested that Mr. Pizzella speak to her because she could probably help.

Mr. Pizzella (Contd).

Once you set up the registry and you use it as donor registry then you are required by law and then you can start to request.

After a discussion with the Council, the public portion of the meeting was closed.

#### PROFESSIONALS

Police Chief Stalter said late this afternoon a tractor trailer took down one of our traffic light stanchions at Hillsdale

Avenue and Pascack Road. Obviously this will go through insurance and he thanked the DPW for pulling the traffic light off the tractor trailer.

Officer Ryan Norton continues to be on his own and doing well. Alex Kaplan our newest officer finished his training and is on his own. Unfortunately, a week ago while he was on patrol at 6AM while driving down Washington Avenue a buck ran into his car and did about \$1500 damage to our patrol car. We have it on video and you go from no deer and all of the sudden there is the buck.

The Council is aware, as our school resource officer, we had a meeting with our patrol superintendent and Pascack Valley Principal and our local Hillsdale Schools Superintendent reviewing our safety policies and procedures. That is going to be ongoing; we are in agreement that we are not in favor of arming anyone in our schools; we are not in favor of SWAT officers being stationed in schools. We have been working since Columbine with lock down procedures. In fact, we had a lock down at the high school two days prior to Newtown tragedy. Several of the officers have been out and we have training coming up and reviewing all the scenarios, lock down procedures, so we are determining what our schools need and the direction we should take. In fact we are having lock down drills at the schools tomorrow.

Administrator DeJoseph asked if there is any more discussion on the panel with Police Chiefs, School Boards.

Chief Stalter said on January 14, the Bergen County School Boards Association asked to be on the panel, at 6:45PM at Mahwah High School, participating with the County School Board Association. This will be open to the public.

Mayor Arnowitz said with regard to security, the high school informed him and it was in the newspaper, that they now have security people at the schools, they are unarmed, and we still do have our resource officer there. He believed it is a valuable program and does not want to change. The high school is still talking to Montvale and it will cost money; all four towns should share the cost of resource officer. There should be a second resource officer in the Montvale Schools and that is the topic of discussion between the high school and the Mayor of Montvale. He congratulated the Chief for having a police car posted at the schools after Newtown.

#### DPW

DPW Superintendent Durie reported on Future Sanitation. He was apprehensive at the beginning when we lost Waste Management but Future Sanitation has stepped up to the plate. They have done almost everything they were asked to do with regard to the contract, they are working until 6:30PM to 7:00PM at night to make sure they finish the job. Cans are replaced on curbs with lids, boxes are switched properly, the compactor they provided is working very well, all boxes around town including recycling have been emptied. They have been doing an excellent job so far.

Mayor Arnowitz said on behalf of the town he presented a citation to Keith Durie, Superintendent of DPW and thanked him for his efforts during the Super Storm Sandy.

Superintendent Durie wanted to make the Council aware his plans to retire this year hopefully the end of October, beginning of November. He will work out the details. His many years working for the Borough of Hillsdale has been beneficial.

COUNCIL SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Mayor Arnowitz announced the proposed Council Special Committees for the year 2013, with Advice and Consent of the Council.

COUNCIL - SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Chamber of Commerce	Doug Frank-Jason DeGise-Larry Meyerson
Flood and Disaster Committee	Mayor, Police Chief, Fire Chief, Ambulance Captain, Emergency Management Director, Board of Health President, Environmental Chair, Red Cross
Historic Preservation	Vacancy
Insurance Fund	Administrator-Chrisoula Looes
Insurance Liaison	Administrator-(Larry Meyerson) replace with Chrisoula Looes
Liaison to Government Agencies	Mayor
Negotiation Committee	Mayor, Larry Meyerson, Doug Frank, Administrator
Power and Energy	Administrator
RV Senior Housing Project	Martin Ward
Regional High School Committee	Mayor, Administrator, Doug Frank and Larry Meyerson

Mayor Arnowitz had one change; he removed Councilmember Meyerson as Insurance Liaison and replaced him with Councilmember Looes.

Councilmember Meyerson said he is on several committees and left off the other Council persons from these committees including Regional High School as well as the Negotiation Committee. He asked if we have a Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Arnowitz answered yes and no. We had a Chamber of Commerce, it fell apart, Marie Hanlon was working with Big Daddy's to resurrect it. A few store owners offered to get involved. The owner of the Tool Store on Broadway was interested, the new owner of Café Capri expressed interest, and the man who owns the Bee Hive Hair Salon.

Councilmember Meyerson said the Chamber of Commerce seemed to have regionalized. For the most part, they have become super Chambers of Commerce.

Mayor Arnowitz will be attending the Chamber of Commerce breakfast tomorrow as all the Mayors in the area.

Councilmember Meyerson said people have opted to join and most towns are realizing they can't do it on their own, and cannot sustain it. His office is located in Montvale and we have gone to Mahwah Chamber of Commerce. They do encompass a lot of different towns.

Mayor Arnowitz thought maybe we could set up a meeting with people that show some interest and possibly help them set up locally.

Mayor Arnowitz read the Council Special Committee listing.

He said Historic Preservation is not an official committee. The committee was established during the bicentennial and carried forward. Anyone interested in being on the committee is included. If the Council feels we should have a liaison, he will do so. They are striving to get grants and money to do something with the RR station, paint it, etc. We can leave it as is and when they have a report, they come before the Council to present the report. The Council wanted to leave it as it is.

Martin Ward, RV Senior Housing Project on Cedar Lane. The River Vale Mayor suggested that someone who was a non-Council person to represent Hillsdale. It is the Mayor's opinion that they do not have enough parking but does not see a problem with the project. We have 100 units, the same, a block away and we don't have problems. We need senior housing in the area but we have to make sure it is done right and doesn't impact Hillsdale. Martin Ward volunteered.

Regional High School Committee. As you know, we have a legal suit with Woodcliff Lake, Montvale against River Vale and Hillsdale as to dissolving the regional school system. Woodcliff Lake is looking to pull out, Montvale is in a holding pattern right now, they are not part of it. We have to protect our kids, we have to protect our education. The Committee is Councilmember Meyerson, Councilmember Frank and the Mayor with the Administrator. We will be attending a closed session meeting in River Vale in February and will have an update from the attorney and the professionals that are putting together the report that we need to submit to defend our position. If more information is needed, we can bring in the attorney or professionals and have a meeting here. We have to move quickly, we have until March 1.

Motion to approve the appointments was made by Councilmember Kelley, seconded by Councilmember Meyerson.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Kelley, Looes, Meyerson, DeGise and Frank

Nays: None

#### RESOLUTIONS (Consent Agenda) R13023 through R13030

Mayor Arnowitz asked if there was any discussion by the Council on these matters. In voting on Payment of Bills, Councilmembers DeGise and Kelley are abstaining because of their membership in the Fire Department.

Mayor Arnowitz read the Consent Agenda of Resolutions.

#### **R13023 Payment of Bills**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hillsdale that the following bills in the sum of \$2,705,363.67 as authorized by the Department Head and approved by a Council member liaison, be paid; and that the Mayor, Clerk and Chief Financial Officer be and they are hereby authorized and directed to issue warrants in payment of same.

2013 PAYMENT OF BILLS

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>PO</u>	<u>CK #</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>AMT</u>
HILLSDALE BOE	13-00001	21493	1/3/13	\$1,596,332.00
PASCACK VALLEY BOE	13-00002	21494	1/8/13	\$873,048.98
UNUM LIFE INSURANCE - REG	13-00003	21495	1/8/13	\$273.00
UNUM LIFE INSURANCE - STONYBROOK	13-00004	4531	1/8/13	\$7.80
BERGEN MUNICIPAL - DENTAL - REG	13-00005	21496	1/8/13	\$5,694.00
BERGEN MUNICIPAL - DENTAL - STONYBROOK	13-00006	4532	1/8/13	\$53.00
FUTURE SANITATION	12-02126	21499	1/15/13	\$30,992.91
POSTMASTER PARAMUS	13-00007			\$5,400.00
VALERO	13-00008	21504	1/15/13	\$4,766.20
BOROUGH OF HILLSDALE - MED ACTIVE - REG	13-00009			\$61,644.17
BOROUGH OF HILLSDALE - MED ACTIVE - STBRK	13-00010			\$856.73
BOROUGH OF HILLSDALE - RETIRED	13-00011			\$32,837.50
RED CEDAR TREE EXPERTS	12-02383			\$15,500.00
CLARION OFFICE SUPPLY, INC	12-02593	21501,3	1/15/13	\$6,975.00
VERIZON - REG	13-00012	21497	1/10/13	\$456.17
VERIZON - STONYBROOK	13-00013	4533	1/10/13	\$43.67
CMS - MEDICARE - R SCHRAMM	13-00014	21498	1/11/13	\$673.90
CMS - MEDICARE - F SCHRAMM	13-00015	21498	1/11/13	\$652.90
REALTY APPRAISAL CO	12-01110	21500,2	1/15/13	\$27,000.00
PSE&G - REG	12-00016	21505	1/15/13	\$41,521.63
PSE&g - STONYBROOK	12-00017	4534	1/15/13	\$634.11

PAYMENT OF BILLS FOR 1/15/13 MEETING

TOTAL

\$2,705,363.67

**R13024 Approval of Quasi Entities included in insurance program**

BE IT RESOLVED that the following list, by class be included in the insurance program for the Borough of Hillsdale as Quasi Entities:

QUASI I: Hillsdale Public Safety Associations and Auxiliaries

QUASI II: Hillsdale Volunteer Ambulance Corps and Fire Department

QUASI IV: Hillsdale Baseball & Softball Association  
Hillsdale Football Association  
Hillsdale Soccer Association  
Hillsdale Hoops Association

**R13025 Authorize participation in Interlocal Services with Bergen County Police Chief's Association for Mutual Aid and Rapid Deployment Force**

WHEREAS, the police departments in Bergen County have a day-to-day responsibility to provide for the security of lives and property, for the maintenance and preservation of the public peace and order; and

WHEREAS, Law Enforcement Officials also have a responsibility to provide for preparedness against natural emergencies, such as floods, hurricanes, earthquakes, major storms, etc., man made causes, civil unrest, and civil disobedience such as riot, strikes, jail or prison riots, train wrecks, aircraft crashes,

major fires, ethnic disorders, riots, terrorist incidents and bombings, state and national emergencies; and

WHEREAS, the Bergen County Police Chief's Association has proposed a Mutual Aid Plan and Rapid Deployment Force to deal with these emergencies; and

WHEREAS, this Plan is adopted in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:14-156, N.J.S.A. 40A:14-156.1, N.J.S.A. 40A:14-156.4 and N.J.S.A. App. A:9-40.6; and

WHEREAS, this Plan will provide a uniform procedure for the coordination of the requesting, dispatching, and utilization of law enforcement personnel and equipment whenever a local law enforcement agency requires mutual aid assistance from any other jurisdiction, both contiguous and non-contiguous, in the event of an emergency, riot or disorder, in order to protect life and property; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale to participate in a Mutual Aid Plan and Rapid Deployment Force in accordance with the Plan as submitted by the Bergen County Police Chief's Association.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale, that the Police Department of the Borough of Hillsdale, under the direction of the Chief of Police, cooperate with the Bergen County Police Chief's Association to create an Interlocal Services Agreement with all municipalities in the County of Bergen in order to put into place the Mutual Aid Plan and Rapid Deployment Force; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the County Executive, the Board of Chosen Freeholders, the County Prosecutor, and all municipalities in the County of Bergen.

**R13026 Approval of Off-Premise Cash Raffle License #687, St. John the Baptist Church, March 10, 2013**

WHEREAS, St. John the Baptist Church, 69 Valley Street, Hillsdale, NJ 07642 has made proper application for the following Raffle License to be held March 10, 2013; and

WHEREAS, said application contains the number of designation furnished by the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission; and

WHEREAS, THE Police Department of the Borough of Hillsdale has reported to this Borough Council in writing that the statements contained in said application are in order, that the place wherein said Raffle(s) is to be held complies with the rules and regulations pertaining to the application.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that upon payment of the licensing fees, as provided by Statute, and upon filing with the Borough Clerk be and he is hereby authorized to issue a license for Raffles in accordance with said application:

Raffle License No.  
RL: 687

Type of License  
Off-premise Cash Raffle

**R13027 Authorize Lerch, Vinci & Higgins for accounting services in connection with close-out of year 2012**

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Borough of Hillsdale has appointed Lerch, Vinci & Higgins, LLP as the Auditor for year 2013; and

WHEREAS, there is a necessity for accounting services in connection with close-out of the Borough's accounts and records for the year ending December 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator has requested a proposal from the firm Lerch Vinci & Higgins LLP to perform such service; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the governing body of the Borough of Hillsdale, authorize the firm of Lerch Vinci & Higgins, LLP, 17-17 Route 208, Fair Lawn, NJ 07410, to prepare said documents as per the proposal dated January 11, 2013, at a rate not to exceed \$5,000.00.

**R13028 Authorization and execution by the Mayor to approve JIF/MEL Risk Management Agreement**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hillsdale is a member of the Bergen County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund and the Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund; and

WHEREAS, the bylaws of the Funds require that each municipality appoint a Risk Management Consultant to perform various professional services detailed in the bylaws; and

WHEREAS, the bylaws for the Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund and Bergen County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund indicate a minimum fee equal to six percent (6%) of the municipal assessment which expenditure represents reasonable compensation for the services required and is included in the assessment for this Fund; and

WHEREAS, the judgmental nature of the Risk Management Consultant's duties renders comparative bidding impractical.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of Hillsdale does hereby appoint BGIA,/Business Governmental Insurance Agency, 900 Route 9 North, Suite 503, Woodbridge, NJ 07095-1003, in accordance with the Fund's bylaws for the period of January 1, 2013 through January 1, 2014; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the consultant's agreement annexed hereto, subject to approval of the Borough Attorney as to form and substance, and to cause notice of the decision to be published according to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(I).

**R13029 Authorize the Borough Clerk to advertise for handicap accessible ramps**

WHEREAS, various county roads in the Borough of Hillsdale are planned to be paved in year 2013; and

WHEREAS, the construction of handicapped accessible ramps along certain county roads that require handicap accessible ramps (ADA ramps); and

WHEREAS, the cost of such ramps will be reimbursed by the County.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the governing body authorize the Borough Clerk to advertise for the construction of ADA ramps.

**R13030 Authorize the borough Clerk to advertise for bids Gabion Baskets, Wierimus Lane**

WHEREAS, various county roads in the Borough of Hillsdale are planned to be paved in year 2013; and

WHEREAS, the construction of handicapped accessible ramps along certain county roads that require handicap accessible ramps (ADA ramps); and

WHEREAS, the cost of such ramps will be reimbursed by the County.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the governing body authorize the Borough Clerk to advertise for the construction of ADA ramps.

Administrator DeJoseph asked if Resolution R13029 included Central Avenue.

Engineer Statile said no.

Motion to approve the foregoing Resolutions was made by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Looes.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Kelley, Looes, Frank, Meyerson and DeGise

Nays: None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Board of Health Report for the month of December 2012.

Councilmember Looes said the Board of Health did not have a January meeting. The next meeting will be held February 5. She emailed Sara Jeune the packet of information with statistics and will bring the Council up to date in February.

ACTIVITIES FOR THE MONTH OF DEC. 2012

<u>VITAL STATISTICS</u>	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>	
Births for the month of November*	Males	3	30
Deaths for the month of December	Males	1	25
	Females	5	27
Marriages/Civil Unions:*	4		
Transcripts:	2		

\*Actual totals are recorded one month later because of delay in reports.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Jeune  
Deputy Registrar

Motion to Record was made by Councilmember Kelley, seconded by Councilmember DeGise.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Meyerson, DeGise, Frank, Kelley and Looes

Nays: None

Fire Department Report for the month of December 2012.

Councilmember Looes reported the number calls.

Hillsdale Fire Department Chief's Report  
Chief Mark Durst  
12/31/12

Date	Incident #	Call	Times	Total Time	Personnel	Location	Description / Nature	total
12/03/12	12-289	19:49	20:30	41	35	105 Baylor Ave	Alarm Activated - cooking	1435
12/07/12	12-290	4:44	5:18	34	16	351 Magnolia Ave	nat gas odor - furnace	544
12/08/12	12-291	0:57	3:50	173	12	Kinderkamack and Lincoln	Wire Fire	2076
	12-292	22:41	23:30	49	11	Wierimus La & Stony Ridge	Transformer Fire	539
12/09/12	12-293	0:14	1:00	46	14	60 Pascack Rd.	Activated Alarm	644
12/10/12	12-294	18:19	18:55	36	22	42 Park View Dr.	Co alarm	792
12/11/12	12-295	7:32	8:20	48	7	550 Fairview Ave WW	ladder truck	336
12/12/12	12-296	14:30	15:11	41	17	34 Lake Dr -area	Odor of smoke	697
12/15/12	12-297	10:49	11:05	16	23	323 St. Mary St.	Activated Alarm-error	368
12/18/12	12-298	14:58	16:50	112	24	123 Woodland WW	ladder truck roof fire	2688
12/21/12	12-299	6:50	7:21	31	10	200 Piermont Ave.	Activated alarm	310
	12-300	8:17	8:49	32	16	100 Hillsdale Ave	activated alarm water leak	512
	12-301	12:08	12:15	7	17	44 Central Ave	Gas leak in house	119
12/22/12	12-302	11:30	11:40	10	19	114 Broadway (Ken's deli)	garbage cam fore	190
12/23/12	12-303	15:08	15:30	22	20	43 Saddlewood Dr.	Activated alarm - cooking	440
	12-304	19:07	19:30	23	17	188 Saddlewood Dr.	activated alarm - iron	391
12/25/12	12-305	1:24	2:00	36	17	7 Ridge Ct.	activated alarm - fire place	612
	12-306	9:33	9:48	15	27	105 Baylor Ave	Alarm Activated - cooking	405
12/28/12	12-307	2:36	3:40	64	18	89 Knickerbocker	smoke in basement	1152
12/31/12	12-308	9:59	10:30	31	14	365 Broadway	Sprinkler alarm active	434
	12-309	18:18	20:14	116	27	Hillsdale & Yesler	mvc	3132
	12-310	18:32	20:14		27	Hillsdale & Magnolia	helo landing zone for mvc	0
							<b>17816</b>	<b>min</b>
							<b>297</b>	<b>Hrs</b>
								0
12/03/12	12-288	19:35	21:30	115	37	PVH Drill		4255
12/18/12		19:30	20:30	60	10	Chief's drill		600
							<b>4855</b>	<b>min</b>
							<b>81</b>	<b>hrs</b>
				1158			<b>Total Minutes</b>	<b>22671</b>
					457		<b>Man Hours</b>	<b>377.85</b>

Motion to Record was made by Councilmember Meyerson, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Meyerson, DeGise, Frank, Kelley and Looes

Nays: None

(SEE COPY OF ORIGINAL REPORT AFFIXED HERETO)

COUNCIL COMMENTARIES

Borough Engineer Statile said this will be a busy year in Hillsdale. Patterson Street Bridge has been approved by DOT at a cost of 1.7 million and the project will be out for bid within the next month or two for summer construction. Construction should begin in June or July and will be a highly disruptive project. You can't get to King's from Patterson Street, there

will be signs posted as there will be new traffic patterns for six to nine months. The Patterson Street Bridge will remain in place during construction, it will not be open to motor vehicles during construction, only pedestrians.

Administrator DeJoseph asked about outbound traffic once the bridge is removed.

Victor Tourian, 61 Trinity Place -

Engineer Statile said the old bridge remains until the new bridge is open to traffic. There will be a stage when we use the west lot for traffic.

Mayor Arnowitz said you will let the residents there go in and out of the one-way street at the end. There should be a sign local traffic only.

Engineer Statile said after construction they will be on the site every day; one year is usual for bridge projects, gas and water locations need to be coordinated. It is a very tight area.

Mayor Arnowitz said OEM should work with the Engineer to mark the bridge so we could use it for a reference point for flooding levels. He asked Councilmember DeGise to speak to William Franklin to mark levels.

Engineer Statile said the project includes resurfacing all of Washington Avenue, restriping, sidewalk from the bridge to the train station. Central Avenue and Cross Street design is complete and will be going out to bid. DOT provided special grant.

Stonybrook Swim Club is planning for an addition and specifications are almost close to completion, we are awaiting the architect to make some changes in the plan. Complete specs for opening and closing of the pool and concession stand.

Some of the grant applications to be made available this year will be announced in June by DOT. Safe Routes for Transit application will be made to DOT. We will have an application for a bikeway. We also applied for \$15,000 grant for Train Station Historical Trust of N.J. for architect evaluation of the building. State is looking at closely and NJ Transit needs to sign off. We also applied for a grant to revamp our restrooms in the borough hall and will be applied for in the early spring.

Administrator DeJoseph is in the process of closing out three open space grants; Veterans Park, Memorial Field, St. Nicholas (Sapienza Gardens). We sent everything to Mr. DeMarco. We are awaiting funding for replacement of benches and bike racks. We have roughly \$20,000 to spend with \$10,000 match from the borough and needed council direction.

Mayor Arnowitz said we did have a number of people who were interested in buying a bench. He felt we should buy the benches because our benches are in bad shape and if we want to sell one and put their name on it and a flag, we could take care of it in that way. The benches would be in Veterans Park.

Engineer Statile said bike racks as well.

Mayor Arnowitz asked the Council's pleasure as to how we proceed.

Engineer Statile said the benches cost about \$1500 each, five benches and possibly put in a sixth by the Railroad Station.

Councilmember Frank said the town cost would be half of that.

Councilmember Meyerson asked if there has been any previous discussion about plaques, and prior discussion with the Council.

Mayor Arnowitz said there were prior discussion and we said that was what we are going to do but it never materialized. We had three specific people who expressed interest. We were going to charge whatever the cost of the bench which was about \$1500.

Councilmember Meyerson asked if it was the cost of the bench or just the matching part. You are talking about charging \$750.

Mayor Arnowitz said we just said \$1500. We should only have to charge for the match.

Councilmember Frank said Westwood has a program and it is on their website looking for people to donate for benches.

Councilmember Meyerson asked if it was the pleasure of the Council prior to this to simply replace these benches period and this is just a way of trying to raise some money or is the replacement of the benches contingent upon having donations. Let's just replace the benches and do the fund raising simultaneously.

Engineer Statile said you could look at the catalogs and choose the style and make recommendations.

Mayor Arnowitz asked everyone to look at the catalog, make a recommendation, Superintendent Durie will look at them and determine if they can be installed. Superintendent Durie wanted them to match what we have outside of the building.

Mayor Arnowitz said they weren't wide enough because of the wood.

Councilmember Kelley suggested that we authorize Keith Durie and the Administrator take care of this.

Motion by Councilmember Kelley that Keith and Jonathan DeJoseph take care of it, seconded by Councilmember DeGise.

Mayor Arnowitz likes the composite material because it doesn't require any work on behalf of the town down the road. You can place a plaque on them or have them engraved which is attractive.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Meyerson, Frank, DeGise, Kelley and Looes

Nays: None

Councilmember Meyerson asked if we should discuss a motion potentially to begin the plaque process, do we need to discuss the amount and set that with a motion.

Mayor Arnowitz said it will be first come first serve and the

fee should be half the amount plus the cost of the plaque. We will cover the cost of installation. He told the administrator to handle this with Keith Durie.

He asked the Engineer about the culvert at Wilkes Deli. When Hillsdale Avenue floods that is the first area that floods before the bridge floods. If we can take care of that culvert we can slow down some of the flooding.

Engineer Statile said that is on the list and will be covered.

Councilmember Frank said the senior lunch will be held tomorrow at St. Johns at 11:30AM.

Councilmember Meyerson congratulated Alyssa Zoll and said it is great to see young people volunteering.

On the agenda next time he wants to discuss having one of the meetings down at the table.

Mayor Arnowitz said we need to know by Thursday before the meeting and if you want something on the agenda let the Municipal Clerk know.

Councilmember Looes said as liaison she is looking forward to the senior luncheon tomorrow.

Administrator DeJoseph said we received an email in reference to Arbor Day trees from NJ not for profit organization.

Mayor Arnowitz said he would like to plant maple trees in town so in 20 years kids have the experience of tapping them. Administrator DeJoseph said they are not offering maple trees.

Municipal Clerk Witkowski said our borough wide community calendar is at the printer right now, is being set up and be mailed to all residents by the end of the month. They are very informative and a lot of time was spent researching.

Mayor Arnowitz said when you heard the siren go off tonight and two people on this podium tense up and one individual in the audience left. All emergency services perform their duties very well.

#### CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Arnowitz read the closed session resolution.

#### **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**

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 of 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.
- (7) Matters relating to litigation, negotiations and the attorney-client privilege.
- (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.

On a motion at 9:27 p.m. to go to Closed Session was made by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Looes.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Frank, Kelley, Looes, Meyerson and DeGise

Nays: None

#### OPEN SESSION

On a motion at 10:33 p.m. to reconvene Open Session was made by Councilmember Kelley, seconded by Councilmember Meyerson, and unanimously carried.

#### ADJOURNMENT

On a motion at 10:34 p.m. to adjourn was made by Councilmember Kelley, seconded by Councilmember Meyerson, and unanimously carried.

1-15-12

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Susan Witkowski  
Municipal Clerk

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

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Susan Witkowski  
Municipal Clerk

