

Minutes of the Re-Organization Meeting of the Borough of Hillsdale held at 10:30 AM on Sunday, January 5, 2020, in the Council Chamber, Borough of Hillsdale, New Jersey.

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

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT:**

This meeting is for the purpose of conducting the Annual Re-Organization Meeting of the Hillsdale Borough Council on this 5th day of January, 2020. Public Notice of this meeting was given to The Ridgewood News, The Record, Pascack Press and Community Life newspapers; a copy was posted on the bulletin board outside of this meeting room, a copy was filed in the office of the Borough Clerk and a copy was posted on the Borough web site.

Please notify the Municipal Clerk for any disability requirements necessary for attendance at Mayor and Council meetings. The Fire Exits are located through the doors to your left. Proceed through the lobby and exit the building either right or left. Please silence all cell phones.

**RECOGNITION OF DIGNITARIES:**

Mayor John Ruocco

Mayor Ruocco said looking at the audience I see Senator Cardinale, Assemblyman Robert Auth, Police Chief Francaviglia, Captain Sean Smith, Lieutenant McLaughlin, former Councilman Steven Segalas. We have Father Norton from St. John the Baptist Church.

**INVOCATION:**

Father Tom Norton said I have done this many times over the 56 years of my ordination as a Priest, mostly in Washington Township and a few times here in the Borough of Hillsdale and I thank you for the honor to call upon the Lord of us all to bless the Mayor and Council in this administration. Let us pray. Dear Lord we come to you in prayer today at the beginning of a New Year, new decade, and a new chapter in the Borough of Hillsdale and its administration. We ask that you send your blessing upon our Mayor, John and all who work closely with him on the Council, Abby, Zoltan, Janetta, Frank, Anthony and John. We ask you, Lord, to bless all with your grace, strengthen us in mind, body and spirit in all that we do in our chosen vocations. We ask in a special way to protect this community, to protect all in law enforcements, guide them in their actions, to protect all members of the fire service and emergency medical service, that they will reach out to the people of this community with loving care and grace. Now may the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob sustain us and bless us all. May the grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God and the guidance of the Holy Spirit come upon all of us especially this Mayor and Council and all who work closely with them in administering the good for the people of the Borough of Hillsdale. We ask this and all our prayers and blessings that they be granted in your holy name. Amen.

**ADMINISTERING OATH OF OFFICE:**

John Ruocco – Mayor	Term Ending 12/31/23	Assemblyman Robert Auth
Frank Pizzella – Councilmember	Term ending 12/31/22	Mark Madaio, Esq.
Janetta Trochimiuk – Councilmember	Term ending 12/31/22	Daniella V. Pascaru, Esq.

Assemblyman Robert Auth administered the Oath of Office to John Ruocco, Mayor.

Mayor Ruocco thanked his family, his wife, members of the public and committees for supporting me and everyone else here. Without family support you cannot do this job because it does require time.

Mark Madaio, Esq. administered the Oath of Office to Frank Pizzella, Councilmember.

Daniella V. Pascaru, Esq. administered the Oath of Office to Janetta Trochimiuk, Councilmember.

Mayor Ruocco said before we have the Roll Call of the Municipal Council, the Senator and Assemblyman would like to address the Council.

Senator Cardinale said we are privileged to live and raise our families in a very special corner of the world and this has been so for a very, very long period of time; this is a very, very special place and it doesn't get there by accident. It gets there because there are people, those sitting behind me, who give their time from their families, give time from their work and do the job that is needed to be done and their agenda is the agenda of the people of Hillsdale. I am here today to say Congratulations to them, wish them well in their endeavors in the coming year. God bless the fact that they are willing to do this kind of job for us.

Assemblyman Robert Auth thanked the Mayor and Council because quite frankly they are emissaries of the citizens of Hillsdale and quite often we will get phone calls from Mayor and Council about certain issues going on in town and if we haven't received these types of calls we wouldn't know there is an issue taking place that needed our attention. So, we look forward to continuing this relationship with the Mayor and Council, we thank them for their time and service for each and every one of you, the time it takes to perform this task. People don't realize how much time is really spent on it and if you ask any Councilmember's spouse or significant other or family members how much time they see them in the months of January and February it is virtually non-existent because of the budget and anything else. They work very, very hard on a limited amount of money and do anything to keep the taxes to a bare minimum. It is a very difficult task and I want to thank them on behalf of Senator Cardinale, Assemblywoman Schepisi and myself because Councils like Hillsdale make it easy for us to be legislators, they do all the heavy work. Thank you and a Happy and Healthy 2020.

**ROLL CALL OF 2020 HILLSDALE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL:**

Mayor John Ruocco  
Councilmember Anthony DeRosa  
Councilmember John Escobar  
Councilmember Zoltan Horvath  
Councilmember Abby Lundy  
Councilmember Frank Pizzella  
Councilmember Janetta Trochimiuk

Borough Clerk Kohan called the Roll of 2020 Hillsdale Municipal Council. All members of the 2020 Council were present.

**STATE OF THE BOROUGH ADDRESS:**

Mayor John Ruocco

Mayor Ruocco thanked all employees, volunteers, Council and their efforts in 2019 to make sure that the residents in Hillsdale were well served and that we remain an attractive and safe town. The Borough forged ahead in a number of areas during the year; for at least the fourth year in a row we were able to keep increases of the municipal portion of the property tax in the range of 1.8% to 2.8%. This is the single most focused item that residents regularly bring to my attention. We continue to pay down our existing long-term debt now at 1.1 million, refinance existing short debt to 2.2 million at a lower rate saving the taxpayers approximately \$10,000. We are one of the least indebted towns in the area giving flexibility should we wish to borrow in the future. The results of our financial audit which is extremely positive and strong without hardly any negative findings; we conducted an effective snow and leaf removal program reflecting sound planning, execution and wise capital purchases by our DPW and the various Borough Administrators. Our road improvement program covered 2.6 miles of road, about 6% of all the roads in town at a cost of approximately \$772,000 and more than half of that was in grants with no pain to the taxpayer, no municipal funds; the success of getting the NJ Department of Transportation to reconstruct the RR crossings in our downtown area. We received several grants totaling 1.7 million for future infrastructure and street improvements and a federal grant for a new senior van to be shared with Woodcliff Lake; working with the local American Legion Post and the County we reconstructed the war memorial in Veterans Park, to be a fitting tribute to those who died defending our nation, again at no cost to the taxpayers. Our Police Department completely renovated the front desk area of the station to improve security and serviceability; they have also begun the process of obtaining full accreditation which will provide future financial and protective risks to the Borough. We made significant progress to establish the framework to develop our Patterson Street industrial area and, in the process, reached an agreement with Waste Management that has resulted in temporary cessation of their transfer station operations. We moved expeditiously to implement our court approved affordable housing plan and established a work and compliance program. We obtained grant funding we needed to improve our athletic facilities at Memorial Field, applied for a \$125,000 matching grant at Centennial Field and again planning for possible additional and extensive refurbishing of Centennial Field. We have filed a request with the NJ Department of Environmental Protection for relief from expensive methane testing at Centennial Field because of historically low readings which will save the Borough approximately \$35,000 this year and \$75,000 in the future year. We finally began the planning process to identify possible sites for construction of a new community senior center and began exploring options to improve our athletic fields. The Council adopted legislation restricting noise and use of tobacco products and

vaping on municipal and school grounds; we adopted a forestry management plan to help us financially and strategically in dealing with tree related issues. And finally, on the human resources side, the Borough successfully concluded negotiations with several employee unions and was able to hire a new Borough Administrator and find a new Chief Financial Officer. Let's stop looking at the rearview mirror and look ahead. In 2020 the Council is going to confront several challenges; the first will be deciding what it wants to do at Centennial Field, how much it will cost and what the town and residents will be paying for these improvements. There is no doubt that athletic fields would benefit from an overhaul; the question is how much of an overhaul, at what cost, how to pay for it and whether the residents in the town are willing to pay for it. The benefits for redoing the fields accrues heavily to families of school age children but also to all of us as it firms up our property values. The Council will need to sell the idea to the broader community. The second challenge are issues very similar to the first but with respect to the construction of a senior community center. We are one of the few towns in this area that lacks such a facility but as in the case of the fields, the Council is going to have to make some hard-financial decisions and assess residents' willingness to pay for it. The third challenge will be arriving at a re-development plan for the Patterson Street industrial area that makes sense for the Borough and done in a manner that is transparent to the residents and allows for their input. Redevelopment efforts are generally flash points for views, people get passionate especially if you own property in and near the area to be developed. Most people tend to resist change in communities where they have lived for years, especially if the area is deteriorating. That is definitely not the case in Hillsdale but I hear frequently from residents that they like the small-town character of the town, they don't want that to disappear. I tell people that Hillsdale 10 years from now will look somewhat different than 10 years ago but hopefully not dramatically different. No doubt changes are coming, it is going on all around us in Park Ridge, Montvale, Woodcliff Lake, River Vale, and Emerson. Some of it may be good, some of it may not. Some of it is mandated by court affordable housing requirements and not market related; in my view that is not a good thing. In Hillsdale there are also other factors that apply; we are a desirable community, well served by public transportation and a good school system. We are the type of community that young adults want to move into that aren't quite prepared to buy a single-family home. We are a municipality heavily dependent on residential property taxes but very few commercial properties. If this Council can smartly develop the industrial area it will increase Hillsdale's attractiveness, add to our tax ratables, and help satisfy our affordable housing requirements. To get there the Council and Planning Board must be well advised by professionals and must be open to change and be able to convince our residents that it makes sense. These are the biggest challenges I believe we will face in 2020 but there are some other items of concern. We must insure that Stonybrook is profitable and well-managed; pool courts around the state have a reputation for being black holes; we have been fortunate thus far in Hillsdale as the pool has managed to stay and pay for itself. Its level of profitability has declined over the decades; the Pool Commission and the Council will need to be vigilant in this area. Opportunities for shared services as they arise must not be lost due to the absence of political will. Last year we had within our grasp to save a million dollars over five years by shifting the dispatch desk to the County but we did not act, overthinking the negatives and the political impact. There is still an incredible amount of savings that can be obtained considering this idea. Other towns have found the political will for their taxpayers, why shouldn't Hillsdale be among them? We need to pursue getting grant money that was taken away from us last year by the DEP so we can join Park Ridge and Woodcliff Lake in completing the Suez Nature Walking Trail adjacent to the reservoir. This will be a wonderful advancement for our residents; our Borough Engineer Chris Statile is closely monitoring the state for available grants when they come due. Meanwhile Ed Alter of our Environmental Commission continues to track developments on this as well as Frank Pizzella. The Borough Administrator, DPW and the Council in general will need to make sure our forestry management program is executed as planned. We adopted this plan last year; the 2020 budget must approve funds needed to carry that forward. While all these matters are getting attention, the Council must keep property taxes under control. This will benefit not only those on a fixed income but also perspective home buyers who would like to move into our town, it won't be easy, trying to control property tax increases while improving the quality of our lives with improvement to our athletic fields and our new community senior center. It will require all the mustering of our financial skills of our finance committee.

Let me conclude by saying how honored I am to be your Mayor. When I retired after 39 years at public service at the Federal Reserve, I decided that being on Council was the way I could serve my community. I underestimated frankly how challenging that would be as I tend to look at things rather uniquely through the long-term lens of a central banker, public policy servant and a bank examiner. I want Hillsdale to move forward in a financially sound manner with both short- and long-term effects. As I begin my second term, I promised the residents that I will continue to speak out on their behalf to the best of my ability drawing on my experience and knowledge as I seek to influence decisions that will be made by the governing body. Thank you.

**NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT:**

I now ask for a nomination put forward to be elected as Council president for the year 2020.

Nomination has been made for: Council Member DeRosa by Council Member Lundy.

Mayor Ruocco said no need for a second at this point.

Nomination for Council Member Horvath by Council Member Trochimiuk.

Mayor Ruocco asked if there are any other nominations for Council President. He asked a second and third time. As per Roberts Rules of Order I close the nominations. We will vote on the first nomination and a majority is needed from Council Members. Councilman DeRosa nomination has been made for him. All in favor of nominating Councilman DeRosa please raise your hand. We have three votes. That nomination fails to carry.

We have a second nomination for Councilman Horvath. He asked for a raise of hands. We have two votes, did someone abstain? Yes, Anthony DeRosa. No one has obtained the necessary four votes and that leaves the Mayor to appoint a Council President.

Borough Attorney Madaio said according to our by-laws if the Council fails to elect the President of the Council the Mayor shall appoint the President of the Council with no confirmation by the Council is necessary.

Mayor Ruocco said it falls to me to appoint a Council President and I appoint Councilman Horvath as Council President. I will administer the Oath of Office to the Council President.

Mayor John Ruocco administers the Oath of Office to the Council President.

**BOROUGH ATTORNEY:** *(Mayor appointment with advice and consent)*

Mayor Ruocco presents the name of Mark D. Madaio, Esq., 29 Legion Drive, Bergenfield, NJ 07621 as Borough Attorney for a one (1) year term expiring December 31, 2020.

[R20000](#) Authorizing the Award of a Fair and Open Contract for Borough Attorney

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hillsdale has a need to retain a Borough Attorney as a Fair and Open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.7; and,

**WHEREAS**, funds will be available by way of budget and bond ordinances to compensate said Attorney; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. commonly known as the “New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law” that took effect on January 1, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has fully complied with the “fair and open” process set forth under N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.1 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council has determined that Mark D. Madaio, Esq. 29 Legion Drive, Bergenfield, NJ 07621 will be the most advantageous to the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, Mark D. Madaio has completed and submitted a “Contribution Statement by Professional Business Entity” as required by Hillsdale Borough Ordinance No. 04-14, entitled, “An Ordinance Establishing a Borough Policy for the Awarding of Public Professional Service Contracts”; and Ordinance No. 11-19 “Amending Chapter 12, Contracts, Public Professional Service and Chapter 305, Contribution Disclosure Statements”

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized to execute such contract with Mark D. Madaio as per the proposal dated October 22, 2019.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Hillsdale Borough Council hereby award a contract to Mark D. Madaio as Borough Attorney through December 31, 2020 or until a successor is qualified or appointed.

Motion: Council Member DeRosa, Second: Council Member Lundy.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Escobar, Horvath, Lundy, Pizzella, Trochimiuk, DeRosa

Nays: None

**BY-LAWS OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL:**

Mayor Ruocco proposes that at this time there are no changes being proposed to the By-Laws for the Hillsdale Borough Council for the year 2020 from 2019.

Motion: Council Member Lundy, Second: Council Member DeRosa.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Horvath, Lundy, Pizzella, Trochimiuk, DeRosa, Escobar

Nays: None

### **COUNCIL COMMITTEES:**

Mayor Ruocco announces the proposed **COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEES** for the year 2020.  
*(With advice and consent of Council)*

Mayor Ruocco made a change to the Finance Committee. He wished to have Abby Lundy as the Chair replacing Janetta Trochimiuk (who would remain on the Committee), and replace Zoltan Horvath with John Escobar. I think it is important that the Mayor for the past several years has sat on that committee, and emphasize that the Mayor has the right to sit on it when one of the members cannot be there. I remember at the last Council meeting Councilman DeRosa graciously allowed me to fill his spot in my officio capacity so I could participate on a regular basis. I ask Mr. Escobar if he is willing to make the same agreement.

Councilman Escobar said yes, I think the committee would be best served if you take my spot.

Mayor Ruocco said with the understanding that if I cannot make it you will be there.

Councilman Escobar said yes.

Mayor Ruocco said I wish to make no other changes to the standing committees reflected in the agenda. It is the Council's right to suggest changes to this. If there are any changes please entertain them now for discussion. May I have a motion to adopt this particular proposed committee structure and have a second.

Motion by Councilman Pizzella, Second by Councilman Escobar.

Councilman Pizzella said for the Economic Development I feel strongly that the Mayor should be there, he should be on the committee.

Mayor Ruocco said I have two thoughts on that: I sit on the Planning Board as does Zoltan Horvath and I am concerned and looking at the Borough Attorney and someone would have to agree to allow me in my ex-officio capacity to sit in on that committee.

Attorney Madaio said we are not opining on the conflict question; it is an issue that might affect future appointments to any of these committees etc. The real present issue is the Mayor is welcome to attend any committee as an ex-officio member, the issue that arises is that it becomes an open public meetings act. That has to be open to all Council members, open to the public and it has to be properly advertised as a regular open meeting and in many regards that defeats the purpose of a committee session. Those are the options. If someone does not intend to come to the meeting the presence of the Mayor would not create a quorum and without invoking the entire public meetings act.

Mayor Ruocco asked if there is an issue of his appearing on that (Economic Development) committee assuming that one of the members would say he/she can't attend; you attend in my stead. Things might come up on the Planning Board.

Attorney Madaio said we have taken the position that generally speaking members of the Economic Development Committee because of redevelopment issues going back through the Planning Board should not be members of the Planning Board. That has been our assumption that you would not be on both Economic Development and the Planning Board.

Councilmember Horvath asked if we could do an official resolution on that.

Attorney Madaio said he would be very happy to do so. Out of an abundance of caution I would not do it bearing in mind it is a lengthy expensive process so the practicalities to avoid potential conflict.

Councilmember Horvath asked if this could be discussed at length at another time.

Attorney Madaio said yes.

Mayor Ruocco asked Councilman Pizzella if it would be acceptable if we left the nomination as is, then allow our attorney to dig more deeply into what the risk might be if I would replace anyone on the committee.

Attorney Madaio said I don't think you can formally replace anyone, there is no capacity for you to be a member, your membership is strictly ex-officio.

Councilmember Pizzella said we were going to have a sub-committee; it is not the committee but a sub-committee. The Mayor may participate in that sub-committee.

Borough Attorney Madaio said assuming there is no quorum of any of those entities; a Planning Board quorum, Mayor & Council quorum. If it doesn't invoke a quorum and there was some sort of general membership, certainly the Mayor may be part.

Mayor Ruocco said with Councilmember Horvath being Council's Liaison to the Planning Board at the moment assuming he keeps that role in the 2020 Council is there a problem for him? He requested initially to be on the Economic Development Committee. I did not put Mr. Horvath on that committee because he is on Planning because that is my concern, I also am not on the Economic Development Committee for the same reason.

Attorney Madaio said I would not mix the committees with the Planning Board. There is no option under the Planning Board statute to have you. There is no ability to change that. The only way you can eliminate a conflict is not to have that Councilmember as a member of the Planning Board.

Mayor Ruocco said what I am hearing is it is best to leave what is on this chart as is.

Attorney Madaio said I think you are better off approving as is. There should be an adequate number of times where some of the committee members are unavailable and perhaps the Mayor is able to sit on one in three or two in three meetings. I would not risk creating a conflict.

Mayor Ruocco said he wanted to advise the Councilmembers if for any reason when the committees get together, they decide to change the chair role simply notify the Council. For years the Mayor has appointed the Chair; last year I decided to nominate the members but not the chair persons and if the committees want to change, let us know. So, with the two changes I made, Abby Lundy of the Finance Committee and replacing Councilmember Horvath with Councilmember Escobar also on the Finance Committee with the understanding John will allow me to sit in regularly as the Mayor, we should proceed to take a vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Lundy, Pizzella, DeRosa, Escobar, Horvath

Nays: Councilmember Trochimiuk

	<b>Chair</b>		
Ambulance	Anthony DeRosa	Zoltan Horvath	Abby Lundy
Economic Growth & Development	Frank Pizzella	John Escobar	Janetta Trochimiuk
Finance	Janetta Trochimiuk	Zoltan Horvath	Abby Lundy
Fire Department	John Escobar	Anthony DeRosa	Frank Pizzella
Police Department/OEM	Abby Lundy	John Escobar	Janetta Trochimiuk
Public Works	Zoltan Horvath	Anthony DeRosa	Frank Pizzella

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Mayor Ruocco announces the proposed **COUNCIL LIAISONS** for the year 2020.  
(with advice and consent of Council)

Access to All	Frank Pizzella
Board of Education: <i>Regional</i>	Anthony DeRosa
<i>Local</i>	Anthony DeRosa
Board of Health	John Escobar
Environmental Commission	Frank Pizzella

Library	Abby Lundy
Local Assistance Board	John Escobar
Planning Board, Building & Zoning	Zoltan Horvath
Parks & Recreation Commission	Anthony DeRosa
Senior Citizens	Zoltan Horvath
Swimming Pool Commission	Abby Lundy

Motion: Councilmember Pizzella, Second: Councilmember Escobar.

Councilmember Lundy asked if Councilmember Trochimiuk could be on any of these?

Mayor Ruocco said I am not opposed to that. Shall we have a discussion on that.

Councilmember Trochimiuk said she is fine the way it is now.

Mayor Ruocco said she is on the Economic Growth/Development Committee, Police Committee and Finance Committee. He is open to any changes.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Pizzella, Trochimiuk, DeRosa, Escobar, Horvath, Lundy

Nays: None

Mayor Ruocco announces the proposed **SPECIAL COMMITTEES** for the year 2020.

Public Relations & Communication	Horvath, DeRosa, Mayor, Borough Administrator, Borough Clerk
Flood and Disaster Committee	Mayor, Police Chief, Fire Chief, Ambulance Captain, OEM Director, Board of Health President, Environmental Chair
Insurance Fund Commissioner/Liaison (JIF/MEL)	Borough Administrator Borough Clerk (Alternate)
Negotiation Committee	Mayor, Horvath, Trochimiuk & Borough Administrator
Our Town/Historic/Recognition	Horvath (Historic), DeRosa (Recognition)
Historic Committee	Horvath

Motion to record by Councilmember Pizzella, Second: by Councilmember DeRosa, and unanimously carried.

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**FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS:**

Mayor Ruocco presents the names of the following 2020 Officers of the Hillsdale Fire Department:

<b>2020 BOARD OF FIRE OFFICERS</b>	
Chief	Thomas Kelley
Deputy Chief	William Haffler
Senior Captain	Jason Durie
Junior Captain	Dan Schuster
1 <sup>st</sup> Lieutenant	William Farrell
2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant	Robert Davies
3 <sup>rd</sup> Lieutenant	Christopher Kelley
4 <sup>th</sup> Lieutenant	Joseph Sold III

<b>2020 ASSOCIATION OFFICERS</b>	
President	Peter Hard
Vice President	Paul Muller
Secretary	Keith I. Durie
Treasurer	Patrick Doody
Asst. Secretary/Treasurer	William Becker

Motion to approve, receive and file Councilmember Pizzella, Second: by Councilmember Lundy, and unanimously carried.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

Mayor Ruocco presents for Council confirmation, the following appointments to the Police Department Special Officers, Auxiliary Officers and Police Matrons for the year 2020 as recommended by Police Chief Francaviglia:

**2020  
POLICE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS**

**HILLSDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
ROSTER 2020**

- CHIEF ROBERT FRANCAVIGLIA
- CAPT. SEAN SMITH
- LT. DANIEL MCLAUGHLIN
- SGT. CHRISTOPHER DONALDSON
- DET/SGT. ADAM HAMPTON
- SGT. THOMAS SMITH
- SGT. LIZ ZIMMERMAN
- SGT. MICHAEL CAMPOREALE
- #68 PTL. DAVID SAYERS
- #73 PTL. ALEX KAPLAN
- #76 PTL. MATTHEW BUESSER
- #77 DET. TRAVIS WOODS
- #78 PTL. GERMAN DECENA
- #79 PTL. BRIAN CONSIDINE
- #80 PTL. COREY ROONEY
- #82 PTL. MATTHEW SOLTES
- #84 PTL. JOSEPH MESSNER
- #85 PTL. AMANDA TURRIN
- #86 PTL. RYAN COTTRELL
- #104 DISP./MATRON KIMBERLY HAFFLER
- #129 DISP. RICHARD GODDIN
- #148 DISP. JAKE PRUSHA
- P/D DISP. MATT CIUPPA
- P/D DISP. KELLY CONWAY
- P/D DISP. JASON DURIE
- P/D DISP. KELLIE GOODELL
- P/D DISP. AMNA HAJAB
- P/D DISP. PIETRO MAIO
- P/D DISP. HENRY COLLETTE
- P/D DISP. JONATHAN HUBER
- P/D DISP. MICHAEL McGEE
- P/D DISP. STEVEN COOKE
- P/D DISP. TYLER SOLTES
- P/D DISP VICKY PATEL
- CLERK LOURDES SPAGNOLI

Motion to approve, receive and file: by Councilmember Lundy, Second: by Councilmember Pizzella, and unanimously carried.

Councilmember Escobar, Horvath, Lundy, Pizzella, Trochimiuk, DeRosa

**APPOINTMENT OF 2020 BOROUGH PROFESSIONALS:**

Mayor Ruocco presents the names of the following indicated Borough Professional positions with specific terms and with the Advice and Consent of the Council

**BOROUGH AUDITOR:**

Mayor Ruocco presents the firm of Garbarini & Co. P.C. 285 Division Avenue and Route 17 South, Carlstadt, NJ 07072 as Borough Auditor for the term expiring December 31, 2020.

[R20001](#) Authorizing the Award of a Fair and Open Contract for Borough Auditor

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hillsdale has a need to retain a Borough Auditor as a Fair and Open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.7; and,

**WHEREAS**, funds will be available by way of budget and bond ordinances to compensate said Auditor; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. commonly known as the “New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law” that took effect on January 1, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has fully complied with the “fair and open” process set forth under N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.1 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council has determined that the firm of Garbarini & Co. P.C. 285 Division Avenue and Route 17 South, Carlstadt, NJ 07072 will be the most advantageous to the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, the firm of Garbarini & Co. P.C. has completed and submitted a “Contribution Statement by Professional Business Entity” as required by Hillsdale Borough Ordinance No. 04-14, entitled, “An Ordinance Establishing a Borough Policy for the Awarding of Public Professional Service Contracts”; and Ordinance No. 11-19 “Amending Chapter 12, Contracts, Public Professional Service and Chapter 305, Contribution Disclosure Statements”

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized to execute such contract with Garbarini & Co. P.C. for audit services for the Borough and Swimming Pool Utility; plus fees for additional engagements if needed as set forth in the engagement letter dated October 22, 2019; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Hillsdale Borough Council hereby award a contract to the firm of Garbarini & Co. P.C. through December 31, 2020 or until a successor is qualified or appointed.

Motion: by Councilmember Lundy, Second: by Councilmember Escobar.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Horvath, Lundy, Pizzella, Trochimiuk, DeRosa, Escobar

Nays: None

**BOROUGH APPRAISER:**

Mayor Ruocco presents the firm of McNerney & Associate, Inc., 266 Harristown Road, P.O. Box 67, Glen Rock, NJ 07452-0067 as Borough Appraiser for the term expiring December 31, 2020.

[R20002](#) Authorizing the Award of a Fair and Open Contract for Borough Appraiser

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hillsdale has a need to retain a Borough Appraiser as a Fair and Open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.7; and,

**WHEREAS**, funds will be available by way of budget and bond ordinances to compensate said Appraiser; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. commonly known as the “New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law” that took effect on January 1, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has fully complied with the “fair and open” process set forth under N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.1 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council has determined that the firm of McNerney & Associate, Inc., 266 Harristown Road, P.O. Box 67, Glen Rock, NJ 07452-0067 will be the most advantageous to the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, the firm of McNerney & Associates, Inc. has completed and submitted a “Contribution Statement by Professional Business Entity” as required by Hillsdale Borough Ordinance No. 04-14, entitled, “An Ordinance Establishing a Borough Policy for the Awarding of Public Professional Service Contracts”; and Ordinance No. 11-19 “Amending Chapter 12, Contracts, Public Professional Service and Chapter 305, Contribution Disclosure Statements”

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized to execute such contract with McNerney & Associates, Inc., rates per their proposal of October 22, 2019; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Hillsdale Borough Council hereby award a contract to the firm of McNerney & Associates, Inc. through December 31, 2020 or until a successor is qualified or appointed.

Motion: by Councilmember Lundy, Second: by Councilmember DeRosa.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes; Councilmember Lundy, Pizzella, Trochimiuk, DeRosa, Escobar, Horvath

Nays: None

**RISK MANAGEMENT:**

Mayor Ruocco presents the name of Burton Agency Inc. 44 Bergen Street, P.O. Box 270, Westwood, NJ 07675 for Risk Management for the term expiring December 31, 2020.

[R20003](#) Authorizing the Award of a Fair and Open Contract for Risk Management Insurance Consultant

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hillsdale has a need to retain a Risk Management Insurance Consultant as a Fair and Open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.7; and,

**WHEREAS**, funds will be available by way of budget and bond ordinances to compensate said consultant; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. commonly known as the “New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law” that took effect on January 1, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has fully complied with the “fair and open” process set forth under N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.1 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council has determined that the firm of Debra Ginetto, Burton Agency Inc. 44 Bergen Street, P.O. Box 270, Westwood, NJ 07675 will be the most advantageous to the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, the firm of Burton Agency Inc. has completed and submitted a “Contribution Statement by Professional Business Entity” as required by Hillsdale Borough Ordinance No. 04-14, entitled, “An Ordinance Establishing a Borough Policy for the Awarding of Public Professional Service Contracts”; and Ordinance No. 11-19 “Amending Chapter 12, Contracts, Public Professional Service and Chapter 305, Contribution Disclosure Statements”

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized to execute such contract with Burton Agency Inc., at the rate of 6% of the Borough’s JIF/MEL assessment, rate set by JIF per the proposal of October 22, 2019; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Hillsdale Borough Council hereby award a contract to the firm of Burton Agency Inc. through December 31, 2020 or until a successor is qualified or appointed.

Motion: by Councilmember Lundy, Second: by Councilmember Pizzella.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Pizzella, Trochimiuk, DeRosa, Escobar, Horvath, Lundy

Nays: None

**TAX APPEAL COUNSEL:**

Mayor Ruocco presents the name of Morrison Mahoney LLP, Waterview Plaza, 2001 US Highway 46, Suite 200, Parsippany, NJ 07054 as Tax Appeal Counsel for the term expiring December 31, 2020.

[R20004](#) Authorizing the Award of a Fair and Open Contract for Attorney for Tax Appeals

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hillsdale has a need to retain An Attorney for Tax Appeals as a Fair and Open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.7; and,

**WHEREAS**, funds will be available by way of budget and bond ordinances to compensate said Attorney; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. commonly known as the “New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law” that took effect on January 1, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has fully complied with the “fair and open” process set forth under N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.1 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council has determined that the firm of Morrison Mahoney LLP, Waterview Plaza, 2001 US Highway 46, Suite 200, Parsippany, NJ 07054 will be the most advantageous to the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, the firm of Morrison Mahoney LLP has completed and submitted a “Contribution Statement by Professional Business Entity” as required by Hillsdale Borough Ordinance No. 04-14, entitled, “An Ordinance Establishing a Borough Policy for the Awarding of Public Professional Service Contracts”; and Ordinance No. 11-19 “Amending Chapter 12, Contracts, Public Professional Service and Chapter 305, Contribution Disclosure Statements”

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized to execute such contract with Morrison Mahoney LLP at the rates specified in their proposal submitted October 22, 2019; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Hillsdale Borough Council hereby award a contract to the firm of Morrison Mahoney LLP through December 31, 2020 or until a successor is qualified or appointed.

Motion: by Councilmember Lundy, Second: by Councilmember Pizzella.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Trochimiuk, DeRosa, Escobar, Horvath, Lundy, Pizzella

Nays: None

**PUBLIC DEFENDER:**

Mayor Ruocco presents the name of Jeffrey Steinfeld, 27 Warren Street, Suite 302, Hackensack, NJ 07601 as Public Defender for the term expiring December 31, 2020.

[R20005](#) Authorizing the Award of a Fair and Open Contract for Borough Public Defender

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hillsdale has a need to retain a Public Defender as a Fair and Open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.7; and,

**WHEREAS**, funds will be available by way of budget and bond ordinances to compensate said Public Defender; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. commonly known as the “New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law” that took effect on January 1, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has fully complied with the “fair and open” process set forth under N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.1 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council has determined that Jeffrey Steinfeld, 27 Warren Street, Suite 302, Hackensack, NJ 07601 will be the most advantageous to the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, Jeffrey Steinfeld, has completed and submitted a “Contribution Statement by Professional Business Entity” as required by Hillsdale Borough Ordinance No. 04-14, entitled, “An Ordinance Establishing a Borough Policy for the Awarding of Public Professional Service Contracts”; and Ordinance No. 11-19 “Amending Chapter 12, Contracts, Public Professional Service and Chapter 305, Contribution Disclosure Statements”

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized to execute such contract with Jeffrey Steinfeld at the rates specified in his proposal submitted October 22, 2019; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Hillsdale Borough Council hereby award a contract to Jeffrey Steinfeld through December 31, 2020 or until a successor is qualified or appointed.

Motion: by Councilmember Escobar, Second: None

Mayor Ruocco said this motion will fail and we will need to repost for a Public Defender.

Attorney Madaio said there is a 30 day period for nominations.

**BOND COUNSEL:**

Mayor Ruocco presents the firm of Rogut McCarthy LLC, 37 Alden Street, Cranford, NJ 07016 as Bond Counsel for the term expiring December 31, 2020.

[R20006](#) Authorizing the Award of a Fair and Open Contract for Borough Bond Counsel

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hillsdale has a need to retain a Municipal Bond Counsel as a Fair and Open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.7; and,

**WHEREAS**, funds will be available by way of budget and bond ordinances to compensate said Counsel; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. commonly known as the “New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law” that took effect on January 1, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has fully complied with the “fair and open” process set forth under N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.1 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council has determined that Rogut McCarthy LLC, 37 Alden Street, Cranford, NJ 07016 will be the most advantageous to the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, Rogut McCarthy LLC has completed and submitted a “Contribution Statement by Professional Business Entity” as required by Hillsdale Borough Ordinance No. 04-14, entitled, “An Ordinance Establishing a Borough Policy for the Awarding of Public Professional Service Contracts”; and Ordinance No. 11-19 “Amending Chapter 12, Contracts, Public Professional Service and Chapter 305, Contribution Disclosure Statements”

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized to execute such contract with Rogut McCarthy LLC as per the proposal of October 22, 2019.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Hillsdale Borough Council hereby award a contract to Rogut McCarthy LLC as Municipal Bond Counsel through December 31, 2020 or until a successor is qualified or appointed.

Motion: by Councilmember Lundy, Second: by Councilmember Pizzella.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Escobar, Horvath, Lundy, Pizzella, Trochimiuk, DeRosa

Nays: None

**PROSECUTOR:**

Mayor Ruocco presents the name of Morrison Mahoney LLP, Waterview Plaza, 2001 US Highway 46, Suite 200, Parsippany, NJ 07054 as Borough Prosecutor for the term expiring December 31, 2020.

[R20007](#) Authorizing the Award of a Fair and Open Contract for Borough Prosecutor

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hillsdale has a need to retain a Borough Prosecutor as a Fair and Open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.7; and,

**WHEREAS**, funds will be available by way of budget and bond ordinances to compensate said Borough Prosecutor; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. commonly known as the “New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law” that took effect on January 1, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has fully complied with the “fair and open” process set forth under N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.1 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council has determined that Morrison Mahoney LLP, Waterview Plaza, 2001 US Highway 46, Suite 200, Parsippany, NJ 07054 as be the most advantageous to the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, the firm Morrison Mahoney has completed and submitted a “Contribution Statement by Professional Business Entity” as required by Hillsdale Borough Ordinance No. 04-14, entitled, “An Ordinance Establishing a Borough Policy for the Awarding of Public Professional Service Contracts”; and Ordinance No. 11-19 “Amending Chapter 12, Contracts, Public Professional Service and Chapter 305, Contribution Disclosure Statements”

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized to execute such contract with Morrison Mahoney, LLC at the rates specified in the proposal submitted October 22, 2019.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Hillsdale Borough Council hereby award a contract to Morrison Mahoney, LLC as Borough Prosecutor through December 31, 2020 or until a successor is qualified or appointed.

Motion:by Councilmember Lundy, Second: by Councilmember Escobar.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Horvath, Lundy, Pizzella, Trochimiuk, Escobar, DeRosa

Nays: None

**BOROUGH PLANNER:**

Mayor Ruocco presents the name of Maser Consulting P.A., 200 Valley Road, Suite 400, Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856, as Borough Planner for the term expiring December 31, 2020.

[R20008](#) Authorizing the Award of a Fair and Open Contract for Borough Planner

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hillsdale has a need to retain a Borough Planner as a Fair and Open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.7; and,

**WHEREAS**, funds will be available by way of budget and bond ordinances to compensate said Borough Planner; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. commonly known as the “New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law” that took effect on January 1, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has fully complied with the “fair and open” process set forth under N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.1 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council has determined that Maser Consulting P.A., 200 Valley Road, Suite 400, Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856. will be the most advantageous to the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, Maser Consulting, P.A. has completed and submitted a “Contribution Statement by Professional Business Entity” as required by Hillsdale Borough Ordinance No. 04-14, entitled, “An Ordinance Establishing a Borough Policy for the Awarding of Public Professional Service Contracts”; and Ordinance No. 11-19 “Amending Chapter 12, Contracts, Public Professional Service and Chapter 305, Contribution Disclosure Statements”

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized to execute such contract with Maser Consulting, P.A. at the rate of per their proposal of October 22, 2019.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Hillsdale Borough Council hereby award a contract to Maser Consulting, P.A. as Borough Planner through December 31, 2020 or until a successor is qualified or appointed.

Motion: by Councilmember Pizzella, Second: by Councilmember DeRosa.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Lundy, Pizzella, Trochimiuk, DeRosa, Escobar, Horvath

Nays: None

**LABOR COUNSEL:**

Mayor Ruocco presents the name of Wiss & Bouregy, P.C. 345 Kinderkamack Road. Suite E., Westwood, NJ 07675 as Borough Labor Counsel for the term expiring December 31, 2020.

[R20009](#) Authorizing the Award of a Fair and Open Contract for Borough Labor Counsel

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hillsdale has a need to retain a Borough Labor Attorney as a Fair and Open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.7; and,

**WHEREAS**, funds will be available by way of budget and bond ordinances to compensate said Attorney; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. commonly known as the “New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law” that took effect on January 1, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has fully complied with the “fair and open” process set forth under N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.1 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council has determined that Wiss & Bouregy, P.C. 345 Kinderkamack Road. Suite E., Westwood, NJ 07675 will be the most advantageous to the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, Wiss & Bouregy, P.C. has completed and submitted a “Contribution Statement by Professional Business Entity” as required by Hillsdale Borough Ordinance No. 04-14, entitled, “An Ordinance Establishing a Borough Policy for the Awarding of Public Professional Service Contracts”; and Ordinance No. 11-19 “Amending Chapter 12, Contracts, Public Professional Service and Chapter 305, Contribution Disclosure Statements”

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized to execute such contract with Wiss & Bouregy, P.C at the rates specified in the proposal submitted October 22, 2019; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Hillsdale Borough Council hereby award a contract to Wiss & Bouregy, P.C as Borough Labor Attorney through December 31, 2020 or until a successor is qualified or appointed .

Motion: by Councilmember Trochimiuk, Second: by Councilmember Horvath.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Trochimiuk, Horvath, DeRosa

Nays: Councilmember Pizzella, Escobar, Lundy

Mayor Ruocco said he votes Aye.

**ALTERNATE BOROUGH PROSECUTOR:**

Mayor Ruocco presents the name of Neil A. Tortora of Morrison Mahoney LLP, Waterview Plaza, 2001 US Highway 46, Suite 200, Parsippany, NJ 07054 as Alternate Borough Prosecutor for the term expiring December 31, 2020.

[R20010](#) Authorizing the Award of a Fair and Open Contract for Alternate Borough Prosecutor

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hillsdale has a need to retain an Alternate Borough Prosecutor as a Fair and Open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.7; and,

**WHEREAS**, funds will be available by way of budget and bond ordinances to compensate said Alternate Borough Prosecutor; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. commonly known as the “New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law” that took effect on January 1, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has fully complied with the “fair and open” process set forth under N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.1 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council has determined that Neil A. Tortora of Morrison Mahoney LLP, Waterview Plaza, 2001 US Highway 46, Suite 200, Parsippany, NJ 07054 be the most advantageous to the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, the Neil A. Tortora has completed and submitted a “Contribution Statement by Professional Business Entity” as required by Hillsdale Borough Ordinance No. 04-14, entitled, “An Ordinance Establishing a Borough Policy for the Awarding of Public Professional Service Contracts”; and Ordinance No. 11-19 “Amending Chapter 12, Contracts, Public Professional Service and Chapter 305, Contribution Disclosure Statements”

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized to execute such contract with Neil A. Tortora of Morrison Mahoney LLP at the rates specified in the proposal submitted October 22, 2019.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Hillsdale Borough Council hereby award a contract to Neil A. Tortora as Alternate Borough Prosecutor through December 31, 2020 or until a successor is qualified or appointed.

Motion: by Councilmember Trochimiuk, Second: by Councilmember DeRosa.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Trochimiuk, DeRosa, Escobar, Horvath, Lundy, Pizzella

Nays: None

**SPECIAL COUNSEL – PASCACK VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL WITHDRAWAL:**

Mayor Ruocco presents the name of the Law Offices of Hill Wallack LLP 2 Bridge Avenue, Suite 211, The Galleria, Red Bank, NJ 07701 as Special Counsel – Pascack Valley Regional High School Withdrawal for the term expiring December 31, 2020.

[R20011](#) Authorizing the Award of a Fair and Open Contract for Special Counsel – PVRHS Withdrawal

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hillsdale has a need to retain Special Counsel for the Pascack Valley Regional High School Withdrawal as a Non-Fair and Open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 or 20.5; and,

**WHEREAS**, funds will be available by way of budget and bond ordinances to compensate said Professional; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. commonly known as the “New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law” that took effect on January 1, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has fully complied with the “non-fair and open” process set forth under N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.1 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council has determined that Vicky Flynn of the Law Offices of Hill Wallack, LLP, 2 Bridge Avenue, Suite 211 – The Galleria, Red Bank, NJ 07701 as be the most advantageous to the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, Vicky Flynn of the firm Hill Wallack, LLP has completed and submitted a “Contribution Statement by Professional Business Entity” as required by Hillsdale Borough Ordinance No. 04-14, entitled, “An Ordinance Establishing a Borough Policy for the Awarding of Public Professional Service Contracts”; and Ordinance No. 11-19 “Amending Chapter 12, Contracts, Public Professional Service and Chapter 305, Contribution Disclosure Statements”

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized to execute such contract with the Law Offices of Hill Wallack, LLP at the rates specified in the proposal submitted November 8, 2018.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Hillsdale Borough Council hereby award a contract to the Law Offices of Hill Wallack, LLP as Special Counsel – for the Pascack Valley Regional High School Withdrawal through December 31, 2020 or until a successor is qualified or appointed.

Motion: by Councilmember Pizzella, Second: by Councilmember Lundy.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember DeRosa, Escobar, Horvath, Lundy, Pizzella, Trochimiuk

Nays: None

**BOROUGH ENGINEER:**

Mayor Ruocco presents the name of Christopher Statile of Christopher Statile Associates, 3 Fir Court Oakland, NJ 07436 for Borough Engineer for the term expiring December 31, 2020.

[R20012](#) Authorizing the Award of a Fair and Open Contract for Borough Engineer

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hillsdale has a need to retain a Borough Engineer as a Fair and Open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.7; and,

**WHEREAS**, funds will be available by way of budget and bond ordinances to compensate said Engineer; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. commonly known as the “New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law” that took effect on January 1, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has fully complied with the “fair and open” process set forth under N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.1 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council has determined that Chris Statile, 3 Fir Court, Oakland, NJ 07436 will be the most advantageous to the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, Christopher Statile has completed and submitted a “Contribution Statement by Professional Business Entity” as required by Hillsdale Borough Ordinance No. 04-14, entitled, “An Ordinance Establishing a Borough Policy for the Awarding of Public Professional Service Contracts”; and Ordinance No. 11-19 “Amending Chapter 12, Contracts, Public Professional Service and Chapter 305, Contribution Disclosure Statements”

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized to execute such contract with Christopher Statile as per the proposal of October 22, 2019.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Hillsdale Borough Council hereby award a contract to Christopher Statile as Borough Engineer, for a one-year term ending December 31, 2020 or until a successor is qualified or appointed.

Motion: by Councilmember DeRosa, Second: by Councilmember Trochimiuk.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Horvath, Pizzella, Trochimiuk, DeRosa

Nays: Councilmember Escobar, Lundy.

**ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS AND DESIGNATIONS TO VARIOUS MUNICIPAL OFFICES:**

Mayor Ruocco presents the names of the following individuals for appointment to the positions indicated for the year 2020:

Assessment Search Officer	Patrick Wilkins
Zoning/Code Official	Anthony Merlino
Borough Chaplains	Brian Neville
Acting Recycling Coordinator	William Haffler

Motion: by Councilmember Horvath, Second: by Councilmember Lundy, and unanimously carried.

**BOARD, COMMISSION, AND TRUSTEE APPOINTMENTS:**

Mayor Ruocco presents the names of the following individuals for appointment to the indicated positions and the specified terms of office.

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION:**

Owen Peacock	Term Expiring 12/31/22
Scott Raymond	Term Expiring 12/31/22
Louisa Toro – Alt #1	Non-Expiring Term 12/31/20
Ed Alter – Alt #2	Term Expiring 12/31/21

Motion to Record: Councilmember Pizzella, Second: by Councilmember DeRosa, and unanimously carried.

**PLANNING BOARD:**

Stephen Riordan - Class IV Term Expiring 12/31/23  
Joanne Miano – Class IV Term Expiring 12/31/23  
Fred Franco – Alt #1 Term Expiring 12/31/21

Motion to Record: by Councilmember DeRosa, Second: by Councilmember Trochimiuk, and unanimously carried.

**OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:**

Jon Najarian, OEM Deputy Coordinator Term Expiring 12/31/20

Motion to Record: by Councilmember Lundy, Second: by Councilmember Escobar, and unanimously carried.

**LIBRARY TRUSTEE – Mayor’s Alternate:**

Marie Hanlon, Mayor’s Alternate Term Expiring 12/31/20

Motion to Record: by Councilmember DeRosa, Second: by Councilmember Lundy, and unanimously carried.  
Abstain: Councilmember Pizzella.

The Council presents the names of the following individuals for appointment to the indicated positions and the specified terms of office.

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE:**

Marie Hanlon Term Expiring 12/31/20  
Jeanne Frantin Term Expiring 12/31/20  
Willie Dunn Term Expiring 12/31/20  
Peter Hard Term Expiring 12/31/20  
Sean Smith Term Expiring 12/31/20  
Bob Cinek Term Expiring 12/31/20

Motion: by Councilmember DeRosa, Second: by Councilmember Horvath.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Escobar, Horvath, Lundy, Pizzella, Trochimiuk, DeRosa

Nays: None

**BOARD OF HEALTH:**

Elaine Meyerson Term Expiring 12/31/22  
Dr Susan Kushner Term Expiring 12/31/22  
James Stephens Term Expiring 12/31/22

Motion: by Councilmember Pizzella, Second: by Councilmember Escobar.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Horvath, Lundy, Pizzella, Trochimiuk, DeRosa, Escobar

Nays: None

**ACCESS TO ALL COMMITTEE:**

Ruta Furino Term Expiring 1/31/20  
Debbie Szabo Term Expiring 1/31/20  
Cherry Ying Zhu Term Expiring 1/31/20  
Marty Ward Term Expiring 1/31/20  
Ron Miller Term Expiring 1/31/20  
Yana Mermel Term Expiring 1/31/20  
Gia Schneider Term Expiring 1/31/20  
Elizabeth Callahan Term Expiring 1/31/20  
Marguerite Deppart – BOH Rep Term Expiring 1/31/20  
Shane Svorec – BOE Rep Term Expiring 1/31/20  
Dan McLaughlin – Police Rep Term Expiring 1/31/20

Motion: by Councilmember Pizzella, Second: by Councilmember DeRosa.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Lundy, Pizzella, Trochimiuk, DeRosa, Escobar, Horvath  
Nays: None

**PLANNING BOARD MEMBER-CLASS III:**

Mayor Ruocco respectfully requests that the Council nominate Zoltan Horvath to be appointed to the Planning Board as its representative as the Class III Member of the Planning Board for a one (1) year term expiring December 31, 2020.

Motion: by Councilmember Pizzella, Second: by Councilmember Trochimiuk

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes; Councilmember Pizzella, Trochimiuk, DeRosa, Escobar, Horvath, Lundy  
Nays: None

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Mayor Ruocco presents the names of the following individuals for appointment, with the Advice and Consent of the Council, to the indicated positions and the specified terms of office.

**LOCAL ASSISTANCE BOARD:**

Lois Kohan Term Expiring 12/31/23

Motion: by Councilmember Pizzella, Second: by Councilmember Escobar.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Trochimiuk, DeRosa, Escobar, Horvath, Lundy, Pizzella  
Nays: None

**LIBRARY TRUSTEES:**

Al Metz Term Expiring 12/31/24

Motion: by Councilmember Horvath, Second: by Councilmember Lundy.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember DeRosa, Escobar, Horvath, Lundy, Pizzella, Trochimiuk  
Nays: None

**OUR TOWN COMMITTEE:**

Patty Hughes Term Expiring 12/31/20  
Georgeann Wheeler Term Expiring 12/31/20  
Sue Taormina Term Expiring 12/31/20

Motion: by Councilmember Horvath, Second: by Councilmember Lundy.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Escobar, Horvath, Lundy, Pizzella, Trochimiuk, DeRosa  
Nays: None

**RECREATION COMMITTEE:**

Ann Cron Term Expiring 12/31/24  
Teen Members:  
Delia Collis Non-Expiring Term 12/31/20  
Kevin Cuffe Non-Expiring Term 12/31/20

Motion: by Councilmember Pizzella, Second: by Councilmember Lundy.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Horvath, Lundy, Pizzella, Trochimiuk, DeRosa, Escobar  
Nays: None

**HILLSDALE SWIMMING POOL COMMISSION:**

Roseann Heytink

Term Expiring 12/31/22

Motion: by Councilmember Pizzella, Second: by Councilmember Lundy.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Lundy, Pizzella, Trochimiuk, DeRosa, Escobar, Horvath

Nays: None

*All appointees are required to subscribe to their Oath of Office before entering upon their duties, and they are therefore asked to present themselves at the office of the Borough Clerk for this purpose on or before Friday, January 10, 2020 or prior to their first meeting.*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** (time limited to 5 minutes per person, new topics only, 1 topic per person)

Mayor Ruocco opened the Public Comment period to the public. Seeing no one, the Public Comment period was closed.

**RESOLUTIONS (Consent Agenda) R20013 through R20030:**

[20013](#) Temporary Budget 2020

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S. 40:4-19 provides that where contracts, commitments or payments are to be made prior to final adoption of the 2020 Budget, temporary appropriations should be made for the purposes and amounts required in the manner and time therein provided, and

**WHEREAS**, the date of this resolution is within the first thirty (30) days of January, 2020, and

**WHEREAS**, said total temporary appropriations are limited to 26.25% of the total appropriations in the 2019 Budget exclusive of any appropriations made for debt service, capital improvement fund and public assistance in the said 2019 Budget.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale, that the following temporary appropriations be made and certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Treasurer for his records.

**TEMPORARY BUDGET - MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS**

<b>2020</b>	<b>SALARIES</b>	<b>OTHER</b>	
<b>APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>AND WAGES</b>	<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b><u>CURRENT FUND</u></b>			

Administrative and Executive	\$40,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$ 85,000.00
Public Information	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Mayor and Council	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Clerks Office	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
Administration of Finance	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
Audit Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Collection of Taxes	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 17,000.00
Assessment of Taxes	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 9,500.00
Legal	\$ -	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
Engineering Services	\$ -	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 18,000.00

Environmental Commission	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
Planning Board	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
Zoning	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 11,000.00
Affordable Housing	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Uniform Construction Code	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
Insurance			
Health	\$ -	\$ 350,000.00	\$ 350,000.00
Workers Compensation	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
Unemployment Compensation	\$ -	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
Liability	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
Police Department	\$ 740,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 790,000.00
OEM	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Aid to Ambulance Squad	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Fire Department	\$ -	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Fire Prevention	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 16,500.00
Prosecutor	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Road Repair & Maintenance	\$ 135,000.00	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 285,000.00
Sanitation	\$ -	\$ 195,000.00	\$ 195,000.00
Recycling	\$ -	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Buildings & Grounds	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Train Station	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Vehicle Maintenance	\$ -	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
Board of Health	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
Administration of Public Assistance	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -	\$ 4,000.00
Recreation	\$ 500.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,500.00
Senior Citizens	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 10,500.00
Parks and Playgrounds	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
Maintenance of Free Public Library	\$ -	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00
Celebration of Public Events	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Utilities - Gas & Electric	\$ -	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
Telephone	\$ -	\$ 13,500.00	\$ 13,500.00
Water	\$ -	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 65,000.00

Bergen County Utilities Authority	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
Gasoline	\$ -	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Recycling Tax	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Social Security	\$ -	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 45,000.00
DCRP	\$ -	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Pistol Range	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
PVRHS Class III Officers	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 47,000.00
Hillsdale BOE Class III Officers	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Municipal Court	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Public Defender	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
<b>TOTAL TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>\$ 1,213,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,919,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,132,900.00</b>
<b><u>DEBT SERVICE</u></b>			
<b><u>Current Fund</u></b>			
Principal	\$ -	\$ 475,000.00	\$ 475,000.00
Interest	\$ -	\$ 15,500.00	\$ 15,500.00
<b>Current Fund Debt Service</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 490,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 490,500.00</b>
<b><u>Dedicated Swim Pool Utility</u></b>	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 95,000.00	\$ 115,000.00
<b><u>Capital Outlay</u></b>	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
<b><u>Debt Service</u></b>			
Principal	\$ -	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
Interest	\$ -	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,200.00
<b>Swim Club Debt Service</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 72,200.00</b>	<b>\$ 72,200.00</b>

[20014](#) Establishment of Interest Rate on Delinquent Taxes

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hillsdale, in the County of Bergen and State of New Jersey, that the rate of interest on delinquent taxes and Borough charges shall not exceed 8% per annum on the first \$1,500 of the delinquency, and 18% per annum on any amount in excess of \$1,500 remaining unpaid, until the entire delinquency is satisfied; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a six (6) percent penalty shall be levied on all delinquencies, including interest thereon, in excess of \$10,000 after December 31, 2020; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that if the Office of the Collector of Taxes is closed on the tenth day of the month in which taxes are due, the interest grace period shall be extended to include the first business day

thereafter. Any tax payments received after the close of business on the last day of the grace period shall be considered delinquent, and interest will be due and payable calculated from the date the tax was payable (prior to the application of the grace period) until the date of actual payment.

[20015](#) Resolution Adopting a Cash Management Plan for 2020  
[Cash Management Plan](#)

**WHEREAS**, P.L. 1983, Chapter 8, Local Fiscal Affairs Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14 requires that each municipality designate a Cash Management Plan for the deposit of local unit's monies; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cash Management Plan for the Borough of Hillsdale is attached hereto and made a part of this resolution.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale, that they hereby adopt the attached Cash Management Plan.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the signature of the Mayor, CMFO and, Borough Clerk are hereby authorized as Official Signatories

[20016](#) Re-establishing Annual Petty Cash Funds for Borough Clerk's Office, Police Department and General Public Assistance

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-21 authorizes the establishment of a Petty Cash Fund in any county of municipality by application and resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale, County of Bergen to establish such a fund as follows:

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>ASSIGNEE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>PURPOSE</u>
Borough Clerk	Denise Kohan	\$ 200.00	Supplies, postage.
Hillsdale Police Dept. Detective Bureau	Robert Francaviglia Adam Hampton	\$ 200.00 \$ 200.00	Supplies, hardware, etc. Investigative Expenses

**WHEREAS**, the custodian for these funds is the Borough Clerk who is bonded for the amount of \$1,000,000; such custodian shall maintain records for their respective fund in a manner conducive to proper accounting and auditing procedures;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and Council hereby authorize such action and that two copies of this resolution be filed with the Division of Local Government Services for approval.

[20017](#) Designating Tax Search Officer for 2020

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hillsdale, that David Sireci, Tax Collector, being a duly bonded Official of the Municipality, be and he is hereby designated as Official Tax Search Officer (N.J.S.A. 54:5-11) of the Borough of Hillsdale for the year 2020.

[20018](#) Authorizing Assessor to File Tax Appeals

**WHEREAS**, the Bergen County Tax Board requires a resolution from municipalities within Bergen County authorizing the Tax Assessor and Borough Attorney to file municipal appeals on behalf of the Borough of Hillsdale, and to file corrections and/or stipulations regarding errors in tax assessments with the Bergen County Board of Taxation; and

**WHEREAS**, the filing of these corrections and/or the signing of these stipulations by the Tax Assessor of the Borough of Hillsdale will relieve the taxpayer from appearing before the Bergen County Board of Taxation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Assessor should be authorized to file appeals when under certain circumstances the taxpayer fails to provide information to allow a proper assessment to be done;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hillsdale that the Tax Assessor and/or Borough Attorney for Tax Appeals be and are hereby authorized to sign stipulations with the Bergen County Board of Taxation concerning those properties wherein errors are made and to file appeals when appropriate and in the best interest of the Borough of Hillsdale;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Tax Assessor and the Borough Attorney for Tax Appeals for the Borough of Hillsdale are hereby authorized to file municipal appeals for both procedural and substantive reasons.

20019 Public Agency Compliance Officer for 2020

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-3.5 a Public Agency must annually designate an officer to serve as its Public agency Compliance Officer; and

**WHEREAS**, the Public Agency Compliance Officer is responsible for assuring that no public contract may be awarded nor any monies paid until the contractor has agreed to contract performance which complies with the approved Affirmative Action Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, it is deemed necessary that the Public Agency (the Borough of Hillsdale) shall designate an officer or employee to serve as Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O.), whose name title, business address, telephone number and fax number shall be forwarded to the State Affirmative Action Office by January 10, of every year; and

**WHEREAS**, the P.A.C.O. is the liaison official for matters concerning P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27) and should have the authority to make the appropriate correction(s) to the Borough of Hillsdale's contracting procedures if required; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale hereby appoint Christopher Tietjen, BA, Interim QPA as Public Agency Compliance Officer in the Borough of Hillsdale for the year 2020, and that the Borough Clerk is hereby directed to file a copy of this resolution with the Department of the Treasury, Affirmative Action Office, CN-209, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0209.

20020 Designate Official Newspapers

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Mayor and Council desire to designate the following listed newspapers as official news media for the Borough of Hillsdale for 2020:

- The Ridgewood News
- The Record
- Star Ledger
- Community Life
- Pascack Press

20021 Authorize Chief Municipal Financial Officer Authority to Pay Certain Obligations as needed

**WHEREAS**, it is the best interest of the Borough of Hillsdale to grant authority to the Chief Municipal Financial Officer to pay certain obligations when due and owing prior to the regular payment of bills; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale that the Chief Municipal Financial Officer be designated to pay the following as needed and is necessary for the orderly operation of the Borough of Hillsdale:

- Association Meetings/Educational Sessions/Conference Costs
- Bergen County Taxes – Regular & Open Space
- Borough Payrolls including Social Security/Medicare
- Debt Payments – Bonds, Notes & Loans, Principal & Interest
- Gasoline/Diesel Vendors
- Boards of Education
- Postmaster
- Healthcare Reimbursements
- Health & Dental Insurance Premiums
- Lease Payments (previously authorized)

Life Insurance Premiums  
 Petty Cash  
 Purchases Associated with Borough Events (including Recreation)  
 Sewer Disposal – BCUA  
 State or County Permit Applications/Fees  
 Utilities  
 Employee Reimbursements

All payment of bills will be formally signed and approved at the next scheduled Council meeting.

20022 Establish Change Funds

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of the Borough of Hillsdale, County of Bergen, to establish a change fund for the following offices as listed:

DEPARTMENT	DESIGNEE	AMOUNT
Stonybrook Swim Pool Commission	Patricia Hughes	\$100.00
Finance	Gioia Cassidy	\$100.00
Municipal Court	Jennifer Lacey	\$100.00

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and governing body hereby authorizes such action.

20023 Authorize Approval of 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 Burton Agency Inc. 44 Bergen Street, P.O. Box 270, Westwood, NJ 07675 in accordance with the Fund’s bylaws for the period of January 1, 2020 through January 1, 2021; 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).

20024 Resolution to Affirm the Borough of Hillsdale’s Civil Rights Policy with Respect to All Officials, Appointees, Employees, Prospective Employees, Volunteers, Independent Contractors, and Members of the Public that come into contact with Municipal Employees, Officials and Volunteers

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the Borough of Hillsdale (hereinafter called the “Borough”) to treat the public, employees, prospective employees, appointees, volunteers and contractors in a manner consistent with all applicable civil rights laws and regulations including, but not limited to the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964 as subsequently amended, the New Jersey Law against Discrimination, the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Conscientious Employee Protection Act, and

**WHEREAS**, the governing body of the Borough of Hillsdale has determined that certain procedures need to be established to accomplish this policy

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ADOPTED** by the Mayor and Council that:

**Section 1:** No official, employee, appointee or volunteer of the Borough of Hillsdale by whatever title known, or any entity that is in any way a part of the Borough shall engage, either directly or indirectly in any act including the failure to act that constitutes discrimination, harassment or a violation of any person's constitutional rights while such official, employee, appointee volunteer, or entity is engaged in or acting on behalf of the Borough's business or using the facilities or property of the Borough.

**Section 2:** The prohibitions and requirements of this resolution shall extend to any person or entity, including but not limited to any volunteer organization or inter-local organization, whether structured as a governmental entity or a private entity, that receives authorization or support in any way from the Borough to provide services that otherwise could be performed by the Borough.

**Section 3:** Discrimination, harassment and civil rights shall be defined for purposes of this resolution using the latest definitions contained in the applicable Federal and State laws concerning discrimination, harassment and civil rights.

**Section 4:** The Administrator shall establish written procedures for any person to report alleged discrimination, harassment and violations of civil rights prohibited by this resolution. Such procedures shall include alternate ways to report a complaint so that the person making the complaint need not communicate with the alleged violator in the event the alleged violator would be the normal contact for such complaints.

**Section 5:** No person shall retaliate against any person who reports any alleged discrimination, harassment or violation of civil rights, provided however, that any person who reports alleged violations in bad faith shall be subject to appropriate discipline.

**Section 6:** The Administrator shall establish written procedures that require all officials, employees, appointees and volunteers of the Borough as well as all other entities subject to this resolution to periodically complete training concerning their duties, responsibilities and rights pursuant to this resolution.

**Section 7:** The Administrator shall establish a system to monitor compliance and shall report at least annually to the governing body the results of the monitoring.

**Section 8:** At least annually, the Administrator shall cause a summary of this resolution and the procedures established pursuant to this resolution to be communicated within the Borough. This communication shall include a statement from the governing body expressing its unequivocal commitment to enforce this resolution. This summary shall also be posted on the Borough's web site.

**Section 9:** This resolution shall take effect immediately.

**Section 10:** A copy of this resolution shall be published in the official newspaper of the Borough in order for the public to be made aware of this policy and the Borough's commitment to the implementation and enforcement of this policy.

[20025](#) Award and Execution of Contract for Animal Control Services  
[Contract](#)

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hillsdale received two (2) quotes for animal services for the year 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the Interim Borough Administrator reviewed and evaluated both said quotes; and recommends an award of contract to:

Bergen County Department of Health Services  
100 United Lane  
Teterboro, New Jersey 07608

In the amount of \$15,226.31 for the period of January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mayor be authorized to execute said contract between the Borough of Hillsdale and Bergen County Department of Health Services

[20026](#) Approve Organizations to be included in the Quasi Entities

**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  
Pascack Lacrosse

[20027](#) Appointing Christopher Tietjen as Representative of the Borough of Hillsdale to the Bergen County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund and the Municipal Excess Liability Fund

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

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale must appoint an individual as the representative of the Borough of Hillsdale to the Joint Insurance Fund and the Municipal Excess Liability Fund; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale, in the County of Bergen, in the State of New Jersey, that Christopher Tietjen is hereby appointed as the representative of the Borough of Hillsdale to the Bergen County Joint Insurance Fund and the Municipal Excess Liability Fund and that Denise Kohan, Borough Clerk is hereby appointed as the alternate to Christopher Tietjen as representative of the Borough of Hillsdale to the Bergen County Joint Insurance Fund and the Municipal Excess Liability Fund.

[20028](#) Resolution Appointing David Sireci as Certified Municipal Finance Officer

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hillsdale is in need of a Certified Municipal Finance Officer; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has sought candidates through the Fair and Open Process; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Hillsdale has determined to appoint and designate David Sireci as its Certified Municipal Finance Officer, to fulfill the duties set forth in Ordinance 89-3, creating the position of Certified Municipal Finance Officer.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough of Hillsdale, County of Bergen, that the Borough of Hillsdale hereby appoints David Sireci as its designated Certified Municipal Finance Officer, commencing January 1, 2020, pursuant to a contract; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Borough Council of Hillsdale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, that Mayor John Ruocco is hereby authorized to sign the contract documents with David Sireci, and all other appropriate Borough professionals are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all steps necessary to effectuate the purposes of said contract.

[20029](#) Resolution Approving Employment Agreement Between the Borough of Hillsdale and David Sireci

**WHEREAS**, David A. Sireci has previously been appointed as the Tax Collector for the Borough of Hillsdale (“Hillsdale”), for the unexpired term of the prior Tax Collector, which term will expire on December 31, 2020;and

**WHEREAS**, David A. Sireci has, by resolution adopted on January 5, 2020 been appointed as the Certified Municipal Finance Officer (“CMFO”) for Hillsdale; and

**WHEREAS**, Hillsdale and David A. Sireci have agreed upon the terms of an Employment Agreement regarding each of said positions; and

**WHEREAS**, Hillsdale wishes to memorialize its approval of such Employment Agreement, the terms of which are incorporated by reference herein, and to authorize the Mayor to execute the Employment Agreement on its behalf;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hillsdale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, as follows:1.The Employment Agreement between the Borough of Hillsdale and David A. Sireci be and hereby is approved on the terms recited therein.2.Mayor John J. Ruocco be and hereby is authorized to execute the Employment Agreement on behalf of the Borough of Hillsdale.3.The Mayor, the Borough Clerk, the Borough Attorney and the Borough Labor Attorney are authorized to take any and all necessary and appropriate actions to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

20030 Resolution Appointing an Animal Control Officer for the Borough of Hillsdale

**WHEREAS**, due to a structural change in the Hillsdale Police Department, the Borough of Hillsdale is in need of an individual to perform the services of Animal Control Officer and Cruelty Investigator for the Borough of Hillsdale; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief of Police and the Borough of Hillsdale has recommended the appointment of Police Officer Corey Rooney to take over the roll as the Borough's Animal Control Officer and Animal Cruelty Investigator; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey that Police Officer Corey Rooney is hereby appointed as the Animal Control Officer and Animal Cruelty Investigator for the Borough of Hillsdale commencing on January 5, 2020 and ending December 31, 2020.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Police Department for their records.

Councilmember Lundy requested that Resolution 20029 be removed for separate discussion.

Motion: by Councilmember DeRosa, Second: by Councilmember Horvath.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Pizzella, Trochimiuk, DeRosa, Escobar, Horvath, Lundy

Nays: None

Resolution 20029. Councilmember Lundy said she sent an email to the governing body and the Borough Labor Attorney with a question and I did not receive a response.

Mayor Ruocco said I received your email and followed up with the Labor Attorney on Saturday and the Labor Attorney did cover the question, you can repeat the question.

Councilmember Lundy said the question was the terms, for one position and the unexpired term ends at the end of 2020 so the period for tenure for that position will not begin until January 1, 2021 while the other position for four years for tenure begins January 1, this year. There are two different positions with two different terms for tenure and everything else we went through as far as positions and contracts I strongly believe there should be two contracts.

Mayor Ruocco said your email went to clause No. 10 of Mr. Sireci's proposed contract where you felt the term needed to be more defined. The Labor Attorney conveyed to me that he believes it was covered in the closed session that we had December 31, 2019, and he stressed that the employment contract covers the business terms with reference to state law; that would determine the duration of the tenure of terms for both the CMO position and the tax collector position. He (labor attorney) pointed out that the letter that already exists for the Tax Collector role signed by the BA in 2019 and the resolution passed when he was hired makes clear the terms of the Tax Collector, and when it ends. The labor attorney also pointed out that the resolution passed in October 2019 specifying the term of the interim position of CFO and the resolution of today specifies when his term as Tax Collector ends. The labor attorney's advice was not to include mention of the tenure term in the present employment contract as they were adequately identified and from the perspective of the Borough, the Borough does not suffer any legal risk by approving the present contract. Hopefully, said Mayor Ruocco, I have done justice to what was said to me by the Labor attorney.

Councilmember Lundy asked if our Borough Attorney can confirm that tenure is not addressed in contracts.

Attorney Madaio said he did not know if this is typical or not and would defer to labor counsel. I am going to look at it more practically. Given the recitation of facts that the Mayor just presented as explained to him by the labor attorney, I believe we are adequately protected. On the other hand if that is necessary to give Councilmembers a comfort level then I can see it as a Whereas clause. The question is if it matters for making the appointment happen and makes you feel comfortable that you can work with the one contract clearly defined position scenario, it may be worth including those recitations the Mayor just read.

Councilmember Lundy said she doesn't have a problem with the appointment.

Attorney Madaio said if the contract needs the recitations you would be satisfied with, would that create a yes vote and we could pass it.

Councilmember Lundy said she is not sure she still has the other issue.

Attorney Madaio said if you are requesting a change to the contract would the change make you support the contract? If it would change the voting, I am sure the contract would be signed. My question is why couldn't we just put the recitations in or if it still would not satisfy any number of people.

Mayor Ruocco said would we be better off or worse off with this contract or two separate contracts. The contract as he described it is a business contract and from his perspective the contract is a sound one from the Borough's perspective. The absence of the mention of tenure doesn't trouble him in the least because it is highlighted elsewhere.

Attorney Madaio said it is because it is but again, I am not questioning the ultimate conclusion but we may not be any better by adding this language but if it makes one or more Councilmembers comfortable why not. If the fundamental disagreement you don't want two contracts, some people want two contracts and won't vote yes then why would we worry. Changing Whereas clauses in a contract may be entered and done then I would make the motion subject to inclusion of recitations necessary or not.

Councilmember Pizzella said that would not satisfy me because we said in the beginning, we have two contracts for two separate positions both tenured, both statutory, different times, different terms and the individuals concern was that his total payment would be pensionable. We said we would be flexible if there was an issue with the pension in having two contracts. No one has determined that there is an issue, it all points to the Department in Trenton is going to get one check so that amount is going to be pensionable and you said the contract is a business document and probably not going to read it. So to better protect Hillsdale it is two contracts for two different positions and two of them get manage separately. We were going to do that with the prior BA and CFO and that is what we should do with this one and that is not going to change my mind. The pension ability will really be affected by two contracts which it is not. That was non-negotiable, we would only be flexible if there was an issue of pension ability. I would vote no.

Mayor Ruocco said the only thing I could add to this is what we discussed several times in closed session when we met with the candidate who is our present interim CFO and Tax Collector. Concerns on his part are that two contracts might not be viewed by the people in Trenton as pensionable, only one would and this was despite our efforts to get an answer from the pension people so from a practical business perspective negotiation with the candidate turned to one piece of paper. There is a risk if you put enough doubt in the candidate's mind, he would not sign on and that is the risk I see here. Labor attorney Ray Wiss indicated to me that it was a reasonable risk that the pension board might only consider one salary pensionable, and while he believes the chances of that are low, he can understand the risk from the candidate's perspective. I hope I am being fair to what he told me. He said to the Borough Administrator that he and the labor attorney have had discussions on this matter as well so can you add anything further to this.

Borough Administrator said he is in line with Mr. Wiss.

Mayor Ruocco said we come back to the resolution approving the agreement between the Borough of Hillsdale and David Sireci.

Motion to approve by Councilmember Escobar, second by Councilmember Trochimiuk.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Trochimiuk, DeRosa, Escobar, Horvath

Nays: Councilmember Lundy, Pizzella

## COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmember Trochimiuk said today is a very special and exciting day for me; she considers it a great honor and privilege to be elected by the residents of Hillsdale to represent them on Council. She thanked the Hillsdale Republican Committee who made this year long journey possible by nominating me as a candidate in the first place. I want to thank all the individuals who shared their positive insights and advice who gave me strong encouragement and support and helped me every step of the way. I want to thank my family for their support and great encouragement and much needed patience. I want to thank each and every resident of Hillsdale for voting for me. It is my goal to work actively with my fellow Councilmen to keep Hillsdale on the right track towards becoming a sought-after destination in Bergen County for all families. 2020 will be an exciting year, the beginning of a new decade and lots of change on the horizon of our town. I look forward to being your most humble servant. Thank you.

Councilmember Pizzella thanked everyone in Hillsdale who voted for me, even those who did not. I learned a lot this year, it was a difficult year for me and I am still honored and humbled by everyone in our town. It is a great place to live, I've chosen to raise my family here, my kids were much younger when I got on Council; it has been a great experience on Council and the reason I do it is because I want to give my children the example of how to be a member of the community. You can make change and help people and you can do it in your own community by being an example and they have watched me work with everyone up here and the people and I feel it is giving them a sense of community and positive example of how they can be leaders as they get older. I also want to congratulate Janetta and the Mayor getting elected and congratulating the new Council President. I like my new seat; I think we have many great things coming and I believe this Council has been the most active and the most pro-active Council that I have ever worked with. We have so many things going on. If a resident doesn't think this Council is working then please come in and watch and speak with people. We have a very active Mayor and we are all working on specific matters, the pool, the fields, senior center, community center; these are things wanted for a very long time and this Council has not been afraid to address it. It is something we should all be proud of. Again, thanks to all of you and wish you a Happy New Year. If you ever want to ask me my home is 247 Hillsdale and you call me and I am always available.

Councilmember Escobar wished everyone a Happy New Year and I am looking to working with everyone this year; he wished Steven Segalas were here and wished him the best.

Councilmember Lundy said the Library is looking for ideas for programs and there is a form on their website if residents could give them ideas on what programs they would like and that would be most appreciated. She congratulated the Mayor, Frank and Janetta.

Councilmember Horvath said we worked on a lot of projects last year and looking forward to completing them. He thanked the Mayor for his confidence in appointing him Council President.

Councilmember DeRosa said on the Regional Board of Education Bob DeMaio retired and Mr. Puccio President right now. On the Local Board of Ed two people retired President and long time Administrator and they usually keep everyone in line so those two will be missed. Ambulance Service passed state inspection and there is a beefsteak for May 16 as a fund raiser. The Ambulance Service comes up as a business and says open 24 hours. The Rec Commission met last month and recapped the past year and they are helping out with the shop small and welcome two new student members. They helped out at the tree lighting. The next meeting is Tuesday. On the athletic fields there is a preliminary outline for possible improvements to Centennial as well as a community center as well as going for work on Memorial Field. There is more to come from the engineer; John Noon is the summer camp director. With the transition with the BA there is possible Borough service being compromised as there were some comments made from the dais. He wanted to acknowledge that he is really proud of Councilmember Pizzella; in three weeks we had an interim BA with absolutely no pickups or changes in service and we will have a permanent BA now and we do that at a special meeting to get him on board. We have all worked very diligently on behalf of the Borough to assure no compromise and I am very confident going forward in 2020 that we are in a position to improve services. He congratulated Janetta, Frank and the Mayor and is looking forward to working with them.

Mayor Ruocco said we all welcome the arrival of Chris as our BA and look forward to working with him. Last night he had the honor of swearing in members of the Ambulance Corps at their annual dinner. It is a pleasure to see these volunteers who provide us with the services they do. A well-known gentleman and public figure I knew and worked for over the years passed away recently, Paul Volcker, former chairman of the Federal Reserve. I worked for him; he put up with a tremendous amount of criticism when he was appointed back in '79 as Chairman. He allowed interest rates to rise to very high levels to fight inflation. He went about doing what he thought was right, he was put under severe criticism by home buyers, businesses,

residents, consumers but he stayed the course and after a couple of years the fruits of his efforts came to light. As a result, we have enjoyed low inflation for these past several decades. May he rest in peace.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion: by Councilmember Pizzella, Second: by Councilmember Lundy, and unanimously carried.

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL WILL BE ON  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2020 BEGINNING AT 7:30 P.M.**

Denise Kohan, Municipal Clerk

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**APPROVED AS PRESENTED**