

Mayor Sheinfield called the meeting to order by reading the Open Public Meeting Statement.

This is a Regular Council Meeting of the Hillsdale Borough Council on this 1st day of October, 2024. Notice of the time and place of this meeting has been provided to The Ridgewood News and The Bergen Record; a copy was posted on the bulletin board outside of this meeting room and provided to any interested parties.

Please silence all cell phones. Please wait to be recognized by the Mayor during the Public Hearing and the Public Comment part of the meeting. You will need to state your name and town of residence for the record.

Mayor Sheinfield lead the Pledge of Allegiance then asked the Borough Clerk to take roll call.

Borough Clerk Kohan took the roll call - Council President Escobar, Council Members Colletti, Fox, Osso, Ruocco, Trochimiuk, Mayor Sheinfield – all were in attendance with the exception of councilwoman Trochimiuk. Borough Administrator Mike Ghassali, Borough Clerk Denise Kohan, and Borough Attorney Mark Madaio were also in attendance.

Mayor Sheinfield asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Special Council Meeting on August 29, 2024.

Motion to approve Osso Second Escobar

Ayes: Council President Escobar, Councilmember Fox, Osso, Ruocco

Nays: none

Abstain: Colletti

Absent: Trochimiuk

Mayor Sheinfield asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Closed Session Meeting on August 29, 2024.

Motion to approve Osso Second Ruocco

Ayes: Council President Escobar, Councilmember Fox, Osso, Ruocco

Nays: none

Abstain: Colletti

Absent: Trochimiuk

Mayor Sheinfield asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Council Meeting on September 10, 2024.

Motion to approve Ruocco Second Escobar

Ayes: Council President Escobar, Councilmember Fox, Osso, Ruocco, Colletti

Nays: none

Absent: Trochimiuk

Council was asked to approve a new Full Member for the Fire Department – Carlos Hernandez. He will be sworn in at a later date.

Motion to approve Ruocco Second Escobar

Ayes: Councilmember Colletti, Council President Escobar, Councilmember Fox, Osso, Ruocco

Nays: none

Absent: Trochimiuk

Mayor Sheinfield opened the Initial Public Comment Period which is time limited to three minutes

Rick Savino of Hillsdale suggested that the meeting minutes be posted in draft form so the public can see them in

advance. His suggestion is to make it a policy or include it in the council bylaws for next year.

He also noted that he hears a lot of recuses/abstentions by council members. He wonders why council would refuse or abstain unless there is a conflict of interest and if there that conflict that should be stated in the minutes to show more transparency.

Seeing no one else wishing to address the mayor and council, Mayor Sheinfield closed the Initial Public Comment Period of the meeting.

DISCUSSION:

Sapienza Gardens

Lauren Mitchell – on Behalf of the Sapienza Gardens Trustees

Lauren Mitchell spoke on behalf of the Sapienza Gardens Trustees. Sapienza Gardens is located at the end of St. Nicholas Street. There is close to 11 acres in the gardens that was given in trust to Sapienza Gardens that was named after former PV Principal, Barbara Sapienza. This is one of last few open spaces in town. The Trustees are charged with making sure the gardens benefit the community and increase awareness of its existence in town. Several events are held there all year long. They have a problem with vandalism, downed trees and flooding. They are seeking electrical and water access as well as more security in the area and a solution to the constant flooding that occurs. The Administrator has been working with the Trustees and the DPW by adding rocks and boulders to assist in the water flow. Lorraine Thalman, also a Trustee stated that the culvert is packed with debris and dirt so it cannot handle the flow of the water. Mayor Sheinfield stated that 20% of the gardens in on Borough property and the rest is located on county property. Ms. Mitchell stated that they mainly stick to the Borough owned portion. Check their website for more information at sapienzagarden.wordpress.com or you can email them at info@sapienzagardens.org.

PROFESSIONAL MONTHLY REPORTS:

[Borough Engineer Report – October 2024](#)

Borough Engineer Nick Chelius

Borough Engineer Nick Chelius reported that the vast majority of projects have been completed. There is one bid opening for the paving on Melville Road that is due in on October 8th. The hope is to get this project completed before the asphalt companies closed in November.

Centennial Field project is still in a holding pattern as we have not yet been given approval by the DEP yet. We need to award the bid within 60 days of the bid opening and that deadline is November 8th. The BA will follow up with Lou Spagnola from First Environmental to see if there is any updated information. If we hit that 60 day mark, we would have to go out to bid again.

Memorial Field is in the concept phase and they should have the final details soon to complete a final design.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Council President - John Escobar

The Police Committee met to discuss the PBA contract that is due to expire at the end of the year as well as some personnel issues.

The Ambulance Committee also met where they discussed the regionalization of the Ambulance Corp. They are still waiting to hear back from other towns if they would like to join us. There is no information on the Ambulance study at this time.

OEM continues to test their alert system.

There is no updated on the shared service study being done for ambulance.

Mayor Sheinfield added that the regionalization of the ambulance corp is for the daytime shift but we still need more towns to service the communities and to offset the cost.

Councilman Fox-

Stonybrook had a profitable year. Profit this year is about \$300,000. All but one of the pools were closed over the weekend except the competition pool that is still being used for the Swim Team until November 5th.

Permits for parking for high school students at Stonybrook are being issued through community pass and being monitored by the Police.

There are still several events coming up like the Car Show and Rummage Sale. Check the website for more information.

Councilman Colletti-

The Environmental Commission is making progress on the initiatives that they have set like the nature trail, lanternfly trap distribution program, Styrofoam reduction, community composting, tree management. They attended the town festival as well.

The Local Board of Ed met and their referendum has passed for the Renovation of George White. A timeline is being prepared to be submitted to Trenton for approval; as well as setting up the bond structure to fund the renovations. A summer 2025 groundbreaking is planned.

Councilman Ruocco –

The Finance Committee met and went through revenue and expense reports for August. Department heads were given their budget sheets and they are due by the end of October. The 2025 Budget should be ready by the third week in March. The next meeting is scheduled for October 24th.

Access For All met and discussed grant opportunities. They are in discussion with Sensory Taekwondo of Bergenfield to hopefully develop something for handicap children in the area. They are continuing to work with the Recreation Director for a grant under Jakes Law. October 28 at 6:30 in the library is their next meeting.

The Board of Health met and reports were submitted by the Secretary, Northwest Bergen and one of the nurses. The Secretary reported that almost \$20,000 in revenue has been collected this year so far. It was announced that Ms. Deppert, one of the Board of Health nurses is no longer with the Borough. There was a Special Zoom Meeting on Monday that was held with Board of Health members and the BA to discuss concerns over personnel changes and the options that the Borough has available both in the short and long term.

There is a 50+ Club meeting on October 10th coming up at HUMC at 10:30 as well as a Senior Luncheon on October 16th at St. John's at 11:30.

Councilman Osso-

Commended Superintendent Lombardy and the School Board for their success on the George White Referendum. The Fall Festival was held over the weekend where we had over 40 vendors and 7 food trucks. We had really good feedback even though the weather didn't cooperate but it was well attended.

Recreation has several events coming up and he referred everyone to the website to view the Recreation Brochure for a listing of all the events.

Next week there is a Fire Dept Committee Meeting where he hopes to update everyone on the delivery of the fire truck that was ordered last year.

Borough Administrator Ghassali –

The DPW continues to work on the 4-bay garage. We are changing the lifts where the mechanic will be and they should be coming in next week and then hopefully he can start to operate from the new location. The funds for this are coming from money received from Hurricane Ida.

We are still analyzing the front of the DPW and the Salt Shed but for now that will have to remain as is.

He is meeting with the County to discuss Board of Health options as well as Northwest Bergen for options to continue providing medical services to the Borough.

We will be receiving our 4th round for our Housing Obligation on October 20th. We are finishing our vacant land analysis through Colliers, which is being completed by Darlene Green. This will show us how much vacant land that we actually have. Once this is complete, he will share with the mayor and council.

Councilman Osso looked for an update on the cell tower that has been discussed at Stonybrook. The cell service at Beechwood Park is non-existent which makes it hard to have events there.

The BA responded that the plan is to have a cell tower placed near the Stonybrook soccer field on the Cedar Lane side on Borough property. Right now, there is no timeline as a permit will have to be applied for through the DEP as the area that they are looking to have it placed is in a flood plain, but we also are looking at shifting the location. The Borough Engineer added that it is hard to predict a timeline when applying for permits through the DEP.

ORDINANCES:

[24-14 \(Adoption\)](#)

An Ordinance Supplementing Provisions of Chapter 63 “Police Department” of Code of the Borough of Hillsdale to Establishing Procedures for the Utilization of Off-Duty Police Officers

WHEREAS, Chapter 63 of the Borough Code of the Borough of Hillsdale regards the Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the Borough desires to expand Chapter 63 to establish procedures for the utilization of off-duty police officers

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

Chapter 63 “Police Department” of the code of the Borough of Hillsdale is hereby supplemented by the addition of the following:

§ 63-17. Contracted Extra-Duty Employment.

A. Purpose. For the convenience of those persons and entities which utilize the services of law enforcement officers of the Hillsdale Police Department and to authorize the assignment of Extra Duty of Borough police from a pool of off duty officers, the Borough hereby establishes a policy regarding the use of said officers.

- (1) Members of the Police Department shall be assigned by the Police Department to police related functions for private employers or school districts only during off-duty hours and at such times as will not interfere with the efficient performance of regularly scheduled or emergency duty for the Borough.
- (2) Any person or entity wishing to employ police shall first obtain the approval of the Chief of Police or his designee, which approval shall be granted if, in the opinion of the Chief, such employment would not be inconsistent with the efficient functioning and good reputation of the Police Department, and would not unreasonably endanger or threaten the safety of the officer or officers

who are to perform the work. All such employment may only be in accordance with applicable Police Department policies and procedures

- (3) Off-duty officers selected on a rotating basis for extra-duty details will be considered “on-duty” and will function under the supervision of the Chief of Police. Employees working extra duty assignments will be held to the normal standard of conduct and are subject to disciplinary action for any violation of the rules and regulations.

B. Escrow Accounts.

- (1) Except as provided hereinbelow or required by local finance notices, any person or entity requesting the services of a law enforcement officer in the Hillsdale Police Department shall estimate the number of hours such law enforcement services are required, which estimate shall be approved in writing by the Chief of Police, or his designee, and shall establish an escrow account with the Treasurer of the Borough by depositing an amount sufficient to cover the rates of compensation and administrative fees set forth hereinbelow for the total estimated hours of service.
- (2) If the amount required to be deposited with the Borough pursuant to Subsection 1 hereinabove exceeds \$20,000.00, an escrow deposit of \$20,000.00 shall be required. Said \$20,000.00 deposit shall be maintained until such time as the amount required to be deposited for all remaining services on any given project shall be less than \$20,000.00, and then such lesser amount shall be required to be maintained.
- (3) Prior to posting any request for services of law enforcement officers, the Chief of Police or his designee shall verify that the balance in the escrow account of the person or entity requesting services is sufficient to cover the compensation and fees for the number of hours specified in the request for services from any person or entity unless all fees and compensation required in the manner described above have been deposited with the Borough Treasurer. No officer shall provide any such services for more hours than are specified in the request for services as same may be amended or required by emergency or unforeseen circumstances.
- (4) In the event the funds in such an escrow account should become depleted, services of off-duty law enforcement officers shall immediately cease and requests for further or future services shall not be performed or posted until additional funds have been deposited in the escrow account in the manner prescribed above.
- (5) The person or entity requesting such services shall be responsible for ensuring that sufficient funds remain in the escrow account in order to avoid any interruption of services.

- (6) The person or entity requesting such services and any municipality requesting that such services be performed by Hillsdale Officers outside the municipality of Hillsdale shall execute such Indemnification Agreements and provide such insurance as required by the Borough or its designees.
- (7) Houses of worship and local public schools shall be exempt from the requirements for the posting of an escrow deposit.

C. Requests for Services.

All requests to the Borough for the services of law enforcement officers in the Hillsdale Police Department shall be forwarded to the Chief of Police, or his designee, for a period of at least one week or longer shall be forwarded at least 10 days before such services are required. Any law enforcement officers, when so employed by the Borough, shall be treated as an employee of the Borough and shall be deemed to be “on-duty” for departmental purposes provided, however, that wages earned for Extra Duty shall not be applied toward the pension benefits of law enforcement officers so employed. Nor shall hours worked for extra duty employment be considered in any way as “departmental overtime”.

D. Rates of Compensation; Administration Fee; Payment for Services.

- (1) Rates of compensation to the Borough of Hillsdale from the vendor for contracting services of off-duty law enforcement officers including, without limitation, administrative charges and vehicle use charges shall be determined by the Mayor and Council by annual Resolution. Rate of compensation to the officer performing said services shall be equal to that of time and one-half of the contractual hourly rate for that individual officer.
- (2) The vendor is responsible to pay a minimum of four hours at the established rate of compensation regardless if the job takes less than four hours.
- (3) A vendor cancelling a requested job must provide notification to the Hillsdale Police Department, Chief of Police, or his designee, of at least two hours before; otherwise, such vendor shall be responsible to pay a four-hour minimum at the established rate of compensation. On all cases, off-duty law enforcement officers are paid at their established rate of overtime.

E. Borough Liability.

By accepting extra-duty employment, officers recognize that the Borough can never be responsible for payment to the officers unless compensated by the entity seeking the use the officer’s services.

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

In the event that any word, phrase, clause, section or provision of this Ordinance is found by any Court of

competent jurisdiction to be unenforceable, illegal or unconstitutional, such word, phrase, clause or provision shall be severable from the balance of this Ordinance and the remainder of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

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

Motion to open public hearing on Ordinance 24-14 Escobar Second Osso

Ayes: Councilmember Fox, Osso, Ruocco, Colletti, Council President Escobar

Nays: none

Absent: Trochimiuk

I will now open the meeting to the public. If anyone desires to be heard regarding Ordinance No 24-14, please say your name and wait to be recognized, once recognized state your name and address for the record.

Councilman Ruocco stated that this ordinance establishes a process where previously there were no documented procedures. He asked what the past practice for something like this is currently. The BA stated that we fill the schedule in house through a rotational basis and if no one wishes to pick up the shift, they look to other towns. The staff is not required or obligated to take any of these shifts, nor does the new ordinance require it.

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 24-14 Fox Second Escobar

Ayes: Councilmember Ruocco, Colletti, Council President Escobar, Fox, Osso

Nays: none

Absent: Trochimiuk

Now, therefore, be it resolved that this ordinance is adopted and the Borough Clerk is authorized to advertise the same according to law.

RESOLUTIONS:(Consent Agenda): 24258 through 24266:

[24258](#) Resolution to Authorize the Borough Clerk to Advertise Requests for Qualifications for Borough Professionals

BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4, et seq. that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise for the above-mentioned services for the following positions for year 2025:

Borough Attorney
Borough Engineer
Borough Labor Attorney
Architectural/Engineering and Planning Services – Redevelopment

Planning Board Attorney
Planning Board Engineer
Planning Board Planner

[24259](#) Resolution to Cancel Grant Balances

WHEREAS, there exist certain Capital Grant Receivables and Capital Grant Receivable Reserves on the Balance Sheet that were adopted into previous Budgets for the Borough of Hillsdale; and

WHEREAS, the balances are no longer necessary for the purpose originally created,

WHEREAS, it is necessary to formally cancel the receivable balances and their offsetting receivable reserve balances from the balance sheet;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale that the following grant receivables and grant receivable reserves be cancelled:

Capital Fund

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Authorization Balance to Cancel</u>	
4-04-117-03-000-000	Ord. 14-02 2014 road program	\$ 92,408.63	-
4-04-226-55-038-000	Ord. 14-02 2014 road program reserve	\$ 92,408.63	
4-04-117-03-000-000	Ord. 19-07 American Legion	\$ 1,111.34	
4-04-226-55-038-000	Ord. 19-07 American Legion reserve	\$ 1,111.34	

[24260](#) Resolution to Authorize the Borough Clerk to Advertise for Bids for the Stonybrook Concession Stand

WHEREAS, there is a need for a concession stand at Stonybrook Swim Club, and;

WHEREAS, the purpose of the contract is to open and operate for, and close after, the full summer operation for retail food services within a concession stand located inside the Administration Building, and;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Borough Clerk is duly authorized to advertise for such services.

Resolution 24261 was pulled by Councilman Ruocco to be voted on separately.

[24262](#) Resolution Authorizing Disposal of Surplus Property

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hillsdale has determined that property listed below is no longer needed for public use pursuant to the Division of Local Government Services Local Finance Notice 2008-9 and the Local Unit Technology Pilot Program and Study Act (P.L. 2001, c. 30) which authorizes the sale of this surplus personal property through the use of an online auction service; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hillsdale intends to utilize GovDeals.com online auction services; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough that the Purchasing Agent is hereby authorized to sell the surplus personal property as indicated on www.GovDeals.com; an authorized online auction website; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Auction for items shall be for a total of (10) days and all fees are to be paid for by buyer as per the terms and conditions of the agreement entered into between Gov Deals and the Borough of Hilldale and are available at www.GovDeals.com and in the office of the Purchasing Agent.

2024 Auction List

Vin#	Year	Make	Model	Body Type
ZFABP7BV9AX101925	2010	FORD	CROWN VIC	4 DOOR
ZFAHP71W15X169517	2005	FORD	CROWN VIC	4 DOOR
1FM5K8AR4FGA57776	2015	FORD	EXPLORER	4 DOOR
1FM5K8AR1EGB02705	2014	FORD	EXPLORER	4 DOOR
1FDFF4FS0BDAG3599	2011	FORD	E-450 SUPER	4 DOOR

[24263](#) Resolution to Authorize the Borough Clerk to Advertise for Bids for Emergency Repair Work of Traffic Signals

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hillsdale wishes to advertise for the receipt of bids for Emergency Repairs of Traffic Signals throughout the Borough; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hillsdale that the Purchasing Agent, in consultation with the Department of Public Works and the Borough Administrator, be and is hereby authorized to prepare specifications to solicit bids for Emergency Repairs of Traffic Signals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hillsdale that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise for receipt of the above referenced bid.

[24264](#) Resolution Authorizing the Officer in Charge in Charge to Process Firearms Identification Cards in the Absence of the Chief of Police

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 2C:58-3 (b), and similar statutes, indicate that Firearms Identification Cards may be filed with the chief police officer of the municipality in which the person resides or with the superintendent; and

WHEREAS, from time to time, in the Chief of Police's temporary absence, there is an Officer in Charge of the Hillsdale Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the Borough, by adoption of this Resolution, wishes to approve and authorize the Officer in Charge to process Firearms Identification Card Applications;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Officer in Charge is hereby authorized to process Firearms Identification Card Applications in the temporary absence of the Chief of Police; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Mayor, Borough Administrator, Borough Clerk, and Borough Labor

Attorney are hereby authorized to take all steps to implement this resolution.

[24265](#) Chapter 159 – Spotted Lanternfly Reimbursement Program

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

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

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hillsdale has received a grant in the amount of \$20,000.00 from the Spotted Lanternfly Reimbursement Program for the purpose of insect control in the Borough, and wishes to amend its 2024 budget to include this amount as a revenue,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough Council of the Borough of Hillsdale hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue from:

Miscellaneous Revenues:
Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written
Consent of Director of Local Government Services - Public and
Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:
Spotted Lanternfly Reimbursement Program

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a like sum of \$20,000.00 be and the same is hereby appropriated under the caption of:

General Appropriations:
(A) Operations - Excluded from “CAPS”
Public and Private Appropriations Offset by Revenues:
Spotted Lanternfly Reimbursement
Other Expenses - \$20,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer will enter the approved resolution into the FAST system for approval by the Division of Local Government Services.

Resolution 24266 was pulled by Councilman Ruocco to be voted on separately.

Motion Ruocco Second Escobar
Ayes: Councilmember Colletti, Council President Escobar, Fox, Osso, Ruocco
Nays: none
Absent: Trochimiuk

OFF-CONSENT:

[24261](#) Resolution Establishing Rate of Compensation for Off Duty Police Officers Pursuant to Ordinance 24-14, Section 63-17 (D)(1)

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 24-14, Section 63-17(D)(1) provides that an annual Resolution be adopted to establish the rates of compensation for outside employment of off-duty Law Enforcement Officers.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the rate of compensation to the Borough of Hillsdale from the vendor for outside employment of off-duty Law Enforcement Officers for the year 2024, retroactive to January 1, 2024, is as follows:

Law Enforcement Officers	\$150.00 per hour
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Councilman Ruocco wanted to know how the \$150 an hour was determined because it does not match what the newly adopted ordinance states. The ordinance refers to paying the officer time and a half. The BA clarified that the \$150.00 is what the Borough is charging the vendor per hour for the use of the officer, it is not the salary that the Borough pays the officers. The goal is to have a flat rate to charge the vendors, which is what other towns are doing. This replaces the administrative and police vehicle fees mentioned in the Borough Code.

Motion Ruocco Second Osso

Ayes: Councilmember Colletti, Council President Escobar, Fox, Osso, Ruocco

Nays: none

Absent: Trochimiuk

[24266](#) Resolution Approving Shared Services Agreement Between the Borough of Hillsdale and the Township of River Vale for the Position of Tax Collector

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hillsdale (“Hillsdale”) is in need of a Tax Collector to service its taxpayers, as is required under N.J.S.A. 40A:9-141; and

WHEREAS, Township of River Vale (“River Vale”) is able and willing to provide such tax collection services to Hillsdale; and

WHEREAS, the legislature of the State of New Jersey has sought to encourage its political subdivisions to cooperate as evidenced by the enactment of N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq authorizes local units of government to enter contracts with other local units of government for the provision of services;

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of Hillsdale and River Vale to enter into a Shared Services Agreement for the provision of tax collection services;

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 Shared Services Agreement between the Borough of Hillsdale and the Township of River Vale, for the position of Tax Collector, the terms of which are incorporated by reference herein, be and hereby is approved.

2. The Mayor be and hereby is authorized to execute said Shared Services Agreement.
3. The Mayor, Borough Administrator, Borough Attorney, Borough Clerk and Borough Labor

Motion Ruocco Second Escobar

Councilman Ruocco stated that the resolution references the terms of the agreement but the agreement is not being made public.

Motion Ruocco Second Escobar

Ayes: Council President Escobar, Councilmember Fox, Osso, Ruocco, Colletti

Nays: none

Absent: Trochimiuk

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mayor Sheinfield opened the second Public Comment Period.

Lauren Mitchell from Sapienza Gardens asked if the Sapienza Gardens website could be added to the Borough website somehow this way more people can be aware of the actual grounds and the activities that take place there. She also asked for assistance in updating their website as she cannot seem to access it. It not being part of the Borough, we don't really get involved, but the BA stated he would be happy to assist.

Seeing no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Sheinfield closed the second Public Comment Period.

COUNCIL COMMENTARY

Mayor Sheinfield commented on the cell tower. He will continue to work on this but it will take time as it is a process. The goal is to have this tower installed as soon as possible.

Councilman Ruocco was happy to hear that the Veolia WCL reservoir nature walking trail has opened along Woodcliff Lake, Park Ridge and even Hillsdale. Councilman Pizzella worked on this when he was on council and its nice to see it as a reality.

He also added that he had an issue with his mail in ballot as well as his wife's. They opted for mail in ballots for the Special School Election only. However, they both received mail in ballots for the General Election when they did not choose this option. He did OPRA their ballot applications and they were checked off as if they requested mail ins for the General Election, but he concludes that someone in the County Clerk's Office had checked off all future elections as he and his wife did not check off to have a mail in ballot for all future elections. He is suspicious of the staff at the county and what they do. The County claims they got the ballots this way.

He wished all our Jewish residents a Happy Rosh Hashanah.

Councilman Colletti paid tribute to all those that participated in the town festival. He thanked all the vendors that participated. He especially wanted to thank the DPW for their presence and their support as it was necessary that day due to the weather.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn Ruocco Second Escobar

All in favor: Councilmember Colletti, Council President Escobar, Fox, Osso, Ruocco

Absent: Trochimiuk

Denise Kohan, Municipal Clerk

APPROVED AS PRESENTED