

Mayor Sheinfield opened the meeting by leading the Pledge of Allegiance. He called for a moment of silence for our past Mayor, Thomas Misciagna that recently passed. Mayor Sheinfield gave a brief history of Mayor Misciagna and his accomplishments and offered his family his condolences on behalf of the Borough.

The meeting was then called to order and Mayor Sheinfield read the Open Public Meeting Statement:

This is a meeting of the Hillsdale Borough Council on this 2nd day of April 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.

Borough Clerk Kohan took roll call:

Council President Escobar, Council Members Fox, Lundy, Osso, Ruocco, Trochimiuk, Mayor Sheinfield (Borough Administrator Mike Ghassali, Borough Clerk Denise Kohan, Borough Attorney Mark Madaio) – all were in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

[Council Meeting Minutes March 5, 2024](#)

[Council Meeting Minutes March 12, 2024](#)

Closed Session Minutes March 5, 2024

Motion Lundy Second Trochimiuk

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

Nays: None

INITIAL PUBLIC COMMENT (time limited to 3 minutes, items on the agenda only, one topic per speaker -please state your name and town of residence for the record)

Mayor Sheinfield opened the initial public comment period. Seeing no one wishing to speak, he closed this portion of the meeting.

PROFESSIONALS REPORT/MONTHLY DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

(The following correspondence on file in Borough Clerks Office)

[Borough Engineer Report – March 2024](#)

Borough Engineer Nick Chelius summed up the Engineer report for March 2024. There is a lot of upcoming projects from 2023 and 2024 that will be happening once the budget is approved for paving. Closeouts of the 2022 Paving Project and the fall 2023 Capital Paving projects will be concluded soon as they are just waiting on a few items. Geotechnical testing at Centennial has been delayed due to the weather but should be in the next week or so. They are waiting on authorization to begin work at Memorial Field, hopefully sometime in May. Tonight there is a resolution on for Tier A Sewer reporting which is a requirement for the Borough, to maintain their storm water general permit. There are 2 grants currently in the works. One is the Local Recreation Improvement Grant which

will be applied to the Beechwood Nature Trail to reconstruct a portion of that trail. The other is the Bergen County Open Space Grant, which is also going to be applied to the Beechwood Nature Trail for the work that hasn't been done from the past projects. They will need to apply for DEP permits again because this is an environmentally sensitive area. The grant period is typically 2 years to complete these projects. Councilmember Lundy asked where we are with the current project for the trail? The Borough Engineer stated that permits have been submitted to the DEP and they are waiting for approval before anything can move forward. Bids are prepared but again nothing can be done without the DEP approval. Councilman Fox asked what the status is of the Douglas Drive and Melville Road project? The Borough Engineer stated that this is part of the 2024 grant that has not been authorized to start.

DISCUSSION:

Fence Regulations as per Planning Board Request

Councilmember Trochimiuk

The Planning Board met last week and provided their annual report. Based on that report, they would like to make a recommendation based on applications received in the past year regarding fencing located in the front of homes. They would like fencing located in the front of homes to be 50% unobstructed as opposed to a solid fence that you cannot see through. This is standard in most other towns and could alleviate safety issues for pedestrians, police and cars. The Borough Attorney will draft an ordinance for consideration at an upcoming meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Council members serve as liaisons to departments and committees in Hillsdale to provide the governing body and the public with an update on arising issues, actions considered, and actions taken within a given organization.

Liaisons are not expected to be intimately familiar with the granular issues being considered by committees and departments. The people responsible for such information are the B.A. and the internal head of the department or committee.

Should anyone have questions requiring an in-depth response, and the council person is not comfortable providing the answer, I will direct the B.A. to provide a response. If an answer cannot be immediately ascertained, it will be the responsibility of the B.A. to speak to relevant parties and provide the person making the inquiry with a timely response. The B.A. will then report back his findings to the mayor, council, and public at the next public meeting.

Councilwoman – Janetta Trochimiuk

The Planning Board met last week and Robert Lombardi, the Superintendent of the local schools and Kenneth Ross who is the Senior Project Manager at Rubino Architects came before the Board with the George White Capital Improvement plan for the proposed renovations. The Planning Board is tasked with making sure that projects meet with the Boroughs Master Plan. The Planning Board did find that the plans for the George White School are consistent with the Master Plan and therefore the plans were approved. The plans will now go to the state for their review and approval. A referendum is planned for September.

An Economic Development Meeting was held where they discussed rehabilitation and revitalization in the downtown. They met with the Borough Planner, Darlene Green but they are still working on this and hope to have something to present the council in a month or so.

Councilman – Clemente Osso

He would like to invite everyone to HBSA Opening Day on Saturday, April 6th with a raindate of April 7th. There will be food vendors and other activities which begin at 10:00.

The Fire Department reported that they have answered 61 calls for the month of March, which seems to be in line with the same time period as last year.

Councilman – John Ruocco

Access for All met on March 18th. There is still some vacancies that need to be filled by the Borough Administrator and by the Council. Discussions focused around a GPS software package called Angel Sense. Its available with police cooperation and involvement and can be used to assist in locating autistic individuals. In addition, discussions were held on giving better access to parks for those with disabilities. They are looking at grants under Jake's Law that support projects for those with disabilities.

Their annual Art Show is May 1st begins at 6:00 pm at the library.

The Board of Health met on March 19th. Councilman Ruocco summed up the activities that were held by Northwest Bergen Regional Health Officer as well as the town nurses and the activities of Tyco the Borough's Animal Control officers. Their 2023 Animal Control Report was submitted and available to anyone wishing to view it can contact the Borough Clerk. They are planning several activities in the upcoming months.

Councilwoman— Abby Lundy

The Environmental Commission met on March 18th. One of the members is working with the Town of Ridgewood who just recently purchased a Styrofoam densifier. While Hillsdale does an annual Styrofoam drive, they are interested in pursuing a shared service with Ridgewood. She shared the Shared Service Agreement with the BA and the DPW Superintendent as well as the DPW Liaison for review to see if it would be cost effective. They are still working on the tree ordinance that is required to be updated.

There will be a tree seedling distribution on April 13th which will be held at the train station and in the event of rain it will be held at the library.

Stonybrook registration opened March 18th. The competition pool is being worked on and will be ready to be filled next week. Registration is up over \$25,000.00 from this time last year. Several improvement programs are scheduled for the pool and pool grounds this year. An Open House is scheduled for May 18th, where new members can receive a 10% discount if they sign up on this day. Watch for several new programs that the Director will be advertising.

The Ambulance Committee met last week and they discussed pursuing shared services with other towns, which would help offset costs of our paid EMT's. The Ambulance Committee is receptive to adding a second rig which would have to mirror what the borough already has. If we had a second ambulance we would have to go through the Department of Health, which will allow us to bill the insurance companies. We would use a third-party billing system which would take a small percentage. In doing this it would not deplete our services. While we have mutual aid, we do not go to other towns while we have paid emts working. We only go to other towns when the volunteers are working.

Councilman – Justin Fox

The DPW is preparing the fields for opening day. He will have the BA elaborated more when he gives his report.

Borough Administrator – Mike Ghassali

He welcomed a new business in town, Merit Trophies and Engraving located at 309 Broadway, Suite 1.

We are on track for the Police and Borough Hall renovation projects.

The DPW is working hard on the fields to get them ready for opening day, but we are expecting heavy rain for the next few days. We have received 50 tons of clay and we have also order two truckloads of stone dust. There is more clay on order. He visited Memorial this morning and it looks good, Centennial needs more clay and this is expected to arrive next week.

The meeting tonight is being broadcasted on zoom, the 2 network channels and for the first time YouTube Live. He thanked Denise Kohan, the Borough Clerk for getting this set up.

He has engaged Darlene Green, our Borough Planner for work on the Affordable Housing Bill and what it will mean for the Borough.

Councilmember Osso asked the Administrator when the additional 25 tons of clay would arrive so that the DPW can get this work completed? As a reference, the BA stated that normally we order 25 tons of clay a year for all the fields. This year we have already received 50 tons and are waiting on an additional 25 just for Centennial fields. There is no set date as to when we will receive this from the vendor. Councilman Osso stated that due to the poor weather we had in the fall and winter, we had anticipated ordering 100 tons of clay yet this did not happen. The Administrator stated that once we get passed this and have everything ready, we will go back and look at where we failed. The DPW is ready as soon as this is delivered and overtime has been approved to get this work completed as fast as possible. Councilmember Fox asked did we order the clay too late and that is what the BA believes was the issue as we knew what we needed three months ago. The BA took the overall responsibility for this, but the Superintendent of the DPW actually orders the clay.

ORDINANCES:

24-07 (Adoption)

Borough of Hillsdale Calendar Year 2024 – Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget up to 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year’s final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

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

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale (the “Borough”) in the County of Bergen finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2024 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year’s final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council hereby determines that a 1% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$ 123,703.31 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

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

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough in the County of Bergen, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2023 budget year, the final appropriations of the Borough shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to **\$432,961.59**, and that the CY 2023 municipal budget for the Borough be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

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

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the

Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

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

Motion to open public hearing on Ordinance 24-07 Lundy Second Ruocco

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

Nays: None

I will now open the meeting to the public. If anyone desires to be heard regarding Ordinance No 24-07, please say your name and wait to be recognized, once recognized state your name and address for the record.

I will now entertain a motion that the public hearing on Ordinance No. 24-07 be closed and that it be resolved that this ordinance was posted on the bulletin board on which public notices are customarily posted and published in the Ridgewood News. Copies of said ordinance were made available to the general public.

Motion to close public hearing on Ordinance 24-07 Ruocco Second Escobar

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

Nays: None

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 24-07 Escobar Second Lundy

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

Nays: None

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

24-08 (Adoption)

Capital Ordinance of the Borough of Hillsdale, In the County of Bergen, New Jersey authorizing the Making of Various Public Improvements and Acquisitions in, By and for the Swim Pool Utility of the Borough, Appropriating Therefor the Sum of \$102,000 and Providing That Such Sum So Appropriated Shall be Raised from the Swim Pool Utility Capital Improvement Fund of the Borough

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. The Borough of Hillsdale, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey (the "Borough") is hereby authorized to make the following public improvements and acquisitions in, by and for the Swim Utility of the Borough, including all work, materials and appurtenances necessary and suitable therefor:

(A) Parking Lot Improvements

Various Parking Lot upgrades, acquisitions, and repairs including but not limited to:

Seal coat and striping

Estimated Cost Total: \$27,000.00

(B) Swimming Pool Maintenance and Repair

Replacement and repair of various swimming pool pumps and motors

Estimated Cost Total: \$20,000.00

(C) Roof Repairs

Various repairs including but not limited to:

Painting and replacement of roofing material

Estimated Cost Total: \$22,000.00

(D) Swimming Pool Main Bldg Maintenance and Repair

Replace wood soffit and wrap in aluminum, counter tops

Estimated Cost Total: \$9,000.00

Swimming Facility Exterior L

Add landscaping light, grounds improvements

Estimated Cost Total: \$9,000.00

(E) Monitoring System

Swimming pool water level monitor, shade structure

Estimated Cost Total: \$9,000.00

(F) PA System upgrades

Purchase new system, Wi-Fi upgrades

Estimated Cost Total: \$6,000.00

Section 2. The sum of \$102,000 is hereby appropriated to the payment of the cost of the improvements and acquisitions authorized and described in Section 1 hereof (hereinafter referred to as "purpose"). Said appropriation shall be raised from the Swim Pool Utility Capital Improvement Fund of the Borough. The sum of \$102,000 is hereby appropriated from the Swim Pool Utility Capital Improvement Fund of the Borough to the payment of the cost of said purpose.

Section 3. Said improvements are lawful capital improvements of the Borough having a period of usefulness of at least five (5) years. Said improvements shall be made as general improvements, no part of the cost of which shall be assessed against property specially benefited.

Section 4. The capital budget is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this capital ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency therewith and the resolutions promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital program as approved by the Director, Division of Local Government Services, is on file with the Borough Clerk and is available for public inspection.

Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect at the time and in the manner provided by law.

Motion to open public hearing on Ordinance 24-08 Lundy Second Trochimiuk

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

Nays: None

I will now open the meeting to the public. If anyone desires to be heard regarding Ordinance No 24-08, please say your name and wait to be recognized, once recognized state your name and address for the record.

I will now entertain a motion that the public hearing on Ordinance No. 24-08 be closed and that it be resolved that this ordinance was posted on the bulletin board on which public notices are customarily posted and published in the Ridgewood News. Copies of said ordinance were made available to the general public.

Motion to close public hearing on Ordinance 24-08 Escobar Second Lundy

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

Nays: None

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 24-08 Ruocco Second Escobar

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

Nays: None

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): 24113 through 24125:

[24113](#) Resolution to Cancel Grant Balances

WHEREAS, there exist certain Grant Receivables and Grant Appropriated 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 appropriation 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 appropriation balances be cancelled:

<u>Grant Fund</u>			
<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Authorization</u>	<u>Balance to Cancel</u>
G-02-10-507-100	CLICK IT TICKET RCVBL	\$	1,675.00
G-02-41-507-000	CLICK IT OR TICKET APPROP RSRV	\$	1,675.00
G-02-10-508-100	DISTRACTED DRIVING RCVBL	\$	330.00
G-02-41-508-000	DISTRACTED DRIVING APPROP RSRV	\$	330.00
G-02-10-509-100	DRIVE SOBER LABOR DAY RCVBL	\$	110.00
G-02-41-509-000	DRIVE SOBER LABOR DAY APPROP RSRV	\$	110.00
G-02-10-509-101	DRIVE SOBER HOLIDAY RCVBL	\$	5,285.69
G-02-41-509-001	DRIVE SOBER HOLIDAY APPROP RSRV	\$	5,285.69
G-02-10-621-100	JIF SAFETY RCVBL	\$	500.00
G-02-41-621-000	JIF SAFETY APPROP RSRV	\$	500.00
G-02-10-621-102	RADON AWARENESS RCVBL	\$	442.11
G-02-41-621-002	RADON AWARENESS APPROP RSRV	\$	442.11
G-02-10-856-100	CDBG SENIOR CITIZENS RCVBL	\$	8,765.10
G-02-41-856-000	CDBG SENIOR CITIZENS APPROP RSRV	\$	8,765.10
G-02-10-856-101	CDBG ADA COMPLIANCE RCVBL	\$	190.00
G-02-41-856-001	CDBG ADA COMPLIANCE APPROP RSRV	\$	190.00
G-02-10-602-100	CLEAN COMMUNITIES RCVBL	\$	27.00
G-02-41-602-000	CLEAN COMMUNITIES APPROP RSRV	\$	27.00

[24114](#) Resolution Authorizing Refund of Tax Overpayment – 27 Legion Place

WHEREAS, Kensington Vanguard National Land Services, LLC sent a 1st quarter 2024 tax payment for Melissa Brown, 27 Legion Place, Block 1522, Lot 1 and CoreLogic had also submitted payment, and;

WHEREAS, Kensington Vanguard National Land Services, LLC has requested the overpayment be sent back to them and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale authorize

the Tax Collector to refund the following taxes:

Block 1522, Lot 1
27 Legion Place \$ 4,138.35

TOTAL TO BE REFUNDED: \$ 4,138.35

Refund to: Kensington Vanguard National Land Services LLC
600 Parsippany Road, Suite 202
Parsippany, NJ 07054

[24115](#) Resolution Decreasing the Price for Services of American Asphalt & Trucking LLC for the 2023 Fall Capital Road Paving Program – Change Order #1

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hillsdale (Borough), by Resolution 23250 dated October 10, 2023, awarded a contract to American Asphalt & Trucking, LLC for the 2023 Fall Capital Road Paving Program in the Borough of Hillsdale at a total contract amount not to exceed of \$720,518.17; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer has proposed Change Order #1 for a decrease in the amount of \$56,767.88 due to a decrease in the need and price of supplies needed to complete the project; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator is recommending the approval by the Governing Boady of change Order No. 1; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council do hereby authorize the execution by the Administrator of Change Order No. 1 pursuant to which the contract price will be decreased by \$56,767.88 from \$720,518.17 to \$663,750.29 (the “Amended Contract Price”).

[24116](#) Corrective Resolution Amending Award Amount for the Contract for Grass Cutting on Stonybrook Swim Club Property

WHEREAS, On March 5, 2024, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale awarded a Contract for Grass Cutting on Stonybrook Swim Club Property to Ground Rules of 16 Birch Terrace Montvale, NJ; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 24092 was adopted awarding the aforesaid Contract, in the amount of Twenty-Four Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty Dollars and no cents; and

WHEREAS, it has been brought to the attention of the Mayor and Council that the amount awarded for the Contract specified in Resolution, 24092 was incorrect and not in accordance with the bid; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council wish to adopt a Corrective Resolution for Resolution 24092 rectifying this error.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale hereby award the contract for the Grass Cutting on Stonybrook Swim Club Property to Ground Rules for a 1-year contract for a term expiring at the end of the season of 2024 at the amount of **Twenty-Two Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$22,000.00)**, with the option to extend such contract for two additional one-year terms.

24117 & 24118 were pulled to vote on separately by Councilmember Trochimiuk

[24119](#) Resolution Authorizing Emergency Purchase Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6

WHEREAS, an emergency had arisen with respect to the condition of the Department of Public Works Building; and

WHEREAS, a certification of an imminent hazard was received from the Borough Administrator and Department of Public Works Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, an emergency purchase pursuant to NJSA 40A:11-6 may be awarded without advertisement for bids or bidding in that an emergency affecting the health and public safety requires immediate performance of the service.

WHEREAS, there was a need for restoration services for water damage that occurred due to heavy flooding within the Department of Public Works Building as stated by the Borough Administrator and Department of Public Works Superintendent. Therefore, such contract may be awarded without competitive bidding as permitted by NJSA 40A:11-6; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale authorizes the Borough of Hillsdale to enter into a contract with Servpro D/B/A A&D Restoration of Paramus located at 55 Cannonball Road Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442 at an amount not to exceed \$3881.15.

[24120](#) Municipal Alliance Grant – Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Fiscal Cycle June July 2020 – June 2025 – Fiscal Year 2025

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

WHEREAS, The Borough Council of the Borough of Hillsdale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Council further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has applied for funding to the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Bergen;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough of Hillsdale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Borough Council does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the Hillsdale Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2025 in the amount of:

DEDR	\$ 4507.18
Cash Match	\$ 1126.80
In-Kind	\$ 3380.39

2. The Borough Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

24121 was pulled by councilman Ruocco to be voted on separately.

24122 Resolution Authorizing the Signing of an Agreement with Colliers Engineering & Design for Engineering Services Regarding Tier-A Municipal Storm Sewer System (MS4) Reporting & Inspections

WHEREAS, the Borough desires to utilize Colliers Engineering services for implementing the conditions of the Borough’s Tier-A Municipal Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) and the New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) permit located in the Borough of Hillsdale; and

WHEREAS, Colliers Engineering & Design Inc. (hereinafter, “Colliers”) has presented an Agreement to the Borough for such engineering services regarding the conditions of the Borough’s Tier-A Municipal Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) and the New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) permit located in the Borough of Hillsdale; and

WHEREAS, the scope of services includes an Annual Report and Supplemental Questionnaire, a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan update as well as perform an Internal Compliance Audit and Outfall Inspections; and

WHEREAS, the fees related to the above referenced services are:

Annual Report & Supplemental Questionnaire	\$ 15,000.00
Outfall Inspections	<u>19,500.00</u>
	\$ 34,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the Borough desires to execute the Agreement and authorize Colliers to perform the services set forth above.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey hereby authorizes the Mayor and/or Administrator to sign the aforesaid Agreement with Colliers and all other appropriate Borough professionals are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all steps necessary to effectuate the purposes of said document.

24123 Resolution Authorizing the Return of Unused Escrow for the Property Located at 140 Oak Trail Road, Block 601 Lot 31

WHEREAS, funds were deposited with the Borough of Hillsdale in connection with the property located at 140 Oak Trail Road in the Borough of Hillsdale, NJ 07642, Project TOW0010002; and

WHEREAS, a request was made by the applicant to have any unused escrow funds be returned; and

WHEREAS, it was reported by the Finance Department that a balance does remain in the 2024 General Trust Escrow Account and funds may be refunded to the applicant; and

WHEREAS, the Code Compliance Office and the Finance Office have reported that the all monies due have been paid on the subject property; and all escrows can be released in the amount not to exceed \$141.25; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Hillsdale, that the funds on deposit in the 2024 General Trust Account in connection with the property located at 140 Oak Trail Road, Block 601 Lot 31 in Hillsdale, NJ 07642; be released/refunded by the Borough.

[24124](#) Resolution Authorizing the Return of Unused Escrow for the Property Located at 191 Wierimus Road, Block 601 Lot 63

WHEREAS, funds were deposited with the Borough of Hillsdale in connection with the property located at 191 Wierimus Road in the Borough of Hillsdale, NJ 07642, Project SOB0010002; and

WHEREAS, a request was made by the applicant to have any unused escrow funds be returned; and

WHEREAS, it was reported by the Finance Department that a balance does remain in the 2024 General Trust Escrow Account and funds may be refunded to the applicant; and

WHEREAS, the Code Compliance Office and the Finance Office have reported that the all monies due have been paid on the subject property; and all escrows can be released in the amount not to exceed \$302.50; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Hillsdale, that the funds on deposit in the 2024 General Trust Account in connection with the property located at 191 Wierimus Road, Block 601 Lot 63 in Hillsdale, NJ 07642; be released/refunded by the Borough.

24125 was pulled by councilman Osso to be voted on separately.

Motion Ruocco Second Lundy

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

Nays: None

The following resolutions were pulled to be discussed and voted on separately:

[24117](#) Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Non-Fair & Open Contract for Exploratory Sewer Camera Inspection

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works has a need to perform an exploratory camera inspection to define drainage system in road and locate bad sections, mark out lines and connections as well as determine the diameter of pipes at 20 Cherry Place located in the Borough of Hillsdale as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 or 20.5 as appropriate; and,

WHEREAS, the Qualified Purchasing Agent has determined that the value of the acquisitions will exceed \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, Dutra Excavating & Sewer, Inc located at 10 Stone Hollow Road, Montvale, NJ 07645 has submitted a proposal on February 20, 2024 indicating they will provide the services explained above for the amount of \$1,700.00; and

WHEREAS, Dutra Excavating & Sewer, Inc has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Dutra Excavating & Sewer, Inc has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Hillsdale in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit Dutra Excavating & Sewer, Inc from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale authorizes the Borough of Hillsdale to enter into a contract with Dutra Excavating & Sewer, Inc as described herein at an amount not to exceed \$1,700.00.

Motion Trochimiuk Second Osso

Councilmember Trochimiuk questioned that the resolution stated that the cost is over \$17,500, but the actual invoice is not. The QPA stated that the vendor and the commodity is over the threshold of \$17,500 so while this single invoice is not, the vendor and the commodity is so we need to approve this.

Ayes: Councilmember Lundy, Osso, Ruocco, Trochimiuk, Council President Escobar, Fox
Nays: none

[24118](#) Resolution Confirming Endorsement for the Bergen County Home Investment Partnerships

WHEREAS, a Bergen County HOME Investment Partnerships application of \$250,000.00 has been proposed by BCUW Madeline Housing Partners, LLC for Hillsdale Supportive Housing in the municipality of Hillsdale and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the State Interlocal Services Act, HOME funds may not be spent in a municipality without authorization by the Mayor and Council, and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid project is in the best interest of the people of Hillsdale, and

WHEREAS, this resolution does not obligate the financial resources of the municipality and is intended solely to expedite expenditure of the aforesaid HOME application,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of Hillsdale hereby confirm endorsement of the aforesaid project, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Director of the Bergen County Division of Community Development so that implementation of the aforesaid project may be expedited.

Motion Trochimiuk Second Osso

Councilmember Trochimiuk questioned what this is for. The Borough Attorney stated that this county program has to be endorsed by the Borough. There is no financial obligation of the Borough except confirming the endorsement of expenditure of funds in the town. This project is being done at 40 Central Avenue.

Ayes: Councilmember Osso, Ruocco, Trochimiuk, Council President Escobar, Fox, Lundy
Nays: none

[24121](#) Resolution Hiring Full Time Laborer John Oddo for the Department of Public Works

WHEREAS, there exists a need for a Full Time Laborer within the Borough of Hillsdale Department of Public Works; and,

WHEREAS, John Oddo meets the requirements to fill the position at the Department of Public Works; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council Borough that John Oddo is hereby appointed to the position of Full Time Laborer in the Department of Public Works, effective on or about April 3, 2024 at the annual salary rate of \$46,350.00.

Motion Ruocco Second Escobar

Councilmember Ruocco pulled this just to inform the public that this hiring is to replace an existing individual that is leaving. While the introduced budget does allow for an additional employee, this is just for replacement.

Ayes: Councilmember Ruocco, Trochimiuk, Council President Escobar, Fox, Lundy, Osso
Nays: none

[24125](#) Resolution Increasing the Price for Services of TNS Construction, LLC for the Police Department Renovations – Change Order #1

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hillsdale (Borough), by Resolution 24058 dated January 22, 2024, awarded a contract to TNS Construction, LLC for the Police Station Improvements in the Borough of Hillsdale at a total contract amount not to exceed of \$85,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Project Engineer has proposed Change Order #1 for an increase in the amount of \$15,000.00 due to additional interior work not foreseen in advance to complete the project; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator is recommending the approval by the Governing Body of change Order No. 1; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council do hereby authorize the execution by the Administrator of Change Order No. 1 pursuant to which the contract price will be increase by \$15,000.00 from \$85,000.00 to \$100,000.00 (the “Amended Contract Price”).

Motion Osso Second Lundy

Councilmember Osso pulled this resolution. He remembered that when the bids came in for this project, the bids from this vendor were significantly lower than the others that bid. He inquired as to the change order and the work that was done was out of the scope of the original bid. Councilmember Lundy added that most of the change order cost says for additional work, but that additional work is not listed.

The Administrator stated that the additional work that was done was not anticipated. When work was being performed mold was found which had to be remedied and repaired which was not part of the original scope. The job is just about completed so there will not be any more additional work, but this amount will still be covered under the insurance claim, so no taxpayer funds will be covering this. Councilmember Fox recommended doing another air test once the work is completed to make sure there is no other mold detected.

Ayes: Councilmember Trochimiuk, Council President Escobar, Fox, Lundy, Osso, Ruocco
Nays: none

PUBLIC COMMENT: (time limited to 3 minutes any topic-please state your name and town of residence for the record)

Mr. Rosenbaum – Hillsdale

He questioned the usage of the Tandy & Allan Property located on Hillsdale Avenue. It was documented by previous council that there are environmental issues on this property. Recently he has seen activity on this property by the new owner and was made aware that the intention is to build new homes on this property. The administrator stated that as early as this morning. The owner of the property is in the process of putting together a site plan to submit to the Planning Board. The Borough sent a letter to the property owner informing them that they cannot do any work without first applying for permits. Councilmember Lundy stated that this is a private sale and this would be up to the purchaser to do their due diligence and therefore this is not a Borough issue until permits are sought.

Seeing no other person wishing to speak, Mayor Sheinfield closed the second public comment period.

COUNCIL COMMENTARIES:

Mayor Sheinfield stated that most are aware that there is poor cell service over near the high school. We are exploring the possibility of installing a mini tower on borough property most likely close to Stonybrook Swim Club as this is a safety issue. Councilmember Lundy stated that they police have been looking into this for some time. The Pool Director has already been speaking with carriers. The Borough Attorney stated that this would have to be publicly bid. In closing he thanked the Council President for stepping in as Acting Mayor while he was away.

Council President Escobar hoped everyone had a great St Patrick's Day. The Yonkers St. Patrick's Day parade is this Saturday and it rivals the Pearl River parade so if interested this will be a fun event to attend.

Councilmember Fox thanked Council President Escobar for his efforts as Acting Mayor and thanked him for his transparency during the mayor's absence.

Councilmember Ruocco stated that there were problems hearing the Planning Board meeting on the Public Access channel through Optimum. He expressed his condolences to the Misciagna family. He encourages everyone to attend opening day this Saturday as he will be there to enjoy the day.

Borough Administrator has been checking the YouTube live and the sound and quality is working really well. We will continue to test it and if all works well, we will move forward with it.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn Escobar Second Trochimiuk

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

Nays: none

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL WILL BE
TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2024**

Denise Kohan, Municipal Clerk

APPROVED AS PRESENTED