

Minutes of the Council Meeting of the Borough of Hillsdale held at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, May 2, 2023

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Ruocco called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT:

This is a meeting of the Hillsdale Borough Council on this 2nd day of May, 2023. 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.

ROLL CALL:

Council President DeRosa, Council Members Escobar (Zoom), Fox, Horvath, Lundy (came in at 6:35 pm), Trochimiuk, Mayor Ruocco, (Borough Administrator Mike Ghassali, Borough Clerk Denise Kohan, Borough Attorney Mark Madaio)

Absent: Councilmember Trochimiuk

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION:

[R23112](#) To provide for a meeting not open to the public in accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 – *Personnel – Police*

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

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

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Borough Council of the Borough of Hillsdale to discuss in a session not open to the public certain matters relating to the item or items authorized by and designated below:

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

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

___ (3) Matters involving individual privacy –

___(4) Matters relating to collective bargaining -

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

funds.

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

___(7) Matters relating to litigation, negotiations and the attorney-client privilege –

X(8) Matters relating to the employment relationship – *Personnel – Police*

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

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

Motion Trochimiuk Second DeRosa

Ayes: Council President DeRosa, Council Members Escobar, Fox, Horvath, Trochimiuk

Nays: none

Absent: Lundy (entered meeting at 6:35 pm)

RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING:

Mayor Ruocco called for a motion to reconvene the regular meeting

Motion Horvath Second DeRosa

Ayes: Councilmember Escobar, Fox, Horvath, Lundy, Trochimiuk, Council President DeRosa

Nays: none

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

Municipal Clerks Week

Mayor John Ruocco

**54th ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK
April 30 - May 6, 2023**

WHEREAS, The Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk, a time honored and vital part of local government exists throughout the world, and

WHEREAS, The Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk is the oldest among public servants, and

WHEREAS, The Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk provides the professional link between the citizens, the local governing bodies and agencies of government at other levels, and

WHEREAS, Professional Municipal Clerks have pledged to be ever mindful of their neutrality and impartiality, rendering equal service to all.

WHEREAS, The Professional Municipal Clerk serves as the information center on functions of local government and community.

WHEREAS, Professional Municipal Clerks continually strive to improve the administration of the affairs of the Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk through participation in education programs, seminars, workshops and the annual meetings of their state, provincial, county and international professional organizations.

WHEREAS, It is most appropriate that we recognize the accomplishments of the Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John Ruocco, Mayor of the Borough of Hillsdale, do recognize the week of April 30 through May 6, 2023, as Professional Municipal Clerks Week, and further extend appreciation to our Professional Municipal Clerk, Denise Kohan and to all Professional Municipal Clerks for the vital services they perform and their exemplary dedication to the communities they represent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

[March 7, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes](#)

[March 16, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes](#)

[March 24, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes](#)

[April 4, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes](#)

April 4, 2023 Closed Session Meeting Minutes

[April 11, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes](#)

Motion Lundy Second DeRosa

Ayes: Councilmember Fox, Horvath, Lundy, Trochimiuk*, Council President DeRosa, Escobar

Nays: none

Abstain: *Trochimiuk (April 4th minutes and April 11th minutes)

INITIAL PUBLIC COMMENT (Time limited, new topics only, one topic per speaker):

Gerry Beatty – Hillsdale

Ms. Beatty thanked several people for their support with the 125 Birthday Celebrations. There are Birthday Signs Available for sale and to please check their website and the Borough website for more information. Councilman Horvath added that they are looking for volunteers to assist in decorating the float that they will be using in the Memorial Day parade.

Seeing no others wishing to speak, Mayor Ruocco closed the initial public comment.

PROFESSIONALS REPORT/MONTHLY DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

(The following correspondence on file in Borough Clerks Office)

[Hillsdale Police Monthly Report – April 2023](#)

Police Chief Robert Francaviglia

Chief Francaviglia summed up his monthly report. The Chief thanked the DPW for all their hard work for helping out the Police Dept with the Veteran’s Flags that will be hung up in the town in the next couple of weeks. The Chief added that there is a resolution on the agenda tonight for the purchase of a Firearms Training Simulator that is to be purchased with forfeiture funds, which means at no cost to the tax payers. They are in the process over

changing over the Emergency Alert System to RAVE from the Swift Reach Program. There is information on the Police Department website as well as the Borough Website and social media platforms. There are several events coming up within the Department, Coffee with a Cop, the 4x4x48 Challenge, the Special Olympics Torch Run and the Junior Police Academy. The Chief also thanked Denise Kohan, the Municipal Clerk for all that she does for the Police Department and the Borough.

Councilman Horvath confirmed that the information that is in Swift Reach should carry over but the Chief recommends everyone going onto the RAVE website to update their information.

Borough Engineer Report – April 2023

Craig Zimmerman, Colliers Engineering

The Borough Engineer summed up his monthly report. Mayor Ruocco thanked him for highlighting some of the areas where it looks like the Borough will have additional funds of about \$600,000.00 available for the Road Program. Mr. Zimmerman stated that it's about \$440,000 from the 2021 and 2020 NJDOT grants. There could possibly be other funds coming in from PSE&G as well, but they will look into that after reviewing the left-over funds from the NJDOT grants.

In regards to Centennial Field, all information has been submitted to the Environmental Consultant and that first "short" permit should be going in about the next 2-3 days and it should be about 60 days max on this permit.

Mr. Zimmerman reported that the county has started their Paving program. There will be a meeting with the Riverside Co-op to start the residential portion of the paving program. The paving on Alpine Terrace and Sierra Court has started as well. They are in full swing with the DPW feasibility studying and have the survey out there now and that should be back in about 2 months.

Department of Public Works – April 2023

Barry Peterson, DPW Foreman

Mr. Peterson summed up the DPW monthly report. They are working on Centennial Field as someone drove a car onto the field and really tore up the field. Bathrooms at Memorial will remain closed as they are being repaired. There are 2 Porta Johns at the location while this is being done.

Councilmember Lundy acknowledged Victoria's Nursery as they are the ones who donated the shrubs and a tree that was planted with the help of the Environmental Commission for Arbor Day.

Councilman DeRosa thanked the Borough Mechanic, Ray DeGroat for all his work on the Fire Trucks. He can't imagine how much money he has saved the Borough by not having to send these vehicles out to be repaired.

Mayor Ruocco stated that he is going to go a bit out of order on the agenda, as we have scheduled a Public Hearing on the Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund Grant Application. This is for a 50/50 matching grant. The maximum is \$65,000 from the grant and \$65,000 from the Borough for the installing of a Pavilion at Memorial Field.



Kelsey Howard from Collier’s Engineering summed up the Grant that funds fifty percent of funds for the Redevelopment of passive and active Municipal Parkland. The public hearing is a requirement of the grant as well as the advertisements. The grant deadline is May 12th and the project that is being applied for is the Memorial Field Park – Pavilion that is approximately 50 x 30 as well as some sidewalk work that is necessary for the project. The total cost of the project is \$111,650.00 of which 50% to be covered by the grant - \$55,825.00. The resolution is currently at \$65,000.00 and based on council consensus, they would prefer to leave it at that amount and the grant application will be updated.

Mayor Ruocco stated that this will be a pavilion installed just to he north of the existing building. There is no lighting connected to this fixture. Council President DeRosa is not sure of the feelings of the Recreation Commission on this project. Since there is a Recreation meeting on Thursday, he would like to wait on a decision until after that meeting to gain a consensus on this. Mr. Zimmerman went to the last Recreation meeting, the pavilion came up then, when there was a precious Administrator and there was an agreement for this, but we have until May 12th. Mayor Ruocco asked that the Administrator attend this next Recreation meeting.

BERGEN COUNTY OPEN SPACE, RECREATION, FARMLAND & HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST FUND GRANT APPLICATION – @ 7:00 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter as advertised

Motion to open public hearing on the 2023 Bergen County Trust Fund Grant Application – Beechwood Park

Motion DeRosa Second Lundy

Ayes: Council Members Fox, Horvath, Lundy, Trochimiuk, Council President DeRosa, Escobar

Nays: none

I will now open the meeting to the public. If anyone desires to be heard regarding the 2023 Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund Grant – Memorial Field Park - Pavilion, please say your name and wait to be recognized. Once recognized, state your name and town for the record. Councilmember Lundy added that other than the pavilion, is there anything else it will be used for. Will there be picnic tables there or just an open area?

Gerry Beatty – Hillsdale

Ms. Beatty agreed with Councilmember Lundy that with adding a concrete slab in the pavilion, it may be appropriate to have picnic tables, which seems to make sense.

Kelsey Howard added that if you want to add picnic tables, usually they are required to be fixed so you can't move them, but she will check with the County on this.

Since there does not seem to be a consensus tonight and if there are any changes, like changing the amount or adding something to the scope like picnic tables, they can be done and reflected in a resolution at the May 9th meeting.

R23116 Resolution Authorizing the Mayor/Borough Administrator to Approve & Sign the Application for the 2023 Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund Grant – Memorial Field Park - Pavilion

Mayor Ruocco looked for a motion to table this until the May 9th meeting

Motion: DeRosa Second Trochimiuk

Ayes: Councilmember Horvath, Lundy, Trochimiuk, Council President DeRosa, Escobar, Fox

Nays: None

Borough Administrator Report – April 2023

Borough Administrator – Mike Ghassali

Now that the budget season is over, the he and the staff will be focusing on the policies and the contracts that are coming up. The staff vacation policy as well as the garbage contract is up for review. To keep residents updated, a campaign has begun to not only to continue using the email blasts, the mayor notices, but focusing on social media like Facebook and Twitter for quicker dissemination of information. We are still looking for a permanent CMFO. It was realized that our LOSAP program was over paid by \$76,000.00 last year, and we will be receiving a refund check for this. We are also expecting funds back from the 2021 grant from the DOT.

We are working with Woodcliff Lake and Washington Township to collect fund for shared sewer service that has not been collected over the last few years which is approximately \$120,000.00.

He is proud to announce that the Borough won the Platinum Safety award and received a credit of 1750.00 towards our insurance. We will use some of this award to encourage our staff and to use safe practices by hosting monthly bbq. The mayor and council will be holding their BBQ in May and we look forward to that. This year we are paving 32 streets, which is more than most towns do as a catch up.

He would like to welcome all the new businesses to town as we have had several businesses open up recently.

David Young, the CMFO for the Borough of Hillsdale added that with some new information that was received it looks like the towns only owe the Borough about \$26,000.00, but he is still working on this with the Borough Clerk. LOSAP will feed back into reserve and will end up as surplus for next year. The money from the DOT will flow back into the Capital improvement fund or flow back into the capital ordinance that they actually supported and used for future capital projects.

BUDGET RESOLUTIONS

[R23113](#)

Waiver of Reading in Full the 2023 Budget

WHEREAS, N.J.S. 40A:4-8 permits that the Budget as advertised may be read by its title providing that at least one week prior to the date of the hearing a complete copy of the approved budget shall

- a) be posted in a public place where public notices are customarily posted, and
 - b) is made available to each person requesting the same during said week and during the public hearing,
- and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hillsdale has complied with the aforesaid requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Borough is hereby permitted to waive the reading in full, of the Municipal Budget for the year ending December 31, 2023.

Motion Lundy Second DeRosa

Ayes: Councilmember Horvath, Lundy, Trochimiuk, Council President DeRosa, Escobar, Fox

Nays: none

[R23114](#) Self-Examination of Budget

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:30-7 was adopted by the Local Finance Board on February 11, 1997; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 through 7.5, the BOROUGH of HILLSDALE has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local government Services, and the Chief Financial officer has determined that the local government meets the necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2021 budget year.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing body of the BOROUGH of HILLSDALE that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a & 7.6b and based upon the Chief Financial Officer's certification, the governing body has found the budget has met the following requirements:

1. That with reference to the following items, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law and appropriated as such in the budget:

- a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges
- b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
- c. Cash deficit of preceding year
- d. Reserve for uncollected taxes
- e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items
- f. Any inclusions of amounts required for school purposes.

2. That the provisions relating to limitation on increases of appropriations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.2 and appropriations for exceptions to limits on appropriations found at N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.3 et seq., are fully met (complies with CAP law).

3. That the budget is in such form, arrangement, and content as required by the Local Budget Law and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4 and 5:30-5.

4. That pursuant to the Local Budget Law:

- a. All estimates of revenue are reasonable, accurate and correctly stated,
- b. Items of appropriation are properly set forth
- c. In itemization, form, arrangement and content, the budget will permit the exercise of the comptroller function within the municipality.

5. The budget and associated amendments have been introduced and publicly advertised in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Budget Law, except that failure to meet the deadlines of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 shall not prevent such certification.

6. That all other applicable statutory requirements have been fulfilled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services upon adoption.

Motion Lundy Second DeRosa

Ayes: Councilmember Lundy, Trochimiuk, Council President DeRosa, Escobar, Fox, Horvath

Nays: none

Borough Administrator Ghassali has asked the CMFO to give a brief summary on the components of the budget prior to the public hearing.

David Young first commended the finance committee on this budget. A budget is designed to allow us to provide services to our residents. The objective this year was to maintain or improve those services. The state requires us to have a balanced budget. This year's budget is just under 16 million dollars. From a state perspective, this budget is good to go.

On the revenue side, minus grants for 2023, our budget is up \$670,000.00. The revenues have 4 parts. The anticipated surplus is a fund balance to support the budget, this year it is at 2 million dollars. We have a healthy fund balance and the risk on using that amount is on future budgets. Generally, we replenish about 1.7 million dollars in surplus every year. Redevelopment monies cannot be considered yet. When you bring in a new CMFO, they will need to start looking at the 5-year outlook. Regarding miscellaneous revenue, the Borough anticipates what was received last year, which the state lets you do. Lastly, the tax levy which is the Municipal Taz levy is going up \$82,120.00, which excludes the library. This is about a .82 percent increase or \$33 to the average assessed home.

Appropriations, excluding grants are up \$670,000.00. Salaries and wages are up \$150,000.00 which includes all the contract increases. Operating expenses are actually up almost 1.1 million over 2022, pension \$130,000 and solid waste \$280,000 and insurance up \$100,000.00. Inflation is a large part of the budget increase in operating expenses and there are a lot of projects in the works.

Appropriations for capital and debt are down by \$590,000. The capital improvement fund is down \$500,000 which is a big decrease. The capital budget is just what the borough thinks it is going to do, but that doesn't become actual until we adopt and ordinance at 2 public meetings.

Council President DeRosa asked if it is fair to day, that surplus is like a rainy-day fund. Mr. Young replied that surplus allows you to have cash flow and he recommended to the administrator that the borough adopt a surplus policy, which can require the borough to maintain a certain level of surplus post adoption of the budget. An emergency purchases that are not in this year's budget, you would have to do a temporary emergency budget and it would be realized in next years budget. If it was a capital emergency, then you could fund it through an ordinance and that would be based on what you have in capital. You always want to look at surplus over a three-to-four-year period. His recommendation to the Administrator is that you maintain a 15% minimum of surplus of your current year appropriation and 20 percent appropriation max. This year, it would suggest that you spend a bit more surplus and capital. It would be less of a burden on debt next year.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2023 MUNICIPAL BUDGET: @7:30 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter as advertised

[2023 Municipal Budget](#)

Before the public hearing on the budget is opened, the mayor asked if anyone would like to make any amendments to the budget.

Councilmember Horvath made a motion to amend the budget to reflect the following:

I would like to amend the budget that has been introduced and is up for adoption tonight as follows:

1. Sheet 12, (FCOA 20-110-1,) Mayor & Council Salaries & Wages: change from \$66,000 to \$45,000 [This would eliminate the increase in appropriations for M&C compensation]
2. Sheet 11, (FCOA 07-190,) Local Tax for Municipal Purposes: change from \$10,187,807 to \$10,105,368 [This eliminates the Municipal tax increase, leaving only an increase of \$46,250 in the mandatory minimum Library tax]
3. Sheet 4 & 11, (FCOA 08-101,) Surplus Anticipated: change from \$2,000,000 to \$2,082,439 [This increase in surplus anticipated would compensate for the elimination of the Municipal tax increase that I propose.

Councilman Zoltan Horvath

No second was given, the motion failed.

Motion to open public hearing on the 2023 Municipal Budget Lundy Second DeRosa

Ayes: Councilmember Trochimiuk, Council President DeRosa, Escobar, Fox, Horvath, Lundy

Nays: none

I will now open the meeting to the public. If anyone desires to be heard regarding the 2023 Municipal Budget, please say your name and wait to be recognized, once recognized state your name and address for the record.

I entertain a motion that the public hearing on be closed and that it be resolved that a copy of the 2023 Budget Introduction was available to the general public at the Hillsdale Free Public Library, Borough Hall and on-line.

Not seeing anyone wishing to speak, Mayor Ruocco called for a motion to closed the public hearing.

Motion to close public hearing on the 2023 Municipal Budget Lundy Second DeRosa

Ayes: Council President DeRosa, Council Members Escobar, Fox, Horvath, Lundy, Trochimiuk

Nays: none

MUNICIPAL BUDGET RESOLUTION

[R23115](#) Adoption of the 2023 Municipal Budget

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following statements of revenue and appropriations shall constitute the adopted Municipal Budget for the year 2023:

General Appropriations		
Appropriations within "CAPS" - Municipal Purposes		\$12,006,307.25
Appropriations excluded from "CAPS" - Municipal Purposes		3,216,579.65
Reserve for Uncollected Taxes		775,000.00
Total General Appropriations		15,997,886.90
Less: Anticipated Revenues		5,107,939.47
Amount to be Raised by Taxes for Support of Municipal Budget		
Local Tax Municipal Purposes		\$ 10,187,806.95
Minimum Library Tax		\$ 702,140.48
Total to be Raised by Taxes		\$10,889,947.43
The Governing Body of the Borough of Hillsdale does hereby adopt the above as the Budget		
for the year 2023:		

Motion Lundy Second Trochimiuk

Mayor Ruocco thanked the Borough Administrator, David Young our CFO and our Auditor Paul Garbarini and the Finance committee for their work on the budget. . There are no funds appropriated for the flooding situation at the DPW given our uncertainty of how we want to go about it. The road improvement program this year is going to be funded through debt instead of through our capital improvement fund which is an annual operating

expense like we usually do. The state does however allow us to capitalize these expenses, but if we do this regularly, there will be a significant impact on future debt balances He did not favor this. Making adjustments for the new approach, appropriations have increased 7% YOY.

The budget calls for a 1.6% increase in the average homeowner's property tax. Hillsdale has the biggest surplus account that is has ever had at 5.3 million, which is a million more than last year. We are using 2 million this year and that will leave 3.3 million of surplus. Mayor Ruocco would still like to know why we are raising the taxes by \$46/household and explained ways that it could be less or even not at all. The budget calls for a 50% increase in mayor and council salary, which comes out to be \$21,000.00 or a ¼ of the overall budget increase. We would be the highest paid M&C in the Pascack Valley.

Ayes: Council Members Escobar, Fox, Lundy, Trochimiuk, Council President DeRosa

Nays: Horvath

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Council President - Anthony DeRosa

Reported that the Local and Regional Boards of Ed Met. The Regional board of Ed passed their budget at 65.4 million dollars. Given what the municipal tax rate is, is nowhere near what it is for the schools. 80% of your taxes go to the schools. On the average assessed home, Hillsdale will be paying \$65 per household for the Regional Schools. There are also open spots for the Regional Board of Education if there is an interest.

The Local School Board of Ed budget increase is about \$18.00 per average household.

Recreation meeting is coming up this Thursday and the Ambulance Committee just met. There is money set in this budget to hire part time day paid EMT's. The State Board of Health requires 2 ambulances in service to be able to bill for ambulance services. This is something that we are looking to do in the future. This program is looking to start August 1st. Our budget does not anticipate billing.

Councilman – Justin Fox

Access for All is holding their Art Show tonight at 6:30 pm. They are looking to do more events so please watch for those events coming up.

Councilman – Zoltan Horvath

The seniors were asking where the bus is that the town was awarded a few years ago. He also asked about lighting at Stonybrook Swim Club will be added when the new community center is built.

Mayor Ruocco responded that there are supply issues with the van but this should be followed up on.

Councilwoman – Janetta Trochimiuk

Economic Development has a meeting coming up. They will be meeting with businesses in town and see what needs that our current businesses have and what they can do to attract new businesses.

The Library Commission met last night. 5 new computers have been installed courtesy of the Friends of the Library and they are very thankful to them and their support. She gave a reminder to check the library website for all the great events that are happening at the library.

Mayor Ruocco asked for an update on the Munisite discussion. They have a meeting with the BA and the Borough Attorney and BA has spoken with other towns as well as the vendor itself. The BA and Attorney will be working on an ordinance to at least have in place and better discuss why we need an ordinance in place. The

BA explained that he and the Borough Attorney spoke with the vendor, Munisite. They both feel that we have to have an ordinance in place but it will not be vendor specific. A report will be made at the next meeting. Councilmember Lundy stated that this is beyond the committee. The Borough Attorney spoke with the vendor in detail recently. However, there are no attorneys that he knows of that do the municipal side of telecommunications. He recommends having the full committee meet with Munisite again and readdress some of the items that you have questions about and gain as much information as possible. Councilmember Lundy asked if there are other vendors that we could meet with and not just this one. This would have to be researched by the committee. The Administrator will set up a meeting with the BA from River Vale, the town who currently uses this vendor as well as a meeting with Munisite and then report back on May 9th.

ORDINANCES:
23-08 (Adoption)

Ordinance to Amend and Supplement Chapter 138, Fees of the Code of the Borough of Hillsdale

BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough Council that here forth Chapter 138 of the Hillsdale Borough Code, is hereby amended, revised and supplemented entitled “Fees” as follows:

138-9, Chapter 124, Construction Codes, Uniform

Fire Subcode Fees

The fees under the fire subcode shall be as follows:

Type of Use

Alarm systems (including alarm, supervisory and signaling devices):

1 to 5 devices	\$ 75.00
Each additional over 5	\$ 5.00 ea.
Exit signs and emergency lights	\$ 20.00
Flammable Liquid Storage Tanks	\$250.00
Combustible Liquid Storage Tanks	\$150.00
Liquid Gas Storage Tanks	\$100.00

Sprinkler system:

Wet or Dry Protection system

Up to 49 heads	\$200.00
50 to 99 heads	\$300.00
Over 99 heads	\$400.00

Chimney Liner	\$ 75.00
Kitchen Hood Residential	\$100.00
Kitchen Hood Exhaust Systems, Commercial	\$150.00
Kitchen Fire Protection System	\$100.00
Other Fire Protection System	\$125.00
Gas/ Oil Fired Appliance	\$ 65.00
Fireplace/ Woodburning Stove	\$100.00
Gasoline Pump	\$180.00
MPD (Multiple Product Dispenser)	\$200.00
Residential Oil Storage Tank Installation, Removal Or Abandonment	\$150.00
Commercial Oil Storage Tank Installation, Removal Or Abandonment	\$250.00
Standpipes, per riser	\$200.00
Smoke Control System	\$100.00
Installation of Solar Panel System	\$100.00
Minimum Fire Subcode Fee Residential	\$ 75.00
Minimum Fire Subcode Fee Commercial	\$150.00

Plan review fee of 20% of the permit is included in Fire Subcode fees

As listed above

Electrical Subcode Fees

The fees for installation or replacement under the electrical subcode shall be:

Fixtures, including lighting fixtures 1 to 35	\$ 75.00
Add'l receptacle, switch, smoke/heat detector, alarm device	
F.A.C Panel, signaling device, thermostat, emergency and exit light, Communication point, motor or electrical device of less than 1 horsepower or less than 1 Kilowatt	\$ 2.00 Each
Steam Unit	\$ 75.00

Light pole, each	\$ 20.00
Swimming Pool, In Ground	\$125.00
Pool Heater	\$ 25.00
Swimming Pool, Above Ground	\$ 75.00
Storable Pool, Spa or Hot Tub	\$ 75.00
Bonding or Grounding	\$ 75.00
KW Range	\$ 20.00
Range Hood	\$ 20.00
Surface Cooktop	\$ 20.00
Radiant Flooring Heat	\$ 20.00
KW Dryer	\$ 20.00
KW Dishwasher	\$ 20.00
HP Garbage Disposal	\$ 20.00
KW Central Air Conditioning Unit	
1-6 tons up to 20 HP/KW	\$ 75.00
7-15 tons up to 40 HP/KW	\$100.00
16-20 tons 41 to 75 HP/KW	\$150.00
Over 30 tons over 76 HP/KW	\$200.00
Heat Pump	\$ 75.00
Air Handler	\$ 40.00
Baseboard Heating 1-6 KW	\$ 20.00
6-15 KW	\$ 40.00
HP Motors	
1 to 10 HP motors, each	\$ 15.00
over 10 HP, each	\$ 50.00
KW transformer/ Generator	
1 -10 KW	\$ 65.00
11- 20 KW	\$100.00

21-50 KW	\$150.00
51-100 KW	\$200.00
Over 100 KW	\$400.00
Transfer Switch/ Interlock	\$ 40.00
Service/ Subpanel up to and including 200	\$100.00
201 to 800 AMP	\$175.00
Over 800 AMP	\$500.00
Amp Motor-Control Center	\$ 75.00
Electric Car Charger	\$ 75.00
<u>Photovoltaic Systems:</u>	
Pannels up to 50 KW	\$100.00
Pannels 51 to 100 KW	\$150.00
Pannels over 100 KW	\$457.00
Invertors 1 -10 KW	\$ 25.00
Invertors 11-50 KW	\$ 50.00
Invertors 51-100 KW	\$125.00
Disconnects/ Monitor Box	\$ 25.00
Load Control Center/ Energy Storage	\$100.00
Electric sign	\$ 40.00
Annual inspection public swimming pools, spas and/or Hot Tubs	\$ 50.00
Minimum Fee for Residential electrical permit	\$ 75.00
Minimum Fee for Commercial electrical permit	\$150.00
Chapter 138-9 Chapter 124 Construction Codes, Uniform (con't)	
Mechanical Subcode Fee Schedule	
Water Heater	\$125.00
Fuel Burning Appliance	\$125.00

Gas Piping New	\$ 75.00
Gas Piping Connections	\$ 20.00
Steam Boiler	\$125.00
Hot Water Boiler	\$125.00
Hot Air Furnace	\$125.00
Air Conditioner Condenser/Handler	\$ 75.00
Heat Pump	\$ 75.00
Ductwork Extension	\$ 65.00
LPG Tank	\$150.00
Fireplace Logs	\$ 65.00
Generator	\$ 75.00

- In accordance with 138-9 Fee Schedule, the minimum fee for any Subcode is \$75.00.

The Department of Community Affairs has adopted a Mechanical Subcode related to single family residential dwellings. This subcode eliminates the combination Plumbing and Fire Subcode Permits, therefore reduces the number of inspectors necessary to perform inspections on related work. The proposed Mechanical Subcode fees, are necessary to comply with the requirements of the Uniform Construction Code and are structured so as not to exceed the fees of the current combined Plumbing and Fire.

138-16, Chapter 224, Peddling and Soliciting

Application Fee – non-refundable	\$100.00
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138-24, Chapter 272, Autocabs/Limousines or Livery Service

Limousine Service Application Fee – Non-Refundable

Taxi/Limousine owner’s license	\$100.00 per year/service or portion thereof
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Limousine Driver

Taxi driver’s license	\$25.00 per year/vehicle
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138-27, Chapter 310, Land Use

Minor Subdivision

Filing Fee	\$ 750.00
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Deposit for Costs	\$5,000.00
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Major Subdivision without site plan approval or conditional use approval:

Preliminary Approval:

Filing Fee	\$750 plus \$150 per lot
Deposit for Costs	\$5,000 plus \$500 per lot

Final Approval:

Filing Fee	\$750 plus \$150 per lot
Deposits for Costs	\$3,500 plus \$350 per lot

Major Subdivision with site plan approval or conditional use approval:

Preliminary Approval:

Filing Fee	\$750 plus \$150 per lot
Deposit for Costs	\$5,000 plus \$500 per lot

Final Approval:

Filing Fee	\$750 plus \$150 per lot
Deposits for Costs	\$3,500.00

Conditional Use Approval

Filing Fee	\$ 250.00
Deposits for Costs	\$2,500.00

Major Site Plan Approval

Preliminary approval:

Filing Fee	\$ 750.00
Deposit for Costs	\$7,500.00

Final Approval:

Filing Fee	\$ 750.00
Deposit for Costs	\$4,500.00

Minor Site Plan Approval:

Filing Fee	\$ 750.00
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Deposit for Costs	\$5,000.00
Use variance pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:55D-70(d):	
Filing Fee	\$ 500.00
Deposits for Costs	\$3,500.00
Hardship of bulk variance pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:50D-70(c):	
Filing Fee	\$ 250.00
Deposit for Costs	\$2,500.00
Applications for one single-family residence or one-single-family residential lot in a residential zone	
Deposits for Costs	\$ 750.00
Any other application to the Planning Board (i.e. “A” appeals, “B” interpretations, ect)	
Filing Fee	\$ 350.00
Deposits for Costs	\$ 750.00

Motion to open public hearing on Ordinance 23-08 Lundy Second DeRosa
 Ayes: Councilmember Trochimiuk, Council President DeRosa, Escobar, Fox, Horvath, Lundy
 Nays: none

I will now open the meeting to the public. If anyone desires to be heard regarding Ordinance No 23-08, 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. 23-08 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 23-08 DeRosa Second Lundy
 Ayes: Council President DeRosa, Councilmember Escobar, Fox, Horvath, Lundy, Trochimiuk
 Nays: none

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 23-08 DeRosa Second Lundy
 Ayes: Councilmember Escobar, Fox, Horvath, Lundy, Trochimiuk, Council President DeRosa
 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.

23-09 (Adoption)
Capital Ordinance to Appropriate the Sum of \$104,000 for the Undertaking of Improvements to the Bathrooms at Memorial Field In, By and for the Borough of Hillsdale, in the County of Bergen, State of

New Jersey, and Providing that Such Sum so Appropriated Shall be Raised from a Federal Grant and From the Capital Improvement Fund of the Borough

CAPITAL ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$104,000 FOR THE UNDERTAKING OF IMPROVEMENTS TO THE BATHROOMS AT MEMORIAL FIELD IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF HILLSDALE, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AND PROVIDING THAT SUCH SUM SO APPROPRIATED SHALL BE RAISED FROM A FEDERAL GRANT AND FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND OF THE BOROUGH.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough 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 undertake improvements to the bathrooms at Memorial Field in, by and for the Borough. Said improvements shall include all work, materials and appurtenances necessary and suitable therefor.

Section 2. The sum of \$104,000 is hereby appropriated to the payment of the cost of the improvements authorized and described in Section 1 hereof (hereinafter referred to as "purpose"). Said appropriation shall be raised from a Federal grant and from the Capital Improvement Fund of the Borough, as hereinafter provided. The sum of \$84,000 received or to be received as a grant from the Bergen County Community Development program, pursuant to the Federal Housing and Community Development Act, is hereby appropriated to the payment of the cost of said purpose. The sum of \$20,000 is hereby appropriated from the 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 23-09 DeRosa Second Lundy

Ayes: Councilmember Fox, Horvath, Lundy, Trochimiuk, Council President DeRosa, Escobar

Nays: none

I will now open the meeting to the public. If anyone desires to be heard regarding Ordinance No 23-09, 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. 23-09 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 23-09 Lundy Second DeRosa

Ayes: Councilmember Horvath, Lundy, Trochimiuk, Council President DeRosa, Escobar, Fox

Nays: none

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 23-09 DeRosa Second Lundy

Ayes: Councilmember Lundy, Trochimiuk, Council President DeRosa, Escobar, Fox, Horvath

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.

23-11 (Introduction)

An Ordinance to Provide for and Determine the Maximum Rate, Amount and Method of Payment of Compensation to Persons Holding Certain Office and Positions of Employment in the Borough of Hillsdale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey

Redline

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

SECTION 1. The rate of compensation of persons holding any of the hereafter named offices and positions of employment, which compensation shall be on an annual basis unless otherwise specified, is hereby fixed and determined to be the maximum as set opposite the title of each of the hereinafter named offices and positions of employment. Whenever there shall be set forth a minimum and or maximum rate of compensation the employee or officer shall be compensated at an annual rate within such range.

SECTION 2. Each employee set forth in this Section may be entitled to receive a maximum annual compensation as set forth below.

	TITLE	MAXIMUM
1	Mayor	\$ 13,000.00

2	Councilmembers	\$	10,000.00
3	Police Chief	\$	220,000.00
4	Police Captain	\$	200,000.00
5	Police Lieutenant	\$	180,000.00
6	Borough Administrator	\$	150,000.00
7	Borough Clerk	\$	120,000.00
8	Qualified Purchasing Agent - Stipend	\$	15,000.00
9	Certified Municipal Financial Officer	\$	150,000.00
10	Tax Collector	\$	30,000.00
11	Assistant Manager - Finance	\$	75,000.00
12	Tax Assessor	\$	30,000.00
13	Finance Assistant - Accounts Payable <i>-per hour</i>	\$	32.00
14	Confidential Administrative Assistant <i>-per hour</i>	\$	32.00
15	Executive Assistant <i>-per hour</i>	\$	32.00
16	Municipal Housing Liaison Stipend	\$	5,000.00
17	Superintendent of Public Works	\$	140,000.00
18	Licensed Sewer Operator - Stipend	\$	5,000.00
19	DPW – General Assignment	\$	100,000.00
20	DPW - Foreman	\$	100,000.00
21	DPW – Head Mechanic	\$	100,000.00
22	Secretary – Dept of Public Works <i>- hourly</i>	\$	32.00
23	Class III Police Officers <i>- hourly</i>	\$	60.00
24	Fire Official	\$	15,000.00
25	Inspector for Continuing Certificate of Inspection	\$	6,000.00
26	Municipal Judge	\$	25,000.00

27	Court Administrator	\$ 75,000.00
28	Court Violations Clerk- <i>per hour</i>	\$ 30.00
29	Prosecutor	\$ 15,000.00
30	Alternate Prosecutor per court session	\$ 200.00
31	Public Defender	\$ 10,000.00
32	Alternate Public Defender per case	\$ 200.00
33	Welfare Director	\$ 20,000.00
34	Community - Seniors Activity Director	\$ 20,000.00
35	Recreation Director	\$ 20,000.00
36	Recreation Assistant – per hour	\$ 32.00
37	Construction Official	\$ 30,000.00
38	Building Sub-Code Official	\$ 30,000.00
39	Building Sub-Code Official Vehicle Allowance	\$ 1,000.00
40	Zoning Official- <i>per hour</i>	\$ 50.00
41	Planning Board Secretary- <i>includes preparing minutes-per meeting</i>	\$ 60.00
42	OEM Coordinator	\$ 5,000.00
43	OEM Deputy Coordinator	\$ 5,000.00
44	Borough Temporary or Per-Diem Worker	\$ 50.00
45	DPW Seasonal or Per-Diem Worker	\$ 100.00
46	Technical Asst – Building Dept- <i>per hour</i>	\$ 32.00
47	Fire Sub-Code Official	\$ 14,000.00
48	Electrical Inspector	\$ 19,000.00
49	Plumbing Inspector	\$ 20,000.00
50	Fire Inspector- <i>per hour</i>	\$ 32.00

SECTION 3. If an employee performed a unique assignment of exceptional value to the Borough requiring significant time and effort in addition to his/her usual responsibilities, the Borough Council may grant a bonus not to exceed \$5,000 to this employee.

SECTION 4. The compensation fixed and determined by this Ordinance for the persons holding the respective offices and positions of employment herein named, shall, except as otherwise provided by statute, ordinance or resolution, be in lieu of all other fees, costs and charges received and collected by such offices and employees shall remit such funds promptly to the Borough Treasurer.

SECTION 5. All ordinances and resolutions inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed as to such inconsistencies.

SECTION 6. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately after final passage (in accordance with state law), approval (in accordance with state law), and publication of notice thereof as required by law.

BE IT RESOLVED, that Ordinance No. 23-11 does now pass a first reading and that said Ordinance be further considered for final passage at a meeting of the Mayor and Council in the Municipal Building, 380 Hillsdale Avenue, Hillsdale, New Jersey, on June 13, 2023 and at said time and place all persons interested will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same, and the Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish said ordinance in the Ridgewood News once, at least one week prior to said hearing, with a notice of its introduction and of the time and place, when and where said ordinance would be considered for final passage.

Motion Lundy Second DeRosa

Councilmember Lundy added that these amounts are maximums and not actual. In section 2, Mayor Ruocco feels that this should say “may” instead of “shall”. If not objection, he would like this changed. Seeing no objection this change will be made. Mayor Ruocco asked what the salary for the QPA is and it is \$1000.00/month. Mayor Ruocco asked for an increase in the CMFO salary maximum and the recommendation was to make it \$150,000/year and all are agreeable with the changes. Mayor Ruocco asked that the redline version be a part of the minutes (these are above in the link).

Ayes: Councilmember Trochimiuk, Council President DeRosa, Escobar, Fox, Horvath, Lundy

Nays: none

RESOLUTIONS:(Consent Agenda): R23117 through R23130:

[R23117](#) Authorizing the Extension of the Contract for Internet Technology consulting, Support & Installation of Hardware with Quikteks, LLC

WHEREAS, on June 9, 2020 the Borough of Hillsdale awarded the bid for Internet Technology, Consulting, Support and Hardware to Quikteks, LLC for a one-year period ending June 30, 2022; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to extend the contract for a second -one (1) year period beginning July 1, 2023 through, June 30, 2024 in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A 11-1; as the contract service had been performed in an effective and efficient manor; and

WHEREAS, the Borough is satisfied with the proposal submitted by Quikteks, LLC as being responsible and being in conformance with the requirements promulgated pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., and which satisfies the best interests of the Borough; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Hillsdale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey that it hereby awards and authorizes the extension of the contract for Internet Technology, Consulting, Support and Hardware with Quikteks, LLC at the rate of - File Server Management at \$250.00/month, Managed Care Services at \$40.00/per month per workstation, iLand Cloud Back Up Per Month for 1 TB at \$100.00/month, hourly labor rate for any additional services not included in the managed services listed previously at \$135/per hour; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the contract for Internet Technology, Consulting, Support and Hardware for the rates as set forth in the contract and in accordance with the bid specifications and proposal submitted; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

[R23118](#) Resolution of the Borough of Hillsdale Appointing a Municipal Alliance Coordinator

WHEREAS, Legislation created P.L. 1989 establishing the Governor’s Council on alcoholism and Drug Abuse and the creating of a network of volunteers throughout New Jersey’s communities called the Municipal Alliance Program; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Alliance Program was created to allow change to be developed from the ground up, allowing communities to make local decisions and empower them to make changes from within the community; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to appoint a Municipal Alliance Coordinator to help administer the needs of the Program; and

WHEREAS, Marguerite Deppert has the skills, experience and is qualified to fulfill the requirements of the position of Municipal Alliance Coordinator; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council are desirous in appointing Marguerite Deppert to fill the position; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey that Marguerite Deppert is hereby appointed Municipal Alliance Coordinator of the Borough of Hillsdale for the year 2023-2024 at a stipend of \$2000.00.

[R23119](#) Resolution Authorizing the Extension of the Contract for the Stonybrook Swim Club Fall Pool Lease Program

WHEREAS, on May 4, 2021 a bid was awarded to Phoenix Aquatic Club USA, 139 Goebel Road New City,

New York 10956 for the use of Stonybrook Swim Club for the Fall season; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hillsdale is interested in extending their contract for the use of the Stonybrook Swim Club with Phoenix Aquatic Club USA in the amount of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) for the use of the Swim Club Lap/Competition Pool for Operation of a Fall Swim Program from September 7, 2022 through November 4, 2022 from 3:00 pm – 8:00 pm daily; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council at its sole discretion, in accordance with NJSA 40A 11-1 et seq., the Mayor and Council may, by adoption of resolution, extend the contract for one (1) one (1) year period if they determine; that the contract service is being performed in an effective and efficient manner; and if any price change included as part of an extension shall be based upon the price of the original contract as cumulatively adjusted pursuant to any previous adjustment or extension and shall not exceed the change in the index rate for the twelve (12) months preceding the most recent quarterly calculation available at the time the contract is renewed and the terms and conditions of the contract remain substantially similar; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The extended contract for the Fall Lease of the Stonybrook Swim Club as outlined in the bid proposal is hereby awarded to Phoenix Aquatic Club USA effective September 6, 2023 through November 5, 2023 from 3:00 pm – 8:00 pm daily for the amount of \$20,000.00.
2. Any additional time required outside the specific times listed above, shall be billed at \$15.00 per hour/per lane; and
3. If the contractor wished to use the restroom facilities when Stonybrook is not open to its members, it will be charged \$20.00 per hour for the period September 6, 2023 – November 5, 2023.
4. If the contractor wishes to provide their own restroom facilities, permission from the Stonybrook Commission will be required in writing
5. The Borough Attorney is hereby authorized to prepare contracts and/or other documents pursuant to the award of this contract.
6. The Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to execute contracts and/or documents pursuant to the award of this contract.

[R23120](#) Appointing Local Registrar

WHEREAS, as per N.J.S.A. 26:8-11, et seq. the position of Local Registrar of Vital Statistics (Registrar) for the Borough of Hillsdale, has been created; and

WHEREAS, Denise Kohan having been certified as Registrar, was originally appointed on April 5, 2016 to fulfill the responsibilities of Certified Registrar for the Borough of Hillsdale and then she was reappointed on June 8, 2020 and now her term is now due to expire June 7, 2023; and

WHEREAS, for a Municipal Clerk serving as registrar the term shall be concurrent with his/her term of office of Municipal Clerk as per N.J.S.A. 26:8-13; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Borough Council hereby re-appoints Denise Kohan as Registrar for the concurrent term ending April 30, 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to send a certified copy of this resolution to the State Registrar's Office.

[R23121](#) Resolution Authorizing the Agreement with the Hillsdale Board of Education for Security Cameras System Access

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hillsdale and the Hillsdale Board of Education had previously entered into an agreement regarding Security Camera System Access in each of its schools, which provides among other things, real-time video feed through each installed camera along with the current ability to access video records; and

WHEREAS, the parties agreed to the terms and have created an Agreement whereby the Hillsdale Police Department shall have access to the Computerized Security Camera System on an as-needed basis; and

WHEREAS, the current agreement is due to expire June 30, 2023 and now both parties wish to enter into a new agreement commencing on July 1, 2023 and will terminate on June 30, 2024 with an understanding that this agreement may be extended upon the agreement of both parties, in writing no later than June 1, 2024; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that is the desire of the Borough Council of Hillsdale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, to authorize the new Agreement with the Hillsdale Board of Education, 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.

[R23122](#) Resolution to Authorize the Borough Clerk to Advertise for Proposals for Cleaning Services

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hillsdale has a need for cleaning services;

WHEREAS, the anticipated term of this contract is one (1) year; with the option of two (2) 1-year extensions with the mutual consent of the Borough and the Contractor;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Borough Clerk is authorized to advertise for proposals for cleaning services for the Borough of Hillsdale.

[R23123](#) Resolution to Authorize Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse DMHAS Youth Leadership Grant

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (GCADA) 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. In coordination with GCADA, the New Jersey Department of Human Services/Division on Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) has awarded a Youth Leadership Grant to the GCADA Municipal Alliance Program.

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 DMHAS Youth Leadership funding through 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 an application for DMHAS Grant funding for the Hillsdale Municipal Alliance for Year Two Grant Term 9/1/2023– 9/30/2025 in the amount of:
DMHAS Grant Funding \$4620.00
2. The Borough Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

[R23124](#) Resolution Authoring the Signing of an Agreement with Colliers Engineering & Design for Services Regarding the 2023 Bergen County Grant Application for the 2023 Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Floodplain Protection, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund – Memorial Park Pavilion

WHEREAS, the Borough desires to submit a grant for the 2023 Bergen County Open Space Trust Fund Municipal Park Improvement Grant Program for the intent of installing a Pavilion at Memorial Field Park; and

WHEREAS, Colliers Engineering & Design Inc. (hereinafter, “Colliers”) has presented an Agreement to the Borough for the services of preparing the grant application, correspondence and coordination with the Borough, drafting of the required legal and display advertisements drafting of the resolution, preparation of supporting documents including a detailed cost estimate, project scheduling, aerial mapping, conceptual plan and site photos as required as well as corresponded and coordinate with vendors and County representatives at an amount not to exceed of \$6,800.00; 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 Borough 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.

[R23125](#) Resolution to Enter and Execute a Grant Agreement with the State of New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for the FY 2023 Local Recreation Improvement Grant

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale wishes to enter into a grant agreement with the State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs for the 2023 Local Recreation Improvement Grant for the purpose of using \$75,000.00 of non-matching awarded grant funds to carry out a project to renovate and expand the community center for expanded access for community recreation purposes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council hereby authorizes the mayor/and or the Borough Administrator to be a signatory for the aforesaid grant agreement; and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council hereby authorizes the Borough Administrator to sign all county vouchers submitted in connection with the aforesaid project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council recognizes that the Borough of Hillsdale is liable for any funds not spent in accordance with the Grant Agreement; and that liability of the Mayor and Council is in accordance with HUD requirements.

[R23126](#) Resolution Providing for the Insertion of Any Special Item of Revenue in the Budget of any County or Municipality Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A4-87 (Chapter 159), P.L. 1948 – National Opioid Settlement

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 National Opioid Settlements in the amount of \$1,694.20 for the purpose of combating opioid abuse here in the Borough by investing in opioid use prevention programs, and wishes to amend its 2023 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:

National Opioid Settlements

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a like sum of \$1,694.20 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:

National Opioid Settlements

Other Expenses - \$1,694.20

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk forward two copies of this resolution to the Director of Local Government Services.

[R23127](#) Resolution Authorizing Redemption & Premium – 40 Sycamore Avenue

WHEREAS, The Tax Collector held a Tax Sale on October 6, 2021, and at the sale a lien was sold on Block 1111 , Lot 9, also known as 40 Sycamore Ave., Hillsdale, NJ 07642 for 2020 Delinquent Taxes and,

WHEREAS, this lien, known as Tax Sale Certificate #20-00003 was sold to Evolve Bank & Trust for 0% redemption fee and a \$82,000.00 premium, and;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Small Business Administration, heretofore known as SBA, 201 Varick Street, New York, NY 10014, has the right to redeem as the mortgagor on the property, will be foreclosing the aforementioned property, has effected redemption of Certificate No. 20-00003 in the amount of \$ 44,491.11 and will also pay taxes due on May 1st in the amount of \$3,447.35 and special charges due of \$2,153.08 for a total payment amount of \$50,091.54 and;

WHEREAS, the executed tax sale certificate will be forwarded to SBA for cancellation with the county, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$ 44,491.11, payable to Evolve Bank & Trust, 6000 Poplar Avenue, Suite 300, Memphis, TN 38119 for the redemption of this certificate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$82,000.00 (Premium) to the aforementioned lienholder.

[R23128](#) Resolution to Show Support of S3739/A5402 Delaying the Implementation of the Fourth Round of Affordable Housing Obligations

WHEREAS, S3739/A5402 would delay the implementation of the fourth round of affordable housing obligations, including present and prospective need and related litigation, until July 1, 2028; and

WHEREAS, extending that obligation to 2028 will present a clearer picture of how each of the towns fared in meeting their goals, and give all parties additional time to assess the efficacy and local impacts of the 3rd round agreements; and

WHEREAS, NJ's Municipalities are still sorting out the ripple effects of Covid lockdowns on their tax base and land use plans; and

WHEREAS, Post Covid record inflation has driven construction, debt financing and service costs to levels that incentivize builders to overreach, demanding more residential units than the infrastructure of fully developed communities can safely and responsibly absorb; and

WHEREAS, working through the 3rd round obligations requires more time than had been allotted given the cascading effects of Covid; and

WHEREAS, municipalities should be allowed to work towards appropriately meeting the 3rd round commitments before adding yet another layer that public health safety & welfare, limited infrastructure, hyper-local environmental and infrastructure challenges and fiscal realities may show to be unrealistic; and

WHEREAS, and extension would also give the legislature and the Governor time to reestablish their proper roles in balancing the needs of all stakeholders in this process;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale hereby support S3739/A5402; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Murphy, to the members of the NJ Senate and Assembly and to the League of Municipalities.

[R23129](#) Resolution Accepting the Bid and Awarding the Contract for Fire Arms Training Simulator

WHEREAS, on April 13, 2023, the Borough of Hillsdale received one (1) sealed bid for the Police Department Fire Arms Training Simulator; and

WHEREAS, Milo Range Pro of 1229 Oak Valley Drive Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108 was the lowest responsible bidder in the base bid amount of Thirty Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$37,800.00) and for the additional Training Items in the amount of Sixteen Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Five Dollars (\$16,455.00) and the One Year Bronze Warranty Extension in the amount of Two Thousand Seven Hundred Twelve Dollars and Seventy-Five Cents (\$2,712.75) for a total of Fifty Six Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty-Seven Dollars and Seventy Five Cents (\$56,967.75) for the Police Department Firearms Training Simulator; and

WHEREAS, Borough Attorney has reviewed the bid package and found it to be in order and recommends that the contract be awarded to the lowest bidder; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey that the bid submitted by Milo Range Pro of 1229 Oak Valley Drive Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108 for the Police Department Firearms Training Simulator be accepted and it be awarded the contract, in a total contract amount not to exceed of \$56,967.75.

[R23130](#) Resolution Increasing the Price for the 2023 Stonybrook Swim Club Improvements

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hillsdale (“Borough”), by Resolution dated March 16, 2023 awarded to All State Technology, Inc. located at 101 Lark Lane Oak Ridge, New Jersey 07438 to the Stonybrook Swim Club Improvements in an amount not to exceed \$358,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the Stonybrook Pool Director has proposed Change Order #1 for an increase in the amount not to exceed of \$11,900.00 due to additional caulking that is needed around the main pool apron; and

WHEREAS, the Stonybrook Pool Director 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 increased in an amount not to exceed \$11,900.00.

Motion DeRosa Second Lundy

Ayes: Council President DeRosa, Councilmember Escobar, Fox, Horvath, Lundy, Trochimiuk

Nays: None

OFF-CONSENT:

R23131 Resolution Authorizing the Mayor and Borough Administrator to Execute the Memorandum of Understanding Between the Borough of Hillsdale and the PBA Local 207

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hillsdale (“Hillsdale”) and PBA Local No. 207 (the “PBA”) have heretofore entered into a Collective Bargaining Agreement (“CBA”) for the period January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Hillsdale and the PBA have engaged in ongoing negotiations to discuss and agree upon a modification of the salary guide for Employees hired on or after January 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Hillsdale and the PBA have agreed upon the terms of a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”), the terms of which are incorporated by reference herein; and

WHEREAS, Hillsdale wishes to memorialize its approval of the MOU.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale that the Memorandum of Understanding between the Borough of Hillsdale and the PBA, be and hereby are **APPROVED**; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, the Borough Administrator and the Borough Labor Attorney are authorized to take all appropriate actions so as to implement this Resolution.

Motion Lundy Second DeRosa

Ayes: Council President DeRosa, Councilmember Escobar, Fox, Horvath, Lundy, Trochimiuk

Nays: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Ruocco opened the second public comment period. Seeing no one wishing to speak, the second comment period was closed.

COUNCIL COMMENTARIES:

Mayor Ruocco is disappointed in the council’s eagerness to raise the taxes for the residents, provide themselves raises, and the failure to highlight for our residents the change in the way we are approaching our road improvement project by incurring greater debt.

May 4th is National Day of Prayer and the mayor would like to call upon the citizens of Hillsdale to give thanks in accordance with their own faiths.

Councilmember Trochimiuk wants it to be clear to the residents that in regards to the raises for the mayor and council, the present level of compensation is \$6000/yr. for council and \$9000 for the mayor and increases have not been given since 2005. The increase was given through a cost of living an adjustment over the 18 years since a raise was given.

The cost of these raises come to \$7.00 a year per household.

Councilmember Horvath considers it an honor to be a councilman and considers it a voluntary position. He pays his taxes four times. It behooves this council to be more considerate. The \$7.00 could buy someone a meal.

The American Legion will be holding their poppy drive again. They have a QR code if you would like to make a donation that way.

The train station is in bad condition and the roof needs attention. The roof is deteriorating quickly and should be taken care of without too much trouble.

There are a lot of locations, especially around the library there is a lot debris in the brook This should be looked at as well.

Council President DeRosa stated that the comments made by the mayor crosses over to being accusatory of the council trying to intentionally deceive the public. The council has decided to use a different way of appropriating funds and he takes exception to the what the mayor said.

He met with the Administrator about getting more information out to the public. In the past two days there has been multiple social media posts as well as email blasts and he would like to thank him as well as Denise Kohan, the Borough Clerk.

Councilmember Fox thanked Councilmember Lundy for the work that she has done on the budget and the fact that we manage to have a minimal tax increase. He is proud to say that we have the second largest surplus out of the 7 towns and the second lowest tax increase. He is really appreciative of the number of streets that the Borough will be paving this year. We are set to pave 32 streets and he regards this to the leadership of the Borough Administrator, Mike Ghassali and the CFO. He would also like to thank Denise Kohan for all her hard work and passion for what she does and its much appreciated and recognized.

Councilmember Lundy voiced that the mayor alluded to the lack of transparency on our budget and very often at council meetings regarding information that has been disseminated. She went onto the websites of the 7 towns in the Pascack Valley area and we are the most transparent. We are the only town that puts links to resolutions on our agendas. Comparisons to other towns are made by the mayor when it suits his narrative. We have the second lowest tax increase of the 7 towns. She would like to thank the Borough Clerk and wish her a happy Municipal Clerk’s week. She appreciates all that she does. Everyone of our Borough Professionals has said that Denise is the most professional, organized clerk that they have every worked with and are very much appreciated.

Councilmember Lundy asked that the chart below pertaining to the budget be added into the minutes.

2023 Introduced Budgets

Town	Tax Increase Introduced Per average household	Local Tax Rate	Tax Levy Change	Percent Increase	Surplus	
Montvale	\$62.05	0.592	\$1,005,310	1.90%	\$ 1,828,687	
Park Ridge	\$122	0.733	\$290,739	2.91%	\$ 1,055,550	
River Vale					\$ 990,840	
Emerson	\$565	0.951	\$1,568,894	15.71%	\$ 1,589,298	
Westwood	(\$3)	0.671	\$381,005	-3.56%	\$ 4,827,748	Due to interest and investments on deposits of surplus
Hillsdale	\$46	0.596	\$82,439	0.82%	\$ 3,324,554	
Woodcliff Lake	\$239	0.558			\$2,412,809	Obtained from Mayor Rendo. No other details as WCL budget hasn't been introduced yet

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn Trochimiuk Second DeRosa

All in favor: Councilmember Escobar, Fox, Horvath, Lundy, Trochimiuk, Council President DeRosa

Nays: none

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL WILL BE
TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023**

Denise Kohan, Municipal Clerk

APPROVED AS PRESENTED