

Minutes of the Council Meeting of the borough of Hillsdale held at 7:30 P.M. on Tuesday, February 2, 2016, in the Council Chambers, Borough of Hillsdale, New Jersey.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT:**

This is a meeting of the Hillsdale Borough Council on this 2nd day of February, 2016. Notice of the time and place of this meeting has been provided to The Ridgewood News, Pascack Press, The Record and Community Life; a copy was posted on the bulletin board outside of this meeting room and provided to any interested parties.

Please notify the Municipal Clerk for any disability requirements necessary for attendance at Mayor and Council meetings. The fire exits are located through the double doors to your left. Please silence all cell phones and pagers.

**ROLL CALL:**

Council Members DeRosa, Karcich, Looes, Lundy, Ruocco, Council President Pizzella  
(Mayor Frank, Borough Attorney Madaio, Deputy Borough Clerk Kohan)

**PRESENTATION:** Erik Gundersen, Superintendent of Schools, Pascack Valley Regional High School District

Mr. Gundersen thanked Mayor Frank for the opportunity to be here. He met with the Mayor before he took office to get to know each other and it was nice to talk about the relationship between the Regional High School District as well as our relationship with Hillsdale. We also are very fortunate as a Regional Board of Education to have Mr. DeRosa who attends just about all of our meetings, who is probably our most frequent visitor to our meetings and thanked him for being there. It is much valued by our Hillsdale Board Members who value the fact that Hillsdale town council wants to have someone at our meetings and we appreciate that. Our relationship is strong with the Police Chief and we meet frequently to talk about a variety of different issues and things taking place in Hillsdale, particularly Pascack Valley, and he also has a very important voice in our conversation with the other local Police Departments that serve our students as well as the other local jurisdiction for our sister school, Pascack Hills High School in Montvale. That working relationship is fantastic and we very much value the close working relationship we have with the Hillsdale Police Department.

He provided a little overview of the things taking place within our district and then would allow any questions, perhaps there is something on your mind that you would want to find out more about. The purpose of my being here is to give you a few tidbits of information, things happening right now or will be coming our way to make you aware of it and because we are two different governing bodies, you may have some things you want clarified.

Many are fully aware of the fact that we are focused on innovation and technological advancements within our district, something we proud ourselves on. We are now currently in our 11<sup>th</sup> year of a one-to-one laptop initiative and as many as you know, there are other regional high school districts that are not even running one-to-one laptop initiatives right now. That is quickly picking up, a lot of momentum and

many districts are coming to us to see what we are doing and how we have reached such great success over the last 11 years. This is our second year of our newly defined Pascack schedule; it is a vastly different schedule from when some of you went to school at Pascack Valley High School. That schedule was in place for years and years and years and very outdated, very regimented and we believed we really needed to take a hard look at how we spend our time throughout the course of the day and throughout the course of the week to really reflect on and be representative of new learning trends. This is our first year of something that we are also very excited about but gathering a lot of data and a lot of information on the first year of our assessment modifications. We have significantly modified how we roll out midterms and final exam assessments throughout the course of the year and we have also eliminated the idea of the old fashioned marking period schedule. We will talk about how marking periods were developed over 150 years ago so that a teacher could communicate with a parent about a child's performance. That model has stayed in place until this past year at Pascack Regional High District. A number of years ago we instituted open grade book which allowed parents 24/7 access to take a look at student grades. We felt that if we are constantly providing parents with feedback on how their child is doing in school, why we are setting up these artificial deadlines throughout the course of the year where teachers and students feel this need to cram in certain tests and projects before, as I said, artificial deadlines just to get a grade in place. It was an artificial construct and we decided to break down that barrier and open up the full year for a full assessment cycle. So, we are gathering a lot of information and data throughout the course of this year to see if we want to continue on this path or if we want to make some modifications moving forward.

To mention before, Pascack Valley Regional is recognized by the New Jersey Department of Education as an innovative school district, we are an original member of what the Department of Education has designated Innovate NJ representative of districts that are looking to do things differently and utilize technology in a way that really enhances our students' educational experience. We are very proud to be one of 73 districts throughout the entire country to be part of "digital promises lead to innovative schools." This is an organization that was created by George W. Bush and fully adopted and supported by the Obama Administration which looks to innovative districts that are really looking to improve the educational experience for students, specifically through the use of technology. We provide a lot of feedback to other school districts on how they can incorporate these practices in their own school districts and we are very excited to announce partnership we have with the New York public schools where we are going to be providing some professional developing and mentoring to teachers and administrators in the public schools.

It also circulates around our vision statement for our district which is to create a culture of innovation, inquiry and individuality that promotes achievement in choice by cultivating the schools needed to compete and collaborate as ethical and responsible global citizens. This is reflective, we believe, in everything that we do. Take for example the virtual days that we have today; you are talking about innovation, inquiry and about addressing the individual student and his/her needs. We provide a lot of choice for students, whether it is through our Pascack schedule, our Pascack period which is all about student choice and even the virtual day and the course offerings the students have throughout the year. We are very excited about these virtual days that we received an endorsement from the New Jersey Department of Education to roll these out and these two days will count as school days as opposed to two years ago where despite being really creative and operating a virtual school day during a snow storm, ultimately it didn't satisfy New Jersey State Statute which mandated that school buildings have to be open in order for the school day to count. Despite learning facilities, and learning opportunities being there for students, the fact that our doors were not open prohibited us from counting that as a school. But we reached out to the Department of Education, we actually partnered with Park Ridge School District as well who is operating their virtual day next Monday, February 8, and the Department was very excited

about this opportunity, ironically enough that if it snowed today or tomorrow and we had to close school, we wouldn't have been able to run a virtual day. Hopefully, some day statutes will change and the legislature will understand that we need to move forward with that definition.

Among other things we are doing in the district to promote authentic career and college opportunities for students, we have an ever growing internship experience for our students. We have had that for many years but now it has really accelerated. We have wonderful partnerships with businesses and other public organizations whether it is here in Hillsdale or other sending districts and even outside of our immediate district. We have very wonderful working relationships for students going into their senior year in the afternoon and getting real work experience outside of the school. This is really a trend that we see taking place where we should be exposing our students to work outside of the typical school environment. What better opportunity for a student that may be thinking about accounting or may be thinking about a career in the medical field and may be thinking about a career in the engineering world. To get an internship for a period of time and hopefully get very excited about it and they realize this is the path they want to take, but equally importantly, it is good for students to find out if they are not crazy about what this is. So many times students will talk about they want a career in business but they really don't know what that is about. This allows them the opportunity to go ahead and have that experience.

Next year we are expanding our college and AP offerings to include AP Environmental Science, we are partnering with Ramapo University to provide a psychology course for students who will continue to get college credit and we are also looking at a college economics course as well. There are a variety of other courses right now besides AP which is to gain college undergraduate credit for work they are doing at the high school. They are doing some real authentic research and research in molecular genetics through Rutgers University who also are allowing students to receive certain University credits for courses such as Forensics, and there are others as well that we have. It is really opening up some great opportunities for our students.

We are also looking very much at creating a balance between making sure our academic rigor is high and students are getting a world class education while at the same time addressing needs of their emotional and mental wellbeing. He knows that Hillsdale has embraced the stigma free designation and the Pascack Valley Regional High School District has as well. So we are very proud to partner with Bergen County and various municipalities and designate our students and our district as a statement free district.

Last year we were also very excited to say that we were the first district in New Jersey to train and certify all of our students and all of our staff members in CPR. Each and every individual was trained in CPR the first of its kind in New Jersey. We are expanding that this year by having more and more of our faculty members become trained and certified in what is called Mental Health first aid, really understanding the signs of what to look for if there is a student that is suffering from mental or emotional health crises and what to do as a result of seeing those signs; something we find as ever growing with regards to its importance. We are also expanding some of the community interactions that we have, in fact tomorrow night Hillsdale has promoting this, and we thank you very much for doing that. One of our Pascack students, Valerie Bernstein, is hosting a program on creating more awareness for families what to look for in students experiencing eating disorders and that program is going to take place tomorrow and it is organized and lead by Valley. She is bringing in experts from the outside to talk to families and talk to older students as well about what signs to look for if your friend or family member is having some of these issues. We have another program in about a month that is called "Raising Resilient Girls" and is geared towards young girls in elementary school through 9<sup>th</sup> grades and their mothers to come in and really understand an experience of what it takes to raise a resilient girl especially in this

environment of social media. Some of the things that can be said and the behaviors that take place over social media can be quite damaging, in particular girls can go ahead and combat that.

Some of the brick and water issues, some of the things that get the Planning Board excited, perhaps the Mayor and Council, we have some other projects that are coming up that will be of interest to Hillsdale. We are engaged right now in a demographic study to really take a look at what our facility needs are going to be based on future population expectations, not just for Hillsdale but also for River Vale; you may be aware that there is a development that is going to be happening in River Vale as well as in Montvale. That is going to have wide implications for us which he was not sure what those implications were going to be. We are conducting a demographic study and will be more than happy to share that with Hillsdale Town Council as well as other municipalities to let them know what we learn.

On March 10, he will be speaking and answering many questions in front of the Planning Board about our proposed and anticipated Pascack Valley parking lot project. A couple of years ago I spoke to you about the tennis court project that we partnered with Bergen County to build five tennis courts and it is a beautiful facility right behind our football field. He will be back again on March 10 to talk about what we are doing about the old tennis courts that are adjacent to our building you will notice the little point between where the tennis courts are and the building. That has been a major safety concern of ours as well as the Fire Department, the Police Department for many years and we are finally doing something about it. We will be demolishing those tennis courts, we will be creating an opportunity not only for vehicles to exit that facility at the end of a football game or at the end of the school day, but at the same time provide the opportunity and a special lane for incoming Police cars, fire trucks and other vehicles that need to get back there. It has been a major safety concern of ours for quite some time and if there is a major event that takes place in the back of the building and cars are exiting, it is difficult to get cars into the back of the facility. It is going to widen lanes and have some dedicated lanes for both in and out traffic. In addition to that, we are going to move the traffic lane away from the building. If you have any of our basketball or wrestling matches over the winter and you open the door to the side parking lot, you are right there in the lane of traffic. Fortunately, we haven't had any major issues but it is only a matter of time in my mind. We will be creating a buffer zone, a sidewalk, a little bit of an extra path area with some grass then the drive lane then the parking area. There will be about 30 extra parking spaces and any additional parking is sorely needed and we are excited to have that. We expect the demolition to start sometime in the spring, hopefully over our spring break with the tennis courts, and major construction will take place over the summer. We have been in contact with the immediate neighbors and shared with them our plans, we offered them opportunities for feedback and two of them have.

That is about it for me, things that I wanted to communicate to you. If there are any questions about what I talked about or any other random questions that perhaps I can answer, he is all ears. He appreciates being here this evening.

Councilmember Ruocco asked for additional information for how long students log on for, he believed it varies by course.

Superintendent Gundersen said about two years ago we prepared for this virtual day, 36 hours in advance, we had an administrative meeting and we were voicing our frustration about the number of snow days we had that year and what we could do and the idea came up that perhaps we could offer a virtual day. We went from zero to 60 miles an hour within the course of 36 hours and teachers did a phenomenal job. One of the major complaints from our students two years ago was that they had more work and in some cases busy work on that day more than on any day during the course of the year. They were excited about the innovated nature of what was going on but there was a huge work load. One of

the things that we learned was to make sure that we work with our teachers and they have been very receptive to this about, about managing what we are doing throughout the course of these two virtual days. Typically on a Tuesday and Wednesday, we have our block days expanding learning blocks and the students take half their courses on Tuesday and half their courses on Wednesday. We are rolling out that same schedule today and tomorrow, the only difference is we are reducing the time of each of those blocks to an hour instead of 88 minutes. This allows students to be working in their classes for the first half of the day and then the second half of the day is meant for students to catch up and finish what they perhaps didn't finish within those period of time in the morning. You are absolutely right, every course is a little bit different so I witnessed a biology teacher today giving a synchronis where students could see and hear him on their screen and there are little hands that would go up and you could call on students and it was really a back and forth between the teacher and students on line. Very much like those of you that have been part of video compassing, that type of format. There were other students that were assigning students little video snippets and asking them to get on educational appropriate social media sites to provide some feedback, specifically our learning management system which is called "Campus" some of you have high school students that may have heard about it. They are going on campus and providing feedback and it is basically a discussion opportunity between the teacher and the students in the class to have an exchange. The whole idea is that it is not one directional learning, it is that they are communicating, collaborating on line. So every course is a little different and teachers have slightly different expectations but we are hoping that this opportunity today and tomorrow our students won't be walking away saying I don't want to do that again. They are getting a different exposure to learning than what they have received throughout the course of the regular year. It is looking at a little different change of pace and also further the experiment of learning in a very dynamic digital format.

Councilmember Ruocco appreciated the offering to share the demographic information and it is very helpful especially to our swim club where we see numbers fluctuating and that might help us draw our plans for the future. He would encourage all residents to come to the Board of Education meetings, they are very enlightening and for the financial aspect. The Board of Education spends most of the tax dollars that are collected so he welcomes residents coming to these meetings but there is a lot that goes on there. At times, just he himself and members of the press who attend the meetings and wished more people would turn out. The Board is looking into televising their meetings.

Mr. Gundersen said there has been talk about televising the meetings but the Board is entertaining a policy to audio record the meetings first. There was a significant financial cost to televise the meetings and there is some discussion on whether or not we want to do that, so the first step right now is to talk about whether or not we want to audio record and put those recordings on our website. That has not yet been approved but the first reading of that policy will be taking place on Monday.

Mayor Frank is surprised as to how many people watch the Council meetings on TV so he would encourage this.

Mr. Gundersen said actually Hillsdale has been the most vocal municipality of the four to encourage our Board of Education to do so. Trustee Al Murphy has been a major advocate of it, quite frankly, he has been the one pushing for it for quite some time.

Councilmember Pizzella thanked the students and specifically art and drama students that have really helped the town when we did the window decorating and also the Halloween in Hillsdale. With Halloween in Hillsdale we attempted to raise awareness and fundraise for the train station which we are going to continue to do and would help to get them involved in that project, maybe even have the History students get involved. You mentioned how you have this program where students go out and have

practical experience outside of school. That project is going to involve fundraising, planning, engineering, architecture and government and so it would be great to have high school presence.

Mr. Gundersen said we have a senior project aspect to our senior year as well, it is not as time consuming as an internship experience, but there may be a student who is interested in some civic work or fundraising and this might be the perfect project for them. When you call me, I will get some more information from you and will communicate with the people in our school about that and maybe we can get something working.

Councilmember Pizzella said Vice-Principal Puccio has been amazing and very helpful and very involved and great to work with.

Mr. Gundersen said Mr. Puccio and Debbie Squicciarri are the two Assistant Principals as well as our Principal, Mr. Tom DeMaio. He has placed big emphasis on Pascack Valley about being civically minded. If you have children in the school district, you will know that at every grade level embraces a cause, whether that is raising money for a particular illness or if it is some other charity work that the grade is focused on. We are really interested in making sure the students understand that going through high school is much more than just about the student, but it is also about contributing to your local community. He believed Hillsdale does a great job, you invite students here all the time through various governmental projects that you have when students are on mock town council meetings and you invite the Italian students when they have their Italian friends come from overseas and a variety of different projects. He appreciated the recognition our students and the good work they do. There is much more to high school than the grades you are earning. It is much more about the experience you have in making grow as a whole person.

Councilmember Karcich had a question about the changing of your grade periods and deadlines. Is there any data as yet on how well the students get prepared when they are out of high school and into college? Deadlines don't stop just because you are not in high school and that was a concern when he heard over the summer when this whole thing was changing. How well are we preparing our kids for when you get that real job and the boss says you have to get that presentation done or that report done?

Mr. Gundersen said that is a very good question and so our data will really come in as we accumulate all of our assessments and our grades throughout the course of the year. You can expect a lot more discussion on that as the end of the year comes to a close and especially over the summer. He wanted to be clear that we are not eliminating deadlines, there are still absolute deadlines that teachers have and students experiencing stress and stress is an important thing for students to experience, particularly in high school under the close guidance of high school teachers as opposed to when you get to college and it is a much open, less observant environment from a mentoring standpoint. What we were talking about was the idea of an artificial deadlines that marking periods represented where teachers would say they need as many grades in their grade books as our fellow chemistry teachers and need to stick this test in there and everybody needs to go ahead and study and we need this content, give this test whether or not you really understand the content or not. We are looking to relax that idea. So there are absolutely deadlines, projects that students have to do, there has been no compromise with regards to that mentality. It is the idea of giving students an assigned grade when the teacher and the students were not ready for that.

Mayor Frank thanked Mr. Gundersen for coming to the Council Meeting. Hillsdale is a great place, we have good transportation, trains, buses into the city, we are a safe town, one of the safest around, we have

good volunteers and an excellent progressive, innovating high school, which adds to the value of the town.

**APPOINTMENTS/OATH OF OFFICE:**

Dewey Burleson – Recreation Commission

Term Ending December 31, 2018.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mayor Frank said we are up to the first public comment section, this is a time limited section for individuals to talk about a topic that has not been covered before. He opened the meeting to the public and those interested, come to the podium, giving your name and address.

Seeing no one, Mayor Frank closed the public session.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Regular Meeting Minutes October 13, 2015

Motion to approve and file was made by Councilmember Looes, Second by Councilmember DeRosa.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: 2015 Council Members DeRosa, Looes, Ruocco, Council President Pizzella

Abstain: 2016 Council Members Karcich, Lundy

Nays: None

**PROFESSIONALS REPORT/MONTHLY DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

*(The following correspondence on file in Borough Clerks Office)*

Borough Engineer – January 29, 2016

Borough Engineer Statile said he believed everyone knew of the Public Service substation expansion plans, Phase III, and asked if anyone had any questions. Public Service intends in their third phase of work at the substation to construct a 55 ft. high building. Part of their expansion plan is to acquire land, they cannot construct a street project without acquiring those lands. Public hearings at the Planning Board on the Phase III installation will be held and the Board will be asking very hard questions of Public Service with regard to being sensitive to the neighborhood, sensitive to the industrial zone, and future zones, etc. He wanted the Council to remember that they control the public right-of-way which they much get across to build their substation. He asked the Council not to take any action on vacation of any streets in town until the Planning Board is fully vetted and approve the site plan application. The Council has control of public property, Public Service cannot condemn your lands, keep that in mind.

We will be continuing air and water quality testing at Centennial Field. Regarding the train station, we have a \$100,000 open space grant and you must match that with \$100,000. That grant will probably be taken to 2017 and because it is an historic structure, there is thought and consideration about doing any work on the building itself. They will give us time to do that. We have to evaluate the building itself and require money for that. The evaluation of an historic building could be \$15,000 to \$20,000; also you

have to draw up plans for construction. When that is all done we can actually get the state's approval to do the actual work. Keep in mind the costs before we can actually engage doing any work on the building.

Mayor Frank said we can expect to start activity this year. How does that match up with the fully funded grant we have for the ADA bathroom and have we started anything on that:-?

Engineer Statile said yes, we will be sketching up that bathroom and have the actual plans as well. That is internal and that is not as sensitive as external and we have to get approval by the county and historical office as well. That is on a separate track.

Mayor Frank said we have to get our Historic Committee and Preservation Committee and find out what the schedule is going to be, the funding. We need to do that sooner rather than later.

Engineer Statile did not believe that professional fees can be paid through the grant, only the actual construction work. If you don't use all the money up you can start backfilling it with professional fees. To use up the \$200,000 for construction purposes, there is no money for professionals. That is going to be outside of your matching fees and wanted the council to be aware of that. He did not believe \$200,000 is going to take you very far with this building.

Councilmember Pizzella said \$200,000 is for the roof and that is what we figures and that is why we started fundraising for the rest. The only thing we have done so far is getting lists of historical effects approved by the county.

Councilmember DeRosa asked if the grant for open space has gone through. He gets confused between the grant for the bathroom and this one.

Engineer Statile said we received a block grant and this is a different grant. He said the money for the roof is great and probably can do the roof and any embellishments on the roof as well. Keep in mind the building is actually on a wood foundation and has a railroad tie foundation that supports the building. It is pretty good for a hundred and some years. We have done work on it before and on the waiting area.

He said his reports go through grant applications and he tries to track everything. We look forward to the ones submitted and the ones you got in the past. The grant applications for 2016 haven't been made by the commissioner and it will take a little time. They usually range about \$149,000 and that is probably what we will get from the state.

He also wanted to keep the council apprised as to what is going on at the Planning Board. Nothing is new, everything you have heard about already. There are several applications and he will try to get some photos as well and advise the council. We are setting up a contract now for new pumps at the swim club. The opening and closing specifications for 2016 are available. One thing about the high school is true, when he was in high school he worked for an engineering company in Paramus and four years later and started in engineering.

Mayor Frank asked about the culvert in process and asked if that was on his agenda.

Engineer Statile said yes he has it and is formulating a solution and will add that to his report.

Councilmember Ruocco said the report from our prior engineer was more encompassing and would like the engineer to go back to that report and if there are any open items that are not done by him and if he could transfer them to his report so that we can get a monthly update. Some he is carrying to completion.

Councilmember DeRosa asked about the image of the building that he has on his report for PSE&G, is that representative of what we are talking about?

Engineer Statile said that is their rendering.

Councilmember DeRosa said they talked about a new age type of enclosure and did not realize that it was going to be a 50 ft. high building.

Councilmember Pizzella said you should also be aware that PSE&G did make themselves open to discussing with the subcommittee the architecture of that building.

Councilmember DeRosa said it was his understanding that after attending that meeting that this picture that you have chosen is representative of the size and height of the building, but the pipes coming out is not what he understood was going to be happening. They warned us about this particular image which was in the package.

Engineer Statile said Public Service has an architect, like an engineer or traffic engineer, to work with Public Service to get a better image of this building. We got three names of local architects of commercial and industrial work. Public Service has no say on that and the Planning Board will get the building to look the way they want it to look.

Mayor Frank said a resident was here before the meeting to speak about a sidewalk on Piermont Avenue from Magnolia towards Kinderkamack which is incomplete and we have kids crossing over on the street, in the snow, and it is dangerous. He asked that this be looked into. He would also like history as to why the sidewalk doesn't go all the way up.

Engineer Statile said those are all old homes except for the last two. Those houses have always existed that way so they never took any action to do something with those sidewalks.

Mayor Frank said that pathway is the way the kids use to go to school and we would like you to take a look at that.

Engineer Statile said that would be an excellent application; there is an elementary school nearby; it will be costly to put the sidewalk in because of the walls, there are some obstructions but it can be done.

One thing on the road program, we have done some other communities for a modest price. We have surveyed all the streets, from the worst to the best, and it is something you can use as a guide. We have data sheets on all the streets, we have a list of the best streets and the worst streets. We have every street in Hillsdale listed, sometimes by block as well. We have data on the streets that have been paved, etc. It is something to think about when you are budgeting.

Mayor Frank said the timing is perfect, he spoke with the DPW Superintendent today about putting together a list on the streets, those most in need, and what we are going to do in 2016.

Engineer Statile said we keep a record on cracks, potholes, we also know whether there are sidewalks of not, curbs or not. It is record keeping for us.

Councilmember DeRosa said there may be a street that is rated very poorly from a construction point but hardly gets used. He takes into account a street that is used heavily like Hillsdale Avenue and would give that greater weight because more cars go on that street and asked that the engineer take that into account.

Police- *January 26, 2016*

Police Chief Francaviglia said during the month of January there were 93 dispatching shifts and all were covered but two. There were 21 criminal arrests, 110 summonses issued, 256 motor vehicle warnings. During the month of January the Hillsdale Police Department participated in the high school lock down drill which we do about 10 times a year from September to June. He reported on street light outages, there has been concern about that and how it is reported. Residents can actually do it themselves via the computer, if not, they can call police headquarters and we will do it for them. He has one letter of commendation for Firefighter Steve LaFrance during the snow storm event we had. We had a medical call on Trinity and he took it upon himself to come out after monitoring the radio and started shoveling snow to the 95 year old woman's doorway and allowed aid to the victim by creating a clear path. He wanted to commend him publicly and make recommendations to the Fire Chief and he will be here next month.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilman – Anthony DeRosa

Councilmember DeRosa said at the Stonybrook meeting three new members were appointed, they are very enthusiastic and looking forward to whatever they can come with to invigorate the swim club. They did vote on sending out RP40 pool enclosure and he understood that has been revised and sent to Engineer Statile for a grant hearing. He thanked the outgoing officers of the Ambulance Corps and welcomed the incoming. They celebrated with an installation dinner.

Councilman – Scott Karcich

Councilmember Karcich thanked our DPW crews for doing a great job during the snow storm. We had 30" of snow coming down at 3" per hour, blustering winds. Our men worked through the night for over 30 hours and did a great job especially in our downtown area.

Councilwoman- Chris Looes

No report.

Councilwoman – Abby Lundy

No report.

Council President – Frank Pizzella

Councilmember Pizzella wanted to report on the Tandy Allen preservation. Originally if you recall the borough agreed to accept ownership of the Tandy Allen property provided the title is clean and the property was clean. The funds to purchase the property were coming from OSI and it was through a county grant and Green Acres funding. The environmental status of the property remains an obstacle for this project moving forward. Phase I indicated contamination through most of the three acres in the uplands and to address the issue, OSI engineers said that further testing should be done and then take an average over the greater piece of area and hope that the average taken at that point indicates levels below remediation standards. It is an approach the DEP uses when there is low level contamination like historic fill which is on that property. When they did this phase through sampling, they found even more contamination. Rather than lower the amount average, the average number went even higher. We also determined that remediation on the site would cost \$300,000. OSI then offered to take that amount from the purchase price and put it into an escrow for the town and then remediate the site using that money so that when the closing took place, the town would take clean title as well as clean property. Unfortunately, the property owners were unwilling to do that. The property owners do not want to lower the requested purchase price and are no longer interested in pursuing the preservation of the property at this time. If the borough were willing to accept the property as is, the county would not be able to proceed because the county and Green Acres require remediation of the project first. For these reasons, we will draft a letter basically explaining the situation and withdrawing from the grant we received to preserve the Tandy Allen. We will continue to pursue open space and conservation while balancing our investigation and economic development in certain areas.

Councilman – John Ruocco

Councilmember Ruocco said the Finance Committee met with seven departments so far on the budget last week and we have some departments coming up the remainder this week and into next week. The Senior van has started, the van we acquired from Saddle Brook, and was going well until today when the battery died. That is a minor thing and the battery has to be replaced.

Our OEM folks met with Gotham Analytics regarding a flood sensor proposal. We are actively looking at that and our OEM folks are eager, are high on the project. It is a good thing to proceed with, we did have questions for Gotham to answer and they are working on the proposal to answer those questions. They will be coming back to Jon Najarian and Butch Franklin.

With respect to Police, he received an email from a company called Credit Donkey and had no idea of what they do other than to take surveys. They took a survey, put together some information from federal statistics and concluded Hillsdale to be the third safest town in New Jersey following Westwood and Washington Township in Morris County. They based that on very low crime statistics for violent crime, robbery, property crime and burglary and on those counts we are very, very low. He would like to say that is entirely on the efforts of our Police Department, but also realizes that other factors come into play..

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **1. Recreation Sports Agreements- Council Member DeRosa**

Councilmember DeRosa said a revised agreement has been circulated through the Rec Commission and he has heard from about half of the Commission in the affirmative, that they are fine with it. A meeting is scheduled on Thursday and expects an o.k. and will then take it to the individual sports associations and ask them to attend the following Rec Commission where he hopes they either ratify or we can answer questions.

Mayor Frank asked why there is a need to wait for the following Rec Commission meeting, if the sports associations agree with the agreement just sign it.

Councilmember DeRosa said originally it was proposed that it was coming from the Rec Commission and we have been working on that all along.

Councilmember Looes said this Thursday the Rec Commission is determining if they are o.k. with it and after Thursday you are approaching the Association. If the Association, a day after they receive it, says they are ready, do they need to wait until the next Rec meeting that they are on board?

Councilmember DeRosa said if they accept it ahead of time that is great. We need to give them time to go back to their boards for approval.

Mayor Frank said there is an issue because of the insurance this year and the sooner you get the sports agreements signed and implemented, we can straighten out the insurance billing. Time is of the essence.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **DISCUSSION:**

#### **1. Sign Ordinance**

Mayor Frank said the Sign Ordinance has been around a bit and we needed input from the Council, noting such had already been received from Councilmember Ruocco. He reviewed it, made corrections and adjustments along with comments from our zoning official and circulated it around the last week or so to the Council. The discussion item here is implementation and his recommendation is that we introduce it next week and adopt it 30 days later. He received commitment from our zoning official to work with the local businesses on the implementation plan.

Councilmember DeRosa said in that 30 day period businesses would have the opportunity to comment on it and give feedback.

Mayor Frank said the plan is to put a link and put it on the website and also the zoning official said he was going to either visit or mail a flyer advising all businesses, the primary ones that will be affected, a notice about the new sign ordinance and give them time to get familiar with it so that they can come to the introduction meeting with comments.

Councilmember DeRosa said in between introduction and adoption there has to be a referral to the Planning Board. The Planning Board has a certain number of days to review and/or comment. So in 30 days the second meeting may not happen in 30 days but the Council will move it along to get the board moving on its review and then we can adopt it.

Mayor Frank said this is another ordinance that has been around for a long time. We don't need anything to delay it and everyone has had ample time to review it and we will give the Planning Board the same amount of time.

Engineer Statile said the Board is meeting next week and if you can send it along so they can review it.

Councilmember DeRosa would encourage any business who may be interested in the sign ordinance to review it on line and come here with any questions.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Letter received January 25, 2016 from Michael Kaufmann resigning as the CFO for the Borough of Hillsdale effective February 10, 2016.

Mayor Frank said we will discuss this in closed session tonight to discuss our plans to react to that. Motion to receive, approve and file was made by Councilmember Looes, Second by Councilmember DeRosa.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council Members DeRosa, Karcich, Looes, Lundy, Ruocco, Council President Pizzella  
Nays: None

2. Email received from Jaclyn Hering requesting a street named after her grandfather, Neil Hering who had a great impact on the Borough of Hillsdale.

Mayor Frank has spoken with Jaclyn and we are looking at opportunities, other naming a street which becomes very complicated and she was o.k. with that and we will continue with that.

Motion to receive, approve and file was made by Councilmember Looes, Second by Councilmember DeRosa, and unanimously carried.

3. Letter received January 26, 2016 from John Clark, on behalf of the Pascack Art Association requesting approval for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Art in the Park in Hillsdale's Veteran's Park on June 4, 2016 with a rain date on June 5, 2016.

Roll Call Vote:

Motion to receive, approve and file was made by Councilmember Karcich, Second Councilmember Ruocco, and unanimously carried.

4. Letter dated January 2016 from the Friends of the Pascack Brook, John Hering, on behalf of the Kids Fishing Contest, requesting to be included in this year's budget.

Motion to receive, approve and file was made by Councilmember DeRosa, Second Councilmember Looes, and unanimously carried.

### **ORDINANCES:** *Introductions*

#### **16-03 (Introduction)**

An Ordinance Supplementing Chapter 228, Property Maintenance, Of The Borough Code Regulating The Care, Maintenance, Security, And Upkeep Of Vacant And Abandoned Residential Properties In Foreclosure

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hillsdale regulates the maintenance of residential property within the Borough by and through Chapter 228 of the Borough Code, “Property Maintenance”; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature and the Governor of the State of New Jersey have enacted P.L. 2014, c.35, described as “[a]n Act concerning the maintenance of certain residential properties, supplementing chapter 48 of Title 40 of the Revised Statutes....” (The Act); and

WHEREAS, The Act authorizes the Borough to adopt an ordinance for the purpose of regulating the care, maintenance, security, and upkeep of the exterior of vacant and abandoned residential properties for which a creditor has filed a summons and complaint in an action to foreclose; and

WHEREAS, The Act authorizes designated Borough officials to issue notices to creditors that have filed a summons and complaint in an action to foreclose, if the public official determines that the property is vacant and abandoned and that the creditor has failed to provide for the care, maintenance, security, and upkeep of the exterior of the property; and

WHEREAS, The Act authorizes the Borough to impose monetary fines and penalties for each violation of this ordinance and its respective provisions in the Borough Code; and

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to amend the Borough Code to enact the provisions of P.L. 2014, c.35; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body finds that it is in the best interests of the Borough to amend the Borough Code as hereinafter provided to enact the provisions of P.L. 2014, c.35.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED as follows:

Section 1. The Borough Code, Chapter 228, “Property Maintenance” shall be amended to add section 5 as follows:

228-5 MAINTENANCE OF VACANT AND ABANDONED RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

228-5.1 DEFINITIONS

A. “Creditor” shall mean, consistent with section 3 of P.L. 2008, c.86, a State chartered bank, savings bank, savings and loan association or any credit union, any person required to be licensed under the provisions of the “New Jersey Residential Mortgage Lending Act,” and any entity acting on behalf of the Creditor named in the debt obligation, including but not limited to, servicers.

B. “Vacant and Abandoned” residential property shall mean, consistent with section 1 of P.L. 2010, c.70 (C.2A:50-73), residential real estate for which a notice of violation has been issued pursuant to Section 159-10.3 of this Chapter and subsection b. of section 1 of P.L. 2014, c.35. Where a notice of violation has not been issued pursuant to Section 159-10.3 of this Chapter and subsection b. of section 1 of P.L. 2014, c.35, residential property shall be deemed “Vacant and Abandoned” where a mortgaged property is not occupied by a mortgagor or tenant as evidenced by a lease agreement entered into prior to the service of a notice of intention to commence foreclosure according to section 4 of the “Fair Foreclosure Act,” P.L. 1995, c.244 and at least two of the following conditions exist:

- (1) Overgrown or neglected vegetation;
- (2) The accumulation of newspapers, circulars, flyers or mail on the property;

- (3) Disconnected gas, electric, or water utility services to the property;
- (4) The accumulation of hazardous, noxious, or unhealthy substances or materials on the property;
- (5) The accumulation of junk, litter, trash or debris on the property;
- (6) The absence of window treatments such as blinds, curtains or shutters;
- (7) The absence of furnishings and personal items;
- (8) Statements of neighbors, delivery persons, or government employees indicating that the residence is vacant and abandoned;
- (9) Windows or entrances to the property that are boarded up or closed off or multiple window panes that are damaged, broken and unrepaired;
- (10) Doors to the property that are smashed through, broken off, unhinged, or continuously unlocked;
- (11) A risk to the health, safety or welfare of the public, or any adjoining or adjacent property owners, exists due to acts of vandalism, loitering, criminal conduct, or the physical destruction or deterioration of the property;
- (12) An uncorrected violation of a municipal building, housing, or similar code during the preceding year, or an order by municipal authorities declaring the property to be unfit for occupancy and to remain vacant and unoccupied;
- (13) The mortgagee or other authorized party has secured or winterized the property due to the property being deemed vacant and unprotected or in danger of freezing;
- (14) A written statement issued by any mortgagor expressing the clear intent of all mortgagors to abandon the property; and
- (15) Any other reasonable indicia of abandonment.

#### 8-5.2 CREDITOR RESPONSIBILITY FOR VACANT AND ABANDONED PROPERTIES

A Creditor filing a summons and complaint in an action to foreclose on a residential property within the Borough shall be immediately responsible for the care, maintenance, security, and upkeep of the exterior of the property, after the property becomes Vacant and Abandoned as defined in this Chapter.

A. Where a Creditor is located out-of-State, the Creditor shall be responsible for appointing an in-State representative or agent to act on the Creditor's behalf for the purpose of satisfying the requirements of Paragraph A of this Section. Notice of said representative or agent shall be provided to the Borough clerk in a manner that is consistent with subsection a. of section 17 of P.L. 2008, c.127 (the "Save New Jersey Homes Act of 2008"), and shall further include the full name and contact information of the in-State representative or agent.

#### 228-5.3 NOTICE

A. Any public officer designated by the Borough or authorized municipal official responsible for the administration of any property maintenance or public nuisance code shall be authorized to issue a notice to a Creditor that has filed a summons and complaint in an action to foreclose on a residential property

within the Borough, if the public officer determines that the Creditor has violated this Chapter by failing to provide for the care, maintenance, security, and upkeep of the exterior of the property. Where a Creditor is an out-of-State Creditor, the notice shall be issued to the representative or agent that has been identified by the Creditor pursuant to Section 10-12.2 of this Chapter and the Save New Jersey Homes Act of 2008.

B. The notice referenced in Paragraph A of this Section shall require the Creditor to correct the violation(s) within 30 days of receipt of the notice, or within 10 days of receipt of the notice if the violation presents an imminent threat to public health and safety.

C. The issuance of a notice pursuant to Paragraph A of this Section shall constitute proof that a residential property is "Vacant and Abandoned" for the purposes of this Chapter.

#### 228-5.4 VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

A Creditor subject to this Chapter that is found by the municipal court of the Borough, or by any other court of competent jurisdiction, to be in violation of the requirement to correct a care, maintenance, security, or upkeep violation cited in a notice issued pursuant to this Chapter shall be subject to a fine of \$1,500 for each day of the violation. Any fines imposed pursuant to this sub-section shall commence 31 days following the Creditor's receipt of the notice, except where the violation is deemed to present an imminent risk to the public health and safety, in which case any fines shall commence 11 days following receipt of the notice.

A. An out-of-state Creditor subject to this Chapter that is found by the municipal court of the Borough, or by any other court of competent jurisdiction, to be in violation of the requirement to appoint an in-State representative or agent shall be subject to a fine of \$2,500 for each day of the violation. Any fines imposed on an out-of-state Creditor for the failure to appoint an in-State representative or agent shall commence on the day after the 10-day period set forth in paragraph (1) of subsection a. of section 17 of P.L. 2008, c.127 (C.46:10B-51) for providing notice to the municipal clerk that a summons and complaint in an action to foreclose on a mortgage has been served.

B. No less than 20 percent of any money collected by the Borough pursuant to this Section shall be utilized by the Borough for municipal code enforcement purposes.

If any section or provision of this Ordinance shall be held invalid in any Court of competent jurisdiction, the same shall not affect the other sections or provision of this Ordinance, except so far as the section or provision so declared invalid shall be inseparable from the remainder of any portion thereof.

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances which are inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

In the event that any word, phrase, clause, section or provision of this Ordinance is found by any Court of competent jurisdiction to be unenforceable, illegal or unconstitutional, such word, phrase, clause or

provision shall be severable from the balance of this Ordinance and the remainder of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

BE IT RESOLVED, that Ordinance No. 16-03 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 March 1, 2016 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 by Councilmember Looes, Second by Councilmember Ruocco.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council Members DeRosa, Karcich, Looes, Lundy, Ruocco, Council President Pizzella  
Nays: None

#### **16-04 (Introduction)**

An Ordinance Establishing Recreation Department Program and Summer Camp Fees for the Year 2016 in the Borough of Hillsdale.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hillsdale as follows:

SECTION 1. The Hillsdale Summer Camp season for children of Hillsdale and River Vale residents and for children attending Hillsdale schools (St. John's included) shall operate continuously for 5 weeks.

SECTION 2. The Summer Camp Fees per registrant for the year 2016 are as follows:

	Hillsdale/ River Vale	St. John's Student/
	<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-Resident</u>
Camp Pascack, Grades 1 – 4	\$800	\$850
Camp Adventure, Grades 5 – 6	\$850	\$900
Field Trip Camp, Grades 7 – 9	\$900	\$950
Late registration fee after May 7, 2016	\$50	\$50
Before Camp Program (8:00 – 9:00 am)		
Pre-Registered (all weeks)	\$180	\$185
Pre-Registered (per week)	\$60	\$60
Pre-Registered (per day)	\$20	\$20

No pre-registration (per day)	\$25	\$25
After Camp Program (3:00 – 6:00 pm)		
Pre-Registered (all weeks)	\$340	\$345
Pre-Registered (per week)	\$100	\$100
Pre-Registered (per day)	\$25	\$25
No pre-registration (per day)	\$30	\$30
Late pick-up (after 6:00 pm,	\$15	\$15
Per 15 minute increment.)		

NO REFUNDS

**SECTION 3.** The **Recreation Program Fees** per registrant for the year 2016 are as follows:

	<u>Hillsdale Resident</u>	<u>Non-Resident</u>
Men's Basketball	\$70	\$70
Duplicate Bridge	\$20	\$40
Indoor Soccer	\$55	\$65
Youth Basketball (1,2,3 clinic Grade)	\$55	\$60
Youth Basketball (3 <sup>rd</sup> to 8th Grade,	\$80, 1 child	\$85
Youth Basketball (9th to 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade,*RV)	\$80, each child	\$80
Women's Volleyball	\$55	\$55
Girls Instructional Volleyball	\$50	\$50
Men's 18 & over Softball	\$400/per team	N/A
Men's 35 & over Softball	\$50	\$55
Women's 18 & over Softball	\$50	\$55
Wrestling	\$125	\$125
Rutgers Coaches Class	\$45	\$45
Art Program, per class or (session)	\$95 - \$100	N/A
Cooking per class or (session)	\$5-100	N/A
PGA Golf Program	\$100	N/A
Tennis Program	\$100	N/A

Ski Program	\$50-\$100	\$50-\$100
First Friends (per child)	\$5-10	\$5-10
Ice Skating	\$125-130	\$125-130
Returned Check Fee	\$20	\$20
Car show participant's	\$20-30	\$20-30
Vendors (car show)	\$30-\$50	\$30-\$50
5k run (rover clover)	\$5-\$75	\$5-\$75
Late Fee	\$25	\$25
Credit Card Convenience Fee	3%	3%
Use of Beechwood Park rental Band		
Shell & picnic area	\$25	\$50
Use of Beechwood Park – Field Use	\$25	\$50

All programs are NON REFUNDABLE

\*Grades 9-12 includes Pascack Valley High School Students (River Vale)

SECTION 4. All ordinances and resolutions inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed as to such inconsistencies.

SECTION 5. This ordinance shall take effect immediately after final passage, approval and publication of notice thereof as required by law and shall be retroactive to January 1, 2016.

BE IT RESOLVED, that Ordinance No. 16-04 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 March 1, 2016 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 by Councilmember DeRosa, Second Councilmember Looes.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council Members DeRosa, Karcich, Looes, Lundy, Ruocco, Council President Pizzella

Nays: None

**16-05 (Introduction)**

An Ordinance Establishing 2016 Salaries for the Recreation Department

WHEREAS: by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hillsdale as follows:

SECTION 1. The compensation of all personnel whose services are required as general staff for the operation of the Borough of Hillsdale – Summer Day Camp Program is as follows:

<u>Years worked, step guide</u>	<u>Hourly Wage range</u>	
	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM
HS Sophomore	7.25	\$8.25
HS junior	7.50	\$8.25
HS senior	7.75	\$8.25
College freshman	8.00	\$8.50
College sophomore	8.25	\$8.75
College junior	8.75	\$9.25
College Senior or 22+ years old	9.25	\$9.50
College Graduate, 1 <sup>st</sup> year	9.50	\$10.50
College Graduate, 2 <sup>nd</sup> year	10.50	\$11.50
College Graduate, 3 <sup>rd</sup> year	11.50	\$12.50
College Graduate, 4 <sup>th</sup> year	12.50	\$13.50
College Graduate, 5 <sup>th</sup> year	13.50	\$14.50
College Graduate, 6 <sup>th</sup> year	14.50	\$15.50

#### Hillsdale Experience Benefit

A flat rate of \$25.00 will be applied for every paid year of Camp Hillsdale experience that each counselor has with the Borough of Hillsdale. This adjustable experience benefit will be paid at the completion of the summer day camp season in August.

SECTION 2. The range salary amount to be paid to a Specialist who must have an education degree/certification is \$1,000 to \$3,500 (based on the applicant’s related camp experience and camp time length). This is an appointed position.

SECTION 3. The range salary amount to be paid to a Camp Director (one)- \$10,000 and \$20,500 or Assistant Director’s (each) is \$3,000 to \$9,500 (based on applicant’s related camp experience and camp time length). This is an appointed position.

SECTION 4. Additional hourly increments on top of base rate may be earned for the following recognized certifications:

First Aid Certification	\$0.505
CPR: Adult and Child	\$0.75
Lifeguard Certification	\$0.75
Head Counselor	\$0.35

SECTION 5. The compensation of all personnel whose services are required as Program Supervisors for the Recreation Commission Programs is as follows:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Men's Basketball	\$200/season
Duplicate Bridge	\$400/season
Indoor Soccer	\$300/season
Women's Volleyball	\$100/season
Girls' Volleyball Instructor	\$400/season
Youth Basketball: primary	\$2,000/season
Youth Basketball: secondary	\$2,000/season (2-3 people)
Men's 18+ Softball	\$400/season
Men's 35+ Softball	\$400/season
Women's 18+ Softball	\$400/season
Summer Concert Coordinator	\$n/a/season
PV Junior Wrestling	\$400/season
Pt Recreation Secretary	\$3,000-\$17,000
Basketball referee	\$15 per game
Basketball clock, scoreboard	\$10 per game
Keeper	
Hall monitors	\$10 per hour
Professional Referee	\$30-\$50 per game

SECTION 6. The compensation fixed and determined by this ordinance for the person holding the respective office and position 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 office and employee shall be remitted promptly to the Borough Treasurer.

SECTION 7. All ordinances and resolutions inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed as to such inconsistencies.

SECTION 8. This ordinance shall take effect immediately after final passage, approval and publication of notice thereof as required by law.

BE IT RESOLVED, that Ordinance No. 16-05 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 March 1, 2016 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 by Councilmember Looes, Second by Councilmember Lundy.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council Members DeRosa, Karcich, Looes, Lundy, Ruocco, Council President Pizzella

Nays: None

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**RESOLUTIONS:(Consent Agenda): R 16045 through 16051**

**R16045 Resolution in Opposition to Suez Water New Jersey Inc. Rate Increase**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hillsdale received a notice of filing of petition of Suez Water New Jersey Inc. for approval of an increase in rates for water service and other tariff changes from Untied Water by fax dated December 29, 2015 and by email dated December 30, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Company is requesting an overall increase in water revenues of \$29,485,322 or approximately 13.51% above the annual level of revenues for the post-test year period ending June 30, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the notice further state "If this proposal were to be adopted without modification a residential customer using 9 CCF or 6,732 gallons of water per month will see his/her bill increase from \$46.30 to \$54.66, an increase of \$8.36 per month, or approximately 18.05%; and

WHEREAS these rates, if approved would be an exorbitant increase and burden on our municipal budget and our tax payers far exceeding the 2% mandated Cap of municipal government and would be

particularly onerous on the residential and business community in these most difficult economic environment; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale request the Board of Public Utilities(BPU) to consider the hardship and the impact on all government agencies, business and residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough of Hillsdale urges the BPU to reject this rate increase as exorbitant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough of Hillsdale strongly opposes the increases requested in the petition; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough of Hillsdale requests all surrounding municipalities in the SUEZ Water New Jersey Inc. service area to oppose this rate increase and contact the BPU to register their opposition on behalf of all residents and rate payers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Christie, State Legislators, BPU and surrounding municipalities.

**R16046 Resolution Authorizing Mayor and Deputy Borough Clerk to Execute a Memorandum of Agreement on Behalf of the Borough of Hillsdale with UPSEU/Hillsdale White Collar Unit (Union)**

WHEREAS, the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Borough of Hillsdale (“Hillsdale”) and UPSEU/Hillsdale White collar Unit (the “Union”) expired on December 31, 2014: and

WHEREAS, Hillsdale and the Union have engaged in ongoing negotiations to discuss and agree upon the terms and conditions of a successor Agreement for the term January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Hillsdale wished to memorialize its approval of the terms and provisions of the successor Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale that the Agreement as between the Borough of Hillsdale and UPSEU/Hillsdale White Collar Unit, for the term January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2018, be and hereby is APPROVED; and

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

R16047 Authorizing Transfer of 2015 Budget Appropriations

WHEREAS N.J.S.A.40A:4-58 permits transfers among Budget Appropriations during the last two months of the fiscal year and first three months of the preceding year,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hillsdale that the Finance Department is hereby authorized to make the following transfers among the 2015 Budget Appropriations:

OPERATIONS "WITHIN CAP"		<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
5-01-29-390-197	Free Public Library O/E	9,300	
5-01-20-100-011	Administrative & Executive S/W		920
5-01-20-120-011	Clerk S/W		827
5-01-22-195-011	Uniform Construction Code S/W		3,164
5-01-26-310-029	Building and Grounds O/E		2,889
5-01-26-315-000	Vehicle Maintenance O/E		1,500
	TOTAL	9,300	9,300

**16048 Modified Temporary Budget Appropriations for 2016**

WHEREAS, an emergency has arisen with respect to the amounts allocated in the 2016 Temporary Operating Budget and/or the 2016 Temporary Stonybrook Operating Budget other expenses due to the permanent budget not yet being adopted, and the 2016 temporary appropriations are inadequate to provide for these expenses for the aforesaid reason, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 provides for the creation of emergency temporary appropriations, and

WHEREAS, the total emergency temporary resolutions adopted in the year 2016 pursuant to the provision of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 including this resolution total \$3,287,133.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Council of the Borough of Hillsdale (not less than two-thirds of the members thereof affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20, emergency temporary appropriations are hereby made for the following line items in the listed amount:

TEMPORARY BUDGET

MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE & EXECUTIVE S&W	12,457
ADMINISTRATIVE & EXECUTIVE O/E	10,894
PUBLIC INFORMATION	6,038
MAYOR & COUNCIL - S&W	11,813
MAYOR & COUNCIL - O/E	1,339
CLERKS OFFICE - S&W	30,287
CLERKS OFFICE - O/E	8,768
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION S&W	45,938
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION O/E	20,213
AUDIT SERVICES	7,350
TAX COLLECTION S&W	16,632
TAX COLLECTION O/E	3,115
ASSESSMENT OF TAXES S&W	8,169
ASSESSMENT OF TAXES O/E	3,938
LEGAL O/E	53,209
ENGINEERING O/E	18,506
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION O/E	248

PLANNING BOARD O/E	3,859
ZONING SERVICES S&W	2,888
ZONING SERVICES O/E	5,099
UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE S&W	35,539
UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE O/E	10,634
GENERAL LIABILITY PREMIUMS	43,348
WORKERS' COMPENSATION	56,832
GROUP INSURANCE PLANS	341,146
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	4,725
POLICE S&W	652,779
POLICE DEPARTMENT O/E	36,449
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MGMT S&W	525
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MGMT O/E	1,378
FIRST AID ORGANIZATION O/E	7,055
FIRE DEPARTMENT - S&W	6,987
FIRE DEPARTMENT - O/E	70,101
FIRE PREVENTION S&W	16,734
FIRE PREVENTION O/E	2,927
PROSECUTOR S&W	3,019
ROAD REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE S&W	126,000
ROAD REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE O/E	44,363

GARBAGE & TRASH REMOVAL S&W	1,391
GARBAGE & TRASH O/E	187,058
RECYCLING O/E	42,263
BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS O/E	10,710
TRAIN STATION O&E	2,363
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	21,998
NJPDES STORMWATER PERMIT O/E	788
BOARD OF HEALTH S&W	17,137
BOARD OF HEALTH O/E	16,984
BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS	263
ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE S&W	3,836
RECREATION SERVICES AND PROGRAMS S&W	4,177
RECREATION SERVICES AND PROGRAMS O/E	1,641
SENIOR CITIZENS SERVICES S&W	6,426
SENIOR CITIZENS SERVICES - O/E	3,793
PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS S&W	35,518
PARKS & PLAYGROUNDS O/E	16,170
MAINTENANCE OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY	166,536
CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC EVENTS O/E	1,523
UTILITY EXPENSES & BULK PURCHASES	-

GAS & ELECTRIC	66,465
TELEPHONES	13,784
WATER	8,374
BERGEN COUNTY UTILITIES AUTHORITY O/E	247,952
GASOLINE	23,100
RECYCLING TAX	2,625
CONTINGENT	13,125
SOCIAL SECURITY TAXES	47,250
DCRP	2,363
POLICE & FIREMAN'S RETIREMENT	353,563
PISTOL RANGE	585
MUNICIPAL COURT S&W	18,900
MUNICIPAL COURT O/E	23,930
PUBLIC DEFENDER - S&W	1,103
<i>Total</i>	<i>3,094,983</i>

TEMPORARY BUDGET

STONYBROOK

STONYBROOK S&W	80,063
STONYBROOK O/E	98,963
CAPITAL OUTLAY	13,125

**Total**

**267,931**

**R16049 Resolution Authorizing Rejection of Bid for DPW Equipment: 2016 Freightliner Model 114SD 6x4 Tandem Cab & Chassis**

WHEREAS, on Wednesday, December 23, 2015, the Borough of Hillsdale received bids for DPW Equipment: 2016 Freightliner Model 114SA 6x4 Tandem Cab & Chassis; and,

WHEREAS, (1) sealed bid was received from Frank's Truck Center, Inc.; and,

WHEREAS, after legal review of the bid proposal submission of the one (1) vendor, it has been determined that the bid proposal submission substantially exceeds the cost estimates for this equipment; 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 authorizes the rejection of the one (1) bid proposal submission of Frank's Truck Center, Inc. for the contract for a 2016 Freightliner Model 114SD 6x4 Tandem Cab & Chassis pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et. seq., specifically N.J.S.A. 40A:11-23.2 of the Local Public Contracts Law; and,

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

**R16050 Resolution Authorizing Rejection of Bid for DPW Equipment: Steller Slider 26 Hook Lift with 54" Fixed Hook Height**

WHEREAS, on Tuesday, December 29, 2015, the Borough of Hillsdale received bids for DPW Equipment: Stellar Slider 26 Hook lift with 54" Fixed Hook Height; and,

WHEREAS, (2) sealed bid were received one from Trius Inc. and one from Cliffside Body Corp.; and,

WHEREAS, after legal review of the bid proposal submissions of the two (2) vendors, it has been determined that the bid proposal submissions substantially exceeds the cost estimates for this equipment; 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 authorizes the rejection of the two (2) bid proposals for the contract for a Stellar Slider 26 Hook lift with 54" Fixed Hook Height pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et. seq., specifically N.J.S.A. 40A:11-23.2 of the Local Public Contracts Law; and,

Councilmember Looes asked if there is a conflict on Resolution 16046 with our Deputy Clerk. It indicates that the Mayor and Deputy Borough Clerk, not the Labor Attorney.

Borough Attorney suggested we go through the Resolution as is and if there is a reason to have a different signatory or substitute signatory, then an amendment will be sought..

Councilmember Looes said that was her concern, not so much the resolution as everything involved.

Roll Call Vote:

Motion by Councilmember Ruocco, Second by Councilmember DeRosa.

Ayes: Council Members DeRosa, Karcich, Looes, Lundy, Ruocco, Council President Pizzella

Nays: None

**OFF-CONSENT:**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mayor Frank opened the meeting to the public.

Steven Segalas, 125 Pascack Road –

There is an old saying that when you do something right nobody remembers, when you do something wrong nobody forgets. You have working for the Borough a very fine gentleman and Administrator Dan O'Rourke. Every week or two we receive either garbage or recycling pickup and usually things happen with us and our neighbors, but we have never once failed to be both amazed and incredibly pleased at how prompt, responsive and professional Mr. O'Rourke has been. He is listed as an Acting-Department Head at this point in time and should the opportunity present itself for a permanent basis, a number of residents would be happy to attest to the fine quality you have in this gentleman.

Mayor Frank said seeing no one else, the public portion of the meeting is closed.

**COUNCIL COMMENTARIES:**

Councilmember Lundy reiterated the remarks that the DPW staff really did a fantastic job with regard to this past snow storm and also commended the Mayor regarding the email that he sent to the residents. She received comments that this was greatly appreciated by our residents.

Councilmember Ruocco said a week ago he attended a meeting, Relay for Life, sponsored by the American Cancer Society and invited the Mayor and Council to attend. They are doing fundraising the weekend of May 14, 15. This has been done before and will be held at the Westwood Regional High School. It is a fundraising and awareness raising effort run by and for cancer survivors and fighters, nine towns will be participating and the teams are forming now. They have over 26 now and hope to have 80 teams. Local businesses will sponsor teams and there is an amazing support. There were so many high school students at the meeting providing support from Valley, Hills, St. Joe's, there may have been more but those were the three that come to mind. If interested, please contact Marsha Demarest or Susan Vacarro or the general number which is 1-800-227-2345. There is also a website called Relay for Life.org.

He was personally disappointed in the decision of our Governor when he vetoed the Bill to prohibit sale of tobacco to those 21 and under. Hopefully this will start up next year. This Borough chose not to go down that road and wrote to the Governor and Legislature to pass this at the State level. The Legislature did its job in passing the bill, but the Governor didn't.

He congratulated Eagle Scout Anthony Conti Troop 109. His Eagle Court of Honor is scheduled for March 5; he worked to beautify and make safer the backyard of the Holy Trinity Church here in town. Councilman Ruocco contacted the scout troops in our town to alert them to the need for a revised, upgraded sign in front of Borough Hall as a potential Eagle project. He spoke to a scout master and they will consider it.

Councilmember Pizzella thanked the DPW for doing a great job during the snowstorm. With regard to Tandy Allen, he thanked Bergen County Open Space and Green Acres, Open Space Institute, our own Environmental Commission and the residents who live in and around the Tandy Allen property. Everyone worked hard to get the grant, work with the property owners and it is unfortunate it did not go through. The property is still there and perhaps in the future something else could happen. He encouraged residents to remain involved because sometimes things don't work out exactly the way you want them to but it doesn't mean you should become discouraged. He encouraged residents to get involved, come to the meetings and voice your opinions.

Councilmember Karcich thanked all the first responders in Hillsdale and surrounding towns during the storm. He had his radio on the entire time and was amazed at the amount of calls and how fast these folks had to get through the storm. He personally witnessed something; his neighbor had a cardiac problem and Sergeant McLaughlin arrived on the scene long before the ambulance or anyone arrived. Sergeant McLaughlin dug the snow out so they could get a stretcher to get the neighbor out; he went above and beyond the call to duty and had no idea how he found a shovel in the four feet of snow. He did a great job and a testament to all the great first responders we have in town and the surrounding valley.

Councilmember Looes said our DPW and first responders were out doing their job and had to be out responding to calls. She heard residents warning people not to go out even if they had four wheel drive or had to go somewhere.

Councilmember DeRosa was in Houston and didn't have the problems with the storm. He did inquire from residents their opinion of the DPW's efforts and the response was great. He thanked them again.

Just a couple of reminders March 15, 16, 17 there will be a mobile passport service here at Borough Hall. He took advantage of it last year, it is a great thing for the hassle you have to go through to have your picture taken and submitted to the county. It comes here in a mobile unit, it is very easy, and he highly recommends residents take advantage.

There are two fundraising things for the Pascack Valley High School theater is a Taste of Pascack Valley at the Rivervale Country Club on March 8, 7-10 PM. There is also the Blue Jean Ball annual fundraising at Meadowbrook School and information for both can be found on the Borough website.

Baseball and softball registration is open and he encouraged everybody to sign up.

Deputy Borough Clerk Kohan reported on the new electronic sign in the center of town and reminded everyone to take a look at it, it's great to read from every angle. If anyone has anything for the sign and is Borough related, they can call Clerk Kohan and she will post it.

Councilmember Lundy said Councilmember Ruocco mentioned Anthony Conti being honored as an Eagle Scout, there are also two other boys Hugh Cassidy and John Coyle who will be honored on March 5<sup>th</sup>.

Borough Attorney Madaio said we will be going into a brief closed session.

Mayor Frank added that the DPW did a great job during the snow storm which was very long. It continued to go on and their efforts are appreciated. He rode around town inspecting the streets and did see evidence of some people blowing the snow into the street as opposed to blowing it onto the lawns or elsewhere. You can see the result of that when the roads are clear except for major spots where people have not followed the ordinances. We had a couple DPW employees stop and request residents to stop doing it and the reaction they got was not pleasant. They were told that at this point in time not to do anything but in the future if residents blow the snow onto the street and not find a different place for it, they are going to create a problem. Once the DPW has cleared the street, we expect it to remain clear. He advised following the ordinance or tickets can be issued. Overall he believed everyone kept off the roads which helped and the DPW did a great job.

Mayor Frank mentioned the sign in front of Borough Hall. We are continued to work with our garbage collection particularly on Fridays when they are doing the recycling. They missed a couple of pickups in part of the town, one right before the snow storm which created some problems for us. We are well aware of it and are working closely with the management to resolve the problem. Our resident, Waste Management Transfer Station's permit is up for renewal and we are in process of evaluating how we will react to that and our response to the State DEP and will be discussing that in closed session this evening.

We had a cell tower meeting with New Jersey Turnpike Authority and AT&T and it was held here on Thursday night. AT&T is going to change the small antenna they have on Hillsdale Avenue on the Parkway 168 and removed the temporary cell tower that was there, probably a 30 ft. or 40 ft. cell tower and will replace it with an 85 ft. cell tower. A number of residents came out and were concerned about the location and the appearance, they recorded the meeting, a report will be coming out regarding the meeting, we are also going to send additional information as residents are looking at a petition and he has comments that he will send to the New Jersey Turnpike Authority and comments on the location of that tower. We have to recognize that the town has no oversight on this whatsoever, it is on New Jersey Parkway property and doesn't come before the Planning Board or Council for approval. There is not much we can do other than speak up.

The PSE&G substation project is a two year project that will be going on in our industrial district.

With Eagle Scouts, there are quite a few projects going and we have an Eagle Scout working on a project, Matthew to put a flag pole up at the football field at Memorial Field. The scouts do a lot of good things for the town.

Councilmember Ruocco apologized for not mentioning the other Eagle Scouts, but Anthony was the only one who contacted him so he assumed there was only one.

Mayor Frank said we have been invited to participate in a project and he and Council President Pizzella and two members of our Environmental Committee joined Woodcliff Lake, Park Ridge and Montvale and the project is to put a walking path that will run from Montvale all the way in Hillsdale along the reservoir on the east side. It will be a bike and walking path and Park Ridge and Woodcliff Lake have been working on it for a while as a joint project. They are working with a DOT grant but the additional distance they can add in Montvale and Hillsdale is something we are going to work with them to expand it and have the potential in the future in tying that walking path down alongside the Pascack Brook. That

is a wonderful project and would enhance the entire Pascack Valley. He is looking forward to the towns working together.

We are concerned and aware that we do not have a Borough Administrator and CFO and working to get these positions filled.

**ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION: @**

**R16051 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/Waste Management Permit***

Motion to adjourn to closed session was made by Council President Pizzella, Second by Councilmember Ruocco.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council Members DeRosa, Karcich, Looes, Lundy, Ruocco, Council President Pizzella and unanimously carried.

Nays: None

Borough Attorney Madaio said there will be a motion to go to Closed Session for approximately 15 minutes and the purpose for closed is to discuss two separate items for potential litigation and actual litigation as well as personnel issues.

**RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING:**

Borough Attorney said we had the opportunity meet in Closed and discussed the matters for which we went into closed. We do have one resolution which we have formed and verbalized as follows. The governing body has authorized the Mayor to enter into negotiations for staff needed for administration of the offices pursuant to the guidelines which were discussed in closed and the guidelines were negotiated and the strategy not released for public release. That resolution to be formed by the Deputy Clerk but if there is someone who would like to offer a motion as to that resolution can do so.

Motion by Councilmember Lundy, seconded by Councilmember DeRosa.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers DeRosa, Karcich, Looes, Lundy, Ruocco and Council President Pizzella and unanimously carried.

Nays: None

**ADJOURNMENT: @**

Motion to adjourn Councilmember Lundy, Second Councilmember DeRosa.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council Members DeRosa, Karcich, Looes, Lundy, Ruocco, Council President Pizzella and unanimously carried.

Nays: None

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL WILL BE  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2016 ~BEGINNING AT 7:30 P.M.**

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Denise Kohan, Acting Municipal Clerk  
APPROVED AS PRESENTED

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Denise Kohan, Acting Municipal Clerk