

This is a proposed agenda; it is subject to addition or deletion of items as well as rearrangement of sequence prior to final publication.

**AGENDA OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL  
BOROUGH OF HILLSDALE  
TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2025 7:00 pm**

Regular Meetings of the Borough Council are generally held on the 1st and 2nd Tuesday of each month. Please refer to our town calendar for dates and times and any special meetings or date changes. Borough Council Meetings begin at 7:00 PM. Meetings are **televised on Optimum Channel 77 or on FIOS Channel 32. You can now also view our meetings LIVE on YouTube. Subscribe to view our meetings on youtube.com: @hillsdalenj5879. Link to our YouTube page: [click here](#).**

**CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT:**

This is a meeting of the Hillsdale Borough Council on this 11<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2025. 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:**

Mayor Michael Sheinfeld, Council President Council President Osso, Councilmembers Colletti, Fox, Mazza-Chiong, Ruocco, Trochimiuk (Borough Administrator Mike Ghassali, Borough Clerk Denise Kohan, Borough Attorney Mark Madaio)

**RECOGNITION/OATH OF OFFICE:**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

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

**DISCUSSION:**

Memorial Field

Borough Administrator Mike Ghassali

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**PROFESSIONAL MONTHLY REPORTS:**

Hillsdale Police Department – February  
Department of Public Works

Lt Travis Woods  
Interim Superintendent Barry Peterson

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

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

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

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

- Council President – Clemente Osso
- Councilman – Robert Colletti Jr.
- Councilman – Justin Fox
- Councilwoman – Melissa Mazza-Chiong
- Councilman – John Ruocco
- Councilwoman – Janetta Trochimiuk
- Borough Administrator – Mike Ghassali

**BUDGET ORDINANCES**

[25-08 \(Introduction\)](#)

Borough of Hillsdale Calendar Year 2025 – Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

BE IT RESOLVED, that Ordinance No. 25-08 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 April 1, 2025 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 \_\_\_\_\_ Second \_\_\_\_\_

Councilmember Colletti, Fox, Mazza-Chiong, Council President Osso, Ruocco, Trochimiuk

**2025 BUDGET**

- [2025 Budget Presentation](#)
- [Revenues](#)
- [Appropriations](#)

[2025 Introduced Budget](#)

**BUDGET INTRODUCTION RESOLUTIONS**

[25092](#) Waiver of Reading in Full the 2025 Budget

Motion \_\_\_\_\_ Second \_\_\_\_\_

Councilmembers Fox, Mazza-Chiong, Council President Osso, Ruocco, Trochimiuk, Colletti

[25093](#) Resolution Authorizing the Extension of Statutory Budget Deadlines Extending the 2025 Budget Introduction and Adoption Dates

Motion \_\_\_\_\_ Second \_\_\_\_\_

Councilmember Mazza-Chiong, Council President Osso, Ruocco, Trochimiuk, Colletti, Fox

[25094](#) Introduction of 2025 Budget

Motion \_\_\_\_\_ Second \_\_\_\_\_

Council President Osso, Councilmember Ruocco, Trochimiuk, Colletti, Fox, Mazza-Chiong

**ORDINANCES:**

[25-09 \(Introduction\)](#)

An Ordinance Establishing Recreation Department Programs and Summer Camp Fees in the Borough of Hillsdale (Update to Ordinance 25-03)

BE IT RESOLVED, that Ordinance No. 25-09 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 April 1, 2025 at 7:00 pm or as soon as thereafter 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 \_\_\_\_\_ Second \_\_\_\_\_

Councilmember Ruocco, Trochimiuk, Colletti, Fox, Mazza-Chiong, Council President Osso

[25-10 \(Introduction\)](#)

An Ordinance Establishing Salaries for the Recreation Department (Update to Ordinance 25-04)

BE IT RESOLVED, that Ordinance No. 25-10 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 April 1, 2025 at 7:00 pm or as soon as thereafter 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 \_\_\_\_\_ Second \_\_\_\_\_

Councilmember Trochimiuk, Colletti, Fox, Mazza-Chiong, Council President Osso, Ruocco

[25-11 \(Introduction\)](#)

Capital Ordinance of the Borough of Hillsdale, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey Authorizing the Acquisition of a New Pick Up Truck for the Use of the Police Department in, by and for the Borough, Appropriating Therefore the Sum of \$55,000.00 and Providing that Such Sum so Appropriated Shall be Raised from the United States Département of Justice Equitable Sharing Fund

BE IT RESOLVED, that Ordinance No. 25-11 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 April 1, 2025 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 \_\_\_\_\_ Second \_\_\_\_\_

Councilmember Colletti, Fox, Mazza-Chiong, Council President Osso, Ruocco, Trochimiuk

[25-12 \(Introduction\)](#)

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 292, “Vehicles and Traffic”; Article IV “Municipal Parking Lots” Of the Borough Code

BE IT RESOLVED, that Ordinance No. 25-12 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 April 1, 2025 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 \_\_\_\_\_ Second \_\_\_\_\_

Councilmember Fox, Mazza-Chiong, Council President Osso, Ruocco, Trochimiuk, Colletti

**RESOLUTIONS:(Consent Agenda): 25095 through 25100:**

[25095](#) Resolution Hiring Seasonal Laborer Kenny Kaper – Department of Public Works

[25096](#) Resolution Hiring Seasonal Laborer Marcus Ghem – Department of Public Works

[25097](#) Payment of Bills

[25098](#) Resolution of Intent to Apply and the Approval to Submit a Grant Application for the 2025 Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Floodplain protections, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund – Municipal Program for Park Improvements

[25099](#) Temp Budget

Motion \_\_\_\_\_ Second \_\_\_\_\_

Councilmember Mazza-Chiong, Council President Osso, Ruocco, Trochimiuk, Colletti, Fox

**OFF-CONSENT:**

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

**COUNCIL COMMENTARIES:**

**ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION:**

[25101](#) 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 –*Police Personnel, Affordable Housing*

Motion \_\_\_\_\_ Second \_\_\_\_\_

Council President Osso, Ruocco, Trochimiuk, Colletti, Fox, Councilmember Mazza-Chiong

**RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING:**

Motion to reconvene \_\_\_\_\_ Second \_\_\_\_\_

Council President Osso, Councilmember Ruocco, Trochimiuk, Colletti, Fox, Mazza-Chiong

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn\_\_\_\_Second \_\_\_\_\_

Councilmember Ruocco, Trochimiuk, Colletti, Fox, Mazza-Chiong, Council President Osso

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL WILL BE ON  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2025** BEGINNING AT 7:00 P.M.