

Council Meeting  
August 14, 2012

Minutes of a Council Meeting of the Borough Council held at 7:30 P.M. on Tuesday, August 14, 2012, at the St. John's Parish Center, Hillsdale, New Jersey.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Arnowitz who also led the Salute to the Flag.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING:

Mayor Arnowitz stated, "This is a Meeting of the Hillsdale Borough Council on this 14th day of August 2012. 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:

Municipal Clerk Witkowski called the roll those present being as follows: Councilmembers Frank, Hanlon, MacEwen and Pizzella. Also in attendance Borough Attorney Paul. Absent: Councilmembers DeRosa and Giancarlo.

Mayor Arnowitz thanked St. John's for allowing the Council to use their facilities for this meeting. It is at no cost to the Borough and deeply appreciated.

OATH OF OFFICE:

Mayor Arnowitz administered the Oath of Office to Councilmember John MacEwen.

APPOINTMENTS:

Mayor Arnowitz presented the name of Rose Bauerle as Municipal Alliance Representative; John Corring as a member of the Recreation Commission for the unexpired term ending December 31, 2016.

Motion to approve was made by Councilmember Hanlon, seconded by Councilmember Pizzella, and unanimously carried.

Mayor Arnowitz administered the Oath of Office to John Corring.

Mayor Arnowitz appointed Meredith Kates as the Borough Representative to the Planning Board for the unexpired term ending December 31, 2012.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On motion by Councilmember Hanlon, seconded by Councilmember Pizzella, and unanimously carried, the Minutes of the Council Meeting of July 10, 2012, and Closed Meeting of July 10, 2012,

were approved as presented.

PUBLIC HEARING:

PERSON TO PERSON, PLACE TO PLACE TRANSFER PLENARY EXPANSION OF PREMISE, PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSE NO. 0227-33-001-005, BENSI

Mayor Arnowitz said this is a change in the size of the establishment.

Mayor Arnowitz then opened the meeting to the public and invited anyone to be heard regarding the liquor license transfer.

Motion by Councilmember Frank that the public hearing on this license transfer be closed, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

Resolution 12141, Approve Place to Place Transfer, expansion of premise, Plenary Retail Consumption License, Bensi.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Councilmembers Frank, Hanlon, MacEwen and Pizzella

Nays: None

Absent: Councilmembers DeRosa and Giancarlo

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. LETTER FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION, DATED JUNE 25, 2012, ASKING PERMISSION TO RUN A "TOWN WIDE GARAGE SALE" SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2013, 9AM-5PM.

Mayor Arnowitz said this was referred to Councilmember DeRosa but asked that this be held until September as there are some questions as to whether or not they can have some exclusivities.

2. LETTER FROM MARY LYNN BORGES, DATED JULY 19, 2012, REQUESTING PERMISSION TO HOLD A BLOCK PARTY ON SEPTEMBER 8, 2012, 2PM; RAIN DATE SEPTEMBER 9, 2012, 12 NOON.

Received and filed on motion by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon, and unanimously carried.

3. LETTER FROM JANET LEINBERGER, 255 PIERMONT ROAD, CRESSKILL, NJ, DATED JULY 18, 2012, REQUESTING PERMISSION TO HOLD GARAGE SALE.

Mayor Arnowitz said this is the third garage sale, our ordinances only permit two a year.

Administrator DeJoseph requesting an opening for emergency vehicles.

Councilmember Frank moved to approve this request, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon, and unanimously carried.

4. LETTER FROM KRISTIN MARTIN, DATED JULY 17, 2012, REQUESTING PERMISSION TO HOLD A BLOCK PARTY ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2012, RAIN DATE SEPTEMBER 2, 2012.

Motion to receive, file and approve was made by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon, and unanimously carried.

DISCUSSION:

- 1) Overview of Revaluation Program by Patrick Wilkins.

Councilmember Frank said Mr. Wilkins was unable to be present as he is at tax court in South New Jersey but provided him with information. Introductory letters have gone out, most of the residents should have received them. The packet contains a brochure which explains what to expect, the sequence, as well as another letter that provides additional details. Within a week we should be establishing dates for public meetings where residents and tax payers can come and ask questions. Realty Appraisal Company will be available to answer the questions. First step is the introductory letters which are out; second is property inspections will start tomorrow which are properties that were added to the tax base in the last year which need to be inspected, and will gradually move into the residential and commercial properties. Hopefully the initial phase will be completed by October. All inspections will include a full, physical inspection both interior and exterior and an outside picture will be taken of each home. After that, we will do data entry and certified appraisers will be doing the appraisal, valuation of the property and entered into the system. After that, a notification of value notices and informal hearings will be held where a resident can request a meeting with the appraisers if they have any questions. Finally, we submit our revalue packs lists to the State which will take effect next year, 2013. All this information is already on our website and he encouraged people to get their information they would need.

The purpose of the revaluation is to get a fair apportionment of the tax base across all properties in town. With the significant changes in the real estate values, the general comment is that 25% properties may see an increase in their valuation and 25% may see a decrease and 50% will stay the same. There is no per se increase in our tax revenues based on this; it is basically how we apportion and spread it out amongst all the properties.

Mayor Arnowitz said this is the third reval he is going through. The first reval had a lot of mistakes made on the work sheets. The second reval did not have as many. He encouraged everyone to come down and check the work sheet, mistakes are made. Doing a reval does not necessarily mean your taxes will go down. The town and schools need a certain amount of money to operate and it is shared between all the residents based on the valuation of your property. We do a reval when we have an extraordinarily high amount of people appealing their taxes and we have been losing those appeals, especially on commercial properties. They are quite expensive because it gives them tax relief going forward. The town has to pay the relief on the Borough portion and the relief on the County and school portion. It becomes expensive.

Councilmember Frank said the website has the pictures of the inspectors and their cars so that you know they are authorized. They must show you their badge and identification before you let them into your home. The first visit will be without an appointment just to walk through your house. They will leave a note on the door if you are not at home so that you can call and make an appointment.

Mayor Arnowitz said if a resident refuses to allow an inspector in the house, they are able to assess the valuation of the property based on the outside and they assess high. It benefits everyone to let them in.

2) Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund Grant

Administrator DeJoseph said he is asking direction from the Council if there are any requests or ideas for projects next year. It is a matching Bergen County grant and we can get something done at 50% of the actual cost.

Councilmember Pizzella said there is a piece of property by United Water by the dam. Could we look at that as a possible field?

Engineer Statile said any items for open space.

Mayor Arnowitz said a list should be made up and discussed with the Borough Administrator.

3) Fencing at Beechwood Field.

Mayor Arnowitz said the Hillsdale Football Association requested to put up fencing at Beechwood Field to secure their equipment when they are not using it. We denied the scouts the ability to put up a sea chest in Beechwood Park and Councilmember DeRosa researched this. The sea chest was more into Beechwood Park and was enclosed. This is totally open and next to the batting cage. It is not offensive and is looking for approval to do this. They are bearing all costs, they will put it up and maintain it. It is not a violation of any setbacks.

Councilmember Pizzella said this is very different from that sea container. He asked what is going to go in the fencing area.

John Looes -

We have blocking material, shoes, and large equipment. We do have a container there that we have some of our smaller equipment. In the off season we put it next to the softball cage anyway. We have noticed that some of the equipments has been taken to the bandshell to climb up and go up there. They are taking our equipment and we want to reduce the safety risk. Our goal is to be the least offensive as possible; it will be black fence and will extend it from the batting cage. We will not be doing any type of grading, gravel or cutting down any trees. This is the most secure and least offensive thing.

Motion to allow the Football Association to make this change in the field was made by Councilmember Hanlon, seconded by MacEwen, and unanimously carried.

4) Engineer Contract.

Borough Administrator DeJoseph said this will be discussed when we authorize the Resolution.

5) Accident Policy Renewal, \$500 Deductible.

Borough Administrator DeJoseph said we are changing everyone's health insurance. We have an accident policy for all recreation activities, our volunteers, as well as all of our sports associations. This was discussed during the budget this year that the Council provide coverage for the 2012 calendar year. There has always been a question with the \$500 deductible. If a student or resident gets hurt, there is \$500 deductible, and he is looking for direction from the Council who will bear the \$500 deductible. The Borough has been bearing this deductible so far.

Councilmember Frank said we have had discussions that this should go back to the individuals rather than the Borough because a lot of people have their own health insurance. It is a double hit.

Councilmember Pizzella asked how often this has been used.

Administrator DeJoseph said last year there were six or seven claims. A few years ago we had a zero dollar deductible, the amount of the policy was roughly \$10,000. Last year it was \$18,000 with the \$500 deductible. The trend has been increasing each year so to keep it manageable for the Borough, he is looking for direction on the deductible.

Mayor Arnowitz said Councilmember Frank said that should be passed on to the resident or the volunteer or the sports person. Would the Football Association be able to get a policy for their people to cover the \$500 or could they somehow latch onto our policy to cover the \$500.

Administrator DeJoseph was not sure if you can get a separate policy for that. You could reduce to a zero dollar deductible but that increases the premium.

Mayor Arnowitz will speak with Councilmember DeRosa and he can get together with the different sports associations explaining the problem we have.

Councilmember Frank said this is a case where insurance costs and deductibles just keep on going up. He feels this requires a lot more information.

6) In-House JIF Training for Elected Officials.

Administrator DeJoseph said we will do the official seminar training first with newly elected Council people and then we will do so with department heads and all employees. He will set up a date probably next week. This is a private class for newly elected and Mayor and Council.

GENERAL PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Arnowitz invited comment from the audience.

George Zahnleiter, 42 Washington Avenue -  
He had a very bad experience. He left his home with his wife and when he returned, he found that someone cut down a 70 ft. tree in his back yard. There is a fence there. He said his neighbor has chickens and a garden and he cut down the 70 ft. tree. He called the police; they advised that this is a civil matter. He climbed over the fence to get to his property. The police took statements and he filed a complaint the next day. An officer said he would charge trespassing or list criminal mischief. He went to court who told him to speak to the Prosecutor who told him to go to the Court Administrator and say you want to file charges. The person in the Administrator's office said she couldn't do anything about it. So he went downstairs to the police station and they told him to go back upstairs. This went on for two weeks. He was advised to get an attorney. He spoke to Municipal Court who told him the Judge said he would have a probable cause here. He did speak to Judge Clark and he found his neighbor not guilty. He was devastated. He asked the Court for minutes. He was then told his case is on again; then he heard it was not on again. It was an oversight. He told the Prosecutor his story and the Prosecutor said his case was on tonight. He shared his frustration in the matter. He got a lawyer and he will not pay for his services, it has to come from his taxes.

Mayor Arnowitz asked the Borough Administrator to look into the allegations against Court staff. He cannot comment on this. He has no authority to say he can deduct something from his taxes. We are not approving that; you may do what you feel you want to do.

Mr. Zahnleiter (Contd).

He said special treatment was given to his neighbor because Jack O'Hara is on the Director's board. He wants to know why he was found not guilty.

Mayor Arnowitz said he cannot tell the judge what to do.

Jack Stubbs, 80 Westdale Avenue -  
Sapienza Gardens was purchased by the town about three years ago as part of an open space project. It had an old house on it and has a little pond. It was given to the Sapienza people as trustees because they wanted to make it into something that was accessible to the public and beautiful. It's in memory of Barbara Sapienza, Principalle of Pascack Valley who passed away suddenly. It is an important piece of open space in Hillsdale because it connects the open space from the high school to Wooddale Park. There is tremendous community involvement. There is a teaching garden. We are trying to make this piece of property into something special. We recently put in a memorial, we sold bricks, we built a beautiful mosaic. In the front of the bridge there is a memorial and unfortunately young people put some graffiti on it; it was spray painted and he presented a picture to the Council for their review. He made a report to the police. The police suggested an overhead light be installed which would provide security. Many people do walk around the property, they walk their dogs and there is a lot of activity. He would like more security there and suggested a camera or

another suggestion for more protection.

Mayor Arnowitz asked if he reached out to the high school and River Vale with regard to this problem. When Sapienza Gardens was proposed to the Borough River Vale and the high school agreed to share the expenses. To his knowledge, they have not contributed to date. We used our open space funds to purchase material, used our DPW for labor and when River Vale's Mayor was questioned about it, he wasn't even aware of the agreement. When he questioned the school superintendent, neither was he aware. We spent a lot of taxpayer dollars there but he has not seen a lot of results; he saw an open field with a lot of brush and people have mentioned that it is a waste of money. He said the group has to go to the high school and get them involved and contact River Vale for money so that the Hillsdale taxpayers are not bearing the full cost. The Chief can work on security cameras; perhaps the three towns can share in the costs of a camera.

Mr. Stubbs (Contd).

We would be willing to pay for a camera; he would like signs installed.

Mayor Arnowitz said if there is no expense to the Borough this Council will be open to discussing this. We cannot approve something blindly, reach out to the other entities.

Susan Vaccaro, 791 Winding Way, River Vale -

She is on the Board of Trustees for Sapienza Gardens and said there is no agreement between any of the towns nor the high school to share money in funding Sapienza Gardens. The agreement with John Sapanara was to make sure that our non-profit funded ourselves and make sure your town didn't pay money to run it. She heard too many times that there is an agreement between River Vale and Hillsdale. She spoke to John Sapanara and Harold Karns and it is not a fact, it is not in the records, and she wanted to make sure that the Mayor understands this.

Mayor Arnowitz said that is not true. When he signed off on it, he specifically asked the Administrator and the Mayor and they said all three entities would share in it. Hillsdale used our open space money to pay for bulbs; we had open space money to pay for our DPW.

Ms. Vaccaro (Contd).

The \$8000 for those bulbs was paid for by Virginia Cordiway. We have all the receipts; Councilman DeJoseph had all the bills. We have all the bills also and she can make duplications of them all. Virginia (inaudible) spent over \$15,000 on that land. Forcellati Brothers covered \$1000 for the memorial that was put in. The cleanup was paid by open space land, it was not paid by the Township.

Mayor Arnowitz said taxpayer funded dollars from the open space tax paid for it. That is his argument. Mr. Karns said it was not costing us anything; when we researched it and found the money was coming from open space, his opinion was the same as yours. Mayor Arnowitz totally disagreed. If we are going to collect money from the taxpayers of Hillsdale, he doesn't care if it goes into open space or the general tax coffers, it is still Hillsdale tax dollars and we could have used the open space tax money for other things, but we didn't. We funded Sapienza Gardens, used DPW labor. He spoke to the River Vale

Mayor at that time and they were cognizant of it and he said as long as all three would share the costs, he had no problem with it and that is not what he found out after the fact. It is done, we spent the money; going forward Hillsdale should not bear the brunt. If you can raise the money yourselves, that is fine, but if you can't, all three entities should share the expense.

Ms. Vaccaro (Contd).

We want to be self-sufficient and all the trees that are in there 75% were purchased by River Vale. Councilmember DeJoseph had all of the bills, etc.

Mayor Arnowitz would be more than happy to help however he could, it is a great area. Let the expense be borne by all three entities.

Richard Corrieri, 21 Clayton Street -

Sapienza Gardens is a beautiful piece of property, it abuts the high school and abuts Bergen County property. He walks there very frequently and there is an incredible amount of wild life there. He has seen tire tracks there far back in the woods. There used to be a chain across the bridge at the bottom of St. Nicholas that prevented people from driving across the bridge onto the property and that chain no longer exists. If a low chain could be put back up again, it would prevent someone from driving through there. Last summer someone drove there and dumped garbage and notified the police. The DPW cleaned up the mess. Prisoners have been used to clean up the town and perhaps that is something we could request; walk through the woods and trails and pick up the glass and bottles, garbage, etc.

Mayor Arnowitz said the Environmental Commission plans to hold two annual cleanups a year. We have a problem all over this town, not unique to Sapienza Gardens. The prisoners come in on a regular basis and work on a priority list. We get maximum usage we are allowed from the prisoners.

Mr. Corrieri (Contd).

Someone should call the County and advise them that a portion of the land is the County's land and they should clean it up.

Mayor Arnowitz can advise Ms. Donovan and ask for a clean up.

Councilmember Hanlon asked if the high school still has a requirement for community service before a student can graduate. Why not reach out to them, let the students clean it up.

Mayor Arnowitz appreciated that this was brought to his attention and he will look at several venues. He will also check to see if we can get prisoners to clean up our side. We will also check with DPW and the Chief about putting up a chain.

Lorraine Thalmann, 238 Liberty Avenue -

She said a lot of work was being done at Sapienza Gardens with volunteers; we have had a lot of help with the boy scouts, girl scouts and cub scouts. A lot of volunteers have come in with neighbors and a lot of help with the high school. The Spanish Club helped clean up; that area was very bad. There were bicycles, hot water heaters, cars and all kinds of debris and it was all cleaned out. It is still a problem but basically maintainable and most of the people who go through there enjoy it immensely. Bird watchers go through, deer and wild life are

all around, women come through with their children and show them the beauty of the woods we have there. It is a gold mine back there to keep the beauty and nature of our town and she was disappointed to hear that the Mayor did not see as much done as he thought seen done when all volunteers have been doing the work. We have not asked for any money from the town to help us clean it up.

Alfred J. Murphy, Jr., 5 Cherry Place -

He was confused with Correspondence No. 3 regarding a garage sale for a person who lives in Cresskill, Discussion No. 6. Will there be JIF training for the people who are insured by the JIF such as Recreation and borough employees..

Mayor Arnowitz said we adopted a Resolution months ago that we would do a training class for sexual harassment, drinking, that JIF is recommending for all Borough employees, all volunteers, and anyone who is covered under the JIF program.

Mr. Murphy (Contd).

He asked about Resolution 12144 opposing PSE&G Rate Increase to subsidize solar programs. He asked if Public Service had a hearing on the fact that solar panels were to be subsidized by the rate payers.

Mayor Arnowitz said the rate payers are going to subsidize the cost of buying the panels, putting up the panels, maintaining the panels. He did not think we should have to, it is a state mandate, let the state pay for it.

Mr. Murphy (Contd).

There is a commission and when the state passes legislation that requires expenditures, you have a right to appeal. When they passed the bullying law, objections were raised because it was a mandate and they did not fund it. He also asked about Resolution 12145, Public Question for November General Election and asked for a copy of the question.

Mayor Arnowitz said we will give Mr. Murphy the opportunity to speak on this Resolution when we come to that portion of the meeting.

Mr. Murphy (Contd).

He asked who is our JIF Commissioner. He also asked about R12157, donation of Coach Trailer.

Mayor Arnowitz said OEM received a trailer that they want for storage of equipment. It is stored at the DPW. The Fire Department received an ambulance and he will ask the Chief tonight. We need answers before we accept them. A member of OEM is present and can speak about this when we do the Resolutions.

Chris Donaldson, President PBA -

He asked for a copy of the Public Question for the General Election.

After a discussion with the Council, the public portion of the meeting was closed.

PROFESSIONALS:

Councilmember Pizzella said there is a garage door issue at the firehouse and is not fixed.

Mayor Arnowitz said it was fixed as of 4:30/5:00 today, front and back doors.

Councilmember Pizzella said the roof in the rear section of the firehouse continues to leak and he understood a grant was received to repair that section of the roof. He asked for a status of the grant. There is also a room by the tower where animals chew on the duct system and squirrels are getting in and that is where the electrical system is located for the police and fire departments.

He suggested that this be discussed with the Borough Administrator and DPW Superintendent Durie who is aware of the rodent problem.

Fire Chief Mark Durst said the Fire Department years ago had a truck which was a radio unit and we don't use it anymore. We tried to obtain this truck for swift water team rescue; we have everything stored in the firehouse and we are running out of room. We can store all of our swift water gear in this vehicle, we can put in radios and is a unit that will be utilized for our flooding conditions, rehab center, on a fire call. It is no cost to the Borough; River Vale would sign this over to Hillsdale. It will be stored inside the firehouse and would be used strictly as noted above. It has 30,000+ miles, is a diesel, and under utilized by River Vale which then gave it to PasCom and then offered to us. It is in very good condition. We have people who are willing to donate time to re-letter it, re-stripe it at no cost to the Fire Department or the Borough.

Mayor Arnowitz asked if the DPW and the mechanic inspected the vehicle.

DPW Superintendent Durie did look over it and said it was in sound condition. The mechanic's report said it was in good running condition and it had work done to it when Pascack Valley Association owned it. He recommended the vehicle would serve a purpose.

Chief Durst said we have a dozen new Cadet Members who share lockers. We can utilize the space and we are getting new members quite regularly. It is at the firehouse now.

Councilmember Frank assumed there is no budget for maintenance and fuel for the balance of the year.

Chief Durst said that is correct.

Councilmember Frank would like to see a report from the mechanic on the condition of the vehicle. It is 23 years old and in good shape but before we take on that responsibility before we vote.

Councilmember Pizzella said the Fire Department was looking to understand the process by which they can keep this and also to provide whatever information we needed.

Mayor Arnowitz said we can table that Resolution. He asked the Administrator about the insurance; the vehicle is on our property, it has River Vale license plates.

Borough Administrator DeJoseph said it would have to be registered and insured by the Borough. He will confirm with River Vale with regard to the registration and insurance.

Councilmember Frank asked for an estimate for the cost of insurance, fuel, and ongoing maintenance for the balance of the year.

DPW Superintendent Durie said he will have all of the information incorporated into one report.

Fire Chief Durie reported recent Fire Department activity. We had a call at the Garden Center. It regarding a propane leak at the Garden Center. We evacuated the Hillsdale side of the paint store with Mutual Aid which is a very important part of our fire service. He was very surprised that the fire hydrants have been painted in town. A few weeks ago a car went into a house by a 90 year old woman and we were there 1-1/2 hours to make sure everything was secure. We went to a Montvale house fire on Middletown Road for 4-1/2 hours; it was a day time call. Eleven towns were involved in the Montvale fire. We went to an elementary school fire in Westwood daytime. There was a birthday party for a four year old child who went to the second floor bathroom, saw smoke in the bathroom, notified family members. He is proud of fire prevention because he was a pre-schooler and our Fire Prevention Officer is in the schools during Fire Prevention Week; pre-school through the 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

Councilmember Hanlon asked if fire alarms for some of the citizens is still available because she received calls from several seniors in town.

Chief Durie said it is still available; we have had smoke detectors in our possession for quite a few years and we did install one but the battery was not up to par. We did install it with a new battery and it is working. When we go to a fire call and we see that the detector is outdated or a problem, we take care of it.

### Police

Chief Stalter said we will be losing Patrolman Angemeyer who will be leaving as of August 20 to go to the Prosecutor's Office. That leaves the department down four officers. With full-time dispatching for the month of July, we were able to cover all shifts. Unfortunately, one new dispatcher left because training was not successful. In the meantime we hired a new per diem who is a member of the Ambulance Corps and will start training next week.

We had a surprise PEOSHA inspection and had \$50,000 in potential fines which is good; \$4,065 for not having a fire extension on the hook. With the help of the Administrator, we addressed most of the problems and the violations were abated for the first round.

He welcomed Councilmember MacEwen and encouraged him to visit the police station.

He referred to the Fire Chief's report regarding the woman whose car went through the house. He emphasized what we get living in Hillsdale; the Fire Department stayed there until it was safe, the Construction Office and Code Official helped by getting a contractor in to make sure the house was secure; Ambulance came and left and we called Ambulance back and the woman was not left alone until a family member came and secured the house and took care of her. Everyone should be complimented on their efforts to make sure she was o.k.

#### Engineer

Borough Engineer Chris Statile met with the County on the Patterson Street Bridge and now we have to finish our plans with their comments. The state is contributing a million dollars to the project. The County Engineer wants the project to start in the winter period and break out in the spring time; there is a lot of construction going on in the county right now. We will get a contractor on board as soon as we can; the project will take about 400 days, 13 or 14 months. There will be construction downtown and there will be a traffic pattern that will continue for most of the project and there will be way to get into Kings. There will be minor construction during the final paving of the project and we will make staging plans as easy as possible.

The firehouse is under construction and there will be handicapped accessibility to the bathrooms, and construction in the Council Chambers, and in a few weeks we will be back in the council chambers.

We checked on line and there is no requirement to have open space tax. Applications for DOT are due the end of October, we should look at long, poor streets in need of repair in 2013.

There is a change order for Crossroads Construction and that will be for paving for parts of Parkview Drive, Glenview Drive, and Standish. The contractor will begin in September.

Borough Administrator DeJoseph said new markings by the RR tracks and will be very visible for residents.

He mentioned to the County the culvert on Hillsdale Avenue by Oak Street.

Mayor Arnowitz said the emergency services people said that is a major cause for the road being closed prior to the Hillsdale Avenue bridge being flooded. If we can take care of that, we can keep Hillsdale Avenue open that much longer so the Church Road project will not be as bad as it is going to be.

Engineer Statile would like to wrap that project with the pipe under Saddlewood Drive. The county will fix the bridge and we are going to run down stream and we have construction we have to clean up. The grants we qualified for this year are safe routes, road resurfacing and pipe lines. Safe routes to transit, he is trying to get pedestrian routes downtown, bus stops down, so people can walk downtown.

Mayor Arnowitz said when the county came in to talk about the paving program that they are going to do this fall and spring, he spoke to them about calming devices as we have on Magnolia by

the high school and he said the county does do that type of work and they would consider it. We will have to submit a report so the engineer will have to get together with the chief and put something together. That could help us with the problem of the traffic there and the danger. If we can prove cause, they can do it, this is in conjunction with their paving program. He believed Piermont had to be paved first before they can do this as it doesn't work well on old pavement.

#### DPW

DPW Superintendent Durie said we have had inmates in twice in the last three weeks, they began projects around our open space trees on Wierimus Road; this was also done at Centennial with all the trees along the parking lot.

The roof at the Beechwood Park bathroom has been repaired. We purchased a new security system for Hillsdale Football ballfield, it is a requirement that they have security around the perimeter of the football field. It is an inexpensive, platform type, rubberized stanchion and we will install it right after Labor Day.

The culvert at Saddlewood Drive has been repaired which was done with an outside contractor in conjunction with the DPW and that has been opened. Perhaps that will alleviate some of the problems we have.

We are continuing our patching program which is coming to an end. We have repaired an extensive amount of catch basins in preparation for the fall. We will be painting lines within the next two weeks before school with stop bars which are required on all county roads coming out from stop signs.

We are preparing for soccer; the soccer field painted and our football field painted. Beechwood Park is now active for practice football and we have security set up there.

Councilmember Frank said the striping by the library is almost non-existent for the crosswalk.

Superintendent Durie said he and Borough Administrator DeJoseph had a meeting with Tom Connolly and we are going to have another meeting Sergeant McLaughlin and try to get some striping done. He noticed Montvale had striping done and they did it between 10PM and 6AM. He will see if we can possibly get that done also. That is our priority right now, there is no guarantee it will be done before school starts.

ORDINANCES:

Ord. No. 12-12 (Adoption) Auth. Various Improvements And Acquisitions In, By and For the Borough	Mayor Arnowitz read by title only proposed Ordinance No. 12-12 as follows:  CAPITAL ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF HILLSDALE, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVE- MENTS AND ACQUISITIONS IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH, APPROPRIATING THEREFOR THE SUM OF \$196,000 AND PROVIDING THAT SUCH SUM SO APPROPRIATED SHALL BE RAISED FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND OF THE BOROUGH.
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The Municipal Clerk confirmed to the Mayor that copies of the ordinance have been posted in the Municipal Building and that no written objections to the ordinance had been received.

Mayor Arnowitz then opened the public hearing on the proposed ordinance and asked if anyone in the audience cared to discuss it. There being no response, the public hearing was closed on Ordinance No. 12-12.

Motion to approve the ordinance was made by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

Following is the result of the roll call vote on the foregoing Ordinance No. 12-12:

Ayes: Councilmembers Frank, Hanlon, MacEwen and Pizzella

Nays: None

Absent: Councilmembers DeRosa and Giancarlo

(SEE COPY OF THE AFORESAID ORIGINAL RESOLUTION AFFIXED HERETO)

Ord. No. 12-13                      Mayor Arnowitz said this Ordinance  
(Introduction)                      No. 12-13 will be held over for the  
Salary Ordinance                      September 4, 2012, meeting.

RESOLUTIONS: (Consent Agenda)

Resolutions 12145, 12152, 12157 and 12158 were pulled from the Consent Agenda.

Mayor Arnowitz read the Consent Agenda of Resolutions.

12142 Payment of Bills was introduced by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

12143 Amend Grant Agreement for 2012 CDBG funds for Handicap Accessible Municipal Complex Improvements totaling \$65,500 was introduced by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

12144 Opposing PSE&G Rate Increase to Subsidize Solar Program was introduced by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

12146 Authorizing Redemption & Premium of Lien, Block 905, Lot 13 was introduced by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

12147 Approval of Raffle License #684, Meadowbrook School FFA was introduced by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

12148 Authorizing Redemption & Premium of Lien, Block 1119, Lot 8 was introduced by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

12149 Renewal of Membership in Bergen County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund was introduced by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

12150 Certification of Elected Official Review of 2012 Annual Report of Audit, Comments and Recommendations was introduced by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

12151 Support of BiState Commission with New York, flood prevention was introduced by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

12153 Award of Contract 2012 Road Improvement Program, Crossroads Pavement Maintenance, LLC, Nutley, NJ in the amount of \$149,870.80 was introduced by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

12154 Approval of Change Order #1, 2012 Road Improvement Program decreasing contract by \$14,170.25 was introduced by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

12156 Authorize Borough Clerk to advertise for Request for Proposals (RFP) IT Services was introduced by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

12159 Ratify Crossing Guards Contract was introduced by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

12160 Authorizing Redemption & Premium of Lien, Block 1520, Lot 9 was introduced by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

Mayor Arnowitz removed 12147 Approval of Raffle License from the Consent Agenda due to Councilmember Pizzella's conflict.

Motion to approve the foregoing Resolutions was made by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Frank, Hanlon, MacEwen and Pizzella

Nays: None

Absent: Councilmembers DeRosa and Giancarlo

12145 Municipal Public Question for the November General Election.

Alfred J. Murphy, Jr., 5 Cherry Place -

He asked why this is listed on the Agenda when we are not doing what it says we are doing. Two or six months from now, the situation may change where the Council may wish to reconsider the action that it previously approved.

Mayor Arnowitz said this is a non-binding referendum and the agreement we have with the Chief is that we would review this in the June time frame next year to determine whether the provisos we discussed are being met; it was reported this evening that they are. The Committee headed by Adam Hampton made it clear that he was not speaking for the PBA, he was speaking for the group of individuals that prepared this petition. They were given the option to drop the referendum and he was subsequently advised that the committee wants to go forward with the referendum. They received the number of signatures required by law and this allowed them to put the referendum on; this Council has chosen to do the referendum.

Motion to approve 12145 was made by Councilmember Hanlon, seconded by Councilmember Pizzella.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Frank, Hanlon, MacEwen and Pizzella

Nays: None

Absent: Councilmembers DeRosa and Giancarlo

12147 Approval of Raffle License #684 Meadowbrook School FFA.

Motion to approve 12147 was made by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Frank, Hanlon and MacEwen

Nays: None

Absent: Councilmembers DeRosa and Giancarlo

Abstain: Councilmember Pizzella

12152 Award of Contract Borough Engineer, Christopher Statile, Term Expiring December 2012.

Mayor Arnowitz said this is being done now because of an error at the Reorganization and this appoints Chris Statile's office as Borough Engineer.

Motion to approve was made by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Pizzella.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Frank, Hanlon, MacEwen and Pizzella

Nays: None

Absent: Councilmembers DeRosa and Giancarlo

12157 Accept donation of 2005 Gulf Stream Coach for purpose of OEM Trailer and 12158 Accept donation of 1990 converted ambulance for purpose of water rescue/utility vehicle have been deferred to the September 4 meeting for further discussion.

Off Consent Agenda:

12155 Insertion of any Special Item of Revenue, Chapter 159, 2012 Bergen County Community Development Grant Program \$65,500 was introduced by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

Borough Administrator DeJoseph said this is for the Fire Department ADA upgrades, federal grant administered by Bergen County which upgrades bathrooms and remove barriers from the bathrooms to make it ADA compliant. There is no cost to the Borough.

Motion to approve was made by Councilmember Hanlon, seconded by Councilmember Pizzella.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Frank, Hanlon, MacEwen and Pizzella

Nays: None

Absent: Councilmembers DeRosa and Giancarlo

(SEE COPIES OF THE AFORESAID ORIGINAL RESOLUTIONS AFFIXED HERETO)

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Department Chief's Report for the month of June 2012.

Motion to receive and file on motion by Councilmember Pizzella, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon, and unanimously carried.

Board of Health report for the month of July 2012.

Motion to receive and file on motion by Councilmember Hanlon, seconded by Councilmember Frank, and unanimously carried.

Councilmember Hanlon said the date of their next meeting has been changed to September 11, 2012.

(SEE COPIES OF THE ORIGINAL REPORTS AFFIXED HERETO)

## COUNCIL COMMENTARY

Borough Administrator DeJoseph stated that Town Day will be held on September 15 and more details will be forthcoming.

The State acquired the Bergholtz property on 66 Hazelwood Avenue through the Blue Acres Program. The Borough will maintain that property as well as demolish it shortly. The Vaccaro property which is two doors down should be finalized as well.

The lighting repairs at Centennial Field will be repaired when the weather permits, the field must be completely dry.

Borough Attorney Paul welcomed Councilmember MacEwen.

Councilmember Pizzella attended the River Vale open meeting for the project on Cedar Lane. It is a HUD Section 202 Program and that helps expand affordable housing and supportive services for the elderly. The issue is do they go from 34 to 51 units. There were about 25 residents from Hillsdale. No traffic studies were done, no impact studies, the county is not yet involved and it seemed River Vale had the opportunity for some money to meet their affordable housing requirements and they are taking advantage of it. There is not much we can do and the Hillsdale residents voiced their opinions and asked questions. He is interested in finding out what the traffic and impact studies reveal, if they are ever done. He welcomed Councilmember MacEwen.

Mayor Arnowitz said Hillsdale House has had tremendous problems with parking and they do not have enough parking, they don't have enough parking for guests and we give them the ability to use Stonybrook especially in the off-season and they do take advantage of this. We had to redo the parking lot after they first opened and the Borough Engineer donated his time to redesign it. River Vale should not be using Hillsdale House. Basically, the mistake made at Hillsdale House was using Westwood as an example and since Westwood is in the center of town next to a very big shopping center, there were a lot less cars than Hillsdale House has. Hillsdale House avoids taking residents that have cars and he doesn't want the same problem with the River Vale project. They have absolutely no off-site parking available.

Councilmember Pizzella explained that Hillsdale House is different, set back, not in a residential area. They talked about parking for 51 units, 12 to 15 parking spots. They also discussed room to increase this.

Mayor Arnowitz said 15 parking spaces for 52 apartments is not sufficient. Senior Citizens still drive; they do have guests.

Councilmember Hanlon congratulated Councilmember MacEwen. The final summer concerts will be held Wednesday, August 22, in Veterans Park. The decision to postpone the Allaen Quinn Band was made by their band. She thanked all the people and businesses who donated to the concert series. The concert next week is totally funded by the three emergency services. Plaques will be provided to all. She thanked Elizabeth for her volunteerism and next year we will enlarge the concerts.

She advised the Memorial Day winners that they have less than two weeks to come to the Borough Hall to pick up your prizes.

We are forming a new Chamber of Commerce. We have five people who are willing to be officers and she said a Chamber of Commerce is needed. She thanked Big Daddy's for the big banner he put in the park, he has been more than generous. She also thanked the Ambulance Corps who have been on duty for every concert.

Councilmember Frank welcomes Councilmember MacEwen. He thanked St. John's for the use of their facilities this evening.

The website is up and running and we are getting some good feedback. We have a contact DPW page and we are getting a fair amount of responses that go directly to Keith Durie with a copy to Councilmember Frank and Administrator DeJoseph. We are resolving some issues for residents very quickly.

He received statistics through August 8<sup>th</sup> when we started working on it, we had 51,000 hits on the home page. He ran it again the first two weeks of August and we had 13,000 hits on our home page; the next pages that are getting a lot of hits are garbage and recycling pickup schedule. He hopes that this becomes a better method of communication with the residents. He welcomes any ideas for what can be put on the website.

Councilmember MacEwen thanked the Mayor and Council for all of their support.

Mayor Arnowitz said he received a call from the Governor stating that Hillsdale received an \$18,600 grant for the Arts. They don't know what it is for, no one in Hillsdale knows what it is for. The Friends of the RR Station thinks it is theirs, others thought it was theirs. The RR Station was looking for \$180,000, this is \$18,000. We have a grant and we will take it and announce it.

He thanked the Borough Administrator for his hard work on the county paving program. Originally we were advised that the county would not do any paving in Hillsdale, the Administrator prevailed; Washington Avenue will be paved but we will hold off until the spring and other streets in town that will be paved.

He thanked Elizabeth for her work on the Concert Series.

Everyday he picks up trash on Hillsdale Avenue and it is coming out of cars. He said the worst place is St. John's, there is more trash there than anywhere else. He is encouraging people that he meets on his walks to carry a bag and pick up trash; we don't have the people to clean up.

This Saturday the Eagle Scouts will be working at Memorial Field to repair the dugouts. Anyone who wishes to help is most welcome. The Council voted to give them money to help the project and through donations, John Costello, Eagle Scout, received enough so that the Borough does not have to provide any money.

CLOSED MEETING

Motion to go to Closed Session was made by Councilmember Hanlon, seconded by Councilmember Frank, and unanimously carried.

OPEN SESSION

A motion to go to Open Session was made by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon, and unanimously carried.

Mayor Arnowitz asked for a motion to allow the Police to go forward with the interviewing process for potential hiring of a police officer under the existing contract.

Motion by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Pizzella, Frank, Hanlon and MacEwen

Nays: None

Absent: Councilmembers DeRosa and Giancarlo

Mayor Arnowitz asked for a motion for two temporary, full-time dispatchers to start as full-time employees on November 1, 2012.

Motion by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Pizzella.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Hanlon, MacEwen, Pizzell and Frank

Nays: None

Absent: Councilmembers DeRosa and Giancarlo

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon, and unanimously carried.

8-14-12

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Susan Witkowski  
Municipal Clerk

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

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Susan Witkowski  
Municipal Clerk