

Council Meeting  
December 13, 2011

Minutes of a Council Meeting of the  
Borough Council held at 7:30 P.M. on  
Tuesday, December 13, 2011, in the Council  
Chamber, Hillsdale, New Jersey.

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

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING

Borough Clerk Sandt stated, "This is a Meeting of the Hillsdale Borough Council on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December 2011. Notice of the time and place of this meeting has been provided to The Review, 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:

Borough Clerk Sandt called the roll those present being as follows: Councilmembers DeJoseph, Frank, Giancarlo, Hanlon, Schiavone and Weinstein. Also in attendance Borough Attorney Paul.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On motion by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember Weinstein, and unanimously carried, the Minutes of the Council Meeting of November 7, 2011, were approved as presented.

Mayor Arnowitz stated that he will discuss the Stonybrook Swim Pool Commission's request to make renovations at the pool.

Councilmember Frank said a meeting was held at Stonybrook with the Borough Attorney and Borough Engineer along with the Stonybrook Commission and the architect. The questions Borough Engineer

Statile were raised and most were addressed. There was late correspondence today and was not certain that totally resolved everything; the process of the Borough Engineer reviewing the contract made it a much stronger, well-planned program and if the minor details are resolved, he believed it is acceptable to him. This will not happen until the Fall of 2012.

Mayor Arnowitz said he received an email this evening from the office of the Borough Engineer stating that he is satisfied with everything the Council was concerned.

Joel Minch, Borough Engineer's Office -  
In general, Engineer Statile is satisfied; he felt the issues he had should not stop the Council from moving ahead. The Council can vote on this this evening.

Councilmember Frank said it was his recommendation that the Council move ahead with this.

Mayor Arnowitz said for the record, we have present the Chairman, Jay Campbell and Jack O'Hara, Committee Member, and Pat Hughes, Manager.

Chairman Jay Campbell said inasmuch as Chris Statile is satisfied with the questions he had, let us go.

#### RESOLUTIONS:

11154 Authorizing Fair and Open Contract for Architect (Stonybrook).

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

#### Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers DeJoseph, Frank, Giancarlo, Hanlon,  
Schiavone and Weinstein

Nays: None

(SEE COPY OF THE AFORESAID ORIGINAL RESOLUTION AFFIXED HERETO)

Jay Campbell, 95 Mountain View Terrace -  
He said there is a second issue that also needs a vote before the end of the year which started this ball rolling and that is the Ordinance for the capital spending. It was passed for the first time in July and then it was tabled.

Councilmember Weinstein said it was voted on in October and it was

passed. The contract was discussed separately.

Mayor Arnowitz said the Borough Clerk will check to be sure. Unfortunately, this is the last meeting of the year. If it should be read a second time, it can be done at the Sine Die Meeting.

Borough Clerk Sandt stated he will check on this at the end of the meeting and if there is a problem, he will advise the Council.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. BOARD OF FIRE OFFICERS ADVISING RESULTS OF OFFICER ELECTIONS.

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

2. MARK STACKPOLE REQUESTING PERMISSION TO REMOVE SIDEWALK.

Received and filed on motion by Councilmember DeJoseph, seconded by Councilmember Giancarlo, and unanimously carried.

Councilmember DeJoseph will consult with DPW Superintendent Durie. It appears the sidewalk was already removed by the resident.

DPW Superintendent Durie said in the neighborhood of the Carlyle Place/Hopkins Street area we have granted over the years permission to remove the sidewalk due to the fact that it goes nowhere and terminates at someone's front yard. The sidewalk starts, goes to a certain point, and then it goes into the grass. Anyone walking on the sidewalk has to go off the sidewalk and go into the street. A problem is there are trees that line the streets in the area and lifted the sidewalks. He sees no problem in removing the sidewalk because it does not serve any purpose.

Borough Attorney Paul said if it is the Council's desire to approve, then the approval of the removal is a true vote, whether it has occurred or not. It essentially memorializes the fact.

Motion to approve was made by Councilmember DeJoseph.

Councilmember Frank stated he would not approve this, he would allow Councilmember DeJoseph and Superintendent Durie handle it and not put it to a vote. This was unanimously agreed upon by the Council.

3. JERRY DE MARCO, CLIFFVIEWPILOT.COM WESTWOOD OFFERING FREE ONLINE PRINTING OF LEGAL NOTICES.

Received and filed on motion by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded

by Councilmember DeJoseph, and unanimously carried.

4. FAWN MC GEE, DEP STATE LAND ACQUISITION, GREEN ACRES/BLUE ACRES LAND OFFERINGS INFORMATION.

Received and filed on motion by Council as a Whole.

Mayor Arnowitz stated he sent this information to the residents on his email list from the flood group in town so they know what is going on.

5. ELSA DE CARLO SEEKING RELIEF FROM WATER FLOW PROBLEM.

Received and filed on motion by Councilmember DeJoseph, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

Mayor Arnowitz said he has already handled this situation. He spoke to Engineer Statile about this and also to the homeowner and her son. A neighbor is possibly causing a water problem; they built a pool and tennis court and water is now flowing on Mrs. DeCarlo's property. Engineer Statile will look into this and will provide a report to the Council.

6. BOARD OF FIRE OFFICERS ADVISING DATE OF FIRE DEPARTMENT REORGANIZATION MEETING.

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

7. ROVERCLOVER COMMITTEE ADVISING OF ANNUAL 5K RUN/WALK FOR SUNDAY, 3/18/12.

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

Councilmember Giancarlo said a question was raised about insurance and whether they carried their own liability.

Councilmember DeJoseph said the letter was not forwarded to the Recreation Director. We will speak with the Risk Manager tomorrow to review this to be sure that the Borough is held harmless and additional insured. This will be held over to the January 10 meeting.

Police Chief Stalter said this is well-run and they are using Meadowbrook School and the Police Department has had no problems. It is adequately staffed and they do work with the traffic bureau.

8. HILLS VALLEY COALITION DESIRES TO PRESENT TO COUNCIL A BRIEF

PRESENTATION OF THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AT THE JANUARY 10,  
2012 MEETING.

Received and filed on motion by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember Weinstein, and unanimously carried.

Police Chief Stalter said the Hills Valley Coalition have representatives from schools, police, parents of all four towns in the Pascack Valley Regional School District and it does use some of the grant money that we receive annually. The grant money is specifically for drug/alcohol related programs.

Mayor Arnowitz said the police department is looking to hire someone, using the grant money, to handle the paper work, take care of the grant, and take care of the program. Each town is having similar problems and hiring someone, using the grant money to help pay for this.

Chief Stalter said they will advise what part of this grant money is doing that we receive and to look into the possibility of getting one grants person. The other towns have had difficulty in getting a grant administrator.

This meeting has been approved for January 10, 2012.

DISCUSSION:

- 1) Council Chamber room redesign.

Mayor Arnowitz said the Borough has received a grant to redesign the Borough chambers so that they are handicap accessible. Our engineer asked for suggestions; he forwarded three plans and asked that the Council provide their comments. He said all three plans would accommodate the Planning Board, it widens the dais so the Planning Board would be able to look at plans of developers. He asked the Council to look at it, review it, and see if anything else should be offered as now is the time to do so.

Councilmember Hanlon was in favor of Plan A/1.

Mayor Arnowitz said the problem he has with the first plan is the door will be removed and wall and make all accessible to the hall. We have had problems with noise, especially with Planning Board meetings and people congregating out there. Somehow we have to be able to close off the Council Chamber to the lobby. The Council was in agreement to inform the Engineer to go along with Plan A/1.

- 2) Web site hosting.

Councilmember Frank said three offerings were reviewed and he is ready to make a recommendation to the Council. It was his feeling that the hosting site that Emerson, Woodcliff Lake and Westwood uses is the most comprehensive as well as the most cost effective. Councilmember Schiavone agreed. Councilmember DeJoseph went along with that recommendation as did Borough Clerk Sandt.

Councilmember Frank believed we had enough information to move forward, we just need to get it into the budget next year. Councilmembers Hanlon and Giancarlo were in agreement.

3) Hills/Valley Coalition.

Mayor Arnowitz said this has already been taken care of.

4) Veterans Park Security Camera.

Police Chief Stalter said he and Councilmember DeJoseph spoke with vendors with regard to camera systems when we were having issues in the park. There was grant money available and the quotes we received were more than we had expected. After the current matching grant that was used to install the flagpole in the park, he was approached by the benefactor who provided the match for the current flagpole installation and was asked about the camera system. Right now we have a doable quote according to the benefactor with regard to getting the match. It would essentially wipe out what is left of the grant; there is nothing else pending to use the grant money.

Councilmember DeJoseph asked the engineer about redoing the benches. We do have other Open Space Grants for Memorial and Cdntennial and there is the possibility of using that money.

Mayor Arnowitz wanted to replace the wooden slabs on the benches. He met with Rich Henning of the Water Company on Saturday and he wanted to know where we stand on the camera at the library facing the stream and perhaps we could tie the two together and get a better price. They are willing to pay for the camera and the installation at the library and we could pay through the grant for the library, on the flagpole and the park area.

Chief Stalter said the second group of estimates he received were from the same vendor and had given Bill Franklin estimates.

Mayor Arnowitz said this would have to be matched and would come out of the 2012 budget.

Chief Stalter said the benefactor who provided for the pole offered to match this also. Essentially this would give us a camera on the gazebo and three others in the park. It provides for up to 95

other cameras and it goes over airways rather than the internet so we don't have any reoccurring costs. Bill Franklin will pull some cables through existing conduit to save us money, but other than that there is no cost.

Motion to go forward with this was made by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Frank, Giancarlo, Hanlon, Schiavone,  
Weinstein and DeJoseph

Nays: None

GENERAL PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Arnowitz opened the meeting to the public and invited comment from the audience.

Sonia Kinzler, Norwood -

She asked the purpose of the security camera.

Mayor Arnowitz said it is for Veterans Park downtown for security, to guard against vandalism.

Ms. Kinzler (Contd).

She asked for the spelling of the company with reference to the web site.

Councilmember Frank said gov office.com.

Richard Margolis, 30 Ellen Court -

The Hillsdale Soccer Association solicit vendors in town to be sponsors for the Soccer Association. Statile Associates sponsored HAS this year, he had a shirt to offer it to him in appreciation. Last year at this time there were some issues with lights at Centennial. The borough requested the associations to contribute towards the financing of the lights and asked if the Council had plans for the upcoming 2012 season. He confirmed that for the 2012 season, the assessment is 33-1/3% of the total 2011 electric bill.

He has had a serious concern with storm damage and there were very serious concerns with branches in the streets. The original DPW schedule was for two leaf pickups but in his neighborhood, there was one leaf pickup. Why did it take so long to keep an extremely dangerous situation with branches and why the town hasn't scheduled the two leaf pickups as was on the calendar.

Mayor Arnowitz said the leaf pickups were postponed to get to the branches. As far as the speed of picking up the branches, the storm took place on a Saturday night; on Monday morning he

authorized the DPW to hire four more people on a part-time basis and they picked up branches. At the same time we looked for outside companies to help us. We hired a company to pick up the entire town at an extremely large expense. There was a dangerous situation throughout the entire County of Bergen. The DPW worked Saturdays and Sundays to get the job done. He is extremely proud of our DPW and how they handled the storm. We hope to have the leaves picked up in the entire town; one pickup vs. two pickups because of the postponement of the branches, we have been able to speedily cover the town with one pickup.

Mr. Margolis (Contd).

He said the DPW does a magnificent job with the limited resources they have. You went to outside contractors, he thought the borough relied on their own DPW. He wanted to be sure we are not sacrificing money for safety. His observation was that Hillsdale was the last town to have branches removed from the streets.

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

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ORDINANCES:

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| <p>Ord. No. 11-20<br/>(Introduction)<br/>Authorizing a<br/>Special<br/>Emergency<br/>Revaluation<br/>Appropriation</p> | <p>At the mayor's request, the Borough Clerk read by title only proposed Ordinance No. 11-20 as follows:</p> <p>AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION IN THE SUM OF \$250,000 FOR THE PREPARATION AND EXECUTION OF A COMPLETE TOWNWIDE PROGRAM OF REVALUATION OF REAL PROPERTY FOR THE USE OF THE LOCAL ASSESSOR OF THE BOROUGH OF HILLSDALE, AND FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL EMERGENCY NOTES IN THE SUM OF \$250,000 TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF SAID PROGRAM IN COMPLIANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53.</p> |
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Mayor Arnowitz asked the Council if there was any discussion on the proposed ordinance.

Councilmember DeJoseph said as Finance Chairman, he recommended this two years ago and in the past year alone, we paid close to \$200,000 in tax appeals. If we had done this two years ago, we would have saved whatever we paid this year plus last year plus whatever we will pay in tax appeals next year by the time this is enforced. Hopefully the market will stabilize and this will be a very wise investment for Hillsdale.

Councilmember Frank said the Revaluation will be done in 2012 and

will not be on the books until 2013.

Mayor asked the Borough Clerk to read the resolution adopting the ordinance on first reading.

Following is the result of the roll call vote on the foregoing Ordinance No. 11-20:

Ayes: Councilmembers Giancarlo, Hanlon, Schiavone, Weinstein, DeJoseph and Frank

Nays: None

(SEE COPY OF THE AFORESAID ORIGINAL RESOLUTION AFFIXED HERETO)

RESOLUTIONS: (Consent Agenda)

Mayor Arnowitz read the Consent Agenda of Resolutions.

11160 Payment of Bills was introduced by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

11161 Authorize the Borough Clerk to Advertise for Requests for Qualifications for Borough Professionals was introduced by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

11162 Cancellation of Tax Overpayments or Delinquent amounts Less than \$10.00 was introduced by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

11163 Interlocal Agreement Between the Borough of Hillsdale and the Borough of Emerson for Chief Financial Officer Services was introduced by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

11164 Special Emergency Resolution - Revaluation was introduced by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

11165 Authorize Emergency Purchases and Contracts - Pre-Halloween Snow Storm was introduced by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

11166 Authorize emergency Appropriation for Pre-Halloween Snow Storm was introduced by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

11167 Transfer of Funds was introduced by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

11168 Supporting Assembly Bill 4287 (Flood Control Measures) was introduced by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember

Frank.

11169 Authorizing Changes to the Deferred Compensation Plan (VALIC) Pursuant to IRS Regulations was introduced by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember DeJoseph.

11170 Authorizing Changes to the Deferred Compensation Plan (Nationwide) Pursuant to IRS Regulations was introduced by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

11171 Community Development Grant for Senior Citizen Activities was introduced by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

11172 Awarding Grinding and Removal of Storm Debris was introduced by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

11173 Authorizing a Grant Application to NJ Department of Transportation for Safe Routes to School Program was introduced by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

Councilmember Frank referred to 11160 Payment of Bills and repeated his comment from last month that the wording of the Resolution saying all bills are approved by the Finance Committee is incorrect. This will be corrected in 2012.

Councilmember Weinstein requested 11169 be voted on separately.

Councilmember DeJoseph said 11172 Awarding Grinding & Removal of Storm Debris noted that the price \$13,500 to get rid of the brush at Stonybrook. It will be ground up and removed and this should be done in three or four days.

Mayor Arnowitz thanked Councilmember DeJoseph for his efforts. This company saved us \$10,000 for the work.

Motion to approve the foregoing Resolution on the Consent Agenda with the exception of 11169 was made by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

Roll Call Vote on Consent Agenda of Resolutions:

Ayes: Councilmembers Hanlon, Schiavone, Weinstein, DeJoseph, Frank and Giancarlo

Nays: None

11169 Authorizing Changes to the Deferred Compensation Plan (VALIC) Pursuant to IRS Regulations.

Motion to approve the foregoing Resolution was made by Councilmember DeJoseph, seconded by Councilmember Giancarlo.

## Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Schiavone, DeJoseph, Frank, Giancarlo,  
Hanlon

Nays: None

Abstain: Councilmember Weinstein

(SEE COPIES OF THE AFORESAID ORIGINAL RESOLUTIONS AFFIXED HERETO)

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Department monthly report for the month of October 2011.

Motion to receive and file was made by Councilmember Frank,  
seconded by Councilmember Giancarlo.

Chief Financial Officer monthly report for the month of November  
2011.

Motion to receive and file was made by Councilmember DeJoseph,  
seconded by Councilmember Frank.

Board of Health report for the month of November 2011.

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

(SEE COPIES OF THE AFORESAID ORIGINAL REPORTS AFFIXED HERETO)

## COUNCIL COMMENTARY

Councilmember DeJoseph received correspondence from a resident on  
Piermont Avenue with reference to removal of a tree and was looking  
for approval of the Council. It seems to be an ongoing issue, the  
resident wants to pay to remove the tree and he was looking for  
permission from the Council to authorize him and he would need  
County approval for removal.

Mayor Arnowitz said homeowner is willing to pay to remove the  
tree.

Police Chief Stalter said it is a healthy oak tree but it is in the  
borough right-of-way. The house is on the northwest corner of  
Piermont and Kinderkamack and it has become a safety hazard, view  
obstruction for himself and anyone visiting the house. It blocks  
out a car completely that is heading westbound coming up the hill  
from Piermont or somebody coming around the corner. It is a  
healthy tree, it is a case of coming out of his driveway. It is a  
view obstruction coming out of his driveway but if it was six feet

closer to his house, he would not have to ask for permission.

Mayor Arnowitz said it is a County road and a County intersection and asked if the County had to get involved.

Councilmember DeJoseph would authorize it for the Mayor and Council.

Mayor Arnowitz said he does not need approval from the County.

Police Chief Stalter said the vendor he contacted has done business with the borough and suggested this be done on a Saturday morning when there is less traffic. He will contact the resident on behalf of the Mayor and Council.

Police Chief Stalter stated that Officer Novakowski's disability pension has been approved by the State Pension Board. His pension will start March 1. He has over 24 years in the pension system and a little over 20 years in the borough. Officer Scordato's last day of work will be April 5. He has vacation time that will carry him into the summer.

Mayor Arnowitz said a plaque and a presentation for these officers at a public meeting is appropriate.

Chief Stalter said the department has been busy with some school programs; we completed the Officer Phil Program at Smith, Meadowbrook and St. Johns. We brought in NJ Transit to work with Patrolman Angemeyer and a rail safety program at the Meadowbrook and Smith School. We hope to bring them back for George White and St. Johns. The DARE Program is up and running. On Thursday, Officers Angemeyer and Dietrich will be honored by the Bergen County Crime Prevention Officers Association for bank employees. It opened up for the Pascack Valley regarding holdup safety and they are being recognized by the Association.

Mayor Arnowitz said a resident reached out to him regarding the new Patrolman Cruz and was extremely complimentary on his professionalism and how he handled himself with an ambulance call at the resident's home.

Councilmember DeJoseph said there will be a change of Council people next year. He would like to look at the dispatch study before the end of the year with the current committee and the shared services or police committee.

Mayor Arnowitz said the vote on the dispatch will take place next year with the new Council and there is no emergent nature, so this will be put it until next year. We will move on it quickly in

2012.

Mayor Arnowitz praised the Police Department saying everyone was outstanding in their work during the storm and after the storm.

DPW Superintendent Durie informed the Council that he suffered a detached retina and was out for 10 days and unavailable during the storm. His Foreman, Patrick Delehanty, stepped up to the plate and he thanked him publicly for a job well done. 2011 has been a difficult year, the DPW suffered four storms, four floods. At the present time, the DPW doesn't have the ability to have a public bathroom other than upstairs. We are working on that; insurances have to be approved before we can go forward. Keeping a positive attitude and momentum going has been challenging but we have been successful and doing so. We were able to hire five excellent part-time employees, some residents and from neighboring towns; everyone stepped up to the plate and kept up the momentum to make sure the job was done properly. He worked closely with Councilmember DeJoseph this year because of all the things that have happened, there is not a day that we do not talk on the phone. He is making sure we are moving ahead in a positive effort.

It is difficult to provide services when residents don't abide by the rules and we are having a difficult time getting through the town because of what is mixed in with the leaf piles. We are beginning our last pass around Hillside starting with Zone A in accordance with Calendar. He requested residents not to put out leaves after they have gone through their neighborhood because we have to end collections at a certain point. We will make a round again for branches to get them out of the leaves and we will grind on Thursday or Friday this week at Stonybrook. It has been a very difficult situation because we were delayed two weeks with leaf pickup.

Joel Minch said Borough Engineer Statile requested he attend the meeting this evening. The road program is nearly complete; we are waiting for one block on Ralph Avenue to be completed. He also spoke of United Water and dam rehabilitation they are planning. This has been an ongoing application by United Water to the NJDEP and Statile has had some issues in the manner in which the permit had been undertaken per statute as well as what United Water is trying to do. The roadway is operated on top of the dam which is a public right-of-way and has an easement since 1904. The permit is approved; our office did not receive it until December 9<sup>th</sup>. Engineer Statile said the Mayor and Council should consider directing the Borough Attorney to file an appeal to Trenton against the permit. They will be lowering the roadway which will flood more frequently when the project would be completed. Statile does not feel it is in the Borough's interest to have this emergency shared services to cross this road to Woodcliff Lake and the appeal

should be filed in Trenton to hold up this permit.

Mayor Arnowitz said he and the Police Chief brought up some concerns two years ago about traffic. This project will cause the roadway to be closed for two years to regular traffic; they don't know about emergency traffic during emergency situations. We requested relief because of the traffic we will have in Hillsdale on Pascack and we never received a reply. We do not have a report of what they would or what they would not do. He strongly recommended that we move forward and have our Borough Attorney issue a letter of appeal and try to stop it. He was advised by Statile there was a delay between November 7 and receipt because they sent it to an address that he hasn't been at for ten years. He was amazed because he has seen much correspondence with Statile at his correct address and how they obtained the incorrect address is questionable. We have an obligation to the residents and our emergency services; during Irene the only east/west access we had to get to Valley Hospital and get our emergency vehicles to the other side of town was this roadway. If this is closed, it makes it extremely difficult. It will be below the present level of the Woodcliff Lake Causeway. This Causeway is closed numerous times throughout the year when there is a high wind condition so it is conceivable it could be closed also because of high winds, not just due to flooding.

Motion by Councilmember Giancarlo to direct the Borough Attorney file an appeal on behalf of the Borough of Hillsdale to Trenton with regard to this permit; this motion was seconded by Councilmember Frank.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Weinstein, DeJoseph, Frank, Giancarlo, Hanlon, and Schiavone

Nays: None

Mayor Arnowitz requested that a copy of the appeal be forwarded to the Mayor of Westwood.

Councilmember DeJoseph expressed his thanks to the DPW, Police Department, Fire, Ambulance for all the work after the snowstorm. He received word that there will be a \$4200 grant from the County to look at the shared court and conduct a study on this. The Council will decide whether they want to move forward on this.

We could consider a grant for the Bergen One Stop Career Center for Hurricane Irene and the storm cleanup. Once the leaves are picked up, we will determine if any employees are eligible so that we can proceed with storm cleanup. This includes anything along the brook, miscellaneous branches, anything left over from Hurricane Irene and there would be no cost to the Borough and our payroll

taxes will be reimbursed.

He is working with our vendor presently to obtain a credit from PSE&G for street lighting. This has been ongoing for about six months and he was advised today that we will be receiving a credit from the vendor.

Councilmember Schiavone wished everyone a safe and happy Holiday Season.

Councilmember Giancarlo referred to the work by Councilmember DeJoseph with regard to the road coop to the tree grinding, to silver energy panels, downtown park grants, recycling bins, grants for shared services. He has saved more money on a weekly basis than most do on a yearly basis. Many of these grants are for those who just do the work and file the applications and follow through and make the phone calls. They are open to all towns in the State, most towns and Councils aren't diligent and slacken on the job. He thanked Councilmember DeJoseph for making those resources available to this town.

He congratulated Mayor Arnowitz, Councilmember Doug Frank, Councilmember-Elect Capawana.

Councilmember Hanlon said the Senior Luncheon will be held tomorrow.

Councilmember Frank thanked Patty Hughes and Ann Cron and the Recreation Commission for their Tree Lighting Ceremony. There is an email circulating on how you can help your local economy and if you are going to purchase gifts, consider giving gift certificates to local restaurants, local businesses which will have a strong impact on our economy. He also said to remember the food pantry and Hillsdale Helping Hillsdale.

A meeting is scheduled on Thursday evening with the Joint Court Advisory Committee for the Pascack Municipal Court to determine the level of interest and gather more information.

He thanked Councilmember Weinstein for his service to the town.

Councilmember Weinstein thanked the residents of Hillsdale for the opportunity for having served them for the past six years, seven years total. It has been a privilege.

Mayor Arnowitz said he is waiting for an answer on our email backup and lowering the speed limit on Hillsdale Avenue. He also wants a replacement of the sign on Broadway. He said we do not a newsletter any longer and it doesn't appear that we will be having a newsletter. If we wish to continue what we had previously it

would be at a cost of \$1300/month. We will have to come up with some way to notify our residents. He has started an email site from his home and if anyone wishes to be on this list, send an email. It will be a means, for example, when the branch pickup ends, tree lighting, rain date, etc. It is a convenient way of notifying residents of things that are coming up. He sent out a notice on a storm warning a few days ago so anyone who wishes to reach out to the Mayor, go to the Borough website, click on [MArnowitz@Hillsdalenj.org](mailto:MArnowitz@Hillsdalenj.org) and you will be included on his list.

The Reorganization Meeting will be held on January 1<sup>st</sup>. He received a copy of the Boswell study on flooding and it parrots what we have been saying all along that the dam is manageable and the dam should be lowered to '91 level which is the winter mode year round and raise the dam when impending storms are coming.

He received a call from Superintendent Albano with regard to issues to the school with a report and it is not as drastic as some believe. The school district is conducting a study of the demographics and the Borough Engineer will help with information to find the demographics of the children in our schools and potential students.

He thanked Ann Cron, Patty Hughes and Recreation for the tree lighting ceremony. There were new, added attractions and went very well.

With reference to the election, he said Councilmember Weinstein was the hardest candidate, he is a great asset to the community, will always be a great asset to the community, and he appreciates everything he has done and his service was outstanding.

ADJOURNMENT

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

12-13-11

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Robert P. Sandt, RMC  
Borough Clerk

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

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Robert P. Sandt, RMC  
Borough Clerk