

Reorganization Meeting
January 2, 2011

Minutes of the Reorganization Meeting of the
Borough Council at 1:00 P.M. on Sunday, January 2,
2011, in the Council Chamber, Borough of
Hillsdale,
Hillsdale, New Jersey.

1. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Max
2. Arnowitz who also led the Salute to the Flag.
3. Invocation Borough Clerk Sandt requested the audience
to remain standing while Pastor Chet Klope
rendered the Invocation.
4. ANNOUNCEMENT Borough Clerk Sandt announces: "This meeting
is for
OF MEETING
Organization
Meeting of the Hillsdale Borough Council on this
2nd day
of January, 2011. Not less than 48 hours prior to
this
meeting, public notice of this meeting was given
to The
Ridgewood News, The Record, the Pascack Press and
the
Community Life newspapers; a copy was posted on
the bulletin board outside of this meeting room, a
copy
was filed in the office of the Borough Clerk, a
copy was
posted on the Borough 'web site' and a copy was
mailed to
all persons who had requested the same and prepaid
the
cost established by the Council.

disability

Please notify the Municipal Clerk for any requirements necessary for attendance at Mayor and Council meetings. The Fire Exits are located

through

the doors to your left. Proceed through the

lobby and

exit the building either right or left. Please

silence

all cell phones and pagers.

5. INDUCTION OF
Oath of
MAYOR

Assemblyman Robert Schroeder administered the Office to Mayor Max Arnowitz.

6. Induction of
of

County Executive Donovan administered the Oath

Councilman

DeJoseph
Frank.

Office to Councilman DeJoseph and Councilman

Giancarlo

Attorney Giancarlo administered the Oath of Office to his Brother Michael Giancarlo.

7. Roll Call
present

Borough Clerk Sandt called the roll, those

Hanlon,

being Councilmembers DeJoseph, Frank, Giancarlo,

Schiavone and Weinstein.

8. STATE OF
very
BOROUGH
Borough
ADDRESS
from the

Mayor Arnowitz said that 2011 will be a difficult and daunting year budget-wise for the of Hillsdale. We are facing fiscal restraints State and mandated 2% CAP. Every expense and service must be revisited and reviewed. We will every potential area of income to determine the

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review

proper

or
some
been
that
will be
the
more.
surrounding us,
debt
efforts of
2011 is
before we
We need
caught
amount

levels before any decisions are made as to layoffs
furloughs of our staff. It is quite possible that
of the services we have come to rely on could be
reduced or cost more to use. Prior Councils have
very fiscally prudent in the past thus making it
much harder to meet the mandated State CAP. It
an intimidating task but I am positive that I have
team of elected officials to meet our goals and
Hillsdale, compared to other communities
is in a stronger financial position to the lower
that Hillsdale is presently carrying and the
Council in the past few years. My objective in
to work with the Council to reach the 2% CAP
use outside the CAP items to balance the budget.
to increase our surplus in 2011 so that we are not
short as we were in 2010 due to using an excessive
of surplus.

Jon
informed by
be
made in
to pay
that
storm.
our JIF
related

On a cheerier note, due to efforts of numerous
Borough employees, especially William Franklin,
Najarian and Police Lieutenant Niego, he was
the Governor's Office that Hillsdale will finally
receiving \$64,000 in FEMA funds for a claim we
April 2010 for a storm. This money will be used
for repairs that have already been made and some
still need to be completed relating to that April
This money plus the money already received from
Insurers will almost cover 100% of our expenses
to that storm.

the
Hillsdale will be conducting a revaluation of
Borough. The last revaluation was completed at

the
doing
property
School
begin
great
Council
that
slow
to. He
best to

height of the property market thus our homes are extremely high compared to their actual worth. By this revaluation, we should be able to lower our taxes in the areas of County Tax and the High taxes. The cost is in the area of \$200,000 and the revaluation in early spring. Hillsdale is a town to live in because of the actions of this and prior Councils and he pledges to continue in vein. We have a spiraling of taxes which has to down or stop. We will do our best to do that and still provide the services we have become used pledged to the residents of Hillsdale to do his serve Hillsdale once again.

9. BOROUGH
Paul,
ATTORNEY

Mayor Arnowitz presented the name of Steven Esq. for Borough Attorney for a one (1) year term expiring December 31, 2011.

by

Motion by Councilman Hanlon that Steven Paul, Esq. be appointed as Borough Attorney, seconded Councilmember Giancarlo.

Giancarlo,

Roll Call Vote:
Ayes: Council Members DeJoseph, Frank,
Hanlon, Schiavone and Weinstein.
Nays: None

Office

Borough Clerk Sandt administered the Oath of Office to Borough Attorney Paul.

10. Borough
Prosecutor

Mayor Arnowitz presented the name of Dennis Harraka for Borough Prosecutor for the term expiring December 31, 2011.

Motion by Councilmember Schiavone that Dennis Harraka be appointed as Borough Prosecutor, Seconded by Councilmember Weinstein.

Municipal Judge Lawrence Meyerson administered the Oath of Office to Borough Prosecutor Harraka.

11. Borough
Public
Defender

Mayor Arnowitz presented the name of Glenn Abolafia for Borough Public Defender for the term expiring December 31, 2011.

Motion by Councilmember Weinstein that Glenn Abolafia be appointed as Borough Public Defender, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

12. Council
President

Mayor Arnowitz announced that the election for Council President is now in order.

Motion by Councilmember DeJoseph to nominate Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember Frank and unanimously carried.

Motion by Councilmember Schiavone to nominate Councilmember Weinstein, seconded by Councilmember Hanlon.

Roll Call Vote on the nomination of Councilmember Giancarlo:

Ayes: Council Members DeJoseph, Frank, Giancarlo,

Nays: Councilmembers Schiavone, Hanlon and
Weinstein

Ayes: Mayor Arnowitz (Tie Vote)

Office

Borough Attorney Paul administered the Oath of
to Council President Giancarlo

13. COUNCIL
Council
COMMITTEES
our

Mayor Arnowitz announced the proposed
Committees for the year 2011 and are available on
Website.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council Members DeJoseph, Frank, Giancarlo,
Hanlon, Schiavone and Weinstein

Nays: None

HERETO)

(SEE COPY OF COUNCIL COMMITTEE LIST AFFIXED

14. FIRE
confirmation, the
DEPARTMENT
Auxiliary

Mayor Sapanara presented for Council
following appointments for the Regular and
Drivers, Mechanics, Fire Police and Fire Prevention
Bureau
Official for the year 2011 as recommended by the

Board of

Fire Officers in their letter of December 29, 2010.

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

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council Members Frank, Giancarlo, Hanlon, Schiavone and Weinstein

Nays: None

Abstain: Council Member DeJoseph

15. FIRE DEPARTMENT year OFFICERS

Mayor Arnowitz reads the names of the following Officers of the Hillsdale Fire Department for the year 2011.

Chief Mark Durst
Deputy Chief Jason Durie

Mayor Arnowitz announced that the Fire Department chose not to be sworn in at the Council Meeting, however, Lieutenant Beutel was present representing the officers.

Hose Company

Hook & Ladder Company

Kathleen LaFrance - Captain	Jmes Domville - Captain
Terry Beutel - 1 st Lieutenant	Tom Kelley - 1 st Lieutenant
Patrick Doody - 2 nd Lieutenant	Brian Heitmann - 2 nd Lieutenant
Keith Capogna - 3 rd Lieutenant	- 3 rd Lieutenant

Mayor Arnowitz read the names of the following Association Officers of the Hillsdale Fire Department For the year 2011.

President - Keith Capogna	Vice President - Edward Hughes
Secretary - Keith Durie	Treasurer - Patrick Doody
Assistant Secretary Treasurer - William Becker	
Trustee through 2012 - Keith Durie	

Motion to approve was made by Councilmember Weinstein, Seconded by Councilmember Giancarlo.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Frank, Giancarlo, Hanlon,

Schiavone

And Weinstein

Nays: None

Abstain: Councilmember DeJoseph

16. POLICE
confirmation the
DEPARTMENT
Special

for the
in his

Mayor Arnowitz presented for Council
following appointments to the Police Department,
Officers, Auxiliary Officers and Police Matrons
year 2011 as recommended by Police Chief Stalter
letter of December 22, 2010.

Special Officer Class I
Luis Velez

Police Auxiliary Officers

Captain Donald Carty
Lieutenant Richard Hirsch

Patrolman Kevin Garcia
Lieutenant Thomas F.

Ivancich

Sergeant Andres Perez

Sergeant Gary

Fichtenbaum

Patrolman John Buonadonna

Patrolman Christopher

Karcich

Patrolman Drew Kaplan

Patrolwoman

Victoria Ferraro

Patrolman Colin Doyle

Patrolwoman Alexandria

Vergnes

Patrolman Thomas Cole

Patrolman Jonathan

Bologra

Police Matrons

Kimberly Haffler

Weinstein,

unanimously

Motion to approve was made by Councilmember
seconded by Councilmember Schiavone, and
carried.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers DeJoseph, Frank, Giancarlo,

Hanlon,

Schiavone and Weinstein

Nays: None

16. APPOINTMENTS
following

indicated

Mayor Arnowitz presented the names of the
individuals for appointment to the positions
for the year 2011:

Borough Auditor: Paul Garbarini
 Land Use Officer: Keith Durie
 Assessment Search Officer: Robert P. Sandt
 Labor Counsel: Raymond Wiss, Esq.
 Fire Official: Keith Durie
 Borough Medical Examiners -
 David Stewart, M.D.
 Michael Rutigliano, M.D.
 Carol D'Aquino, M.D.
 Police & Fire Chaplains:
 Rabbi Ruth Zlotnick
 Father Bruce Harger
 Pastor Frank Kowar
 Bond Counsel: Rogut McCarthy Troy PC
 Recycling Coordinator: Keith Durie
 Tax Appeal Counsel: Morrison Mahoney LLP

Councilmember DeJoseph requested that a separate
 vote
 be taken for Borough Medical Examiners.

Motion to approve appointments excepting
 Medical
 Examiners was made by Councilmember Weinstein,
 Seconded by Councilmember Schiavone.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers, DeJoseph, Frank, Giancarlo,
 Hanlon, Schiavone and Weinstein
 Nays: None

Motion to approve Borough Medical Examiners
 Was made by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded
 By Councilmember Schiavone.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Frank, Giancarlo, Hanlon,
 Schiavone and Weinstein
 Nays: None
 Abstain: Councilmember DeJoseph

18. BOARD,
 following in-
 COMMISSION
 positions
 &TRUSTEE
 APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Arnowitz presents the names of the
 individuals for appointment to the indicated
 and the specified terms of office.

a) Board of Health members: Dr. Laurene DiPasquale and James

Stephens for a three (3) year term each expiring December 31, 2013.

- b) Swimming Pool Commission members: Jay Campbell and Michael Melchiorre for a three (3) year term each expiring December 31, 2013.
- c) Recreation Commission members: Dawn Timpanaro for a five (5) year term expiring December 31, 2015.
- d) Recreation Commission Teenage members: Sara Petro and Mike Holmes for a two (2) year term each expiring December 31, 2012.
- e) Environmental Commission members: Jennifer Frantin and Lorraine Thalmann for a three (3) year term each expiring December 31, 2013.
- f) Historical Preservation Committee members: Barbara Braun, Jerome Miano, Tracy Glasner, JoAnne Miano, Lori Bettini, Peter Hard and Eric Bongard for a one (1) year term each expiring December 31, 2011.
- g) Library Board of Trustees: Kathleen Scordato for a five (5) year term expiring December 31, 2015 and Barbara Wertheim for the un-expired term ending December 31, 2013.
- h) Local Assistance Board: Carolyn Vezza and Maria Koenig for a Four (4) year term each ending December 31, 2014.

Mayor Arnowitz said these are Mayoral appointments and a roll

Call vote is not necessary.

19. PLANNING

nominate a

BOARD
Planning

CLASS III:
Member

Mayor Arnowitz requested the Council to

member of the Council to be appointed to the

Board as their representative as the Class III

of the Planning Board for a one (1) year term expiring December 31, 2011.

Motion by Councilmember DeJoseph to nominate Councilmember Giancarlo as Class III Member of the Planning Board, seconded by Councilmember

Frank.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council Members DeJoseph, Frank, Giancarlo,
Hanlon, Schiavone and Weinstein

Nays: None

20. PLANNING

individuals

BOARDAPPOINTMENTS

for a

Mayor Arnowitz appointed the following

to the position and terms of office as indicated:

Planning Board Class II Member: William Franklin

one (1) year term expiring December 31, 2011.

Planning Board Class IV Member: Ed Alter for a
four (4) year term ending December 31, 2014.

Planning Board Alternate #2: Joanne Miano for a
Two (2) year term ending December 31, 2012.

Office

all

of

they are

office of

Friday,

Mayor Sapanara stated that no further Oaths of

will be administered at this meeting. However,

appointees are required to subscribe to their Oath

office before entering upon their duties, and

therefore asked to present themselves at the

the Borough Clerk for this purpose on or before

January 7, 2011.

21. HILLSDALE

Laws

BY-LAWS

2011.

Mayor Arnowitz proposed the adoption of the By-

laws for the Hillsdale Borough Council for the year

Motion to accept was made by Councilmember Weinstein,
seconded

By Councilmember Frank.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

CONSENT AGENDA22. RESOLUTIONS:

with

are

funds;

Mayor Arnowitz said the Consent Agenda items
are considered to be routine and will be enacted

a single motion; any items requiring expenditure

supported by a Certification of Availability of

any item requiring discussion will be removed from
the
Consent Agenda; all Consent Agenda items will be
reflected in full in the minutes.

- 11001 Temporary Resolution 11001 was introduced by
Budget
2011 Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by
Councilmember Schiavone.
- 11002 Establish. Resolution 11002 was introduced by
Interest
Rate Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by
Delinq. Councilmember Schiavone.
Taxes
- 11003 Desig. Resolution 11003 was introduced by
Boro.
Depos. Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by
Councilmember Schiavone.
- 11004 Re-estab. Resolution 11004 was introduced by
annual
Petty Cash Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by
Funds for Councilmember Schiavone.
Boro.Clerk
Police Dept.
and Gen.
Public
Assistance
- 11005 Desig. Resolution 11005 was introduced by
time &
place Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by
of reg. Councilmember Schiavone.
Boro.
Council
Mtg. for
2011
- 11006 Desig. Resolution 11006 was introduced by
Tax &
Assess. Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by
Search Councilmember Schiavone.
Officer
for 2011
- 11007 Desig. Resolution 11007 was introduced by
Council
Liaison Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by
Local
Assist. Councilmember Schiavone.
Board

- 11008 Desig. Resolution 11008 was introduced by
Auth. Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by
Drivers of Boro. Councilmember Schiavone.
Vehicles
- 11009 Desig. Resolution 11009 was introduced by
Signatory of Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by
Officials for Councilmember Schiavone.
Access
Safe
Deposit
Boxes
- 11010 Authorize Resolution 11010 was introduced by
Assesor to Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by
File Tax Appeals. Councilmember Schiavone.
- 11011 Public Resolution 11011 was introduced by
Agency Compl. Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by
Officer - 2011 Councilmember Schiavone.
- 11012 Authorize Resolution 11012 was introduced by
Award of Fair & Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by
Open Contract Councilmember Schiavone.
for Boro.
Attorney
- 11013 Auth. Resolution 11013 was introduced by
Award Fair Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by
& Open Contract Councilmember Schiavone.
for Boro.
Auditor
- 11014 Auth. Resolution 11014 was introduced by
Award Fair Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by
& Open Contract Councilmember Schiavone.
for Boro.
Appraiser
- 11015 Award Resolution 11015 was introduced by
Fair & Open Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by
Contract

for Bond Councilmember Schiavone.
Counsel

11016 Auth. Resolution 11016 was introduced by
Award
Fair Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by
& Open
Contract Councilmember Schiavone.
for Risk
Mgmt.
Insurance
Consultant

11017 Auth. Resolution 11017 was introduced by
Award
Fair Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by
& Open
Contract Councilmember Schiavone.
for
Labor
Attorney

11018 Auth. Resolution 11018 was introduced by
Award
Fair Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by
& Open
Contract Councilmember Schiavone.
for
Attorney
for Tax
Appeals

11019 Auth. Resolution 11019 was introduced by
CFO
Authority Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by
To Pay
Certain Councilmember Schiavone.
Obligations
As Needed

11020 Interlocal Resolution 11020 was introduced by
Agmt. With
Emerson for Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by
CFO Serv. Councilmember Schiavone.

11021 Auth. Resolution 11021 was introduced by
Extension
Borough Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by
Engineer
Term Councilmember Schiavone.

A motion for the Consent Agenda to approve the foregoing resolutions was made by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember Weinstein.

Following is the result of the roll call vote on the foregoing motion:

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

Nays: None

(SEE COPIES OF NINETEEN ORIGINAL RESOLUTIONS AFFIXED HERETO)

23. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On Motion by Councilmember Hanlon, seconded by Councilmember Weinstein, the Closed Executive Meeting November 29, 2010, Council Meeting of December 14, 2010, and Special Council Meeting of December 21, 2010, were approved as presented.

24. CORRESPONDENCE:

(Correspondence received has been referred to the January 11, 2011, Meeting)

25. GENERAL PUBLIC HEARING:

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

Sam Allen, Forest Drive -

He asked if the revaluation will be done by the same company that did the previous revaluation five years ago. He asked if it could be done for a lower amount as they already have records and materials. Could the price be lower than \$240,000 and asked what it cost the last time. He asked if revaluation is required by the County every 10 to 12 years. He asked if tax appeals have been successful and amount of refunds. He is not in favor of this ordinance because there are good intentions with a revaluation and what you are going to do for the public but it seems to result in a tax increase. He hasn't heard of a revaluation followed by taxes going down and he is concerned. There is a chance that taxes will be increasing after this revaluation. If a home was upgraded then the resident can expect a higher tax. He asked if each house will be visited. He said there are always consequences with a revaluation.

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

He offered his congratulations to the Mayor and Council members who were elected. He sees dissent across the Council which does not harbor well for the Borough. We have the most important Council Committee that will not be complete. If you don't know the budget, you don't how to run this town. You were elected to serve and one should step forward and say you will serve on that committee and if

no one steps forward, the Mayor should make an appointment. We have a very difficult year because of the finances; if you drive through the Borough parking lot any day during commuting hours you will see a number of empty parking spots. People are no longer going to work and Hillsdale residents are hurting. When you don't lower taxes, you hurt more people. Going into the budget process with an objective of only going up 2% is wrong; you should go into the budget process saying we are not going to increase taxes this year. If the citizens are not happy with taxes, budget, then they should state this by coming to the Council meetings and let the Council know this.

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

26. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Frank said he congratulated the Council on their re-elections. He is impressed by the amount of work being done by town employees, managers, Mayor and Council members and volunteers. Residents may not realize how much effort goes into making Hillsdale such a good place. We are facing a new reality in local government and we have to find ways to reduce and control spending in order to stay under a state mandated CAP but we still need to continue the excellent services the town offers. It will be up to this governing body to get it done. Hillsdale's spending is higher than our current revenue and we cannot continue to do this. He intends to make choices based on fiscal responsibility in the best interests of all the residents and this may not be popular. He appreciates the opportunity of serving the community and will work at the best of his ability to help us adapt to this reality.

Councilmember DeJoseph said he also congratulated the Council on their re-election. We formed the first Green Team and we are certified; we worked on grants, upgraded lights and next year we will have another round of grants which are available. The work begins, the budgets will begin and go forward. We are not looking to solve issues in 2011 but in 2012 and 2013 as well.

Councilmember Giancarlo thanked the residents for the opportunity to again serve on Council. He asked the Council to reflect on the reasons why they decided to run for office, the issues we fought for, etc. He believed the residents voted for us because they could see the difference. Any organization that is strong, stable and ready to commit time and energy and patience is apt to win success. He is happy to have Mr. Arnowitz as Mayor and he would rather someone tell him the hard, disappointing truth. We are here to do a job and not build self-esteem or resumes and we need to keep the shared values and promises that we ran upon central to our actions and the important tasks at hand. He thanked the people of Hillsdale for this honor.

Councilmember Hanlon also offered her congratulations on their re-election. She is here because she loves this town and she will continue to serve without politics and to the best of her ability. The Mayor and Council will all be involved in the budget process

for the rest of this year and she said if the Mayor really needs a member of the Finance Committee, she offered her services.

Councilmember Weinstein congratulated the re-elected officials. There are many battles we fight daily; financial issues make the headlines but we have had other accomplishments in addition to the list of what Councilmember DeJoseph mentioned. He mentioned the enormous response that Hillsdale had with regard to voting down a potential tax redistribution that would have affected all of us with regard to the regional High School issue. We came out in massive numbers on an issue that we all pulled together on makes him believe this community has its heart in the right place and focused on the right issues. We have controlled traffic issues, passed a sign ordinance which will clean up downtown and there are so many things this Council does on a daily basis. Financial issues are extreme and important; quality of issues we face each day keep Hillsdale a great town and we will work on the same values and principles that brought us here to begin with.

Councilmember Schiavone offered her congratulations to the re-elected officials and appointments. This year she worked with the Local Assistance Board and recognized them because seeing what they do and they do an amazing amount of work for local assistance. They ask for gifts for less fortunate and they have had an increase of families in need and they are providing for families. They have to acquire state and federal funds and fill out stacks of papers in order to receive those funds from the state and disburse them to the people. She will work with them again this year and looks forward to doing so.

Mayor Arnowitz congratulated the newly elected Council President and Council members. He wanted to recognize people in the audience who have been important to him and served this community: Al Murphy, Mayor Tom Randall from Ho-Ho-Kus, Meredith Mockler home from the war, his family and extended family. He recognized Ann Cron who comes to every meeting and a great help; Councilmember DeJoseph's parents who do much for the town of Hillsdale; he mentioned Lieutenant Beutel and appreciated his coming today; Cathy Henderson, our CFO, who is supposed to be part-time but she works and works for our town and Candace Schaefer who pays all the bills; David Kirk a son of a Councilman who passed away, and Lori Famoso for the Ambulance Service.

He thanked the residents of Hillsdale for their continued support. Serving the community is a lot of work but it has its benefits. He pledged to the residents of Hillsdale that he will continue to always put their needs first; Hillsdale is an extraordinary place to live and raise a family. It is important for the Mayor and Council keep a balance within the borough. He wished everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year. After this meeting, there will be a swearing in at the Fire Department and everyone is invited to the reception.

27. ADJOURNMENT

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

1-2-11

Robert P. Sandt, RMC
Borough Clerk

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

Robert P. Sandt, RMC
Borough Clerk