

Council Meeting
November 12, 2012

Minutes of a Council Meeting of the Borough Council held at 7:30 P.M. on Monday, November 12, 2012, 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:

Mayor Arnowitz stated, "This is a Meeting of the Hillsdale Borough Council on this 12th day of November 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 DeRosa, Frank, Giancarlo, Hanlon, MacEwen and Pizzella. Also in attendance Attorney Tom Randall.

OATH OF OFFICES:

Municipal Clerk Witkowski administered the Oath of Office to Sergeant Sean Smith, Hillsdale Police Department.

Municipal Clerk Witkowski administered the Oath of Office to Police Officer Ryan Norton, Hillsdale Police Department.

PRESENTATIONS:

Police Chief Stalter presented Civilian Awards as follows:

Departmental Commendation: Jodie Piorkowski, Jason McKeown,
Frederick Frato

Life Saving: Lisa Donne and Ryan Nicita

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On motion by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember MacEwen, and unanimously carried, the Minutes of the Council Meeting of October 9, 2012, and Closed Meeting of October 9, 2012.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Frank, Giancarlo, Hanlon, MacEwen,
Pizzella and DeRosa

Nays: None

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. LETTER DATED OCTOBER 22, 2012, FROM POLICE OFFICER RAMON CRUZ, RESIGNING FROM HILLSDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 7, 2012.

Received and filed on motion by Mayor Arnowitz for the entire

Council, which was unanimously carried. He directed a letter of thanks be sent to Ramon Cruz.

2. LETTER DATED NOVEMBER 1, 2012, FROM LORRAINE THALMANN, 238 LIBERTY AVENUE, RESIGNING FROM THE HILLSDALE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 2012.

Received and filed on motion by Councilmember Giancarlo.

3. LETTER DATED NOVEMBER 1, 2012, FROM JENNIFER FRANTIN, 911 HILLSDALE AVENUE, RESIGNING FROM THE HILLSDALE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION, EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 2012.

Received and filed on motion by Councilmember Giancarlo. Councilmember Giancarlo said they have been long-time volunteers to the town and wished them the very best. This was seconded by Councilmember DeRosa and unanimously carried.

Mayor Arnowitz asked the Council to consider two names to fill the vacancies on the Environmental Commission.

DISCUSSION:

- 1) 2012 Community Calendar.

Municipal Clerk Witkowski said over the past six months we have received inquiries, especially from senior citizens, looking for information regarding meetings, garbage collection. Previously, on a quarterly basis we sent out recycling information to the residents. She consulted the Administrator in regard to going back to a calendar that could be mailed out once that would include everything; Council meetings, Board meetings, pick-up information, recycling, Recreation Programs. This calendar could be mailed out or be available at the Borough Hall for pick-up by the residents. Seniors do not always have access to the website. Tomorrow she will have some quotes regarding the cost of what it would. Superintendent Durie advised that there is some money in the Trust Fund that could possibly be used. She wanted a feeling from the Council.

Mayor Arnowitz said he reached out to the Administrator from the hospital to see if they would be willing to sponsor the Newsletter we used to do monthly. That cost about \$1300 to \$1400 monthly through Community Life. He has not received a response but that is one alternative. We do need a calendar and did not feel having the calendar at the borough hall is sufficient, it has to be mailed out. One of the problems we had with yearly calendars is that things change during the year and it causes miscommunications. We don't have the money to do a monthly newsletter on our own. He did speak to Community Life to determine if they could help us with a sponsor; Westwood already has the hospital and he was not certain that the hospital would be willing to do more than one town.

Councilmember Frank said all schedules are on the website right now but not everyone has access and believed we have to do a mailing.

Mayor Arnowitz said we mailed them towards the end of the year.

Borough Administrator DeJoseph is in contact with the Community Life Publisher who will provide a quote on a total package with

advertising and without advertising.

2) Town Wide Meeting Realty Appraisal Company.

Councilmember Frank said Revaluation is still progressing; initially planned to be done by mid-November. He believed the storm may have delayed it a bit, some people were not at home, power lines down. We are still o.k. with the schedule to be implemented for 2013 tax appraisals. We are now scheduling a meeting for a presentation to the public where residents will have the opportunity to meet with the appraisal company and get their questions answered. One recommendation was to hold it in conjunction with our next Council Meeting which is next Tuesday, November 20. We need to discuss if there is too much to do in addition to a council meeting. His other concern is if we are unable to telecast it for people who can't come to a meeting, we will have to hold a meeting in the daytime for seniors and people who can't get out. The Administrator and he will speak to the Tax Assessor to set up a schedule. The question tonight is if we want to do it next Tuesday as part of the regular council meeting.

Mayor Arnowitz asked what the meeting would consist of; an update or an overview of what has been done so far.

Councilmember Frank said it would be an overview of the process and an opportunity for residents to ask questions. There are still a lot of people who don't understand what a revaluation is going to do and the impact will be.

Mayor Arnowitz said we never did that before. What is more important is that people review their worksheets.

Councilmember Frank said they will be instructed to do that at the meeting.

Mayor Arnowitz asked where we stand with the completion of the council chamber construction?

Administrator DeJoseph said the vendor is here today, it should be completed tomorrow and the recording system vendor will be here Wednesday or Thursday. He is anticipating we will be on TV next Tuesday.

Mayor Arnowitz said the people we need to advise watch us on TV and to do so without TV is fruitless. If you do so without TV you have to do it again.

Mayor Arnowitz said we have to get this message out and it is not out. He has received many phone calls about revaluation and what is happening. The seniors at the luncheon have been advised of the process. He suggested it be set up for next Tuesday and worst case scenario we will have to do it again in December.

3) Reorganization Meeting 2013.

Mayor Arnowitz reached out to the candidates; Mr. Meyerson is present this evening, he spoke to Mr. DeGise and Mr. Kelley. We have to wait until the election is certified but Reorganization is scheduled for the first Sunday in January at 1PM which must be done within 10 days. The Clerk needs the appoints before hand so that we are not scrambling the night before.

Reorganization is scheduled for January 6, 2013, at 1PM.

4) Update Hurricane Sandy.

Administrator DeJoseph said all residents have power. It has been a long, drawn out process, with numerous phone calls to us, PSE&G, OEM. Power out for two weeks is not acceptable from PSE&G. The biggest concern we will have now is police overtime, DPW overtime, DPW seasonal labor, additional equipment that was required, additional trucking and roll off costs for the borough and disposal costs. We will have to determine an emergency next week at our Council Meeting and he should have ball park numbers next week, more accurate numbers, and everything under disposal should be ready next Tuesday. We will be going over the budget this year and by declaring an emergency issue, it has to be made up in next year's budget.

Mayor Arnowitz said we will get some of that money back from FEMA, not all of it. Prior to the emergency and during the emergency as Mayor, he instructed our managers to do whatever they had to do when it came to money to get the job done. He congratulated them all, from borough hall staff, to the DPW to the volunteers to the Police, everyone. They were outstanding and got us through a very difficult time. We were in touch with PSE&G on a regular basis trying to get power but with Sandy's severity.

Borough Administrator DeJoseph said we needed to get gasoline from Massachusetts because nothing was available.

Mayor Arnowitz said we should send a letter of thanks the Mayor of Old Tappan and their DPW for accommodating our equipment; they were fueled up there which was a life saver.

Administrator DeJoseph said our gas stations were out of fuel and power.

Councilmember Frank said we had an emergency appropriation last year for the October snowstorm. The money we appropriate allows us to spend the money this year but it has to be put in next year's budget. Even though we will get some of that money back, we can't budget the anticipated revenue or refund we get from FEMA because we can't guarantee we are going to get it. It puts an additional strain on us next year for the budget even though that money may come in and help us to put it into surplus. An emergency appropriation is taking money, spending it this year, and put it in next year's budget.

Mayor Arnowitz said last year we received 75% to 80% back and we were fortunate. We had to spend the money and get the job done.

GENERAL PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Arnowitz invited comment from the audience.

Jim Moldow, 20 Overbrook Place -

He thanked the Borough for the alerts; he suggested that anyone in town who hasn't signed up for the alerts to do so. He said the DPW crew did an outstanding job cleaning up the neighborhood. He asked if the borough has backup generators for the Borough Hall, Police, and Fire.

Mayor Arnowitz said Police, Fire, and Ambulance have generators, that is it. The Library does not, schools do not and the church does not.

Mr. Tourian, 61 Trinity Place -
He asked for a reply from the Mayor.

Mayor Arnowitz said he received a reply from the Borough Attorney today. He reviewed your complaint and did not find any wrong on the Code Enforcement Officer's part and everything was done properly according to the law. As far as any agreements you might have had with the church, he feels that is a personal matter between you and the Methodist Church.

Mr. Tourian (Contd).
He asked if the church has to have permits for altering the landscape?

Attorney Randall said the general answer is everyone has to follow the law in terms of our land use, and if there are violations of the land use they are reviewed by the Code Enforcement Officer and he makes the decision. If you disagree, your recourse is not through the Council, there are ways of appeal with the decision of the Zoning Officer on the matter, not the Mayor and Council. Generally, everyone has to follow the law; if there is mediation, you have recourse. You have Zoning Officials and Construction Officials who have a specific job and they are obligated to follow the code as they read it.

If there is an order issued, there is administrative relief. Orders issued by the Construction Official or Zoning Official, the Zoning Board appeals go to Hackensack. It depends on the issue and if there is a dispute with a neighbor, obviously there is a court system. He can't give specific advice or tell him what to do legally as far as recourse on any particular matter.

Mr. Tourian (Contd).
The DCA on soil conservation has passed on the ability to observe their laws. It is not the laws of the towns, they have the laws, state laws, county and local, the Compliance Officer has to abide by all of those laws. The law is enacted by the Department of Community Affairs and the Compliance Officer is supposed to follow those. This allows the citizens to be able to go have recourse and sue Hillsdale for non-compliance. He hopes the Council understands. He will take it up from here, he is not satisfied.

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

ORDINANCES:

Ord. No. 12-16 (Adoption) Amending and Supplementing Chapter 292 Traffic and Parking	Mayor Arnowitz read by title only proposed Ordinance No. 12-16 as follows: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 292 "TRAFFIC AND PARKING" OF THE BOROUGH CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HILLSDALE, CERGEN COUNTY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY.
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Mayor Arnowitz stated "I will now open the meeting to the public. If anyone desires to be heard regarding Ordinance No. 12-16 please raise your hand to be recognized, come forward to

the microphone and state your name and address for the record.

Seeing none, I entertain a motion that the public hearing on Ordinance no. 12-16 be closed and that it be resolved that this ordinance was posted on the bulletin board on which public notices are customarily posted and published in the Ridgewood News. Copies of said ordinance were made available to the general public. Now, therefore, be it resolved that this ordinance be adopted and the Clerk is authorized to advertise the same according to law."

Motion to approve the Ordinance No. 12-16 was made by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember DeRosa.

Following is the result of the roll call vote on the foregoing Ordinance No. 12-16:

Ayes: Councilmembers DeRosa, Giancarlo, Hanlon, MacEwen ,
Pizzella and Frank

Nays: None

(SEE COPY OF THE AFORESAID ORIGINAL ORDINANCE AFFIXED HERETO)

Ord. No. 12-13
(Introduction)
Provide for
And Determine
Rate, Amount
And Payment of
Compensation
Positions of
Employment

Mayor Arnowitz read by title only
proposed Ordinance No. 12-13 as follows:

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR AND DETERMINE
THE RATE, AMOUNT AND METHOD OF PAYMENT OF
COMPENSATION TO PERSONS HOLDING CERTAIN
OFFICE AND POSITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE
BOROUGH OF HILLSDALE, COUNTY OF BERGEN,
STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

BE IT RESOLVED, that Ordinance No. 12-13 does now pass a first reading and that said Ordinance be further considered for final passage at a meeting of the Mayor and Council in the Municipal Building, 380 Hillisdale Avenue, Hillisdale, New Jersey, on December 4, 2012, and at said time and place all persons interested will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same, and the Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish said ordinance in the Ridgewood News once, at least one week prior to said hearing, with a notice of its introduction and of the time and place when and where said ordinance would be considered for final passage.

Motion to approve Ordinance No. 12-13 was made by Councilmember Frank, seconded by Councilmember Giancarlo.

Following is the result of the roll call vote on the foregoing Ordinance No. 12-13:

Ayes: Councilmembers DeRosa, Frank, Giancarlo, Hanlon, MacEwen
And Pizzella

Nays: None

(SEE COPY OF THE AFORESAID ORIGINAL ORDINANCE AFFIXED HERETO)

Ord. No. 12-17
(Introduction)
follows:

Mayor Arnowitz read by title only
proposed Ordinance No. 12-17 as

Authorize
Acquisition
Block 1108,
Lot 9

AUTHORIZE THE ACQUISITION OF BOROUGH
PROPERTY, BLOCK 1108, LOT 9.

BE IT RESOLVED, that Ordinance No 12-17 does now pass a first reading and that said Ordinance be further considered for final passage at a meeting of the Mayor and council in the Municipal building, 380 Hillisdale Avenue, Hillisdale, New Jersey, on December 4, 2012, and at said time and place all persons interested will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same, and the Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish said ordinance in the Ridgewood News once, at least one week prior to said hearing, with a notice of its introduction and of the time and place, when and where said ordinance would be considered for final passage.

Motion to approve Ordinance No. 12-17 was made by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember DeRosa.

Following is the result of the roll call vote on the foregoing Ordinance No. 12-17:

Ayes: Councilmembers MacEwen, Pizzella, Derosa, Frank,
Giancarlo and Hanlon
Nays: None

(SEE COPY OF THE AFORESAID ORIGINAL ORDINANCE AFFIXED HERETO)

Ordinance No. 12-18 (Introduction)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 3 AND SECTION 5 OF ORDINANCE NO. 12-06, ESTABLISHING 2012 SALARIES FOR THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT.

Ordinance No. 12-19 (Introduction)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 3 OF ORDINANCE NO. 12-02 ESTABLISHING RECREATION DEPARTMENT PROGRAM AND SUMMER CAMP FEES FOR THE YEAR 2012 IN THE BOROUGH OF HILLSDALE.

Mayor Arnowitz stated that he was informed by Councilmember Frank that more work needs to be done on these ordinances and they will be done at a future date.

Councilmember Frank said we will do these ordinances next week.

RESOLUTIONS: (Consent Agenda)

Mayor Arnowitz read the Consent Agenda of Resolutions.

R12196 Authorization of Refund of Tax Payment, Block 1106, Lot 27.

R12197 Cancel Taxes on Block 1106, Lots 25 & 27.

R12198 Refund Overpayment of 2012 Taxes Block 1910, Lot 29.01 as per County Board of Taxation.

R12199 Authorization of Redemption and Premium Block 1308, Lot 2.

R12200 Refund Overpayment of 2012 Taxes, Block 1806, Lot 8.

R12201 Authorize Borough Clerk to advertise for Bids for Stony Brook Swim Club Alterations.

R12202 Cancellation of Tax Overpayments or Delinquent Amounts Less than \$10.00.

R12203 Confirmation of Endorsement of Community Development Projects.

R12204 Increasing Bid Threshold and Appointing Qualified Purchasing Agent.

R12205 Naming Plan Administrator Deferred Compensation.

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

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Frank, Giancarlo, Hanlon, MacEwen
Pizzella and DeRosa.

Nays: None

(SEE COPIES OF THE AFORESAID ORIGINAL RESOLUTIONS AFFIXED HERETO)

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Board of Health Report for the months of October 2012.
Municipal Clerk Witkowski said there is no report for November 2012.

Motion to receive and file on motion by Councilmember Hanlon.

Construction Report Ending October 31, 2012.

Motion to receive and file on motion by Councilmember MacEwen.

Hillsdale Fire Department Chief's Report September 2012.

Motion to receive and file on motion by Councilmember Pizzella.

(SEE COPIES OF THE ORIGINAL REPORTS AFFIXED HERETO)

Mayor Arnowitz said there will be no Closed Session held this evening.

COUNCIL COMMENTARIES:

Councilmember DeRosa stated that yesterday was Veterans Day and thanked all veterans who served our country including the Mayor and Councilmember Frank. A special thanks to his Dad, a Navy Veteran, for serving and keeping the American Legion alive in this town. He encouraged more veterans to join.

At the Memorial Day Parade he saw a T shirt that read "Real Heroes Don't Wear Capes but Dog Tags."

He gave a special thanks to the Police, Fire, Ambulance, OEM, DPW for their efforts during the storm and removing debris quickly. It was great to see how everyone pulled together as a town, and brings out the best in people.

He offered his congratulations to Sergeant Smith and Officer Norton.

Mayor Arnowitz said he received many compliments from parents over the day camp that the Director ran during the summer months. It is a great bargain and she did a great job.

Patty Hughes, Recreation Director

She said they are beginning their basketball season and there are over 323 kids in the program. For the first time we had a clinic for the kids on Saturday and 320 kids came to George White School. Our soccer and volleyball programs are starting. On Wednesday, November 14, our senior luncheon will be held at St. Johns. We had our Ragamuffin Parade last month which was a success but attendance was down.

Mayor Arnowitz said perhaps you want to change the format and hold it Saturday morning.

Patty Hughes said we are preparing for our Tree Lighting Ceremony. Big Daddy will help us out with candy canes and donuts and Starbucks is providing hot chocolate and coffee. Santa will be present at Big Daddy's. The date is December 5, rain date December 6. She also had a small set of plans for the swim pool.

Chief Stalter

Chief Stalter said as far as the Ragamuffin Parade, the Police Department would like to be included in future discussions for this parade.

He thanked the members of his department, men and women, police officers and dispatchers, auxiliary members coming to bat during Hurricane Sandy. Each couldn't do enough whether they were volunteering or getting paid. He thanked the council members who were in town and showed concern for the officers.

He also thanked the County Prosecutor's Office assistance during the height of the gas line issues, as we ran short on personnel. He was offered help and there officers at the gas stations in black police vests from the Prosecutor's Office. When you have limited manpower and everyone is getting tired this was really

appreciated.

He gave a big thank you to the Administrator for all of his efforts during the storm. As he mentioned, the storm just started and we knew there would be issues with gasoline and we worked diligently for 1-1/2 days to get gas delivery. During the height of the storm getting food so that people would be fed, information which he got directly from Officer Hampton to keep our social networking open at a time when cellular service was down we were still able to get twitter and updates on the websites.

He reminded the Council that we still have to get a replacement for Ramon Cruz and hire Officer No. 17.

Mayor Arnowitz said we have to thank Peter Hard.

Chief Stalter said he will send him a letter of thanks.

Mayor Arnowitz thanked Chief Stalter who was working day and night during the storm.

Councilmember MacEwen thanked the Mayor and Council, Borough Employees for all their help. It has been a pleasure working with everyone. He stated that the everyone did a phenomenal job.

Councilmember Frank thanked OEM, Police Department, Fire Department, Ambulance and DPW for what they did during the storm. When you plan for a flood and the flood doesn't come, you end up with high winds and downed wires, it was amazing that we were able to do what we were able to do. He is impressed that vast majority of the residents understood that this was an unusual storm and knew it was not the Mayor, Council, DPW or Police to restore power. Everyone did the best they could to communicate that information to the public.

He congratulated and wished good luck to the new Council Members. He looked forward to find common ground and continue to do the right things for Hillsdale. He thanks Anthony DeRosa, John MacEwen and Frank Pizzella for their efforts as well.

He thanked those who came out to our Veterans Ceremony yesterday at Veterans Park at 11 A.M. We had about 25 veterans from WWII up to the Vietnam era, with 30 or 40 residents in attendance. Thank you Larry DeCaro who arranged for a rifle salute.

The American Legion sponsors Boy State/Girl State each year. It is a scholarship program where we send Juniors from local high schools down to a program that is held for the boys at Rider University and for the girls at Georgian Court. It is an excellent program where the students form governments and pass laws. It is a complete structure that they create for a state. It is a tremendous item for people who apply to college, a great resume item. If anyone is interested, they should contact their guidance Counselor at the high schools, it is a week long program.

He thanked our Administrator and Chris Statile for getting us the \$193,000 grant to resurface our roads. The Lieutenant Governor was here two weeks ago and mentioned that we were one of 25 entities that received the grant. There were over 100 applications; she said it was the quality of our application

that came in that helped select us. They were much needed funds to help us continue to improve our infrastructure. The Administrator reached out to Holly Schepisi and Gerry Cardinale to help push this through the state to get this much needed grant.

Administrator DeJoseph said there is no match of funds from the Borough for this grant.

Councilmember Giancarlo thanked the vets at this appropriate time of year. This area is full of history right back to the Revolution and Washington retreating through the area. There are a lot of ways to remember past sacrifices.

He thanked OEM, Police, Fire, Ambulance and all the untold volunteers that made our town get through this past hurricane better than a lot of others.

The results are not finalized for the election but in all likelihood there will be changes. The town wants change and we need to respect that and work together and make the town a better town for it and incorporate any changes the town wants. We can put aside any differences and work for the betterment of Hillsdale. He looked at the history of Hillsdale elections and if you go back to 2007, 5 years, they did the same thing. If you go back to 2002, the same was done 5 years before that. The people who served were here all the time, they volunteered all of the time. He thanked them for the honor of serving with them.

Administrator DeJoseph congratulated the candidates. He thanked the Police Department, Police Reserves, Fire Department, Ambulance, OEM, DPW, Office Staff, Prosecutor's Office, our neighboring towns that stepped up, specifically Westwood and Old Tappan. Without the efforts of everybody, we couldn't have gotten through this storm.

Councilmember Hanlon thanked all our Department Heads and appreciated all the help they have provided.

Councilmember Pizzella said thanked the Fire Department, DPW, OEM, Police Department, Ambulance and all volunteers for their help during Hurricane Sandy and their efforts every day.

He said not everybody wins but that should not be the goal. It should not discourage anyone from getting involved. He thanked our Veterans and all men and women in our armed forces. He thanked everyone for their support; it was an honor working with the Mayor and Council, borough employees and volunteers. He invited the public to attend the meetings and stay focused.

Mayor Arnowitz congratulated the Administrator who completed the requirements to become QPA, Qualified Purchasing Agent. Of the four Administrators, he is the only one that has that certification.

He congratulated the new Council members. He served with a lot of Council members and the Council stepped up to the plate, not just during the storm but during the general process. You will all be missed.

With regard to Sandy, you never understand what the emergency services, Police, Fire, OEM, Ambulance, DPW goes through during

an emergency. The way these people put themselves out to serve our community is absolutely amazing.

He was impressed with the Veteran's service. He thanked everyone and is thrilled that we got through this storm without serious injuries and especially without flooding.

We recently lost one of our Police Chiefs, Phil Varisco. He retired from the Police Department in 1987, and passed away in Florida.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn at 8:47 p.m. was made by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember Frank, and unanimously carried.

11-12-12

Susan Witkowski
Municipal Clerk

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

Susan Witkowski
Municipal Clerk