

Council Meeting
October 4, 2011

Minutes of a Council Meeting of the
Borough Council held at 7:30 P.M. on
Tuesday, October 4, 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 6th day of September 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 Frank, Giancarlo, Schiavone and
Weinstein. Also in attendance Borough Attorney Paul. Absent:
Councilmember Hanlon.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On motion by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember
Frank, and unanimously carried, the Minutes of the Council Meeting
of September 13, 2011, and Special Meeting of September 28, 2011,
were approved as presented.

PROCLAMATIONS: Pascack Mental Health Center Week
Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. SUFFOLK WIRELESS PROPOSAL TO LEASE GROUND SPACE FOR A TELECOMMUNICATION SITE.

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

Mayor Arnowitz recommended that we move forward on a permanent site that we discussed last year at the DPW and erect a tower in the same manner as we did behind the firehouse to accommodate all the companies that are requesting communication sites.

Councilmember Frank said he checked the web to get as much information as he could get on Suffolk Wireless but could not find anything. It appears that they are a third party because they are just finding locations for AT&T, TMobile, Verizon and Metro PCS. This is something that we can do on our own and suggested that we reach out to them but he did not think this would be viable for us.

Mayor Arnowitz described the tower that was put up by the firehouse. We went out for bid; the top bidder became the controlling party on the tower and they solicited the others. We established the rate, they built it, we took it over. If these people have clients that want to get onto the tower that is fine. He directed Councilmember DeJoseph to reach out to Suffolk Wireless to determine their intentions.

DISCUSSION:

1) Town Web Site Contents.

Councilmember Frank said there is not an update in his conversation with the Borough Clerk and deferred this to the October 11 Council meeting.

2) Pascack Valley Flood Issues (Max \$700).

Mayor Arnowitz said he received correspondence early in September from the Mayor in Westwood about a survey that he is doing in Westwood by Boswell Engineering and the cost was approximately \$7000. At the Mayor's meeting in September, the Mayor of Oradell felt that the entire 10 towns that are part of Pascack Valley should help pay for this survey. She made a motion and they agreed to pay up to \$700 per town, for a total of \$7000 to pay for the study. On top of that Mayor Birkner is asking us to have their Borough Engineer check the work that Boswell is doing. He did not understand why one engineer has to check another engineer.

Councilmember Frank did not know what the net result of the study

is going to be.

Mayor Arnowitz said Boswell is going to be reviewing past studies done by the Corps of Engineers done on the Woodcliff Lake dam. Old Tappan committed to it but it doesn't include the dam that affects River Vale and Old Tappan on the Old Tappan reservoir. They are existing reports, they are not doing any other geological surveys but reviewing past reports and past procedures as to what United Water is presently doing at the Woodcliff Lake dam.

Councilmember Frank would like to see what kind of write up they are asking Boswell Engineering to do. He would like to see that before we contribute.

Mayor Arnowitz will hold off until the next meeting or the November meeting. He will see everyone at the next Mayors meeting and a discussion will be held. Boswell has been hired already and doing the report. Westwood did not ask for any money, it was the Mayor of Oradell who suggested that we should pay also.

Mayor Arnowitz attended the first meeting of the Bergen County Flood Coalition. We are fortunate because we have two representatives that are on that committee; one from Westwood and Mayor Arnowitz. The charter for this group which will be more defined at the October meeting is to look at overall flooding in the County of Bergen; funding both federal and state and the feeling that everyone who attended the meeting that we were not getting our fair share compared to Morris and Passaic Counties. What can be done about flooding? It is not looking at United Water per se but the overall flooding. This is not a public meeting but the public is invited to any meeting that anyone wants to go to, it is held at the County the third Monday of every month. We are going to meet with either Rothman and Garrett or their representatives; they have already reached out to Menendez and Lautenberg and they will eventually send a representative and most likely take place in the November time frame. At that time we will be able to ask for their support with the EPA and BPU. We have to get these people on board.

He heard recently that United Water is looking for a rate increase and it is a perfect time for them not to have to discuss anything other than the nasty nature of the BPU. He will update everyone monthly as he attends these meetings and we will go from there.

3) Waste Management Host Agreement Issue.

Mayor Arnowitz said Councilmember DeJoseph researched this. We have to start renegotiating the Host Agreement. He wrote the original Host Agreement and it included all trash picked up in the Borough of Hillsdale with free tipping. The new Host Agreement

Agreement that was signed has a tonnage limit and all the waste that we picked up at the flood zone with all the dumpsters he had no problem paying for the dumpsters. He felt Waste Management should pick up the cost of the trash as per our Host Agreement, but they don't. We will be billed for that. We have to be certain we submit a bill to FEMA.

Councilmember DeJoseph asked where we stand to date on tonnage.

Mayor Arnowitz said we are on track for the 5,000 + tons we normally pick up.

Councilmember DeJoseph said we should be close to the number because our recycling is up.

DPW Superintendent Durie said we needed to extract that monney from the Host Community Agreement, not that we wouldn't have to pay for it, but we would have to resubmit to FEMA at the time. If we exceed that tonnage amount, then we would be allowed to go to FEMA and recoup some of that money. We would be billed separately for the overage because this was declared an emergency. We would take that money and submit it to FEMA. At the end of the year if we are over our total tonnage we have to pay and back track; if we are billed now, we won't have to back track. Two hundred dumpsters are included yearly in our contract; if we exceed that then we will be billed. We need to do this now because back tracking with FEMA is not possible or shouldn't happen. We should have the opportunity to earmark that separately as flood material. We will submit the bills to FEMA application with all the other losses.

4) Hazard Mitigation Project Application.

Councilmember DeJoseph said the DPW has been flooded this year four times. The Borough Engineer came up with Hazard Mitigation money from FEMA possibly for the DPW. We are planning to provide a Letter of Intent from the Borough for approximately three million dollars.

Borough Engineer Statile said the Hazard Mitigation is an annual program that FEMA has and in June they open the program and you make applications. After there is a disaster, they open the application process immediately and you can file, it is for preventative measures. The program has 10 to 20 million dollars nationally; the state police screen the Letter of Intent, they accept the application as merit, put out a full blown application with a cost analysis as well. If there is a disaster sometimes, the federal government will fund these projects. He suggested that it is about time we put in an application. When the county put together the Hazard Mitigation plan years ago, it helps get money. The first step is a Letter of Intent that goes to FEMA. His office

will put the letter together.

GENERAL PUBLIC HEARING:

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

Michael Brinzey, 33 Highland Avenue -

He did not believe the Westwood Engineer can try take in all the aspects of flood control in the Pascack Valley without the full assistance of each municipal engineer working in conjunction with him because local engineers know what the problems are in the community.

Thomas Kelley, 41 Sycamore Avenue -

Residents in Hillsdale and Westwood started a group called the Hillsdale/Westwood Flood Solution Group. This group is about finding a solution for flooding in both towns and will be beneficial to residents and both boroughs as well. We will be asking for help and they are in full support of this study by Westwood and asked that you revisit this tonight and think again about supporting it. This study is ongoing, is low cost, and the borough will be involved in what is going on. The intent is for an understanding how to attack the problem.

Roberto Pettingi, 41 Beechwood Drive -

He asked about the information that the engineers were going to use and asked if the information would come from United Water. He asked if meetings could be coordinated in such a way that members could meet with the Council together without conflicting Council meeting dates.

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

Go Round

DPW Superintendent Durie said the stop sign at Beech and Maple is covered by a tree and will clear it. When the Council decides to adopt the sign ordinance there are many things that will cause issues for the Mayor and Council. The enforcement team will go out and take one step at a time unless we should take baby steps. His idea was to start at the beginning of the Hillsdale/Westwood border line and work our way up north or south and down. The neon and different things in the ordinance are going to become explosive when we tell merchants they can't have them anymore because grandfathering is not allowed. Some of the neon has been up for 25 to 30 years. He is alerting the Council that there will be problems and we don't want to be too aggressive, take one step at a time, but it will be difficult.

We will document every issue, take pictures, start dialogue, oral, written, warning, summons and court appearance. The Council will determine how aggressive we should proceed once this is adopted. It will be a challenge.

The road preconstruction will be held on Wednesday. The contractor will proceed quickly which will be beneficial to Hillsdale.

ORDINANCES:

<p>Ord. No. 11-15 (Adoption) Capital Bond To Finance Swim Club Addition to Main Building</p>	<p>At the Mayor's request, the Borough Clerk read by title only proposed Ordinance No. 11-15 as follows:</p> <p>CAPITAL ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF HILLSDALE, AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ADDITION TO THE MAIN ADMINISTRATION BUILDING AT THE STONYBROOK SWIM CLUB IN, BY AND FOR THE SWIM POOL UTILITY OF THE BOROUGH, APPROPRIATING THEREFOR THE SUM OF \$285,000 AND PROVIDING THAT SUCH SUM SO APPROPRIATED SHALL BE RAISED FROM SWIM POOL UTILITY CAPITAL SURPLUS.</p>
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The Borough Clerk confirmed to the Mayor that copies of the ordinance have been posted in the Municipal Building and if any written objections to the ordinance had been received.

Borough Clerk Sandt said one objection was received from Carlin Kingston who is opposed to spending money for an expanded office at Stonybrook which is used half a year. The money should be used to expand the parking area.

Mayor Arnowitz received a written objection and a phone call from Alfred Murphy with the same objection.

Mayor Arnowitz then opened the public hearing on the proposed ordinance and asked if anyone in the audience cared to discuss it. Seeing no one, the public hearing was closed.

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

A motion to adopt the ordinance was made by Councilmember Weinstein, seconded by Councilmember Schiavone.

Mayor Arnowitz said none of the Borough Engineer's concerns have been addressed to date.

Councilmember Weinstein said a contract will not be signed until it has the approval of the Borough Engineer. The Borough Attorney also needs to be involved with the final contract.

Following is the result of the roll call vote on the foregoing Ordinance No. 11-15:

Ayes: Councilmembers DeJoseph, Frank, Schiavone and
Weinstein

Nays: Giancarlo

Absent: Councilmember Hanlon

(SEE COPY OF THE AFORESAID ORIGINAL RESOLUTION AFFIXED HERETO)

COMMENTARY

Mayor Arnowitz said he wrote a letter that the Borough Engineer helped to draft to the county on speed limits on Hillsdale Avenue. He has never received a reply and he asked that the Engineer follow up.

He asked the status of the Patterson Street bridge.

Borough Engineer Statile said we are into designing the project. Construction could begin next summer; they mobilize and begin in the summer months. Bergen County has a long process; they advertise for a month and a half, meetings are only scheduled once a month, and it is slower.

Mayor Arnowitz said he quoted the engineer that we included the two culvers, one on Oak and one on Hillsdale in the FEMA application.

Councilmember Giancarlo asked where we stand on the solar panels.

Mayor Arnowitz said he takes no answer as a positive and as far as he is concerned, no solar panels will go up in front of people's homes and no solar panels will be going up in the commercial area but will be going up in the industrial zone.

Councilmember Giancarlo spoke to the Engineer about potential bike racks, we would need to know about putting them downtown.

Engineer Statile said bike racks occupy space you would need a six foot length and concerned about obstructing sidewalks. You would probably consider Central Avenue intersection, possibly a parking space with a plateau for the bike racks. Cyclists don't like to leave their bikes too far from where they are going.

Mayor Arnowitz said a resident came to the Council meeting asking

about recognition of 911. His thought was a tree or bench outside with a stone. A resident or two from Hillsdale did perish and he would like to recognize everyone. He considered Veterans Park as we have a grant for putting up a flag pole and there is still some remaining money. He asked the Engineer to provide an idea of how we can accomplish what we want to do. We have until July 2012 to get this done.

Regarding lighting to light up the parking lot downtown, Councilmember DeJoseph said Bill Franklin is looking into this. We need an electrical contractor for this project. Can we provide temporary lighting as Councilmember Schiavone is concerned about the hazards. We are charging people to park there and it is a hazard now.

Mayor Arnowitz said we could put up a temporary light as we had at Stonybrook soccer field that lights up the parking lot. Someone would have to start it every evening and turn it off. Lighting is coming from the train station, however, it is dark there. He asked that this be done as quickly as the law provides.

Councilmember DeJoseph said it is about \$200,000 and an adjustor is not coming out, so basically we need quotes from contractors to get reimbursed from JIF. JIF's meeting is the 20th of the month so if we get the paper work very quickly, we can get on it.

Mayor Arnowitz suggested that we speak with the CFO and tell her we want to accomplish this now. The cost of a pole light is not a lot and this is an emergency. We need a commitment; if not, perhaps our borough electrician could put up some sort of light on the pole at the RR station.

Mayor Arnowitz said he would like additional maple syrup trees so that we could get back into the tapping program.

Borough Engineer Statile said that the Council could consider having a Flood Commission. Many years ago Boundbrook and other towns got hammered with some big storms. They all got together and formed a Flood Commission. He will provide a link to the web site and check out their meetings; this is getting to be a big thing. It is an autonomous commission for the region. It could take time to do but you can start the discussion.

Councilmember DeJoseph asked about the Resolution endorsing CD projects for AAH of Bergen County.

Borough Clerk Sandt said AAH has been asking us to support their seeking out CD funds using Hillsdale as a backup. We have been endorsing this resolution for at least four or five years, it is an annual request.

ORDINANCES:

Ord. No. 11-17 At the Mayor's request, the Borough
 (Adoption) Clerk read by title only proposed Ordinance
 Amending No. 11-17 as follows:
 Chapter 310,
 Signs

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING
 CHAPTER 310 ENTITLED "LAND USE LEGISLATION",
 SECTION 310-4 "DEFINITIONS", AND ARTICLE XV
 "SIGNS."

The Borough 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. 11-17.

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

Following is the result of the roll call vote on the foregoing Ordinance No. 11-17:

Ayes: Councilmembers Frank, Schiavone and Weinstein

Nays: Councilmember DeJoseph and Giancarlo

Absent: Councilmember Hanlon

(SEE COPY OF THE AFORESAID ORIGINAL RESOLUTION AFFIXED HERETO)

Ord. No. 11-18 At the Mayor's request, the Borough
 (Adoption) Clerk read by title only proposed Ordinance
 To Amend No. 11-18 as follows:
 Chapter 138
 Fees

TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 138, FEES
 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HILLSDALE.

The Borough 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. 11-18.

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

Following is the result of the roll call vote on the foregoing Ordinance No. 11-18:

Ayes: Councilmembers DeJoseph, Frank, Giancarlo, Schiavone
And Weinstein

Nays: None

Absent: Councilmember Hanlon

(SEE COPY OF THE AFORESAID ORIGINAL RESOLUTION AFFIXED HERETO)

<p>Ord. No. 11-19 (Adoption) Amend Chapter 12 And Chapter 305</p>	<p>At the Mayor's request, the Borough Clerk read by title only proposed Ordinance No. 11-19 as follows: AMENDING CHAPTER 12, CONTRACTS, PUBLIC PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND CHAPTER 305, CONTRIBUTION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS OF THE CODE BOOK OF THE BOROUGH OF HILLSDALE</p>
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The Borough 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. 11-19.

Following is the result of the roll call vote on the foregoing Ordinance No. 11-19:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Councilmember Hanlon

(SEE COPY OF THE AFORESAID ORIGINAL RESOLUTION AFFIXED HERETO)

RESOLUTIONS: (Consent Agenda)

Mayor Arnowitz read the Consent Agenda of Resolutions.

11065 Authorizing Settlement of a Tax Appeal at Ruchman Avenue, Block 2201, Lot 26, was introduced by Councilmember DeJoseph, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

11137 Authorize Refund of Tax Payment, Block 801, Lot 8, was introduced by Councilmember DeJoseph, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

11138 Memorandum of Understanding Agreement was introduced by Councilmember DeJoseph, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

11139 Authorizing and Application for the Municipal Alliance Grant for 2012 was introduced by Councilmember DeJoseph, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

11140 Endorsing Community Development Projects for AAH of Bergen County was introduced by Councilmember DeJoseph, seconded by Councilmember Schiavone.

11141 Authorize Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate for Block 708, Lot 8, was introduced by Councilmember DeJoseph, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

11142 Approval to Submit Grant Application with NJDOT for Reconstruction of Central Ave. & Cross Street was introduced by Councilmember DeJoseph, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

11143 Approval to Submit Grant Application with NJDOT for Reconstruction of Baylor & Kent Road was introduced by Councilmember DeJoseph, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

11144 Approval to Submit Grant Application with NJDOT for Bikeway Project was introduced by Councilmember DeJoseph, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

11145 Approval to Submit Grant Application with NJDOT for Intersection Safety Improvements was introduced by Councilmember DeJoseph, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

11146 Authorize Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate for Block 905, Lot 13, was introduced by Councilmember DeJoseph, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

Councilmember Giancarlo wished to discuss 11140 Endorsing Community Development Projects for AAH of Bergen County.

Councilmember DeJoseph asked about 11139 Municipal Alliance Grant for 2012.

Mayor Arnowitz said this is an annual grant that Sergeant Scordato has handled in the past. He is looking for someone to take over his duties. The funding is used for the DARE Program, Pascack

Valley Coalition. Part of it can pay a small stipend for the person administering the project.

Police Chief Stalter said the Sergeant plans to retire next year. It is not a police officer administrative grant, it is supposed to be someone in the community doing this. They are looking to pool the grants Valley-wide and get one administrator who would be paid out of that. It is still up in the air. We took it over so that we wouldn't lose it and Peter Hard, as Juvenile Officer, took it over, then Sergeant Scordato took it over.

Motion to approve the foregoing Resolutions on the Consent Agenda with the exception of 11140 was made by Councilmember DeJoseph, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

Roll Call Vote on foregoing Consent Agenda of Resolutions:

Ayes: Councilmembers DeJoseph, Frank, Giancarlo, Schiavone
And Weinstein

Nays: None

Absent: Councilmember Hanlon

11140 Endorsing Community Development Projects for AAH of Bergen County.

Motion to approve Resolution 11140 was made by Councilmember DeJoseph, seconded by Councilmember Schiavone.

Roll Call Vote on Resolution 11140:

Ayes: Councilmembers DeJoseph, Frank, Schiavone and Weinstein

Nays: None

Abstain: Councilmember Giancarlo

Absent: Councilmember Hanlon

(SEE COPIES OF THE AFORESAID ORIGINAL RESOLUTIONS AFFIXED HERETO)

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Department report for the month of August 2011.

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

Board of Health report for the month of September 2011.

Motion to receive and file was made by Mayor Arnowitz, seconded by Councilmember Schiavone, and unanimously carried.

(SEE COPIES OF THE AFORESAID ORIGINAL REPORTS AFFIXED HERETO)

COUNCIL COMMENTARY

Police Captain Niego said in effort to further our pedestrian safety program, Sergeant McLaughlin and he took a Pedestrian Decoy class in Wayne. The first part is an indoor part, the second outdoor but it was cancelled due to rain. We went to Toms River for the second part and cancelled due to rain. It is for people not stopping for pedestrians and we are hoping to go to the second part scheduled for the end of October.

We had extra men working on Monday for jay walking downtown by Park Avenue and there were 15 jaywalkers. Warnings were issued, no tickets, and when we do get training, we will be at the Library, downtown area, by George White on Hillsdale and Magnolia.

Mayor Arnowitz said he crossed Liberty and Hillsdale and noted there are no painted crosswalks there.

Captain Niego said it is a crosswalk even if it is not marked it is considered a crosswalk.

Councilmember Giancarlo said crossing guards have advised him that cars turn west on Hillsdale Avenue from Patterson Street, sight unseen. Has there been given any consideration to a time for right on red even if it is only for a few hours?

Police Chief Stalter spoke to the Borough Engineer about this, but traffic volumes were shy in the way it is recommended to do so and the pedestrian car accidents we have had there have been out of the school crossing times. We have discussed it, the engineer has not advised against it, he would not totally rule it out. It is a matter of amending the ordinance and seeing what transpires and if it becomes a traffic nightmare, it is something that can be removed. He will revisit this with the engineer and Traffic Department.

Captain Niego said Police Office Cruz has finished his field training, is doing well, and should be starting on his own October 21st. Brian McKeever is back and has started light duty Monday.

Councilmember Weinstein asked about the people who were given warnings for jaywalking.

Captain Niego said one person was rather difficult; many were students which were well behaved.

Police Chief Stalter said there was an article in the newspaper about car thefts. Hillsdale was omitted because we only had one

but as a simple reminder that cars stolen or robbed were left unlocked. He believed there is gang activity and moving out of the Newark/Essex area and coming north.

The police open house will be held along with the fire department and ambulance corps this Sunday from 11AM to 1PM. Hillsdale Avenue will be closed off in front of the firehouse and police headquarters. Everyone is welcome.

The Pascack Valley Police Chiefs have been meeting to discuss another possible solution with regard to shared services. The Committee has visited the Bergen County Police Department dispatch center in Mahwah and went to Central Dispatch in Ridgewood looking for a possible cost savings for dispatching. He would prefer to keep it in-house; if not financially possible, then we have to look elsewhere. The Chiefs have been looking at possibly doing a regional dispatch center here in the Pascack Valley. Last week we brought in representatives from the Department of Public Works, EMS and Fire Departments. It is preliminary, we have sought out the assistance of a professional dispatch center planner who put together the northwest dispatch center in Ridgewood. He was involved in the county dispatch center and has done other dispatch centers. To determine if it is feasible to go forward, we have come to the point where all the stakeholders, Westwood, Hillsdale, Washington Township, Emerson, River Vale and Old Tappan, and determine that dispatching will be outsourced, feel that this would serve our employees and residents best. We need funds to get a professional opinion to see if it is viable. Every chief will be approaching their Councils to see if \$500 could be authorized to pay the consultant to do a preliminary assessment as to what our potential cost would be. The Mayor of Old Tappan has offered their old police headquarters as a possible facility. He feels it will be an uphill battle to try to compete with two existing dispatch centers and one that has the entire county subsidizing it. We have to look everywhere and if we do outsource dispatching, we would be a stakeholder and part owner vs. customer, so there are things we would provide our residents that we would not get and that two facilities don't provide.

Mayor Arnowitz said we should look at all alternatives and this is another alternative. He did not believe \$500 is a huge expense to get some information and information might help us if we choose not to do that, to look at other facilities. It will show what our needs are.

Councilmember Giancarlo was in favor of looking into this.

Chief Stalter said if we were able to get the consultant then it would go to the Pascack Valley Mayors and do the presentation and see what the consultant determines. We would look at the changes

in-house and then make an informed decision based on dollar, services to the residents and our needs. He believed the study would take about a month.

Councilmember Frank will check with CFO Henderson and there is money in the police budget now and they want to reallocate it, it is o.k.

Councilmember DeJoseph said Community Development Grants this year, they are talking about making that facility their community center.

Chief Stalter said when this was discussed, Mayor Polce offered it. This is where we need a consultant to give us square footage regarding what we would need and go from there.

Councilmember Frank said the more alternatives we have to review to see if any of them work for Hillsdale is positive and was in favor of doing so.

Motion to approve \$500 was made by Councilmember Giancarlo, seconded by Councilmember Frank.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Frank, Giancarlo, Schiavone, Weinstein
And DeJoseph

Nays: None

Mayor Arnowitz said the Chief should keep the Council informed especially the Shared Services Committee because we are moving forward in researching, not making the decision, but there are a lot of numbers and questions about Mahwah or Ridgewood before we even get to the point where we are doing something.

Chief Stalter said we started a month ago and have been meeting every week. We need several meetings to see if it has the potential.

Councilmember Weinstein thanked the Council for approval of the Stonybrook bond ordinance.

The Chief's comments about police chiefs getting together to evaluate other alternatives for dispatch is great and shows initiative and is exactly the type of process we need to go through. It takes time to piece together different ideas, thoughts and alternatives. There might be another alternative with regard to keeping the function in-house that we are not prepared to discuss yet. From a financial perspective, we might have another way to keep costs down but maintain our 24/7 facility and keep

dispatch here.

Last meeting we discussed approving funding for a feasibility study for the court merger. That was an idea mentioned by the court administrator in Montvale, just as a suggestion. Councilmember DeJoseph had reached out to the person who had done the feasibility study. We discussed putting it on the agenda today to see what that person thought integration into the tri-boro system would entail and how it would work in Hillsdale.

Mayor Arnowitz asked if there was supposed to be a resolution tonight or under discussion tonight?

Councilmember Weinstein said we discussed it last time. My suggestion is we should put this on the meeting agenda for next week. Many of us had attended that meeting and unless the Council wants to do something different, we would want a resolution next week.

Councilmember DeJoseph said the cost was roughly \$4200. He is also working with the county on this to secure a grant for that study for tri-boro court. He will contact them in the next day or two and next week will know for sure if we get the funding.

Mayor Arnowitz said this should be addressed at the next meeting; a resolution or discussion.

Councilmember Frank said a resident remarked how loud the siren is and its frequency and duration. He met with the Fire Department and reviewed the current practice. Currently it is 6AM to 10PM that the siren would go off for fires. They felt comfortable moving it to 7AM to 9PM recognizing the first responders have pagers, getting text messages on their phones from the Police Department. They sent a letter to the Police Department making that change.

There was also a question about the pitch of the siren as well as the duration. It currently runs about a minute, they will be looked at, no decisions have been made.

The Fire Department Open House will be held on Sunday from 11AM to 1PM and the public is invited.

We received a notice from the county that the Department of Human Services is holding a caregivers conference on Saturday, October 15, from 8AM to 1PM in Hackensack. Resources are available for caregivers and he believed there was a number in our community.

We are working on the flagpole monument in town and tomorrow the granite base will be delivered and within the next few weeks, we

will get the flagpole for dedication on Veterans Day.

Councilmember DeJoseph said the recycling containers for downtown and the parks should be delivered this week, 15 units. They will be placed on Broadway near the stores as well as the park to confirm placement to make sure there are no traffic concerns or pedestrian concerns.

He said thoughts on the enforcement of the sign ordinance should be on the agenda next months.

He said there is funding available at the Bergen County Prosecutors for a study up to \$100,000 for capital upgrades. He was not certain that if any would be available for local shared services, possibly only if we go to the county for capital improvements.

He set up an appointment on the 17th or 18th if anyone was interested to look at the county dispatch.

Mayor Arnowitz has not received an answer to his concerns about the communications aspect as to how they are going to communicate with our emergency services and dispatch from Mahwah. He wants the ability that if the Chief needs public service he can get on the phone and get this, that or another thing. It takes too long to use a cell phone, we have had dead spots and how will those dead spots be taken care of. What expense will the borough incur on top of the dispatching costs to upgrade all of our equipment to accomplish the concerns he has. The Shared Services Group should meet with the Emergency Services, Police, Fire and Ambulance to discuss the concerns he brought up. Get the answers as he would strongly recommend the Council not make a decision on this until we have concrete answers as to what problems we can anticipate.

Councilmember DeJoseph said there are a couple of options; we can stay with what we have which is radio lines back and forth to Mahwah. Another option is to put a repeater in Hillsdale, Westwood, Washington Township in this area to cover the dead spots. Another option unrelated to that, Captain Lapinski would come down to speak with you the shared services or strictly police, fire and EMS, whatever the Mayor and Council prefers. He is more than willing to come and go over any concerns.

Mayor Arnowitz said the only person he heard from is the Chief and we need his assurances that what they are proposing works. The best option would be to have Captain Lapinski meet with the Chief and bring in fire, ambulance and OEM. We are not moving into dispatching overnight without a lot of questions being answered and it requires research.

He directed Councilmember Weinstein who is chair of Shared Services

to set up a meeting with the Chief.

Councilmember Schiavone said Bella Compania in Hillsdale was very generous with the last emergency they handled which was Hurricane Irene. They provided food for them at a good discount. Hillsdale Helping Hillsdale helped people who needed temporary housing and services they provide and are now looking for donations again. They would like to place a flyer at the borough asking for donations. A few sentences will be composed for the downtown sign. She will have something in the monthly newsletter in November.

Mayor Arnowitz said when he officiates at weddings, we get a monetary donation and that is given to the food pantry.

Councilmember Schiavone said Hillsdale Helping Hillsdale would like to put their giving tree in the borough hall earlier this year, late October. Food pantry is separate from this group but they do work together. Food can be donated on Monday at the Methodist Church.

Councilmember Giancarlo thanked Councilmember Frank for contacting the fire personnel for reducing the siren hours.

Mayor Arnowitz asked about the borough email service and reverse 9-1-1 as a means of notifying residents of various things going on in the borough. He wants a notice in the newsletter advising residents that we would add their name and email address to a list so that in the case of emergency or a change, an email can be sent to the residents. He also wanted to be sure we are getting the backup for the Oprah requests, that the server is backed up according to law.

Chief Stalter said there is no cost involved in the email portion of the Swift Reach. If that is the case, people could click on the web site, click on the link for Swift Reach and put their address in there and would be used for emergency notification and non-emergency. He will follow up.

Mayor Arnowitz said the Search Committee has been interviewing for the Administrator/CFO position and we will be getting it down to a manageable amount and turn it over to the Council so that everyone can meet a couple of candidates and then move forward. We have a number of contracts coming up and he is waiting for letters from the different unions. There was a notice that went out last week that My Hillsdale would be cancelled for October because they lacked a sponsor. On Monday he received a notice from Community Life that they did find a sponsor so October would be in and gave the Mayors a very short deadline to get in our monthly letter. He wanted to be certain there would be notification on the leaf

program.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion to go to Closed Session was made by Councilmember Weinstein, seconded by Councilmember Giancarlo, and unanimously carried.

OPEN SESSION

A motion to go to Open session was made by Councilmember Weinstein, seconded by Councilmember Giancarlo, and unanimously carried.

Councilmember DeJoseph said he has reimbursements from employees for Medicare for retirees. Some say it is in the contract and other in the BMED book. He called the Labor Attorney.

Mayor Arnowitz said it was his impression when we put the lifetime benefits into play, any individual who spent 25 years with the borough is entitled to lifetime benefits based on the benefits that were available to them at that time. At the time of Schramm, Mikulski or Rotar's benefits, there was zero co-payments, zero deductible. That is what we are paying because if they are on Medicare, we pick up the gap. If someone spent 25 years with the borough is entitled to health benefits and takes another job that offers health benefits, they just can't waive the health benefits, they have to take them and they are not eligible for our lifetime benefits. If you lost that job or whatever, you could then come back with us. The Council at that time did not have the problems we have now, it is something that should not have been done.

Councilmember Frank said it has been in the news with the Postal Service that part of their deficit is unfunded pension and health care liabilities. Has anyone ever calculated what our unfunded health care and pension liability is in this town. It might be a staggering number.

Mayor Arnowitz said every police officer is entitled to lifetime benefits if they spend 25 years. About 50% of the DPW employees are; management staff is and that is about it. That is the liability we have.

Councilmember Frank said people in the past have negotiated with unions and did not understand the potential liability they were giving the town.

Mayor Arnowitz said if retirees are working somewhere else, they should be taking those benefits and not the borough's.

Councilmember DeJoseph said the town pays health insurance for

retirees, that is not the question. The question is reimbursement for their Medicare. Hillsdale is currently reimbursing employees for Medicare.

Mayor Arnowitz said Labor Attorney Wiss should review this.

ADJOURNMENT

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

10-4-11

Robert P. Sandt, RMC
Borough Clerk

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

Robert P. Sandt, RMC
Borough Clerk