



Highlands Borough Mayor & Council Meeting Minutes
Community Center, 22 Snug Harbor Avenue, Highlands
February 2, 2022– Meeting Minutes

MEETING: Meeting came to order at 7:00 PM

MEETING STATEMENT: The following public meetings statement was read.

The notice requirements provided for in the Open Public Meetings Act have been satisfied. Notice of this meeting was properly given by transmission to the Asbury Park Press and the Two River Times and by posting at the Borough of Highlands Municipal Building and filing with the Borough Clerk all on January 1, 2022. Items listed on the agenda are subject to change.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Councilmember Cervantes, Councilmember Chelak, Councilmember Melnyk, Councilmember Olszewski, and Mayor Broullon were all Present.

Absent: None

Also in attendance were Acting Administrator Spencer Carpenter, Borough Attorney Andrew Ball, Esq., Municipal Engineer Bennett Matlack, Redevelopment Counsel Ms. Bhavini Doshi, Esq., Acting Borough Clerk Nancy Tran, and Deputy Clerk Heidi Brunt.

PROCLAMATIONS/CERTIFICATES – Mayor Broullon read the Proclamation in Memoriam of Mr. Anthony Bucco.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –January 25, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes

Motion: Mayor Broullon

Second: Olszewski

Ayes: Melnyk, Olszewski, Mayor Broullon

Abstain: Cervantes, Chelak

Absent: None

PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED ORDINANCES:

O-22-03 Ordinance Amending Schedule A of the Borough of Highlands Salary Ordinance –

Mayor opened to Council. No comments from Council. Mayor opened to public. No comments from public.

Motion: Mayor Broullon to close public hearing and to carry to adopt

Second: Melnyk

Ayes: Cervantes, Chelak, Melnyk, Olszewski, Mayor Broullon

Nays: None

Absent: None

Deputy Clerk Brunt stated motion carried to pass this ordinance on second and final reading.

O-22-04 Ordinance Designating Restricted Parking in Front of Residence Occupied by Person with Disabilities – Mayor opened to Council. No comments from Council. Mayor opened to public. No comments from public.

Motion: Mayor Broullon to close public hearing and to carry to adopt

Second: Chelak

Ayes: Cervantes, Chelak, Melnyk, Olszewski, Mayor Broullon

Nays: None

Absent: None

Deputy Clerk Brunt stated motion carried to pass this ordinance on second and final reading.

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RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION 22-058

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF PETITION TO THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highlands ("Highlands") currently educates its resident students in grades PK-6 at the Highlands Elementary School operated by the Highlands School District; and

WHEREAS, Highlands is a member of a limited purpose regional school district, Henry Hudson Regional High School District ("Henry Hudson"), whereby students residing in Highlands in grades 7-12 are educated in schools operated by Henry Hudson; and

WHEREAS, Highlands, the Borough of Atlantic Highlands ("Atlantic Highlands"), and the Borough of Sea Bright ("Sea Bright") wished to determine the viability and impact of a proposed school district reconfiguration whereby a new All-Purpose PK-12 Regional School District would be created with Highlands, Atlantic Highlands, and Sea Bright as constituent districts of this new district and which would educate all students residing in the three communities in grades PK-12;

WHEREAS, in an effort to explore this proposed school district reconfiguration, Highlands, Atlantic Highlands, and Sea Bright retained Porzio, Bromberg, & Newman, P.C., to facilitate a feasibility study that would be prepared by Statistical Forecasting, LLC, Porzio Compliance Services, LLC; James L. Kirtland, CPA, and David Corso; and

WHEREAS, in March 2020 Statistical Forecasting, LLC, Porzio Compliance Services, LLC; James L. Kirtland, CPA, and David Corso issued a report that analyzed the financial, demographic, and educational impact of creating a new All-Purpose PK-12 regional school district which would be responsible for educating students residing in Highlands, Atlantic Highlands, and Sea Bright; and

WHEREAS, in January 2022 Statistical Forecasting, LLC, Porzio Compliance Services, LLC; and Steven Cea issued an update to the March 2020 report that analyzed the financial, demographic, and educational impact of creating a new All-Purpose PK-12 regional school district which would be responsible for educating students residing in Highlands, Atlantic Highlands, and Sea Bright; and

WHEREAS, with regard to educational impact, the feasibility study concluded that the All-Purpose PK-12 Regional District "will present distinct advantages" for students from Highlands, Atlantic Highlands, and Sea Bright "as opposed to the status quo given the degree of cooperation, alignment and articulation possible through a unified district from PK-12 in areas of curriculum, instruction, student services, transitions, enrichment, athletics and clubs, governance and leadership;" and

WHEREAS, the feasibility study further concluded "that a new All-Purpose PK-12 Regional District consisting of Highlands, Atlantic Highlands and Sea Bright will have the best opportunity to put in place those characteristics of successful schools and will be best able to respond to demographic, educational, and fiscal challenges in the future" and that "[t]o the extent the Sea Bright students bring greater diversity to these schools, the proposal will have a positive educational impact on students from Highlands and Atlantic Highlands."

WHEREAS, with regard to the financial impact of the possible reconfiguration, the feasibility study concluded that "the increased financial resources that Sea Bright students will bring to the regional district provides the opportunity for greater investments in education resources, programs and services" while still providing long-term tax savings to Highlands and moving "to an arguably fairer and more equitable allocation of cost methodology" for all three communities; and

WHEREAS, the criteria established in Section 11(a) of P.L 2021, c.402 paragraphs (2) through (8) have been met as the Feasibility Study demonstrates that the approval of the application:

1. "is not foreseeably likely to increase or exacerbate the segregation of students by racial, socioeconomic, disability, or English Language Learner status..."
2. "consolidates school districts that are in close geographic proximity of each other...;"
3. "to the maximum extent practicable, reduces student seat time and transportation costs;"
4. "possesses the potential for improved efficiency and cost savings;"

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5. "possesses the potential to advance an enhanced learning environment for participating school districts;"
6. "coordinates curriculum across schools and grades throughout the proposed limited purpose or all purpose regional district; and"
7. "reflects a documented commitment from the affected boards of education to make good faith efforts to implement practices that promote efficiency and quality of education"; and

WHEREAS, as a result, the consultants who prepared the feasibility study recommended "that Highlands, Atlantic Highlands and Sea Bright Regional continue to pursue the creation of a new All-Purpose PK-12 Regional District as outlined in the proposed scenario;" and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, after due consideration, Highlands has determined that its students can receive an outstanding and fully aligned and articulated PK-12 education by forming a new All-Purpose PK-12 Regional School District with Atlantic Highlands and Sea Bright; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Highlands has determined that there exists good cause to pursue a referendum on the creation of a new PK-12 All Purpose Regional School District with Atlantic Highlands and Sea Bright so as to provide its voters with the ability to decide how their tax dollars are spent and how their children are educated; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Highlands seeks to have a referendum placed on the November 2022 ballot with regard to the creation of this new PK-12 All Purpose Regional School District, which, if it passes, would simultaneously dissolve Henry Hudson Regional, with approval from the Commissioner of Education pursuant to Section 11 of P.L. 2021, c.402 ; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Highlands authorizes special counsel, Porzio, Bromberg, & Newman, P.C., to prepare and submit a petition, pursuant to state law, to the Commissioner of Education seeking authorization to hold a referendum on the issue of the creation of a PK-12 All Purpose Regional School District with Highlands, Atlantic Highlands, Sea Bright and by which passage of such referendum will simultaneously dissolve the Henry Hudson Regional High School District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Highlands authorizes special counsel, Porzio, Bromberg, & Newman, P.C., to take any and all appropriate action to obtain the aforementioned authorization from the Commissioner of Education and to effectuate same.

Motion: Mayor Broullon

Second: Chelak

Ayes: Cervantes, Chelak, Olszewski, Mayor Broullon

Nays:

Abstain: Melnyk

Absent: None

Council President Olszewski read a statement prior to her vote.

RESOLUTION 22-059

RESOLUTION TO REFERRING THE PROPOSED REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT REDEVELOPMENT AREA TO THE LAND USE BOARD OF THE BOROUGH

WHEREAS, the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, *N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq.* (the "Redevelopment Law"), authorizes municipalities to determine whether certain parcels of land in the municipality constitute areas in need of redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, on June 2, 2021, by Resolution No. 21-126, and in accordance with the provisions of the Redevelopment Law, the Municipal Council (the "**Borough Council**") of the Borough of Highlands (the "**Borough**") authorized and directed the Land Use Board of the Borough (the "**Land Use Board**") to conduct a preliminary investigation to determine whether all or a portion of certain properties within the Borough, commonly referred to as the Central Business District/Bay Avenue Corridor and identified by block and lot on the tax map of the Borough listed in such Resolution (the "**Study Area**"), met the criteria in the Redevelopment Law for designation as a non-condemnation redevelopment area, within which the Borough may use all of the powers provided by the

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Redevelopment Law for use in a redevelopment area except the power of eminent domain, and to make a recommendation as to whether all or a portion of such Study Area should be designated as a non-condemnation redevelopment area; and

WHEREAS, the Land Use Board subsequently directed Phillips Preiss Grygiel Leheny Hughes LLC (the “**Planning Consultant**”) to conduct a preliminary investigation to determine whether all or a portion of the Study Area should be designated as a non-condemnation redevelopment area; and

WHEREAS, on July 8, 2021, the Land Use Board received a report setting forth the basis for the investigation and a map depicting the Study Area prepared by the Planning Consultant, entitled Area in Need of Redevelopment Study, Central Business District, Borough of Highlands, New Jersey, dated July 8, 2021 (the “**Report**”), evaluating whether all or a portion of the Study Area met the criteria to be designated as a non-condemnation redevelopment area; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Redevelopment Law, the Land Use Board caused a duly noticed public hearing to be held on August 5, 2021 (the “**Study Area Hearing**”), at which it reviewed the Report, heard testimony from Paul Grygiel, AICP, PP of the Planning Consultant, and conducted a public hearing during which members of the general public were given an opportunity to present their own evidence, cross-examine the Planning Consultant, and address questions to the Land Use Board and its representatives concerning the potential designation of the Study Area as a non-condemnation redevelopment area; and

WHEREAS, at the conclusion of the Study Area Hearing, after reviewing the Report and hearing all of the evidence, testimony from the public, and expert testimony, based on the reasons set forth in the Report and on the record, including the testimony of the Planning Consultant as to criterion “h” of N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-5 (“**Section 5**”) of the Redevelopment Law, the Land Use Board made recommendations to the Borough Council that the entire Study Area be designated as a non-condemnation redevelopment area pursuant to Section 5 of the Redevelopment Law, which recommendations and reasons for same were memorialized in Resolution No. 2021-21 duly adopted by the Land Use Board on October 7, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on October 20, 2021, by Resolution No. 21-199, the Borough Council accepted the Land Use Board’s recommendations set forth in Resolution No. 2021-21 and designated the entire Study Area as a non-condemnation redevelopment area pursuant to the Redevelopment Law (the “**Redevelopment Area**”) and authorized the Planning Consultant to prepare one or more redevelopment plans for the Redevelopment Area; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council desires to adopt a redevelopment plan for the Redevelopment Area; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Consultant, at the request of the Mayor and the Borough Council, prepared a draft redevelopment plan for the Redevelopment Area, entitled Central Business District Redevelopment Plan and dated November 24, 2021, which draft redevelopment plan was discussed at an informational meeting held by the Land Use Board on December 2, 2021; and

WHEREAS, comments were received on December 2, 2021 at such informational meeting from members of both the public and the Land Use Board; and

WHEREAS, thereafter, the Planning Consultant, at the request of the Mayor and the Borough Council, prepared a revised draft redevelopment plan for the Redevelopment Area, entitled Central Business District Redevelopment Plan and dated January 13, 2022 (the “**Redevelopment Plan**”), which Redevelopment Plan is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council desires to authorize and direct the Land Use Board to review the proposed Redevelopment Plan and issue a report concerning such Redevelopment Plan, such report to include an identification of any provision in the Redevelopment Plan which is inconsistent with the Borough’s Master Plan and recommendations concerning such inconsistencies and any other matters as the Land Use Board deems appropriate, all pursuant to Section 7 of the Redevelopment Law.

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NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highlands, in the County of Monmouth, New Jersey, as follows:

- Section 1.** The foregoing recitals are herein incorporated as if set forth in full.
- Section 2.** The Land Use Board is authorized and directed to review the Redevelopment Plan and to advise the Borough Council of its findings in connection therewith within 45 days after referral, in accordance with the Redevelopment Law at *N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-7(e)*.
- Section 3.** The Borough Clerk shall deliver a copy of both this Resolution and the Redevelopment Plan to the Land Use Board for review.
- Section 4.** A certified copy of this Resolution shall be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the office of the Borough Clerk.
- Section 5.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion: Olszewski
Second: Chelak
Ayes: Chelak, Melnyk, Olszewski
Nays:
Recuse: Cervantes, Mayor Broullon
Absent: None

RESOLUTION 22-060
RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBER OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION

WHEREAS, Borough Code §2-16 establishes the Environmental Advisory Commission; and

WHEREAS, vacancies exist within the Environmental Advisory Commission; and

WHEREAS, the governing body desires to fill these positions with the Environmental Advisory Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Borough of Highlands that the following persons shall be appointed to the Highlands Environmental Advisory Commission:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Expiration</u>
Member	Bob Zilinski	3 Year	12/31/2024

Motion: Chelak
Second: Mayor Broullon
Ayes: Cervantes, Chelak, Melnyk, Olszewski, Mayor Broullon
Nays:
Abstain: None
Absent: None

RESOLUTION 21-061
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH MOSQUITO CONTROL DIVISION TO CONDUCT AERIAL MOSQUITO CONTROL OPERATIONS WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS

WHEREAS, the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders, pursuant to N.J.S.A 26:9-27 et seq. has elected through its Mosquito Control Division to perform all acts necessary for the elimination of mosquito breeding areas and/or to exterminate mosquitoes within the county; and

WHEREAS, the County has instituted an Integrated Pest Management Program consisting of surveillance, water management, biological control, and chemical control to exterminate the mosquito population within the county of Monmouth; and

WHEREAS, prior to conducting aerial dispensing operations over a designated “congested area,” the County is required, pursuant to Federal Aviation Administration

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Regulation (FAR Par 137.51), to secure prior written approval from the governing body of the political subdivision over which the aircraft is to be operated; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highlands is designated as a “congested area” by the Federal Aviation Administration and the County has requested that this governing body consent to its proposed aerial dispensing operations.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved as follows:

- 1) The Governing Body hereby authorizes the County of Monmouth Mosquito Control Division or its agent to apply pesticides by aircraft for mosquito control in certain areas of the municipality designated by the County as being either larval mosquito habitat or areas harboring high populations of mosquitoes constituting either a nuisance, a health hazard, or both with the understanding that:
 - a. the County shall utilize pesticides, application equipment and aircraft that are approved for aerial applications by the applicable Federal (USEPA) and State (NJDEP) agencies, and
 - b. such operations will be performed in compliance with applicable Federal and State regulations, and
 - c. the County will notify the police department of each municipality over which aerial pesticide operations are planned prior to commencement of such operations.

Motion: Olszewski

Second: Mayor Broullon

Ayes: Cervantes, Chelak, Melnyk, Olszewski, Mayor Broullon

Nays: None

Absent: None

RESOLUTION 22-062

RESOLUTION CERTIFYING AND APPROVING 2020 LOSAP CONTRIBUTIONS

WHEREAS, the Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) has been implemented in accordance with Chapter 388 of the Laws of 1997 (*N.J.S.A 40A: 14-183 et seq.*), to reward members of the Highlands First Aid Squad for their loyal, diligent and devoted services to the residents of the Borough of Highlands; and,

WHEREAS, LOSAP shall provide for annual contributions, by the Borough of Highlands, to a deferred income account, for each eligible member that meets the criteria as outlined in Ordinance 04-09; and,

WHEREAS, the following First Aid and Fire Department members have met all criteria required to receive a LOSAP contribution in the amount set opposite their name.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Highlands, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, that the LOSAP annual contributions, from the Borough of Highlands, to a deferred income account for each volunteer member listed below, having met the criteria, be made in accordance with the plan established by the Borough of Highlands pursuant to P.L. 1997, c. 388.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be returned to each emergency service organization, where it shall be posted for no less than 30-days, as well as in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

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Department	Name	Points	Amount
First Aid Squad	Christian Castro	113.5	1,150.00
	Ed Cetron	142.5	1,150.00
	Neriko Doerr	146.5	1,150.00
	Bryan Foeri	130	1,150.00
	Billy Mount	141.5	1,150.00
	Marcie Mount	139.5	1,150.00
	Warren Terwilliger	147	1,150.00
	Nancy Tran	120	1,150.00
TOTAL First Aid Squad			\$9,200.00
Fire Department	Michael Armstrong	152	1,150.00
	Joseph Blewett Sr.	128	1,150.00
	Joseph M. Branin	102	1,150.00
	Joseph B. Branin	100	1,150.00
	Brian Burton	280	1,150.00
	William Caizza	260	1,150.00
	Edward Edelbach	181	1,150.00
	Wallace Hartsgrave	100	1,150.00
	Martin Hawley Sr.	167	1,150.00
	Matthew Kane	104	1,150.00
	Rebecca Kane Wells	124	1,150.00
	William Kane	299	1,150.00
	Peter Lynch	130	1,150.00
	Wayne Occipinto	103	1,150.00
	Kevin O'Donnell Sr.	125	1,150.00
	David Parker	200	1,150.00
	Charles Roemmele	144	1,150.00
	Thomas Snow	186	1,150.00
	Andrew Soyka	121	1,150.00
	Dennis Soyka	109	1,150.00
	Edward Sulkowski	147	1,150.00
	Ruldoph Trivett Sr.	209	1,150.00
	Ruldoph Trivett Jr.	172	1,150.00
	Ramon Vargas	151	1,150.00
	Charles Wells	176	1,150.00
	Kevin Branin	110	1,150.00
	Matthew Mezey	178	1,150.00
	Eugene Ventimiglia	104	1,150.00
	Paul Murphy	152	1,150.00
Total Fire Department			\$33,350.00

Motion: Olszewski
 Second: Melnyk
 Ayes: Cervantes, Chelak, Melnyk, Olszewski, Mayor Broullon
 Nays:
 Abstain: None
 Absent: None

RESOLUTION 22-063

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO PERFORM THE DUTIES OF BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR DURING HIS ABSENCE OR DISABILITY FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2022

WHEREAS, in the event of the absence or disability of the Borough Administrator, Michael Muscillo, it will be necessary for the Borough to designate a Borough employee to perform the duties of the Administrator during his absence or disability; and

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WHEREAS, the duties of the Administrator are set forth in Chapter 2, Section 6.5 of the Borough Code; and

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to appoint Spencer Carpenter, Superintendent of Public Works, to perform the duties of the Administrator during the Administrator's absence or disability, wherein the Superintendent of Public Works shall perform all the duties that are required of the Administrator, as set forth in Chapter 2, Section 6.5 of the Borough Code, during the Administrator's absence or disability, from the date of adoption of this Resolution through December 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Spencer Carpenter, Superintendent of Public Works, has agreed to accept this responsibility without any additional compensation for assuming these duties during the absence or disability of the Administrator.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Highlands, that Spencer Carpenter, Superintendent of Public Works, be and is hereby designated to perform the duties of Administrator, as set forth in Chapter 2, Section 6.5 of the Borough Code, during the absence or disability of Michael Muscillo, Borough Administrator, effective from the date of adoption of this Resolution through December 31, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to agreement of Spencer Carpenter, Superintendent of Public Works, he shall perform the duties of Administrator during his absence or disability without additional compensation.

Motion: Mayor Broullon
Second: Olszewski
Ayes: Cervantes, Chelak, Melnyk, Olszewski, Mayor Broullon
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

RESOLUTION 22-064
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

WHEREAS, certain numbered vouchers have been submitted to the Borough of Highlands for payment from a list, prepared and dated January 28, 2022, which totals as follows:

Current Fund	\$ 638,263.27
Sewer Account	\$ 8,228.07
Capital Fund	\$ 14,186.50
Trust-Other	\$ 9,751.75
Federal/State Grants	\$ 487.50
Total	\$ 670,917.09

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Highlands that the vouchers, totaling **\$670,917.09** be paid to the person[s] named, for the amounts set opposite their respective name[s], and endorsed and approved on said vouchers. An individual listing of all bills is posted on the borough website at www.highlandsborough.org and on file in the Municipal Clerk's office for reference.

Motion: Mayor Broullon
Second: Chelak
Ayes: Cervantes, Chelak, Melnyk, Olszewski, Mayor Broullon
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

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RESOLUTION 22-065

RESOLUTION APPOINTING DEPUTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATORS

Appointment with the approval of the Mayor

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. App.A:9-40.3, each municipal disaster control director shall appoint a deputy municipal disaster control director with the approval of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Directive No. 102 issued by the State Office of Emergency Management, each emergency management coordinator shall appoint one and may appoint more than one Deputy Emergency Management Coordinators with the approval of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the Borough's Emergency Management Coordinator has appointed Charles Wells, David Parker, William Caizza, and Patrick Mason, Jr. to serve as the Borough's Deputy Emergency Management Coordinators and the Mayor has approved the said appointments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Charles Wells, David Parker, William Caizza, and Patrick Mason, Jr. are hereby appointed to serve as the Deputy Emergency Management Coordinators for the Borough of Highlands for the aforesaid term which expires December 31, 2024.

Motion: Mayor Broullon

Second: Melnyk

Ayes: Cervantes, Chelak, Melnyk, Olszewski, Mayor Broullon

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

OTHER BUSINESS: None

REPORTS:

Mayor Broullon gave her January 2022 report covering Phase 2 Sanitary Sewer Improvement project, grant writing, COVID, Borough, flood mitigation, and new municipal building project updates. She also touched base on the skate park and talk with Monmouth Hills development.

Councilmember Melnyk reminded that the Mayor's report will be posted on the Borough website.

Mr. Matlack gave his Borough engineer report covering Phase 1 Sanitary Sewer Improvement project, various parks projects, construction on Barberie Ave., and Phase 2.

Mayor added update on Army Corps funding that was recently reported in local newspaper. She then opened public portion.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Chris Francy, 36 Fifth Street, asked for clarification on regionalization. Mayor Broullon answered that the Borough is asking to add the referendum for November. Mr. Francy then asked about the environment flood control and the bulkhead elevation recommendations. Mayor Broullon answered that the issue is currently in negotiations so details cannot be discussed at this time.

Irene Campbell, here on her own but is a member of the Highlands Board of Education, asked the Council to table decision on regionalization. Expressed disappointment of Council's decision and noted that Council should wait until Board of Education's own feasibility study comes out. Mayor Broullon replied that the resolution was permission to add referendum to November's ballot and that BOE study would be done in June for public's consideration prior to election.

Rachel Stockton, 34 Grand Tour, member of Board of Education, noted that she attends most of the BOE meetings and asked if any councilmembers attended BOE meeting to let them know about tonight's resolution. She also asked if Sea Bright and Atlantic Highlands have same referendum. Mayor Broullon responded that Sea Bright voted last year and will vote again later this year. Atlantic

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Highlands will be voting later this year. Ms. Stockton asked why Council didn't wait for BOE's feasibility study before voting. Mayor Broullon stated that she and Council President Olszewski made clear their intentions to move once legislation was approved. She then stated that the Borough has the option to withdraw the referendum from the ballot should they so choose.

Ken Braswell, 62 Gravelly Point, asked if the state was combining small districts. Mayor Broullon replied that the state is looking at municipalities with populations under 10,000. With regionalization decision, the town is hoping to shape its own future. Mr. Braswell expressed support for town making its own decision and thanked Council President Olszewski for her points for regionalization.

Barbara Domings, Bay Ave., thought that the Borough calendar that she got earlier was great. She then wanted to know how she can learn more about the sewer projects. Mayor Broullon noted that the difference between sanitary sewer and stormwater sewer projects. Ms. Domings then asked about the revised redevelopment plan and its height, setbacks, and coverage recommendations. Mayor Broullon replied that the plan is recommending adding 4 feet to current 36 feet. Ms. Bhavini Doshi, redevelopment counsel, explained redevelopment process. The Council will have 2 more meetings once the Land Use Board forwards its consistency report. Ms. Domings expressed her concern of tall buildings along Bay Ave.

Claudette D'Arrigo, 12 Seadrift, noted that people are telling her their preference for Zoom meetings even though she's no longer a council member. She's asking questions for people who cannot attend. She wanted to know about the confidential assistant position, the sign on Linden Ave., the Lions Club's bocce court donation, and the CFO's attendance. Mayor Broullon noted Mr. DeBlasio generally attends the first meeting of the month and was away at the reorganization meeting. She answered that there is no written agreement with the Lions Club and there is still talk with the engineer regarding the park. Councilmember Melnyk added that the Open Space Committee, which meets the last Wednesday of the month via Zoom, is open to the public to express any such concerns. Mayor Broullon noted that all Committee meetings are via Zoom. She then answered that she could not say when the sign on Linden would be finished as it's on private property. She then asked if Ms. Cafalo wanted to add anything for the public to hear.

Carla Cafalo, on behalf of the Highlands Business Partnership, spoke about the sign and the arrangement between HBP and the town.

Ms. D'Arrigo, added that the consolidation of the Board of Education conversation has started long before this Council Board. It was discussed when she was a council member in 2018. This has been a long process and the conversation has been around for 40 years.

With no one else, Mayor closed Public Portion. She then reported some upcoming town events.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Cancelled

ADJOURNMENT:

Offered by: Mayor Broullon

Seconded by: Olszewski

All in Favor.

None opposed.

Adjourned at 8:05pm

Approve: _____

Carolyn Broullon, Mayor

Attest: _____

Nancy Tran, Acting Borough Clerk