

Minutes of the July 26, 2022 Township Committee Meeting of the Township of Hillsborough, in the County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, held in the Municipal Complex at 7:30 PM on July 26, 2022.

CALL OF THE ROLL

Upon call of the roll, the following Committee members were recorded present: Mayor Shawn Lipani, Deputy Mayor Janine Erickson, Committeeman Robert Britting, and Committeeman Frank DelCore. Also in attendance were Township Administrator Anthony Ferrera, Township Clerk Pamela Borek and Township Attorney William Willard. Committeeman Doug Tomson was noted as absent.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

MAYOR STATES

Mayor Lipani advised that in accordance of section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, of the Public Laws of 1975 that notice of this meeting was made by the posting on the bulletin board at the Hillsborough Township Municipal Complex and notifying the officially designated newspapers that this meeting would take place at the Hillsborough Township Municipal Complex at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 26, 2022.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. MAY 24, 2022 EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Janine Erickson, seconded by Committeeman Robert Britting, the May 24, 2022 Executive Session Minutes were approved upon the call of the roll.

2. JULY 12, 2022 REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Janine Erickson, seconded by Committeeman Robert Britting, the July 12, 2022 Regular Session Minutes were approved upon the call of the roll. Committeeman Frank DelCore abstained.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE LIAISONS, AND RECEIPT OF REPORTS, PETITIONS OR COMMUNICATIONS

Committeeman Britting

Committeeman Britting announced that the Community Assistance Network (C.A.N) is holding a Back to School Supply Drive and donations can be dropped off at the Social Services Department between the hours of 9:00 am and 4:30 pm.

Committeeman Britting advised there will be a Back to School Covid 19 Vaccination Clinic for Ages 5 and up on Thursday, August 18th, 4 to 6 pm at the Hillsborough Municipal Building.

Committeeman Britting stated the Health Department will have well water testing in October and currently has free radon test kits available.

Committeeman Britting reported that the Annual Fishing Derby and Camp Out will take place on Friday, August 5th at Ann Van Middlesworth Park. Prizes will be awarded to the young people who catch the biggest fish and the derby starts at 5 pm. Camp Out activities will include dinner, a light breakfast, games, and a movie in the park.

Committeeman DelCore

Committeeman DelCore stated that local restaurants are encouraged to sign up for Hillsborough's Fifth Annual Restaurant Week, taking place from September 27th to October 2nd.

Committeeman DelCore reported that residents should have received their 3rd quarter estimated tax bill in the mail last week. While it is based on an estimated tax rate, this is the amount that is due on August 1st.

Deputy Mayor Erickson

Deputy Mayor Erickson advised that when a roadway has a pothole, or a sidewalk is uneven, the Township will temporarily repair the condition as soon as possible. However, with 530 lane miles of roadways and 115 miles of sidewalk to maintain, Public Works is doing all they can to assist every resident with their roadway and sidewalk repairs. If a roadway is not scheduled for full repaving, repairs can be completed by Public Works until a road is fully funded for repaving. The Engineering Department does not schedule maintenance repairs. The list of roads to be repaved will be released after the Yearly Capital Budget is approved by the Township Committee.

Deputy Mayor Erickson stated a pool requires a permit if it is capable of holding more than 24 inches of water. The Building Department has a Residential Swimming Pool Guide.

Deputy Mayor Erickson reported that Public Works is winding down the annual road striping program, which assures that the municipal roads are meeting Federal Highway Administration standards for traffic sign usage and road surface markings. DPW is working with the Police Department's Traffic Safety Bureau to keep the roads safe for travel while recognizing any future improvements.

Deputy Mayor Erickson stated that the Public Works Department participated in the Recreation Department's Touch a Truck program.

Deputy Mayor Erickson reminded Township residents to not leave their pets in cars unattended, especially during days with extreme heat.

Mayor Lipani

Mayor Lipani announced that the NJ Motor Vehicle Commission Mobile Units are coming to Hillsborough on July 27th and October 6th, 2022. Registration is required.

Mayor Lipani reported that the Somerset County Clerk Mobile Office will be at the Hillsborough Municipal Building on Saturday, August 6th.

Mayor Lipani invited all to attend the Purple Heart Ceremony on Sunday, August 7th at the Garden of Honor. The ceremony will begin at 9 am and light refreshments will be served.

Mayor Lipani advised that the Rotary Fair will be August 16th through the 20th.

Mayor Lipani stated the Flags for Heroes sponsored by the Rotary is returning. Details on sponsoring a flag can be found on the Rotary website.

PROCLAMATIONS / APPOINTMENTS

1. SOPHIA MURTAZIN- UKRAINE FUNDRAISER

WHEREAS, Sofia Murtazin, a third grader is fighting back against the Russian invasion of Ukraine in her own way; and

WHEREAS, Sofia Murtazin created handprint paintings in Ukrainian colors for sale utilizing the proceeds to purchase medical supplies, clothing, bulletproof vests, helmets, and even a couple of drones; and

WHEREAS, in three months, Sofia raised \$14,000 and worked with Ukrainian organizations to get the materials to Ukraine and delivered to the frontline; and

WHEREAS, Sofia Murtazin had the opportunity to visit Ukraine and her extended family in Lviv three years ago

and wants to help the army to protect her family and all the children still in Ukraine; and

WHEREAS, Sofia Murtazin serves as an example to the youth of Hillsborough Township through her compassion and community service, and we are very proud that she is a member of our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that we, the Mayor and Hillsborough Township Committee, further commend Sofia Murtazin for her selfless acts of giving to those affected by the war in Ukraine.

2. TARA O'BRIEN - GIRL SCOUT SERVICE AWARD

WHEREAS, Tara O'Brien, has been a member of the Hillsborough Girl Scout Service Unit for 8 years; and

WHEREAS, Tara O'Brien joined the Girl Scouts in the early 1980's and has been serving them ever since in both New Jersey and New Hampshire/Vermont; and

WHEREAS, Tara O'Brien's contributions include developing a strong Service Unit team, improving the website and social media presence, supporting efforts to establish a scholarship fund, and strengthening community relationships through volunteer efforts; and

WHEREAS, Tara O'Brien recently earned a place on Girl Scout Heart of New Jersey's Service Unit Best Practices Working Committee where she contributes to the improvement of tools and processes across all of GSHNJ's service units; and

WHEREAS, Tara O'Brien was awarded the Honor Pin. The Honor Pin recognizes an individual's exemplary service in support of delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, which has had a measurable impact in two or more geographic areas of service, allowing the Council to reach and surpass its mission-delivery goals for girls located in those areas; and

WHEREAS, Tara O'Brien serves as an example to the residents of Hillsborough Township through her compassion and community service, and we are very proud that she is a member of our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that we, the Mayor and Hillsborough Township Committee, congratulate Tara O'Brien for being awarded the Honor Pin and commend her for her continued service to the Girl Scout Heart of New Jersey's Service Unit.

3. HHS GIRLS TRACK & FIELD- SKYLAND CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS

WHEREAS, the 2022 Hillsborough High School Girls Track and Field Team had a very successful season because of their hard work and dedication; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 Hillsborough High School Girls Track and Field Team were the Central Jersey Group 4 State Champions, Skyland Conference Champions, Delaware Division Champions, Somerset County Champions, and the Somerset County Relay Champions; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 Hillsborough High School Girls Track and Field Team consisted of the following young athletes: Cassidy Beni, Akosua Boateng, Khadijah Colburn, Arianna Coords, Ayanna Coords, Claudia DeRasmo, Alexis Fox, Preeta Joshi, Gianna Lodato, Alexis Mathew, Megan McArthur, Divya Mudur, Jennifer Pedersen, Breanna Schechter, Sophia Stahl, Maria Szczecina, Elynna Volkova, Sarah Wnorowski, Elom Acolatse, Zoe Amofa, Lauren Barker, Chloe Bynes, Madeline Crouthamel, Ernestina Danquah, Danae Dewberry, Anna King, Kayla Lockburner, Sophie Mantegna, Skylar Marso, Anika Pande, Khushi Patel, Kirstin Radler, Simran Shah, Emily Shoenfelt, Lauren Smith, Siena Sowers, Sophia Stibitz, Peyton Weinberg, Phyllis Yeboah, Grace Zhang, Gunja Babaria, Celeen Burton, Anna Dao, Laina Denys, Liana Dudajek, Adrianna Fetaya, Jessica Galette, Ariel Griffith, Nicole Grodzki, Abigail Grouss, Ananya Kabbinaad, Ella Karolewski, Emma Kelner, Divya Kumari, Alexa LaMotta, Jessica Lew, Grace Liu, Jordyn Mastowski, Camryn McDermid, Mackenzie McLaughlin, Olivia Meredith, Emily Miller, Lisa O'Sullivan, Janvi Patel, Nyssa Patel, Juliana Ramirez, Sonia Ray, Michaela Ruffa, Sabrina Sardar, Natalie Schmitt, Emily Albert, Terissa Alex, Nitya Balasubramanian, Sanjana Bhatta, Lisa Bouchatta, Bridget Candon, Isheeta Chadha, Delia Erb-Wagner, Nora Jurczak, Rithanyaa Kumar, Shreya Kumar, Tricia Kwapong, Chloe Montgomery, Kushdeep Nijjer, Cira Palmera, Namita Parekh, Suhani Patel, Sinia Peavey, Mudra Puranik, Malana Radis, Nivedha Sundarajan, and Rayna Vos; and

WHEREAS, the team was led by Head Coach Rich Refi and Assistant Coaches Rocco Mazzagatti, Jason Rudich, Emily Shipley, and MaryBeth Delisi.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that we, the Mayor and the Hillsborough Township Committee, do hereby commend the Hillsborough High School Girls Track and Field Team, the coaches and parents, not only for

their successful season but for their hard work, dedication and commitment to the sport and to those principles of good sportsmanship, teamwork and academic achievement which the organization endorses.

PRESENTATIONS

1. TWIN OAKS LANDSCAPE DESIGN LLC - ROBERT JORGENSEN

Mayor Lipani asked to move on resolutions 1-3 at this time.

Consent #1 & #2

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Janine Erickson, seconded by Committeeman Robert Britting, to approve consents #1 and 2, was approved upon the call of the roll.

Township Administrator Anthony Ferrera welcomed Vanessa LaVoie to the Tax Assessors Office and congratulated Rafal Dabek on obtaining permanent status.

Deputy Mayor Erickson welcomed and congratulated the two employees respectively.

Committeeman DelCore welcomed and congratulated the two employees respectively.

Mayor Lipani stated he looked forward to working with them.

Maria Janucik, 720 E. Frech Ave, Manville asked if the Tax Assessor position was new or a replacement. Administrator Ferrera responded the new hire was filling a vacancy.

Stefania Olochwoszcz, 1229 River Road welcomed the new employees.

Consent #3

Upon a motion by Committeeman DelCore, seconded by Deputy Mayor Erickson, consent #3 was approved upon the call of the roll.

Mayor Lipani read the resolution into the record. Mayor Lipani stated the Township Committee is strongly opposed to the conditions upon breweries sought by the NJABC.

Committeeman DelCore stated this is another example of the incredible over reach by the state which will hurt small businesses and makes no sense.

Jeremy Lees, owner of Flounder Brewing Company thanked the committee for their support. He stated this proposed legislation will greatly affect his business and limit his ability to host local fundraisers and prohibit discounts he had previously given to veterans and members of the military.

Stefania Olochwoszcz, 1229 River Road read portions of an article into the record regarding the issue and stated that bars in NJ are threatened by the breweries.

NEW BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NEW BUSINESS AND MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Township Clerk Pamela Borek stated the following. The Township Committee welcomes input from the public. Please state your name and address and please spell your name for the record. You will be given one three minute

allotment for your comments. Please understand that this public forum is not structured as a question and answer session. Comments are to be addressed to the Mayor. Again, please keep your comments to three minutes. Thank you.

Mayor Lipani stated the following: Before we open public comment, I understand there might be some questions regarding the estimated third quarter tax bills that have recently been received. It is important to note that the tax assessment process is separate from the budgeting process. The Assessor, through the annual reassessment program, can assess property at 100% of the market value. The Hillsborough Tax Assessor is conservative, but due to the rising real estate market, the ratio of assessed value to market value is in the range of approximately 75-85%. I think we can all agree our market values have seen a significant increase, which again, is the driving force behind assessed values. More specifically regarding the estimated 3rd quarter bill you have recently received, do not take the difference in the third quarter billing and multiply it by 4 to get your annual tax amount to be paid. For example, 123 Maple Court had a 2021 value of \$558,400, a tax rate of \$.02348 and annual taxes billed of \$13,111.23. The 2022 value is \$601,500 with an estimated tax rate of \$.02324 and the 2022 estimated taxes are \$13,978.86. The estimated taxes are equal to the assessed value of \$601,500 multiplied by the estimated tax rate of \$.02324.

We will be further providing additional frequently asked questions on the Township website to further assist in understanding how this process works.

1. John Tutunijian, 150 Johanson Ave expressed concern over flash flooding and the inadequate storm drains. He requested a ditch be cleaned out sooner rather than later before the storm season begins.

Mayor Lipani responded they are waiting for approval from the NJDEP. He is hoping to get work done in September or October for the first phase.

2. Heather Boyce, 25 New Amwell Road expressed concerns over overflowing traffic and parked cars from the Roycefield Pool Club as well as people camped out on her front lawn waiting for fireworks. Ms. Boyce stated she believes the traffic creates a safety issue that is blocking safe travel on the surrounding streets.

3. Sean Glennon, 3 Van Ardsdale Drive expressed concerns over the lack of maintenance of the median on Van Ardsdale Drive.

Mayor Lipani asked Mr. Glennon to email Township Clerk Borek.

4. Maria Janucik, 720 E. Frech Ave, Manville asked about the liquor license bids, the Weston Canal landfill bid and the RWJ bid.

Township Attorney Willard stated no bids were received for the liquor license or the landfill. Administrator Ferrera stated RWJ sent back a revised bid with a charge of \$0 to the Township which was accepted.

5. Stefania Olochowszc, 1229 Millstone River Road provided information related to previous inquires and asked when the flood maps will get updated.

6. Meryl Bisberg, 4 Hickory Hill Road, reiterated Mr. Tutunijian's comments that there needs to be a better sense of urgency regarding mitigating the flooding issues.

Mayor Lipani and Committeeman DelCore stated a plan is in place and the town is going through the process and the money is set aside.

7. Anita Mente, 116 Nostrand Road expressed concerns over the budget and asked questions about the lot size of properties.

Mayor Lipani advised that single family home lot size requirements are different from requirements for affordable housing developments.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. 2022-12 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE 2022 MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK.

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget to 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriations and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2022 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee hereby determines that a 3.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$284,409.86 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as a cap exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, a majority of the full authorized membership of the Township Committee affirmatively concurring, that in the CY 2022 budget year, the final appropriations of the Township of Hillsborough shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$284,409.86 and that the CY 2022 municipal budget for the Township of Hillsborough be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

Upon a motion by Committeeman Frank DelCore, seconded by Committeeman Robert Britting, to open the public hearing on Ordinance 2022-12, the motion was unanimously approved upon the call of the roll.

Maria Janucik, 720 E. Frech Ave, Manville asked what the money was allotted for. Hillsborough Township Attorney Willard explained that every municipality adopts this type of ordinance to bank the percentage increase allowed in the budget each year in case it is needed.

Upon a motion by Committeeman Frank DelCore, seconded by Committeeman Robert Britting, to close the public hearing and adopt Ordinance 2022-12, the motion was approved upon the call of the roll.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW ORDINANCES

1. 2022-13 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SALARY ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSBOROUGH TO INCLUDE NEW POSITIONS AND SET SALARY RANGES. FURTHER CONSIDERATION AND A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 9, 2022.

WHEREAS, the following position and salary range needs to be added to the salary ordinance:

-Human Resources Director at a salary range of \$45,000/yr to \$95,000/yr

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the Township Salary Ordinance be amended to include the aforementioned positions and salary ranges with the appropriate sums being appropriated. This ordinance shall take effect upon final adoption and publication to law.

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Janine Erickson, seconded by Committeeman Robert Britting, to introduce Ordinance 2022-13, the motion was unanimously approved upon the call of the roll.

PRESENTATION OF THE 2022 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

1. PRESENTATION OF THE 2022 MUNICIPAL BUDGET - NANCY COSTA, CFO

CFO Nancy Costa presented the budget.

Mayor Lipani stated the following. Thank you Ms. Costa. Once again, I would like to thank our Finance Team, led by Finance Liaison Committeeman Frank DelCore, Administrator Ferrera and CFO Costa. This budget is a result of our team's continued fiscal responsibility regarding municipal operations. Balancing a budget of this magnitude is not an easy task. The level of services provided to our community is one of the reasons Hillsborough is a sought after place to live and raise a family. We pride ourselves on our continued fiscal responsibility and we remain committed to pay as you go debt plan which results in the Township maintaining a Double A bond rating. As I indicated during the introduction, the Township saw an increase in the total rateable value for 2022 of \$552 million, an 8.3% rateable increase, which therefore increases the tax base over which the tax levy is distributed and as a result the municipal tax rate continues to be reduced. Mayor Lipani specified that the municipal portion is 13.5 percent whereas the school budget is 66.5 percent.

Committeeman DelCore stated every year he always commends the team who works on the budget and he regularly participates in that process. He looks at the restraint in spending and sees that the total portion of the budget went up approximately \$150,000 from last year despite inflation and the tax rate is dropping. Committeeman DelCore stated the last few years the tax rate has dropped. He is very proud of the budget and has enjoyed working with everyone on the budget.

2. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE 2022 MUNICIPAL BUDGET TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-8, the Municipal Budget as advertised may be read by its title at the public hearing provided a complete copy of the approved budget, as advertised, is made available for public inspection in the free public library, if any, of the municipality and in the free county libraries or regional libraries located in the municipality and is made available to each person requesting the same at least one week prior to the date of the public hearing and during the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough hereby determines that the above conditions have been met.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the 2022 Municipal Budget shall be read by title only.

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Janine Erickson, seconded by Committeeman Frank DelCore, the Resolution Authorizing The 2022 Municipal Budget to be ready by Title only, was approved upon the call of the roll.

3. RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2022 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

WHEREAS, the 2021 Municipal Budget was introduced and approved by the Hillsborough Township Committee on June 14, 2022, at a regularly scheduled Township Committee meeting; and

WHEREAS, the public hearing on the 2022 Municipal Budget was held on July 26, 2022 at a regularly scheduled Township Committee meeting, at which said budget was read by title only.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the 2022 Hillsborough Municipal Budget totaling \$33,030,721.39 is hereby adopted and that all required documentation will be submitted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services through the FAST portal and a certified copy of the adopted budget will be forwarded to the Somerset County Board of Taxation.

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Janine Erickson, seconded by Committeeman Frank DelCore, the Resolution Adopting The 2022 Municipal Budget was approved upon the call of the roll.

1. Anita Mente, 116 Nostrand Road asked about details of the budget and specifically regarding the school budget. Mayor Lipani and Committeeman DelCore explained the Township Committee has no control over the school budget. The Township received \$13 million from the state that covers the budget not collected by the township from its residents. Mayor Lipani encouraged residents to attend Board of Education meetings to inquire as to the specifics of their budget.

2. Stefania Olochowszc, 1229 Millstone River Road thanked the committee for good government, stated it was insulting that older residents do not want to pay school taxes now that their children are out of the schools and stated the schools in Hillsborough are severely underfunded.

Mayor Lipani stated there is no rhyme or reason why Montgomery got additional school aid from the state when Hillsborough's aid got cut.

3. Meryl Bisberg, 4 Hickory Hill Road asked about the open space grant, a \$2 million line item, body cameras for the police, the Somerset Business Park revenue, the open space trust fund, and the bond principal. Mayor Lipani advised the grant is for a gazebo in a township park. Some of the \$2 million is being saved for a "rainy day", a grant provided all police officers with body cameras, a contract guarantees a minimum amount to be received by the Somerset County Business Park, it could be more, the budget shows payment made from the open space trust fund and the bonds are for roadwork projects primarily. The township always pays more than the minimum each month and has always paid before the 10 year end date.

4. Maria Janucik, 720 E. Frech Ave, Manville asked about the addition of Branchburg to the shared court services and the revenue received as well as inquiring about the bond anticipation note.

Mayor Lipani stated they are receiving more money from Branchburg than it will cost and CFO Costa explained the bond anticipation note.

5. Krystyna Wojtczuk, 928 Case Blvd expressed concerns and frustration over raised taxes and stated seniors should not have to pay school tax. Mayor Lipani explained it would be illegal to not charge seniors the school tax and asked if she had applied for the senior freeze on her taxes. Mayor Lipani further advised her of her right to appeal her property tax assessment.

6. Maria Janucik, 720 E. Frech Ave, Manville asked if the Tax Assessor could explain the reassessment program.

7. Debra Blaney, Hillsborough Tax Assessor stated the reassessment started in 2014 and occurs every year if approved by the Somerset County Tax Board and then by Trenton. Of the 13,000 residents that were reassessed the department has received only one tax appeal and that was due to their house being damaged by Ida.

8. Krystyna Wojtczuk, 928 Case Blvd reiterated that her taxes went up significantly and asked what she can do. Tax Assessor Blaney responded that she can file an appeal with the Somerset County Tax Board in February to May 1st but must show lower house sales than her assessed value in her area.

9. Maria Janucik, 720 E. Frech Ave, Manville asked how the value of the land on the property record card is calculated. Assessor Blaney stated she is a certified Assessor and uses various formulas and experience of over 30 years. Attorney Willard stated the separate land value has no significance.

CONSENT

1. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF VANESSA LAVOIE TO FILL A VACANCY IN THE POSITION OF FIELD INSPECTOR/ASSESSMENT CLERK IN THE TAX ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

WHEREAS, there exists a vacancy in the position of Field Inspector/Assessment Clerk within the Tax Assessor's Office; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor recommends the hiring of Vanessa Lavoie to fill the vacancy in the position of Field Inspector/Assessment Clerk within the Tax Assessor's Office, effective July 27, 2022, at an annual salary of \$35,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the recommendation of the Tax Assessor is hereby accepted and approved.

2. RESOLUTION GRANTING PERMANENT EMPLOYEE STATUS TO RAFAL DABEK AS PUBLIC WORKS WORKER 3

WHEREAS, Rafal Dabek was hired as full-time Public Works Worker 3 in the Department of Public Works on March 28, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Public Works certifies that Mr. Dabek has performed his duties and assignments in a capable and competent manner; and

WHEREAS, having qualified for regular employee status during the six-month probationary period, the Director of Public Works recommends that regular employee status be conferred upon Mr. Dabek effective June 28, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the recommendation of the Director of Public Works is hereby accepted and approved.

3. RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION OF NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL'S SPECIAL CONDITIONS ON LIMITED BREWERY LICENSEES

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control (NJABC) issued new special conditions on each limited brewery licensee (aka "craft brewery") in the state beginning Friday, July 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, under the license conditions, craft breweries are limited to holding 25 on-site activities open to the general public annually, as well as 52 private parties. Breweries can also attend 12 off-premises events, such as town, charitable, and holiday celebrations; and

WHEREAS, under these license conditions, craft breweries have restrictions on the types of television programming they can air in their tasting rooms, restricts what types of live or record music they can play or host, limits what food options they can make available to customers, bans the sale of coffee, and prohibits the sale of soft drinks and other non-alcoholic beverages not made onsite at the brewery; and

WHEREAS, according to the national Brewers Association, the one-hundred and forty-one craft breweries operating in New Jersey in calendar year 2021 contributed almost \$2 billion to the state's economy, creating over 11,000 jobs at an annual income of more than \$55,000 per employee; and

WHEREAS, Hillsborough Township is home to 1 craft brewery: Flounder Brewery Company located at 2 Clerico Lane, Building 4, Hillsborough, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, these new conditions will force these local, homegrown small businesses to rethink business models and closely consider which events they should participate in or host, which will reduce their profits and their opportunities to engage in their communities; and

WHEREAS, visiting these microbreweries is about each of their unique experiences, and these proprietors have found exciting ways to engage other local businesses, vendors and artists in their communities; and

WHEREAS, the Governor and State Legislature should work with breweries to develop smart and fair law revisions and regulations that will guide state regulators at the New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control on how to oversee the state's craft beer industry.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that (1) it strongly opposes the New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control's Special Conditions on Limited Brewery Licensees and requests the conditions be removed immediately; and (2) the Township Clerk forward copies of this Resolution to the elected officials of Somerset County, the leaders of the New Jersey Legislature and Governor Phil Murphy.

4. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF RECREATION PROGRAM FEES

WHEREAS, there are refunds due from Recreation program fees; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has received proof of such refunds being due and payable.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to refund said amounts as detailed below.

Izabela Oliwa	\$25.00
Hyeyun Kim	\$300.00
Maya Alexandrova	\$20.00
Riju Padiyara	\$110.00
Anupam Haldar	\$310.00
Manish Jain	\$100.00
Anupam Haldar	\$310.00
Rajeswari Rajamani	\$100.00
Larry Gerard	\$550.00
Erica Chaikin	\$1,033.00
Christina Fitzsimmons	\$818.00

Diana McGarry	\$160.00
Jothi Vairamuthu	\$110.00

5. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF CASH ESCROW IN THE AMOUNT OF \$150.00 TO BECKER FOR ROAD OPENING PERMIT NO. 2021-17

WHEREAS, a cash escrow in the amount of \$150.00 was posted for Road Opening Permit No. 2021-17; and

WHEREAS, the Assistant Township Engineer certifies all work has been satisfactorily completed; and

WHEREAS, the Assistant Township Engineer recommends the Township Committee authorize the release of the Cash Escrow in the amount of \$150.00 to Robyn and Andrew Becker for Road Opening Permit No. 2021-17.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the recommendation of the Assistant Township Engineer be and hereby is accepted and approved.

6. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENTS

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector indicates tax overpayments have been received as indicated below and recommends refunds be issued for such overpayments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to refund the amounts set forth below for tax overpayments.

Estate of Rosaria Bet	\$897.42
-----------------------	----------

7. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO HOLD AN ELECTRONIC TAX SALE OF UNPAID 2021 TAXES AND OTHER MUNICIPAL CHARGES THROUGH NJ TAX LIEN INVESTORS/REAL AUCTION.COM

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:5-19.1 authorizes electronic tax sales pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services; and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Division of Local Government Services has promulgated rules and regulations for electronic tax sales; and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Division of Local Government Services has approved NJ Tax Lien Investors/RealAuction.com to conduct electronic tax sales; and

WHEREAS, an electronic tax sale is innovative and provides a greater pool of potential lien buyers, thus creating the environment for a more complete tax sale process; and

WHEREAS, based on the recommendation of the Qualified Purchasing Agent and Tax Collector, the Township of Hillsborough wishes to hold an electronic tax sale for unpaid 2021 taxes and other municipal charges.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the Tax Collector is authorized to hold an electronic tax sale for unpaid 2021 taxes and other municipal charges through NJ Tax Lien Investors/Real Auction.com.

8. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSAL OF STREET SWEEPINGS AT THE AUTEN ROAD FACILITY BY DEER CARCASS REMOVAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Director of Public Works has requested authorization to arrange for the disposal of street sweepings at the Auten Road facility; and

WHEREAS, the services are available by Deer Carcass Removal Services through the Somerset County Cooperative Contract #CC-0067-22 at a cost not to exceed \$20,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Township is a member of the Somerset County Cooperative and as such is eligible to obtain these services through contracts awarded by them; and

WHEREAS, funds are available and have been certified as such by the Chief Finance Officer through account #2-01-26-775-025 in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that it hereby authorizes and approves the removal of street sweepings at the Auten Road facility by Deer Carcass Removal Services in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 through the Somerset County Cooperative Contract #CC-0067-22.

9. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF TOUCHLESS HAND DRYERS FROM A TO Z SUPPLY COMPANY

WHEREAS, the Director of Public Works has determined there is a need for touchless hand dryers for the public rest rooms in the Municipal Complex; and

WHEREAS, a solicitation for quotes was prepared and distributed for said products; and

WHEREAS, three (3) quotes were received as follows:

A to Z Supply Company	\$11,693.75
Franklin-Griffith	\$12,557.17
Cooper Electric	\$13,973.00

WHEREAS, the Director of Public Works and Qualified Purchasing Agent recommend the purchase be made from A to Z Supply Company in an amount not to exceed \$11,693.75; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer certifies there are sufficient funds in account #G-02-40-650-000 for this purchase.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that it authorizes the purchase of touchless hand dryers for public rest rooms in the Municipal Complex from A to Z Supply Company in an amount not to exceed \$11,693.75.

10. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CANCELLATION OF OUTSTANDING CHECKS

WHEREAS, there exist outstanding checks in the Township Accounts listed below that have not been cashed; and

WHEREAS, these outstanding checks are one year or older and the Chief Financial Officer recommends they be

cancelled.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to cancel the outstanding checks attached hereto and those listed below:

-Current Account – See attached list totaling \$104,148.05

-Recreation Trust – See attached list totaling \$13,500.22

Account	Check #	Amount
Capital	3230	\$1,374.04
Developer's Escrow	3562	\$280.97
Dog License	106	\$21.00
Dog License	1361	\$59.00
Dog License	1382	\$3.00
Lien Redemption	1697	\$414.83
Lien Redemption	1769	\$53.00
Misc. Trust	2938	\$12.00
Misc. Trust	3113	\$111.94
Misc. Trust	3234	\$93.45
Misc. Trust	3438	\$25.00
Misc. Trust	3549	\$25.00
Misc. Trust	3560	\$300.00
Misc. Trust	3884	\$2,400.00
Payroll Account	33346	\$165.30
Payroll Account	33367	\$181.25
Payroll Account	33765	\$54.78
Payroll Account	33919	\$415.62
Payroll Account	34260	\$88.99
Payroll Account	34513	\$144.62
Payroll Account	34658	\$229.82
Payroll Account	34813	\$143.35
Payroll Account	35015	\$63.23
Payroll Account	35078	\$165.31
Payroll Account	35200	\$90.34
Payroll Account	35226	\$682.75
Payroll Account	35331	\$163.84

11. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF EARNED AMOUNTS FROM THE SUBDIVISION AND SITE PLAN ENGINEERING TRUST ACCOUNTS TO THE TREASURER'S ACCOUNT

WHEREAS, the Assistant Township Engineer indicates inspections and engineering work have been completed for the indicated projects and recommends funds be transferred from the Engineering Inspection Escrow Accounts to the Treasurer's Account as set forth below; and

WHEREAS, each of the project line items have been verified against the Treasurer's Office account records to ensure that sufficient funds are available for these transfers of unanticipated revenues.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the funds set forth herein be transferred from the Engineering Escrow Accounts into the Treasurer's Account.

Name	ID	Balance
Amwell Terrace	Amwelltein	\$534.96
Country Classics 4A	Coucla4ain	\$173.10
Gateway Phase 7	Gateway6in	\$2,052.65
Green Village	Greenvilin	\$115.40
Hillsborough 206 Holdings	Hills206in	\$182.04
Hillsborough Business Campus	Hillsbusin	\$1,890.10
Hillsborough Crossings	Hilcrossin	\$115.40
Hillsborough Gardens	Hillsgarin	\$104.85
Hillsborough Village	Hillvillin	\$430.33
MAAC 18-PB-12	MAACdev2in	\$570.92
PSE&G 2020 Gas Project	PSEG2021in	\$3,461.67
Pat Richards, LLC	Patrichin	\$91.02
Pilgrim River 2021	Pilgrimin	\$1,222.08
Ramaswamy	ramaswamin	\$201.14
Rd opening 2021-53	Domanskain	\$162.55
Rd opening 2022-10	Kumarin	\$234.67
Sherman Tract	Shermanin	\$173.10
Grand Total		-\$11,715.98

12. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM PLANNING/BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT ESCROW ACCOUNTS TO THE TREASURER'S ACCOUNT

WHEREAS, the Township Planner indicates review work has been completed for the indicated projects and recommends funds be transferred from the Planning/Board of Adjustment Escrow Accounts to the Treasurer's Account as set forth below; and

WHEREAS, each of the project line items have been verified against the Treasurer's Office account records to ensure that sufficient funds are available for these transfers of unanticipated revenues.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the funds set forth herein be transferred from the Planning/Board of Adjustment Escrow Accounts into the Treasurer's Account.

Application Name	Application #	Escrow Name	Amount
44 Woods-Ken LLC (Brzyski)	21-PB-02-RES (Ref: 07-PB-29-MR)	44WOODSPL	\$107.32
856 Hillsborough LLC (Chafos)	BA-21-11	856HILLSPL	\$66.57
Carriage Farm LLC	BA-03-07 (2022 Ext)	CARRFARMPL	\$45.41
Harvard Way JM4 LLC (REDCOM - SAI)	21-PB-09-MSPV	HARVARDPL	\$509.77
Hillsborough 206 Holdings, LLC	18-PB-07-MSPV (2019 Amended Site Plan) (2022)	HILLS206PL	\$536.60

Homestead Road LLC	21-PB-25-MS/MSPV	HOMEROADPL	\$1,180.52
Kabra, Rakesh & Seema	BA-22-03	KABRAPL	\$18.78
KD Hillsborough, 441 Inc.	22-PB-02-SV	KDHILLSPL	\$482.94
McKeown, Timothy & Mary	BA-22-04	MCKEOWNPL	\$18.78
Nassau Dog Daycare	BA-21-01	TEISLERPL	\$75.15
Romano, Salvatore & Bernice	BA-21-16	ROMANOPB	\$18.78
Shah, Amit & Mona	BA-22-01	SHAHAMITPL	\$64.20

Total Transfer: \$3,124.82

13. RESOLUTION APPROVING A CARNIVAL LICENSE APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY HOWARD ROSENBLATT FOR AN EVENT TO BE HELD ON JULY 30, 2022, BENEFITTING NEW JERSEY VETERANS NETWORK

WHEREAS, an Application for a Carnival License has been filed by Howard Rosenblatt, owner of MegaBite Events, for an event to be held on July 30, 2022, benefitting New Jersey Veterans Network; and

WHEREAS, the submitted application is complete.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that it hereby approves the application for a Carnival License submitted by Howard Rosenblatt, owner of MegaBite Events, for an event to be held on July 30, 2022, for the New Jersey Veterans Network.

14. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR A SHARED MUNICIPAL COURT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSBOROUGH AND THE TOWNSHIP OF BRANCBURG

WHEREAS, the Township of Hillsborough and the Township of Branchburg are interested in entering into a shared services agreement for a Shared Municipal Court; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq., the “Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act” authorizes municipalities to enter into shared services agreements to provide or receive any service that each municipality participating in the agreement is empowered to provide or receive; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 2B:12-1.c allows for the establishment of Shared Municipal Courts and provides that: two or more municipalities, by ordinance or resolution, may agree to provide jointly for courtrooms, chambers, equipment, supplies, and employees for their municipal courts, and agree to appoint judges and administrators without establishing a joint municipal court. Where municipal courts share facilities in this manner, the identities of the individual courts shall continue to be expressed in the captions of orders and processes; and

WHEREAS, Hillsborough and Branchburg received approval from the Somerset County Superior Court Assignment Judge for a Shared Municipal Court pursuant to New Jersey Court Rule 1:33-4(a) which provides that "the Assignment Judge shall be the chief judicial officer within the vicinage and shall have plenary responsibility for the administration of all courts therein"; and

WHEREAS, Hillsborough desires to enter into the attached Shared Services Agreement for a Shared Municipal Court between the Township of Hillsborough and the Township of Branchburg.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, Somerset County, New Jersey, that: (1) the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the attached Shared Services Agreement for a Shared Municipal Court between the Township of Hillsborough and Township of Branchburg; (2) the Township Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this Resolution and the fully executed Shared Services Agreement to the Administrative Office of the Courts, 40 North Bridge Street, P.O. Box 3000, Somerville, New Jersey 08876.

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Janine Erickson, seconded by Committeeman Robert Britting, the consent agenda was unanimously approved upon the call of the roll.

Maria Janucik, 720 E. Frech Ave, Manville inquired as to consent #'s 8, 10, 11, and 14.
Mayor Lipani and CFO Costa provided explanations.

CLAIMS LIST

1. CLAIMS LIST 2022-12

Mayor Lipani asked to approve Claims List 2022-12.

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Janine Erickson, seconded by Committeeman Robert Britting, Claims List 2022-12, was approved upon the call of the roll.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Janine Erickson, seconded by Committeeman Robert Britting, the meeting duly adjourned at 10:29 pm. Said motion was unanimously carried upon voice vote.

Attested:



Pamela Borek
Township Clerk