



BOROUGH OF HADDON HEIGHTS COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, February 6, 2024, 7:00 pm

Mayor Houck called the meeting to Order at 7:00 pm. and then read the following statement:

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT:

“In accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, 1975, notice of this meeting was posted on the bulletin board designed for that purpose and notice was transmitted to the official newspapers provided by Resolution adopted January 6, 2024.” *Notice has also been posted on the Borough website.*

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Houck asked the Clerk for roll call.

Under roll call, Council President Morgan, Councilmembers Ottoson, Philipps, Russo and Pagan were present as well as Borough Solicitor Howard Long and Clerk Kelly Santosusso. Councilmember Harron was absent but excused.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Houck asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

Mayor Houck opened Public Comment on Caucus and Agenda items only.

Seeing no movement, Mayor Houck closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

CAUCUS WORK SESSION:

Animal Census

Clerk Santosusso advised Mayor and Council that our CFO has suggested the Borough conduct an animal census in the interest of public health and to increase animal licensing in the Borough which is required by state statute. Current education efforts a Free Rabies Clinic has not yielded the results we had hoped over the years. The Borough has engaged a new animal control company, New Jersey Animal Control who will conduct the census during the summer months. Uniformed animal control officers will go door to door, have I.D. as well as Borough issued I.D. Councilwoman Philipps inquired as to notification to residents. Santosusso responded that we will make notification in as many ways possible but definitely through the Borough website, the HEIGHTS REPORT, posting at the Library, Post Office, John's Friendly Market and at Borough Hall. We will also announce on Caucus Agendas as we approach the start date.

Election Polling Locations

Clerk Santosusso addressed Council regarding two Polling Districts 6 & 7 which are currently at Glenview School. She mentioned she proposed several changes to come out of the schools on the East side of town several years back but were challenged on the West side of a town with ADA accessible locations or

options. Santosusso said after consulting with the Mayor and John Schmidt of the Camden County County Clerk's office, she is proposing the following: Move District 3, currently in the Community Center to the Cabin (*directly across the street from the Community Center*) and moving Districts 6 & 7 currently in Glenview School to the Community Center. The two districts would fit comfortably in the Community Center. She advised that this proposal would need to be approved by representatives of the Board of Elections. She further noted a meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 22nd for the locations to be assessed. Should the proposal be accepted, the decision would then go to the Board of Elections who meet monthly to officially approve. Councilman Pagan inquired as to why the proposal was being made. Santosusso said primarily for school safety and noted that several years back there was a push from the Camden County Board of Elections to do all possible to relocate polling locations out of the schools. Solicitor Howard Long reiterated that the Board of Elections seems to be in favor of coming out of the schools completely.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the January 6, 2024 Reorganization Meeting.

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to adopt the Minutes of the January 16, 2024 Business Meeting. Motion was moved by Councilmember Pagan, seconded by Councilmember Philipps. All members present were in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the January 16, 2024 Business Meeting

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to adopt the Minutes of the January 16, 2024 Business Meeting. Motion was moved by Councilmember Pagan, seconded by Councilmember Ottoson. All members present were in favor.

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES of the January 16, 2024 Business Meeting

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to approve the Executive Session Minutes of the January 16, 2024 Business Meeting. Motion was moved by Councilmember Philipps, seconded by Councilmember Russo. All members present were in favor.

BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Steve Bach, 304 White Horse Pike – submitted written report but will highlight the following: He noted we recently had a couple of very good successful Engineering meeting where much progress has been made. He thanked Councilmembers Russo and Morgan.

Local Recreation Improvement Grant – applications are due February 27th. We will be discussing the application later this meeting.

We have been successful in receiving a NJDOT \$260,000.00 grant for the continuation of St. Martins & Bryn Mawr Avenue to Prospect Ridge Blvd.

Camden County Open Space Grant for girls major and minor softball fields. Recreation meeting will be held to discuss exactly what the improvements are over the next week or so.

Devon Avenue sodding project will be taken off of subsequent reports as it has been completed.

Received 76,000 grant for all accessible equipment for Hoff's Park. Working with state contractors to try and maximize the grant and make it attractive – working with state contractors to maximize the grant.

Kings Highway Paving Project. Design complete looking for spring bid and award. Utility work will be completed. Camden County is looking to award this spring. Council President Morgan asked how long roads might be shut down. Bach said detour plans have not yet been established. He expects there will be detours as there will be significant excavations.

NJDOT project for St. Martins – we are expecting a spring bid on this project.

Community Development Block Grant – we are working with CFO for 2021 grant. ADA accessible improvements seem to be limited to additional handicapped ramps as we do not have qualified census tracts. Mayor asked can we use the grant for paving the cabin lot. Bach responded, no, handicapped parking spaces would be all that could be paid for, for such a small amount of paving, it would not be a good application to the County. Our best application will be for handicapped ramps.

Pedestrian improvements at Station and Atlantics will be removed for subsequent reports as project is substantially complete. County will be finishing up road markings.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL ADOPTION of Ordinance 2024:1538 – An Ordinance of the Borough of Haddon Heights, County of Camden, Adopting A Redevelopment Plan for Certain Property Within the Borough of Haddon Heights That Has Been Designated an Area In Need of Redevelopment – *St. Mary's*

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to open the Public Hearing on Ordinance 2024:1538. Motion was moved by Councilmember Philipps, seconded by Councilmember Pagan. Seeing no movement or comment, motion to close the Public Hearing was made by Councilmember Pagan and seconded by Councilmember Ottoson. All members present were in favor.

Councilmember Russo asked for the process following adoption of the Redevelopment Plan.

Mayor updated Council - after the Borough's plan for the site for a potential developer would enter into a redevelopment agreement for the site. Contract will mirror the redevelopment plan. Mayor advised we can negotiate certain terms in the Agreement. Redevelopment Agreement is like negotiating a contract. They must enter into an agreement. Without that, they cannot take advantage of the existing zoning.

Discussion ensued amongst Mayor Houck, Solicitor Long and Councilmembers Russo and Morgan. Council President Morgan asked for further clarification. Mayor explained that the current Memorandum of Understanding simply says we are negotiating in good faith with the current developer. He said any developer can take advantage of this. Morgan asked if the Planning Board, Historic Preservation Commission are restricted from making any requirement of the developer. Mayor responded no but that this governing body approves the plan and then they go through all regular processes of Planning Board or HPC. Engineer Steve Bach offered further insight.

Mayor Houck asked for motion to adopt Ordinance 2024:1538. Motion was moved by Councilmember Philipps, seconded by Councilmember Pagan. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes with the exception of Councilmember Russo who abstained.

NEW BUSINESS:

INTRODUCTION of Ordinance 2024:1539 – An Ordinance Establishing a Sewer Department Within the Borough of Haddon Heights, County of Camden and State of New Jersey and Authorizing the Adoptions of Certain Connection Fees and Sewer Service Charges

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to Introduce Ordinance 2024:1539. Motion was moved by Councilmember Russo, seconded by Councilmember Pagan. All members present were in favor.

Public Hearing and Final Adoption of Ordinance 2024:1539 is scheduled for Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at approximately 7:00 pm in the Municipal Building located at 625 Station Avenue, Haddon Heights, New Jersey.

INTRODUCTION of BOND ORDINANCE 2024:1540 – BOND ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE INSTALLATION AND IMPROVEMENTS OF VARIOUS SIDEWALKS IN THE BOROUGH OF HADDON HEIGHTS, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$2,248,100 THEREFOR; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OR BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE BOROUGH OF HADDON HEIGHTS, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY, IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF UP TO \$2,135,695; MAKING CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS AND COVENANTS; AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN RELATED ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING

Public Hearing and Final Adoption of BOND ORDINANCE 2024:1540 is scheduled for Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at approximately 7:00 pm in the Municipal Building located at 625 Station Avenue, Haddon Heights, New Jersey.

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to Introduce BOND ORDINANCE 2024:1540. Motion was moved by Councilmember Pagan, seconded by Councilmember Morgan. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes.

INTRODUCTION of Ordinance 2024:1541 – Ordinance Amending Chapter 125-2 of the Code of the Borough of Haddon Heights Entitled Animal License Fee: Exemptions

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to Introduce Ordinance 2024:1541. Motion was moved by Councilmember Philipps, seconded by Councilmember Pagan. Under a roll call vote, all members present were in favor.

Public Hearing and Final Adoption of Ordinance 2024:1541 is scheduled for Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at approximately 7:00 pm in the Municipal Building located at 625 Station Avenue, Haddon Heights, New Jersey

Mayor Houck read aloud Resolutions 2024:61 through 2024:65.

Resolution 2024:61 – Resolution Appointing Charles Garrity of New Jersey Animal Control As Municipal Humane Law Enforcement Officer for the Borough of Haddon Heights

Resolution 2024:62 – Resolution Authorizing Submission of a Grant Application for Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse – *DEDR Grant*

Resolution 2024:63 – Resolution the Haddon Heights Municipal Alliance Submission of a Grant Application to the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse and the Division on Mental Health and Addiction Services – *DMHAS Youth Leadership Grant*

Resolution 2024:64 – Resolution Authorizing Payment of Bills and Claims for the First Half of February

Resolution 2024:65 – A Resolution Providing For A Meeting Not Open to the Public In Accordance With The Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12. ***1.) Matter related to potential implementation of a K-9 Program in the Haddon Heights Police Department. 2.) Matter related***

to application for the NJ Department of Community Affairs Local Recreation Improvement Grant. Discussions are expected to be ½ hr. in duration. Formal action may be taken on the foregoing items following Executive Session.

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to adopt Resolutions 2024:61 through 2024:65. Motion was moved by Councilmember Pagan, seconded by Councilmember Ottoson. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Houck opened Public Comment on any matter.

Seeing no movement and hearing no comment, Mayor Houck closed the public comment portion.

Mayor Houck announced Council will recess into Executive Session and asked all to exit Council Chambers until Council returns to open session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 7:39 pm

Following Executive Session, Mayor and Council rejoined the open public meeting at 8:23 pm. Mayor Houck asked for a motion to come out of Executive Session. Motion was moved by Councilmember Pagan, seconded by Council President Morgan. All members present were in favor.

Mayor Houck announced that one based on Executive Session, Council has one resolution to act upon. He asked Solicitor Long read aloud the following resolution by title only.

Solicitor Long read Resolution Authorizing the Acquisition based on presentation by the Police Department to institute a K9 Officer Program and indicate the upfront costs to initiate the program is approximately \$18,500 however, it should be noted that there is approximately \$30,000 in Asset Forfeiture Account for the acquisition and initiation for the start-up of this program. As funds are being expended, it is appropriate to authorize such action by resolution.

Resolution 2024:66 – Resolution Authorizing the Borough of Haddon Heights Police Department to Initiate a K9 Program on Behalf of the Borough of Haddon Heights

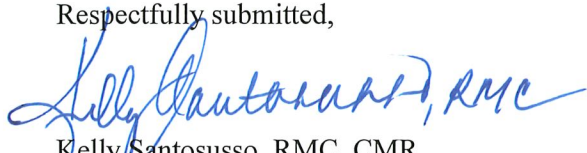
Mayor Houck asked for a motion to adopt Resolution 2024:66. Motion was moved by Councilmember Pagan, seconded by Councilmember Philipps. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business, Mayor Houck asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was moved by Councilmember Pagan, seconded by Council President Morgan. All members present were in favor.

8:23 pm

Respectfully submitted,


Kelly Santosusso, RMC, CMR
Borough Clerk



Haddon Heights & Barrington Fire Department

608 REAR STATION AVE
HADDON HEIGHTS, NJ 08035
856-546-7135

Office of the Fire Chief

Incidents from January 1, 2024 to January 31, 2024:

Calls in Haddon Heights: 28

Calls in Barrington: 14

Calls to Mutual Aid: 8

Calls to Highway: 1

TOTAL: 51

Average Firefighters per call: 6

Career staff calls: 30

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph P. Hales, Jr.

Fire Chief

INCIDENT #	INCIDENT LOCATION	DISPATCH	1ST ARRIVAL	SHIFT	OFFICER IN CHARGE
HHFD-2024	##### 2000 REAM Apartment	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Zwaska, Benjamin
HHFD-2024	##### 1414 CEDA UNCONSCIOUS	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Zwaska, Benjamin
HHFD-2024	##### 1328 MAPLE Natural Gas	Chief 2		Non Duty	C Hales, Joseph
HHFD-2024	##### 105 WHITE Highway	Hi Engine 2		Non Duty	C Scharle, Tyler
HHFD-2024	##### 15 TRINITY Investigate	Squirt 2		Non Duty	C Ritz, Kevin
HHFD-2024	##### 4000 REAM Investigate	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Zwaska, Benjamin
HHFD-2024	##### 1931 NEW Investigate	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Zwaska, Benjamin
HHFD-2024	##### 334 CREST Dwelling	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Zwaska, Benjamin
HHFD-2024	##### 1200 CLEM INTERIOR	F Engine 2		Nights	- Du Szabo, Benjamin
HHFD-2024	##### 1200 CLEM Dewatering	Utility 216		Nights	- Du Ehrman, Kevin
HHFD-2024	##### 603 GARDE Incidental	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Jackson, Tyler W
HHFD-2024	##### 1403 W HICKS EMS Assist	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Jackson, Tyler W
HHFD-2024	##### 1 COMMEF ALARM SYS	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Jackson, Tyler W
HHFD-2024	##### 2011 PROS EMS Assist	Battalion 2		Nights	- Du Mach, Stephen
HHFD-2024	##### 235 CHESTER Dwelling	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Zwaska, Benjamin
HHFD-2024	##### 210 READIE Incidental	Squirt 2		Non Duty	C Oswald, Eamon
HHFD-2024	##### 220 E WILL Carbon Monoxide	Engine 2		Non Duty	C DiRenzo, Stephen
HHFD-2024	##### 11 BLACK HILL Investigate	Squirt 2		Non Duty	C Ehrman, Kevin
HHFD-2024	##### 288 ROUTE MVA w/ Inj	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Zwaska, Benjamin
HHFD-2024	##### 100 E GLOUCESTER ALARM SYS	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Zwaska, Benjamin
HHFD-2024	##### 129 ELLIS ST Dwelling	--		Non Duty	C Hales, Joseph
HHFD-2024	##### 401 E ATLANTA UNCONSCIOUS	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Zwaska, Benjamin
HHFD-2024	##### 24 WALNUT Dwelling	--		Daytime	- (Zwaska, Benjamin
HHFD-2024	##### Clements B MVA w/ Inj	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Jackson, Tyler W
HHFD-2024	##### 15 10TH AVE Wires Burn	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Jackson, Tyler W
HHFD-2024	##### 240 HIGHLAND Investigate	Squirt 2		Nights	- Du Ehrman, Kevin
HHFD-2024	##### 516 11TH AVE OVERDOSE	Chief 2		Daytime	- (Zwaska, Benjamin
HHFD-2024	##### 1917 MAPLE CARDIAC EVENT	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Zwaska, Benjamin
HHFD-2024	##### 430 W BROWN Apartment	--		Non Duty	C Hales, Joseph
HHFD-2024	##### 1645 CHESAPEAKE Dwelling	Squirt 2		Non Duty	C --
HHFD-2024	##### 104 WHITE ALARM SYS	Squirt 2		Non Duty	C Hales, Joseph
HHFD-2024	##### 348 RIDGEVIEW Dwelling	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Jackson, Tyler W
HHFD-2024	##### 1200 CLEM UNCONSCIOUS	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Jackson, Tyler W
HHFD-2024	##### 411 BLACK MVA w/ Inj	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Zwaska, Benjamin
HHFD-2024	##### 12 LOUCRE Dwelling	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Zwaska, Benjamin
HHFD-2024	##### 2035 W HICKS EMS Assist	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Zwaska, Benjamin
HHFD-2024	##### GARDEN ST Tree Down	Engine 2		Non Duty	C Hoinkis, Derek
HHFD-2024	##### 1908 BRYAN Tree Down	Engine 2		Non Duty	C Hoinkis, Derek
HHFD-2024	##### 1844 PROS Tree Down	Engine 2		Non Duty	C Hoinkis, Derek
HHFD-2024	##### 341 BLACK Rescue	Battalion 2		Nights	- Du Scharle, Tyler
HHFD-2024	##### 1826 WAYNE Natural Gas	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Zwaska, Benjamin
HHFD-2024	##### 117 E ATLANTA EMS Assist	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Zwaska, Benjamin
HHFD-2024	##### 131 WHITE UNCONSCIOUS	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Jackson, Tyler W
HHFD-2024	##### 28 REMINGTON Dwelling	Squirt 2		Non Duty	C Scharle, Tyler
HHFD-2024	##### 1027 N REYNOLDS Dwelling	--		Non Duty	C DiRenzo, Stephen
HHFD-2024	##### 117 E ATLANTA Incidental	Squad 2		Daytime	- (Velazquez, Chris



MEMO

FROM: Chief Thomas Schneider #1851

DATE: January 16, 2024

TO: Director of Public Safety Tom Ottoson Cc: Mayor & Council

SUBJECT: December 2023 Monthly Report

Below is the report for the Haddon Heights Police Department along with important topics. As always do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

MONTHLY STATISTICS

- 5101 Miles were driven on patrol, Total fleet Mileage 713,955
- 940 Calls For Service
- 12 Arrests and Charges
- 13 Accidents
- 93 Motor Vehicle Summonses Issued

Summary of new initiatives:

-Pizza with Police – (Brooklyn Pizza December 19th 6-8pm) Face painting, touch a truck, giveaways, special guest appearance and more!

-NATIONAL Night Out 2024 – (August 6th at the Dell) All activities for kids including, face painting, touch a truck, popcorn, ice cream, pie eating contest, games, giveaways, and more!

-Autism Spectrum Disorder/ and or all disabilities registry- The registry provides information to the Police Dept. in case of an emergency specifically about the registered person's emergency contacts, detailed physical descriptions, known routines, favorite attractions, and any other pertinent information that could help us if an emergency situation arises.

-GCPOP (Garnet Country Police Outreach Program) – is a program made up of Haddon Heights, Barrington, Lawnside, and Merchantville police officers, that meet/play sports/activities/etc., with students within our community to allow them to get to know us, answer any questions, and help them with any school or life event that they may need assistance with.

-PROJECT SAVE PROGRAM (Substance Abuse Visionary Effort) – is a strategy focused on not only arrest, but on practices and policies that involve prevention and intervention. This program also focuses on diverting defendants with a drug addiction disorder into treatment, and will ultimately reduce crime within the borough.

Ordinances and Resolutions:

The following SOPs to be adopted by Resolution/Ordinance for HHPD:

General Initiatives

- **Reminder** – HHPD would like to remind residents to please obey prohibited parking laws and ordinances around our schools, sports facilities, and recreational centers. Please obey all posted **NO PARKING** areas in order to allow for the safe passage of pedestrians and vehicular traffic.
- **Traffic** –
 - Pedestrian sign/signal upgrades in the area of the (Prospect/Glenview)
 - KHY construction will be starting around Spring 2024 (County)
 - Speed RADAR sign proposal in the area of (1600 block of Prospect Ridge Blvd. (completed)
 - RADAR Enforcement increased / Radar sign deployed where potential speeding problems are reported. (Bellmawr and Maple)
 - Officers have increased STOP intersection monitoring where potential violations have been reported.
 - HHPD continues to work with the Department of Public Works and the County to identify intersections in need of yellow curbing and crosswalks to increase safety of students and pedestrians.

➤ **Haddon Heights Overnight Parking Request (ONLINE LINK)**

- Borough website online link <https://haddonhts.com> (click on the overnight parking request and complete the requested information)
- Overnight parking permission requests are valid for one night only.
- The vehicle must be parked with the traffic flow.
- The vehicle's gross weight must be less than 8,001 pounds.
- The vehicle cannot be placed on the list if it is operable and there is room in the driveway.
- You must give a valid reason why the vehicle is being left on the street.
- Excessive requests, abuse, or not adhering to the policy may result in a summons.
- In the event of snow or predicted snow, all on-street parking is prohibited.

➤ **Permit Parking**

Residents who do not have room in their private driveway to park all their vehicles or tenants who do not have access to a parking area can apply for parking permits at the Borough Hall. After the application is completed, it is submitted for approval.

Permit Application Fees

- **\$25.00 per permit** if there is no room on your property to construct or add onto your driveway according to current zoning laws
- **ONLINE PAYMENT**
PORTAL: <https://wipp.edmundsassoc.com/Wipp/?wippid=0418#miscPymtPage>

Renewal of Overnight Parking Permit Application

- <https://form.jotform.com/232205537110038>

