

# BOROUGH OF HADDON HEIGHTS COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Mayor Houck called the meeting to Order at 7:00 pm. He 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, Pagan and Harron were present as well as Borough Solicitor Howard Long and Borough Clerk Kelly Santosusso.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE:

Mayor Houck asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT ON CAUCUS AND AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

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

Seeing and hearing no movement or comment, Mayor Houck closed the Public Comment portion.

#### CAUCUS SESSION:

No topics.

#### RECESS OF CAUCUS SESSION AND COMMENCEMENT OF BUSINESS SESSION:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the February 6, 2024 Work Session Minutes

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to approve the February 6, 2024 Work Session Minutes. Motion was moved by Councilmember Pagan, seconded by Councilmember Russo. All members were in favor with the exception of Councilwoman Harron who abstained.

APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES of the February 6, 2024 Work Session.

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to approve the Executive Session Minutes of the February 6, 2024 Work Session Meeting. Motion was moved by Councilmember Russo, seconded by Councilmember Philipps. All members were in favor with the exception of Councilwoman Harron who abstained.

#### COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS:

Councilmember Pagan had no report.

Councilmember Philipps gave the Fire Department report, a copy of which is attached to these Minutes. She added that Chief Hales has provided a detailed breakdown of the report which has been very helpful. The Shared Services Agreement with Barrington for Firefighting Services is on this evening's Agenda for approval to extend the SSA for another four (4) years. She noted the Agreement has been very successful and thanked Chief Hales and Captain Zwaska for all of their efforts.

Philipps reported that Council approved the K9 Program in the Police Department at the last meeting and said we are all looking forward to what is anticipated to be a success for the Department.

Lastly, Philipps reported both she and Mayor Houck attended an EMS meeting – the first meeting after approving the Shared Services Agreement with Boroughs of Barrington and Runnemede for EMS Services. Things are going well and it was a productive meeting.

Council President Morgan had no report.

Councilmember Ottoson gave the Police Department report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. He went on to give the Construction Office report.

Councilman Ottoson reported on a meeting with members of the Shade Tree Commission, Mike Mansdoerfer, Kelly Santosusso and Assistant Superintendent RJ Callaway. Discussion included the removal of trees and tree maintenance working better with a new active log that we all will have access to for tracking and updating trees of concern. Also addressed were tree work on County roads and the need to update our Community Forestry Management Plan.

Councilmember Russo said Public Works has been quite busy over the past month with filling pot holes, planting trees. Russo went on to report the Engineering Committee met a couple of weeks ago to address the many projects coming up. Considerable paving work will be underway with our roads program. She gave a huge thanks to Mike Mansdoerfer and Bach Associates for all of their help in getting these projects lined up.

Russo concluded her report with offering congratulations to Cabana on their remodel saying that she had a chance to check it out with her son yesterday – a very nice job.

Councilwoman Harron reported on the Parks and Rec side - a meeting is scheduled for next week with representatives from HHYA, Softball the Mayor and Engineer on getting the baseball and softball fields ready for the season and for Opening Day.

#### MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Houck thanked Council for all of their efforts and work in the short two months of the year. He noted Public Safety has been a huge focus with the Shared Services Agreements with the Fire Department and EMS Services.

He is proud to report that we will have a new K9 Officer Program and is grateful for all of the engineering work regarding sidewalks, storm water and road projects. He concluded his comments by saying he is excited for a good jump start on the year.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL ADOPTION of <u>Ordinance 2024:1539</u> – 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 open the Public Hearing on <u>Ordinance 2024:1539</u>. Motion was moved by Councilmember Philipps, seconded by Councilmember Pagan. All members were in favor.

Seeing and hearing no movement or comment, Mayor Houck asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing. Motion was made by Councilmember Pagan, seconded by Council President Morgan. All members were in favor

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to adopt <u>Ordinance 2024:1539</u>. Motion was moved by Council President Morgan, seconded by Councilwoman Russo. Upon a roll call vote, all members voted yes.

PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL ADOPTION of <u>BOND ORDINANCE</u> 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 THERFOR; 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

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to open the Public Hearing on <u>BOND ORDINANCE 2024:1540</u>. Motion to open the Public Hearing was made by Councilmember Pagan, seconded by Councilmember Ottoson. All members were in favor.

Seeing and hearing no movement or comment, Mayor Houck asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing. Motion was moved by Councilwoman Russo, seconded by Councilmember Pagan. All members were in favor.

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to adopt <u>BOND ORDINANCE 2024:1540</u>. Motion was moved by Councilwoman Russo, seconded by Council President Morgan. Upon a roll call vote, all members voted yes.

PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL ADOPTION of <u>Ordinance 2024:1541</u> – 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 open the Public Hearing on Ordinance 2024:51. Motion was moved by Councilmember Pagan, seconded by Councilmember Harron. All members were in favor.

Seeing no movement or comment, Mayor Houck asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing. Motion was moved by Councilwoman Philipps, seconded by Councilmember Pagan. All members were in favor.

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to adopt <u>Ordinance 2024:1541</u>. Motion was moved by Councilmember Philipps, seconded by Councilmember Morgan. Upon a roll call vote, all members voted yes.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

INTRODUCTION of <u>Ordinance 2024:1542</u> – An Ordinance Authorizing Salaries, Wages And Reimbursements To Be Paid To Non-Contractual Employees of the Borough of Haddon Heights

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to Introduce <u>Ordinance 2024:1542</u>. Motion was moved by Councilwoman Philipps, seconded by Councilmember Pagan. Upon a roll call vote, all members were in favor.

Public Hearing and Final Adoption of <u>Ordinance 2024:1542</u> is scheduled for Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at approximately 7:00 pm in the Municipal Building located at 625 Station Avenue, Haddon Heights, New Jersey.

Resolution 2024:67 – RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF HADDON HEIGHTS, IN THE COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING AN EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20

Solicitor Long explains the Resolution is a condition proceeding the introduction of the Bond Ordinance.

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to adopt <u>Resolution 2024:67</u>. Motion was moved by Councilwoman Russo, seconded by Council President Morgan. Under a roll call vote, all members voted yes.

INTRODUCTION of <u>BOND ORDINANCE 2024:1543</u> - "BOND ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS CAPITAL EQUIPMENT AND THE COMPLETION OF VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF HADDON HEIGHTS, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$2,151,233 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 \$1,795,787; MAKING CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS AND COVENANTS; AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN RELATED ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING"

Mayor Houck asked for motion to Introduce <u>BOND ORDINANCE 2024:1543</u>. Motion was moved by Councilwoman Russo, seconded by Council President Morgan. Upon a roll call vote, all members voted yes.

Public Hearing and Final Adoption of <u>BOND ORDINANCE 2024:1543</u> is scheduled for Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at approximately 7:00 pm in the Municipal Building located at 625 Station Avenue, Haddon Heights, New Jersey.

Mayor Houck read aloud Resolutions 2024:68 through 2024:76.

<u>Resolution 2024:68</u> – Resolution Approving Certified List of Fire Department Volunteers Eligible for Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP) for the Year 2023

Resolution 2024:69 – Resolution Authorizing A Shared Services Agreement By and Between the Borough of Haddon Heights and the Borough of Barrington For The Provision of Fire Fighting Services and In Accordance With N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 Et Seq.

Resolution 2024:70 – Resolution Authorizing Transfers of Appropriation Reserves

Resolution 2024:71 – Resolution Authorizing North Star Vets Animal Hospital to Provide Services to Stray Animals

Resolution 2024:72 – Resolution Authorizing Payment of Bills and Claims for the Second Half of February

Resolution 2024:73 – Resolution Amending Resolution 2024:31 Resolution Concerning Appointments

Resolution 2024:74 – A Resolution of the Borough of Haddon Heights Authorizing Application By the Borough Engineer to the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for the Paving of Existing Parking Lot and Playground Equipment at Barr Recreation Complex

Resolution 2024:75 – 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. *I.) Discussion related to attorney-client privileged matter regarding local business. 2.) Attorney-client privileged matter - Topic: A legal discussion by the Borough Solicitor and discussion on various matters involving potential litigation. Discussions are expected to be ½ hr. in duration. Formal action may be taken on the foregoing item(s) following Executive Session.* 

Resolution 2024:76 – Resolution of the Borough of Haddon Heights Authorizing the Borough Engineer To Design And Publicly Bid the Camden County Recreation Facility Enhancement - Infield Improvements At Fitzgerald Memorial Park Project

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to adopt Resolutions 2024:68 through 2024:76. Motion was moved by Councilmember Pagan, seconded by Councilmember Harron. Under a roll call vote, all members voted yes.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Houck opened Public Comment on any matter.

Kautahuffo RMC

Seeing no movement or comment, Mayor Houck closed the Public Comment portion.

He then announced that Council will now move into Executive Session asking all to exit Council Chambers.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION: 7:21 pm

Following Executive Session, Mayor and Council returned to open session. Mayor Houck asked for a motion to come out of Executive Session. Motion was moved by Councilmember Pagan, seconded by Councilmember Ottoson. All members were in favor. 8:25 pm

#### ADJOURNMENT:

With no business to act upon, Mayor Houck asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was moved by Councilmember Morgan, seconded by Councilmember Harron. All members were in favor.

Time: 8:26 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Santosusso, RMC, CMR

Borough Clerk



FROM: Chief Thomas Schneider #1851

DATE: February 20, 2024

TO: Director of Public Safety Regina Philipps Cc: Mayor & Council

SUBJECT: January 2024 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**

- > 6277 Miles were driven on patrol, Total fleet Mileage 721,805
- > 1077 Calls For Service
- 23 Arrests and Charges
- > 12 Accidents
- Motor Vehicle Summonses Issued

#### **Summary of new initiatives:**

- **-Pizza with Police** (Brooklyn Pizza December 19<sup>th</sup> 6-8pm) Face painting, touch a truck, giveaways, special guest appearance and more!
- **-NATIONAL Night Out 2024** (August 6<sup>th</sup> 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**

<u>Reminder</u> – 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 <a href="https://haddonhts.com">https://haddonhts.com</a> (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: <a href="https://wipp.edmundsassoc.com/Wipp/?wippid=0418#">https://wipp.edmundsassoc.com/Wipp/?wippid=0418#</a>
   <a href="mailto:miscPymtPage">miscPymtPage</a>

# Renewal of Overnight Parking Permit Application

https://form.jotform.com/232205537110038



# 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

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