



BOROUGH OF HADDON HEIGHTS  
COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES

Wednesday, June 5, 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 Philipps, Russo, Pagan and Harron were present as well as Borough Solicitor Howard Long via teleconference and Clerk Kelly Santosusso. Councilmember Ottoson was absent.

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.

CAUCUS WORK SESSION:

Parking in Business District

Councilmember Russo explained she had received a call from a member of the business district who requests another 15 minute parking spot. These spots are convenient for loading and unloading for their businesses. Station and E. Atlantic Avenues by Local Links. Russo said she thought this was a reasonable request and asked if anyone had any thoughts or questions. She said one business asked for the spot. The business also asked for anti-idling signage which is already state law. Council President Morgan asked if the other businesses in the 500 block have been advised of the request. Borough Engineer approves as well as the Chief of Police. Discussion ensued as to what locations would be considered. Mayor Houck asked that a notice be circulated to the businesses in the 500 block of Station Avenue advising the matter will be on the next Agenda for public comment and discussion. Clerk Santosusso said she would mail out this week.

NJSACOP Accreditation Grant for Police Department

Councilwoman Philipps explained the accreditation benefits for the Police Department. This allows for high standards with clear objectives to follow - uniform policies and procedures which reduce liability to the Borough. Accreditation gives the community confidence in the Department and provides for a decrease in

our insurance rates. She explained accreditation is a growing movement amongst local Police Departments. Discussion ensued on costs associated with implementing the required software DOS including a potential grant that is available and the Borough would likely receive. The Department would need Power DMS which is a database which brings us current with all policies. Annual cost is projected to be \$3,350.00 to the Borough annually to maintain the accreditation. Philipps further explained that the Chief and Captain have graciously volunteered to implement the process versus paying a consultant which can cost up to \$50,000.00. Discussion on the benefits ensued. Chief Schneider commented saying he believes this is something that would be beneficial to the Department. Philipps also said that this has been discussed with the CFO and he is in support. Solicitor Long added that Chiefs in several of the towns he works in have told him that accreditation has made their Departments better overall.

#### Trash Collection at Kings Run

Clerk Santosusso advised Council of recent issues with our private trash hauler with regard to collection of the dumpsters at Kings Run Condominiums. She reviewed the several complaints from residents and the management of Kings Run as well as her communications with the hauler. Following a detailed explanation, she said she addressed the matter with the CFO and recommended imposing significant penalties for failure to collect 8 to 9 days in a row. These were reviewed were then reviewed with Council; Santosusso asked if there was any opposition to imposing the penalties. Discussion ensued with a general consensus to allow the fines to be imposed by the CFO. Santosusso concluded by noting that Seaside intends to replace one of the dumpsters for a smoother collection process.

#### PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING MONTH OF JUNE as *Migraine and Headache Awareness Month*

Mayor Houck invited resident Tracy Caruso forward for reading the Proclamation. Ms. Caruso was emotional and thanked Mayor and Council for recognizing this important topic.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the May 21, 2024 Business Meeting

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to adopt the Minutes of the May 21, 2024 Business Meeting. Motion was moved by Councilmember Pagan, seconded by Council member Harron. All members present were in favor with the exception of Councilmember Russo who abstained.

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION Minutes of May 21, 2024. Mayor Houck asked for a motion to approve the May 21, 2024 Executive Session Minutes. Motion was moved by Councilmember Pagan, seconded by Council President Morgan. All members present were in favor with the exception of Councilmember Russo who abstained.

#### BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Craig Reilly, 304 White Horse Pike – submitted written report but will highlight the following:

NJDOT has announced the next the opening of the next Municipal Aid projects. Will submit by July 1<sup>st</sup>. there will be a resolution on the June 18<sup>th</sup> meeting Agenda. This will be a continuation of the resurfacing St. Martins Avenue, Wynnefield Avenue as well as New Jersey Avenue.

Bid Opening for the Garden Street Project between First and Second Avenues. The lowest bidder was Think Pavers Hardscaping, LLC. A resolution is on this evening's Agenda awarding the contract. Construction will begin as soon as possible but not before June 20<sup>th</sup> and likely not until after July 4<sup>th</sup>.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL ADOPTION of Ordinance 2024:1548 – Ordinance of the Borough of Haddon Heights, County of Camden, and State of New Jersey Establishing New Chapter 152 Entitled “Lead Based Paint”

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to open the Public Hearing. Motion was moved by Councilmember Russo, seconded by Councilmember Pagan. All members present were in favor.

Seeing and hearing no movement, Mayor Houck asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Mayor asked for a motion to close the public comment portion. Motion was moved by Councilmember Philipps, seconded by Council President Morgan. All members present were in favor.

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance 2024:1548. Motion was moved by Councilmember Pagan, seconded by Councilmember Philipps. Under a roll call vote, all members present voted yes.

Resolution 2024:115 – Resolution Authorizing the 2024 Municipal Budget to be Read by Title Only

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to open the Public Hearing on the 2024 Municipal Budget. Motion to open the Public Hearing was made by Councilmember Russo, seconded by Councilmember Pagan. All members present were in favor.

Seeing and hearing no movement, Mayor Houck asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing on the 2024 Municipal Budget. Motion was moved by Councilmember Russo, seconded by Councilmember Morgan. Under roll call vote, all members present voted yes.

Resolution 2024:116 – Resolution Regarding Adoption of the 2024 Municipal Budget

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to adopt Resolution 2024:116. Motion was moved by Council President Morgan, seconded by Councilmember Pagan. Under a roll call vote, all members present voted yes.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Houck read aloud Resolutions 2024:117 through 2024:121.

Resolution 2024:117 – Resolution Authorizing the Award of the Contract for the Reconstruction of Garden Street Project to Think Pavers

Resolution 2024:118 – Resolution Requesting the Insertion of A Special Item of Revenue In The Budget of Any County or Municipality Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (Chapter 159 P.L. 1948) – *K9 Grant*

Resolution 2024:119 – Resolution Authorizing a Refund of Summer Recreation Fees

Resolution 2024:120 – Resolution of the Borough of Haddon Heights, Camden County Appointing Conditional Redeveloper and Authorizing Execution of A Memorandum of Understanding – *322-324 White Horse Pike, Ivy Property Group, LP*

Resolution 2024:121 – Resolution Authorizing Payment of Bills and Claims for the First Half of June

Mayor Houck asked for a motion to adopt Resolutions 2024:117 through 2023:121. Motion was moved by Councilmember Pagan, seconded by Councilmember Harron. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Houck opened Public Comment on any matter.

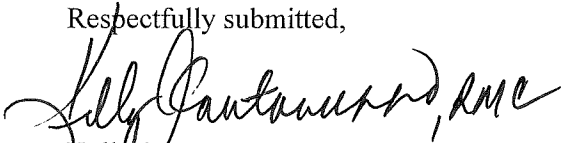
Seeing no movement or comment, Mayor Houck closed the Public Comment portion.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Time: 7:45 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Kelly Santosusso, RMC, CMR  
Borough Clerk