

82. Executive Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Haworth held on May 10, 2022 via Zoom

Councilmembers: Glenn Poosikian  
Andrew Rosenberg  
Michael Bain  
Dina Siciliano  
Heather Wasser  
Lisa Dhamija

Borough Attorney: Robert T. Regan

Chief Financial Officer: Ronald Monaco

In the absence of Mayor Guenego, Council President Siciliano called the meeting to order at 7:35PM and upon roll call all members of the council were present. Ms. Siciliano then read the following statement: “This is the executive meeting of the Mayor and Council. I am informed by the clerk that adequate public notice has been provided by mailing notice to The Record, by posting a notice on the bulletin board in the municipal center, by filing a copy of the notice in the office of the municipal clerk and by mailing notice to all persons who requested same and prepaid the cost fixed by the council.”

Salute to Flag

Ms. Siciliano led those present in the pledge of allegiance.

Public Hearing on Submission of 2022 Bergen County Trust Fund Application – Swim Club Improvement Project

Ms. Siciliano explained the park area at the swim club is in need for an upgrading particularly the existing picnic area, new tables and a new pavilion.

The meeting was then opened to the public on this application.

As there were no comments, the meeting was closed to the public on the application.

OLD BUSINESS

DPW

Ms. Siciliano thanked Mr. Simkins and the department for their assistance in the tree planting last week-end and the installation of the Jack Ferber monument.

Mr. Rosenberg read a note from the Ferber family thanking everyone for the beautiful tribute and sending their appreciation.

OLD BUSINESS – cont’d.

DPW – cont’d.

Leaf Removal

Mr. Poosikian explained the new method of leaf removal is quite costly this year - \$90,000; will go higher and the DPW has been exploring ways to return to the prior system of leaf removal.

Mr. Simkins, in the audience explained how the DEP is involved in this matter and he has spoken to their solid waste division regarding the size of the DPW yard and the amount of leaves to be brought to the yard, which involves getting rid of a large amount of soil, the leaves have to be grinded as they are brought in, however there is one hold up as this involves a requirement for a wastewater license. He further noted the town has had this license which should be valid still and if so, the project can go forward.

Discussion followed including the cost of a leaf grinder, a contract valid for the next five years for the removal of the leaves and Mr. Poosikian noted the \$200,000 for a leaf grinder would be the only cost and with the leaves coming to the yard that puts that location off the table for solar at that site.

Mr. Simkins further explained they could regrind the wood chips then and they could be combined with the leaves and given away to the residents as mulch. He then noted what is involved if they have to refile for a permit and Mr. Bain said there will have to be a financial examination.

Mr. Poosikian referred to other locations for solar as did other councilmembers, i.e. the tree farm.

NEW BUSINESS

Introduction of Ordinance No. 22-08 – Establish CAP Bank & Increase Appropriations by 3.5%

A motion was offered by Mr. Bain, seconded by Mr. Poosikian and unanimously carried to offer Ordinance No. 22-08 for first reading.

Ordinance No. 22-08 was read by title only as follows:

**CALENDAR YEAR 2022 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED  
THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS  
AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK**

A motion was offered by Mr. Bain and seconded by Mr. Rosenberg that Ordinance No. 22-08 be passed on first reading.

NEW BUSINESS – cont’d.

Introduction of Ordinance No. 22-08 – Establish CAP Bank & Increase Appropriations by 3.5% - cont’d.

On roll call the vote was as follows: Ayes; Messrs. Poosikian, Rosenberg, Bain, Siciliano, Wasser, Dhamija. Nays – none. Declared carried.

A motion was offered by Mr. Bain, seconded by Mrs. Wasser and unanimously carried that Ordinance No. 22-08 be advertised as required by law and a date set for hearing on May 24, 2022.

“Safe Routes for All” Grant

Mr. Poosikian explained this is a grant for assistance for safety improvements and suggested sidewalks on Massachusetts Avenue west to the railroad tracks which he said is very dangerous now without any sidewalks, also he suggested Valley Road coming from Massachusetts Avenue.

Mr. Rosenberg suggested in connection with Valley Road, north of Haworth Avenue that sidewalk should be continued.

Mrs. Wasser referred to Flats Road from Maple Street which she said floods periodically and perhaps it could just be repaired.

Chief Gracey, in the audience said Valley Road between Massachusetts and Haworth Avenue is a main priority with students going to school and no sidewalks. Further discussion included conditions at the Chestnut Bend Bus Stop, Flats Road which is part municipal and part water company ownership which should be discussed with the water company.

Mr. Simkins explained the DPW fills the potholes there which are rutted by cars and trucks going into the BCUA pump station.

Memorial Day Plans

Ms. Fay explained the parade will start at 10:30 AM from the firehouse with the NVRHS and Haworth School Bands, police, fire, ambulance corps and other organizations marching with a ceremony at the borough hall.

Mr. Poosikian suggested continuing with the distribution of flags to veterans which was done last year.

NEW BUSINESS – cont’d.

Appointment to Shade Tree Commission

Ms. Siciliano, substituting for Mayor Guenego, appointed Karen Grossman as a member of the Shade Tree Commission to an unexpired term to December 31, 2022.

Fireworks Display – Celebrate Haworth Day

Mr. Bain explained a proposal has been received from Zambelli Fireworks in the amount of \$10,250 and to defray this cost it has been proposed to solicit sponsors and have their sponsorship signs displayed on the island on Haworth Avenue.

Discussion followed with Mr. Rosenberg saying these signs would be just for a specific purpose and Ms. Siciliano said they would have to say specifically “sponsoring fireworks”.

Mr. Poosikian commented that when the council is delaying a new hire for the DPW paying \$10,000 for fireworks seems inappropriate if the \$10,000 cannot be assured through donations and he would not be in favor.

Further discussion included the guarantee of sponsorship and Mr. Bain noted the recreation trust fund might be considered to offset some of the costs re. the fireworks.

Mr. Poosikian suggested discussing the matter further in a month.

Mr. Hoyng, recreation commissioner, present in the audience noted the commitment for the fireworks would have to be made by August.

Mr. Bain further explained how much could be used from the trust fund to cover the cost of the fireworks.

Further discussion included signs for the fireworks and vendors, particularly on the median on Haworth Avenue. Chief Gracey said he had no issues with the signs on the median.

Further discussion on this matter was tabled at this time.

Amendment to DPW Agreement

Mr. Poosikian explained the background regarding the hours discussed at the last meeting the members of the DPW work and they have requested a change in their hours to 7AM to 3:00PM (changed from 3:30PM) and one half hour for lunch.

NEW BUSINESS – cont'd.

Amendment to DPW Agreement – cont'd.

A motion was offered by Mr. Poosikian and seconded by Mr. Rosenberg to approve an amendment to the DPW Agreement dated January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2023 that work hours be from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday with one half hour for lunch.

On roll call the vote was as follows: Ayes; Messrs. Poosikian, Rosenberg, Bain, Siciliano, Wasser, Dhamija. Nays – none. Declared carried.

Other Matters

Mr. Rosenberg noted the dedication of the monument for the late Councilman Volpe will be held May 22<sup>nd</sup> with the ceremony at the playground at Memorial Field.

Mr. Rosenberg reported the Zoning and Planning Boards will hold their June meetings at Borough Hall, the DPW will be arranging the furniture in the council chamber and Mr. Monaco will be staying in his office in the conference room.

Introduction of 2022 Municipal Budget

Mr. Bain reported the finance committee has been working with Mr. Monaco to reduce this year's tax increase and explained the process noting funds received in the building department will be less this year than last; the use of surplus; moving some other expenses into capital and 2-1/2 percent increase for salaries.

Mrs. Wasser commented there should be no raise in mayor and council salaries this year.

Mr. Rosenberg referred to the use of surplus and the large amount of building department fees received last year for the Lake Shore Development.

Mr. Poosikian discussed the use of more surplus.

Mr. Monaco explained the surplus situation, its replenishing, what happens in future years, the need to look at 2-3 years ahead and that caution is needed in this matter.

Discussion was held concerning the capital improvement fund and capital surplus

Mrs. Wasser reiterated her feeling concerning no raise in mayor and council salaries and perhaps eliminating the stipend. Mr. Poosikian and Mr. Rosenberg agreed to no raise in this stipend and further discussion was held including the BCUA charges.

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Bain and seconded by Ms. Siciliano:

NEW BUSINESS – cont’d.

Introduction of 2022 Municipal Budget – cont’d.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following statements of revenues and appropriations constitute the local budget of the Borough of Haworth for the Year 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the said budget be published in The Record in the issue of May 16, 2022 and that a hearing on the budget will be held by Zoom on June 14, 2022 at 7:30 PM or as soon thereafter as the matter may be reached.

GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS

• Municipal Purposes	\$6,506,163.00
• Appropriations Excluded from CAP	\$2,191,898.00
• Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	\$ 225,000.00
• Total General Appropriations	\$8,923,061.00
• Less: Anticipated Revenues Other than Current Property Taxes	\$2,125,379.00
• Amount to be Raised by Taxes for Support of Municipal Budget	\$6,470,822.00
Minimum Library Tax	\$ 326,860.00

On roll call the vote was as follows: Ayes; Messrs. Poosikian, Rosenberg, Bain, Siciliano, Wasser, Dhamija. Nays – none. Declared carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was offered by Mr. Bain and seconded by Mr. Poosikian to approve the following consent agenda. On roll call the vote was as follows: Ayes; Messrs. Poosikian, Rosenberg, Bain, Siciliano, Wasser, Dhamija. Nays – none. Declared carried.

Utilization of 3-year Average Method to Determine Anticipated Revenues – Municipal Court

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services requires a resolution by Municipalities that desire to utilize a three-year average to determine the maximum amount of revenue permitted to be anticipated in the annual budget as otherwise provided under NJSA 40A:4-26; and

WHEREAS, the Borough incurred certain revenue shortfalls during 2021 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, it is beneficial for the Borough to utilize a three-year average of revenues to be anticipated in the 2022 budget for Current Fund Municipal Court - Fines & Costs; and

CONSENT AGENDA – cont’d.

Utilization of 3-year Average Method to Determine Anticipated Revenues – Municipal Court – cont’d.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Haworth, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey, that it approves the utilization of the three-year average method for the following revenues to be anticipated in the 2022 budget:

<u>Current Fund</u>	<u>Anticipated in 2022 Budget</u>
Municipal Court - Fines & Costs	\$ 41,100

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution is to be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

Refund of Driveway Permit Deposits

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works has inspected and found that work has been satisfactorily completed on the following Driveway Permits.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council that the following refunds be made:

<u>NAME AND ADDRESS</u>	<u>PERMIT #</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Julia Besen 76 Prospect Avenue Haworth, NJ 07641	1422	\$100.00	76 Prospect Avenue
Macchione Bros. 71 S. Newman Street Hackensack, NJ 07601	1440, 1444	\$200.00	136 Valley Road & 301 Harrison Street
Jane Troy 341 Maple Street Haworth, NJ 07641	1442	\$100.00	341 Maple Street
Stacey Faske 153 Pleasant Street Haworth, NJ 07641	1443	\$100.00	153 Pleasant Street

CONSENT AGENDA – cont’d.

Refund of Driveway Permit Deposits – cont’d.

Nick Montello 169 Delaware Street Haworth, NJ 07641	1447	\$100.00	169 Delaware Street
Chris Kretschmer 358 Franklin Street Haworth, NJ 07641	1448	\$100.00	358 Franklin Street

Temporary Emergency Appropriations

Resolution No. 5

Authorizing Emergency Temporary Appropriations

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Haworth enacted a temporary budget to cover the period from January 1, 2022 to the date of adoption of the budget; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:40-20 permits the Borough Council by a two-thirds vote of the full membership, to make temporary appropriations; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council wished to make the emergency temporary appropriations shown in Schedule “A” attached hereto and made part hereof.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Haworth, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. That the Borough Council by a two-thirds vote of the full membership hereby makes the emergency temporary appropriations as shown on Schedule “A” attached hereto and made part hereof.
2. That said emergency temporary appropriation will be provided in full in the 2022 budget under the titles as listed in the attached schedule.
3. That a copy of this Resolution shall be filed forthwith with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

CONSENT AGENDA – cont’d.

Temporary Emergency Appropriations – cont’d.

Temporary Emergency No. 5

2022 Temporary Budget

Attachment A

<b>Current Fund</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Account</b>
Planning Board OE	\$700	\$1,000	2-01-21-075-300
Vehicle Repair	\$16,000	\$17,000	2-01-26-169-300
Clerk Telephone	\$10,500	\$11,500	2-01-31-263-300
BCUA	\$240,000	\$350,000	2-01-31-293-300
Gasoline	\$26,000	\$33,000	2-01-31-266-300
Police Other S&W	\$500,000	\$700,000	2-01-26-120-100
Tree Program	\$10,000	\$105,000	2-01-26-162-300

Authorization to Submit Application for Open Space Grant – Swim Club Park Improvement Project

**Enabling Resolution - 2022 Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund Grant  
Municipal Park Improvement Program**

**WHEREAS**, the Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund (“County Trust Fund”), provides matching grants to municipal governments and to nonprofit organizations for assistance in the development or redevelopment of outdoor municipal recreation facilities; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Haworth desires to further the public interest by obtaining a matching grant of \$50,000 from the County Trust Fund to fund the following projects: Haworth Swim Club Park Improvement Project,

**WHEREAS**, the governing body/board has reviewed the County Trust Fund Program Statement, and the Trust Fund for the Municipal Park Improvement Program application and instructions and desires to make an application for such a matching grant and provide application information and furnish such documents as may be required; and,

CONSENT AGENDA – cont’d.

Authorization to Submit Application for Open Space Grant – Swim Club Park Improvement Project – cont’d.

**WHEREAS**, as part of the application process, the governing body/board held the required Public Hearing to receive public comments on the proposed park improvements in the application on May 10, 2022; and,

**WHEREAS**, the County of Bergen shall determine whether the application is complete and in conformance with the scope and intent of the County Trust Fund; and,

**WHEREAS**, the applicant is willing to use the County Trust Fund in accordance with such rules, regulations and applicable statutes, and is willing to enter into an agreement with the County of Bergen for the above-named project and ensure its completion on or about the project contract expiration date.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Borough Council of the Borough of Haworth:

1. That it is hereby authorized to submit the above completed project application to the County by the deadline of May 6, 2022, as established by the County; and,
2. That, in the event of a County Trust Fund award that may be less than the grant amount requested above, the Borough Council of the Borough of Haworth has, or will secure, the balance of funding necessary to complete the project, or modify the project as necessary; and,
3. That the Borough Council of the Borough of Haworth is committed to providing a dollar for dollar cash match for the project; and,
4. That only those park improvements identified and approved in the project application, its Trust Fund contract, or other documentation will be considered eligible for reimbursement.
5. That the Borough Council of the Borough of Haworth agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations in its performance of the project; and,
6. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Payment of Bills

FOR COPY OF RESOLUTION AND BILL LIST  
SEE PERMANENT MINUTES  
PAGES 93A – 92H

CONSENT AGENDA – cont'd.

Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting of April 26, 2022

Open Meeting to Public

The meeting was opened to the period of public discussion.

Ms. B. Borghi, St. Nicholas Av. asked the location for the Volpe memorial.

Mr. Bain responded it is at the eastern part of the playground at Memorial Field across from the welcome sign at the playground.

Ms. Borghi then referred to the early discussion regarding solar panels and asked if they could be part of the proposed Massachusetts Avenue construction.

Mr. Rosenberg noted the area will remain heavily treed.

Ms. Borghi then referred to the earlier discussion regarding Valley Road and the parking in front of the school which is difficult as drivers are not pulling into the spaces and double parking which should be looked at she said. She then referred to Stage 3 improvements at the playground which needs to be looked at.

Mr. Bain responded that grant has been set aside, noting it is a matching grant and Ms. Borghi said the borough engineer needs to go to the site.

Mr. Robert Hennion, chief of the fire department referred to a prior discussion regarding providing a stipend to the members of the fire department, noting there is a major problem with getting members out on a fire call particularly at night and it is a very serious problem. He said the stipend would not be a big hit to the residents of the town and further said he is disappointed there has been no further discussion on this request.

Mr. Poosikian responded that in theory the council liked the idea, however this is a year that it would not be possible due to a very tight budget.

Mr. Hennion responded that it should have been considered.

Mr. Bain said it was considered but could not be started this year and the council will re-visit it thru the year and also look at a grant.

As there were no further comments the meeting was closed to public discussion.

93. Executive Meeting of May 10, 2022

As there was no further business to come before the council, a motion was offered at 9:35PM by Mr. Bain, seconded by Mrs. Wasser and unanimously carried to adjourn.

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Ann E. Fay, RMC, CMC  
Clerk-Administrator

















