

30. Executive Meeting of the Mayor and Council
of the Borough of Haworth held on February
14, 2023 at the Municipal Center

Present: Hon. Heather Wasser, Mayor

Councilmembers: Glenn Poosikian
Dina Siciliano
Jacqueline Guenego
Lisa Dhamija
Howard Lau

Borough Attorney: Robert T. Regan

Mayor Wasser called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and upon roll call all members of the council were present with the exception of Mr. Rosenberg. The mayor then read the following notice: "This is the Executive Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Haworth. 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

Mayor Wasser led those present in the pledge of allegiance.

Presentation of 5K Donations

Dr. J. Pavell, chairman of the 5K organization thanked the mayor and council, the fire department, ambulance corps and the Haworth School for their support of this organization.

Mr. E. Koch, Grant Street member of the committee noted a state championship will be held in September this year and Haworth will receive bonus points for the best runners in the state for men over 40, noting they will have excellent runners and \$250,000 is being given to the town.

The members of the 5K Committee were introduced and presented donations to the following organizations: Friends of the Haworth Library, Haworth Home & School Association, Ambulance Corps, Fire Company, Police Auxiliary, Haworth Hope Fund, Haworth Seniors, Hope with Heart, Haworth Girl Scouts, Haworth Boy Scouts, Closter Food Pantry, Bergen Center for Child Development, Haworth Pickleball.

Mayor Wasser thanked all, noting it takes a year of planning every year, it is hard work and encouraged all to be at the race.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Request to Purchase Two Borough Lots-Harrison Street, Block 1610, Lots 6 and 7

Mr. Poosikian explained this request from the owner on Harrison Street if the borough would consider selling him these two lots adjacent to his property and further explained the borough generally does not sell property. He said it is the unanimous recommendation of the committee to send the requestor's attorney a letter that the borough does not want to sell this property.

Ms. Guenego asked what is the benefit to the borough not to sell the property.

Mr. Poosikian noted the borough's policy regarding these requests to purchase borough property to enlarge private property, particularly wooded areas here where trees have been cleared from the borough property.

Hiring for Department of Public Works.

Mr. Poosikian explained there was authority last year to hire two employees for this department and very few applications have been received; there are two unfilled positions and the mechanic will be leaving to work in another town at double his salary now. He said he is requesting the hiring of one more laborers and a mechanic.

Mayor Wasser commented there is also the need for a superintendent and foreman in this department.

Mr. Poosikian responded there will be the hiring of laborers first as there are only five now.

A motion was offered by Mr. Poosikian, seconded by Ms. Guenego and unanimously carried to hire a laborer and mechanic for the DPW.

Shade Tree Bids for Winter Tree Program

Ms. Siciliano reported eight bids were received for this work and there is a small differential regarding the A&H Tree Service which is lower and this award would be contingent on their credentials and references.

Mr. S. Jureller, chairman of the Shade Tree Commission referred to Arrow Tree Service, one of the bidders that it would be a benefit to the town if the work was awarded to them particularly with their long association with the borough.

Mr. Regan responded that cannot be done.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – cont'd

Shade Tree Bids for Winter Tree Program – cont'd.

A motion was offered by Ms. Siciliano and seconded by Ms. Guenego to accept the bid of A&H Tree Service, Northvale, NJ in the amount of \$32,903.50 contingent on their credentials and contacting other towns who they have done work for.

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

Approval of Summer Recreation Fees

Mr. Lau reported on the rates proposed by the Recreation Commission for the 2023 summer camp which is a slight increase from last year.

A motion was offered by Mr. Lau and seconded by Ms. Guenego to approve the following 2023 Summer Camp rates:

\$190 per week or \$975 for all six weeks if payment is received by May 5, 2023; Week One (3 days) will be \$120. After May 5, 2023 \$225. per week; \$150 for Week One.

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

2022 and 2023 Road Programs

Mr. Poosikian explained the last year was delayed so the work could not be done till the fall which is not the best time to pave; there is a funding problem with the 2023 program and suggested approving both years subject to the funds being available and the CFO has recommended including the program in this year's capital budget.

A motion was offered by Mr. Poosikian and seconded by Ms. Guenego to approve the 2022 and 2023 road program subject to the funds being available.

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

Ordinance No. 23-01 – 2023 Swim Club Salaries

A motion was offered, seconded and unanimously carried to offer Ord. 23-01 for first reading.

Ordinance No. 23-01 was then read by title only as follows:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – cont'd

Ordinance No. 23-01 – 2023 Swim Club Salaries – cont'd.

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SALARIES FOR POOL PERSONNEL FOR 2023

A motion was offered by Ms. Siciliano and seconded by Ms. Guenego that Ordinance No. 23-01 be passed on first reading.

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

A motion was offered by Ms. Siciliano, seconded by Ms. Guenego and unanimously carried that Ordinance No, 23-01 be advertised as required by law and a date set for public hearing thereon on February 28, 2023 at 7:30 PM at the Municipal Center.

Ordinance 23-02 – 2023 Swim Club Membership Fees

A motion was offered by Ms. Siciliano, seconded by Ms. Guenego and unanimously carried that Ordinance No. 23-02 be offered for first reading.

Ordinance No. 23-02 was then read by title only as follows:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER IX OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HAWORTH ENTITLED “PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND RECREATIONAL AREAS”

A motion was offered by Ms. Siciliano and seconded by Ms. Guenego that Ordinance No. 23-02 be passed on first reading.

On roll call the vote was as follows: Ayes; Messrs. Poosikian, Siciliano, Guenego, Dhamija, Lau. Nays – none.

A motion was offered by Mr. Poosikian, seconded by Ms. Guenego and unanimously carried that Ordinance No. 23-02 be advertised as required by law and a date set for public hearing thereon on February 28, 2023 at 7:30 PM at the Municipal Center.

Portable Defibrillators for Sporting Events

Mayor Wasser reported she has been approached regarding the purchasing of defibrillators at approximately \$2,000 each that do not require training and cannot misfire; this should fall under the purview of the recreation commission she said and could be used at Memorial Field, Myrtle Field and perhaps the tennis courts. She questioned how to notify these groups, who would be responsible for use and said the subject needs to be further discussed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – cont'd.

Portable Defibrillators for Sporting Events – cont'd.

Mr. C. Layne, president of the ambulance corps explained several risks involved including when needed, etc.

Ms. M. Rosenberg, Pine Lane noted Pickleball has purchased a battery operated defibrillator, explained how they function and that they have done much research on the subject.

Ms. Guenego noted where to store the equipment has been discussed, if there would be a designated person for each group to operate it, who would be responsible, etc.

Mr. N. Nakashian, vice president of the ambulance corps asked if all coaches are required to be CPR trained. A discussion was held noting this is not the case now. Mr. Nakashian said proper training is required to use the equipment and with many sporting activities in town it would have to be available to all.

Ms. Guenego said the equipment has to be kept in a secure area.

Mr. T. Cusanelli, ambulance corps member explained the police immediate response time in emergencies, they all are trained, etc. and would be at the scene of an emergency and already there before anyone else, making this redundant with the other manpower.

A discussion was then held regarding dispatching emergency calls, Mr. Hennion, in the audience explained the 9-1-1 system and the response procedure, noting there are two sides regarding this subject, noted vandalism of the equipment, etc. which has to be in a secure building.

Mr. Cusanelli explained the CPR and defibrillator process.

It was noted police are at the scene before the ambulance corps and coaches should be trained in CPR.

Ms. Guenego said this subject should be tabled until more information is received from the police chief.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA – cont’d.

Refund of Driveway Permit Deposit

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

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

<u>NAME AND ADDRESS</u>	<u>PERMIT #</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Dean Reynolds 363 Pine Lane Haworth, NJ 07641	1461	\$100.00	363 Pine Lane

Approval of Raffle Licenses – Sacred Heart Church

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Haworth that the 50/50 On Premise Raffle Application #RA-500 for the K of C Immaculate Conception Council 9021 to be held at Sacred Heart Church hall, 102 Park Street on February 24, 2023 and the 50/50 Off Premise Raffle Application #RA-501 for Sacred Heart Church to be held at 102 Park Street on May 14, 2023 be approved as submitted providing all rules and regulations of Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission are adhered to.

Refund Building Department Overpayment

WHEREAS, Tesla Energy Operations, a solar company, was issued a Construction Permit #23-18 for a solar system and storage at 298 Valley Road on January 26, 2023 and paid a fee of \$852.00 for the construction permit; and

WHEREAS, permit fee amount was \$842.00 for the construction permit.

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

<u>Name & Address</u>	<u>Work Location</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Tesla Energy Operations 15 Tarkett Dr. Unit 4 New Windsor, NY 12553	298 Valley Road Haworth, New Jersey 07641	\$10.00

CONSENT AGENDA – cont’d.

Appointment of Redactor Mandated by Daniel’s Law

WHEREAS, there exists a need for the appointment of a redactor for the Borough of Haworth to carry out the redaction protection mandated by Daniels Law; and

WHEREAS, Daniel’s Law works with the state, county and local government agencies to shield the protected information of Covered Persons as the law defines them from disclosure on those agencies’ websites, so that consistent and effective privacy protections are provided to these Persons, who serve the people of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the redactor will be registered with the Department of Community Affairs;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Haworth, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey that Neil Rubenstein is hereby appointed Redactor for matters pertaining to Daniel’s Law.

Enter into Contract – Bergen County Open Space, Swim Club-Picnic Area Pavers, Tables, etc.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Haworth wish to enter into a Bergen County Trust Fund Project Contract (“Contract”) with the County of Bergen for the purpose of using a \$50,000.00 matching grant award from the 2022 Funding Round of the Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Floodplain Protection, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund (“Trust Fund”) for the municipal park-project entitled Haworth Swim Club: Picnic Area Pavers, Concrete, Tables, Seating and Pavilion 1200, Lot 8-11 on the tax maps of the Borough of Haworth

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council hereby authorize Mayor Heather Wasser be a signatory to the aforesaid Contract; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council hereby acknowledge that, in general, the use of this Trust Fund grant towards this approved park project must be completed by or about December 14, 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council acknowledge that the grant will be disbursed to the municipality as a reimbursement upon submittal of certified Trust Fund payment and project completion documents and municipal vouchers, invoices, proofs of payment and other such documents as may be required by the County in accordance with the Trust Fund’s requirements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council acknowledge that the grant disbursement to the municipality will be equivalent to fifty (50) percent of the eligible costs incurred (not to exceed total grant award) applied towards only the approved park improvements

CONSENT AGENDA – cont’d.

Enter into Contract – Bergen County Open Space, Swim Club-Picnic Area Pavers, Tables, etc. - cont’d.

identified in the aforesaid Contract in accordance with the Trust Fund’s requirements. Professional Services Costs may be reimbursed from grant award’s unexpended balance, should there be a balance.

Payment of Bills

FOR COPY OF RESOLUTION AND BILL LIST
SEE PERMANENT MINUTES
PAGES 39A – 39H

Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting of January 24, 2023

Open Meeting to Public

The meeting was opened to the period of public discussion.

Mr. T. Cusanelli referred to the swim club area noting the disrepair of the building and the condition of the BBQ grills.

Ms. Siciliano responded this will be included with the refurbishing provided in the grant.

Mr. Cusanelli commented that the area is opened to the elements and Ms. Siciliano said work will be underway.

Chief Hennion referred to the previous discussions regarding a stipend for the fire department members and asked it be considered as it would be a valuable asset particularly re. membership, etc. He further noted response between 4 and 7 AM is difficult and a stipend would be an incentive to get members, it is hard to get volunteers and such a stipend per household would amount to \$58. per household. He then referred to the LOSAP program which has not been increased since 2000 referring to the cost of living and asked this to be considered.

Chief Hennion then said the borough ordinance pertaining to the fire department needs to be updated as it should be consistent with their rules and regulations.

Open Meeting to Public

Mayor Wasser referred to discussions regarding grant possibilities in connection with these stipends, etc.

Mr. Poosikian suggested contacting neighboring towns as to what they are paying for LOSAP.

Mr. Cusanelli referred to the potholes on Lake Shore Drive. Mr. Poosikian said they will be patched until the area is repaved.

Mr. S. Jureller, Harrison St. suggested publicizing which roads are to be repaired.

Mr. Poosikian explained the process – the DPW is relied upon to indicate what roads should be included, the town will be going to bid and the list of roads is then distributed to the council for discussion.

Mr. Jureller then ask about the Massachusetts Avenue housing project.

Mr. Poosikian explained a study was done when it was thought there were wetlands in the area and there were none, the borough is waiting for plans to be submitted and there will need to be a subdivision. Mr. Regan commented a zoning application will be needed.

Mr. Cusanelli asked if the developer for the Lake Shore is responsible for the road repairs.

Mr. Poosikian responded no, the funding for this work is through grant funds.

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

Close Meeting to Public

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Poosikian, seconded by Ms. Guenego and unanimously carried:

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 10:4-12B* permits a public body to exclude the public from the portion of a meeting at which certain items are discussed; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body deems it necessary to conduct a closed session and to exclude the public on February 14, 2023 at which time the following items will be discussed:

- 2023 Municipal Budget
- 2023 Salary Increases
- 2023 Retirements

39. Executive Meeting of February 14, 2023

Close Meeting to Public – cont'd.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council does hereby exclude the public from the portion of the meeting at which time the above items will be discussed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the discussion conducted in closed session will be disclosed to the public upon completion or conclusion of the foregoing items and when determined by the Governing Body that the Borough's interests will not be adversely affected.

Reopen Meeting to Public

The meeting was reopened to the public at 9:50PM and as there was no further business to come before the council a motion was offered by Ms. Guenego, seconded by Ms. Siciliano and unanimously carried to adjourn.

Ann E. Fay, RMC, CMC
Clerk-Administrator

