

117. Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council  
of the Borough of Haworth held on July 28,  
2020 via Zoom Meeting

Present: Hon. Thomas P. Ference, Mayor

Councilmembers: Glenn Poosikian  
Andrew Rosenberg  
Michael Bain  
Jacqueline Guenego  
Dina Siciliano  
Heather Wasser

Borough Attorney: Robert T. Regan

Mayor Ference called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM and upon roll call all members of the council were present. The Mayor then read the following notice: “This is the Regular 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 Ference led those present in the pledge of allegiance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Ference explained councilmembers have submitted their respective reports which will be an addendum to the minutes and asked if anyone had additions.

Report of Councilman Bain

Recreation

Mr. Bain reported the commission has met and tentatively decided that Celebrate Haworth Day will proceed in a social distancing manner on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, however there is no formal decision at this time which decision will be up to the Mayor and Council.

Mr. Bain further reported there will be no “in person” Mid-summer Jam, it will be held virtually.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – cont'd.

Report of Councilwoman Guenego

Board of Health

Ms. Guenego reported the Flu Clinic is tentatively scheduled for October 3<sup>rd</sup> at the ambulance building where the bays will be open with plenty of air circulation and it has been suggested people stay in their cars to receive the shots.

Terrace Street Committee

Ms. Guenego said this committee will be meeting tomorrow.

Report of Councilman Rosenberg

Police Department

Mr. Rosenberg reported June was a different type of month with the department supporting several peaceful marches and they were dispatched to various towns in connection with these peaceful demonstrations monitoring the situations.

Mr. Rosenberg reported on the recent flood in the basement of the borough hall which Chief Gracey has been handling in contact with the borough's insurance carrier and various clean-up groups as to what can be saved and thanked the chief for his assistance in this matter.

Zoning Board

This board did not meet.

Planning Board

Mr. Rosenberg reported the Board approved an application by Suez Water for a storage building and will be continuing the re-examination of the Master Plan.

Report of Councilman Poosikian

Department of Public Works

Mr. Poosikian reported the department continues with its regular maintenance and assisted with a truck on Terrace Street that hooked-up with one of the hanging flower baskets which has resulted in looking at an adjustment for the placement of these baskets.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – cont'd.

Report of Councilman Poosikian – cont'd.

Fire Department

Mr. Poosikian noted the department responded to 16 calls last month and with the assistance of the Demarest department rescued a fisherman at the Oradell Reservoir.

Report of Councilwoman Siciliano

Library

Ms. Siciliano reported the library will reopen for the hours of 11-2 on Tuesday and Thursday next week; they will continue to offer curbside pick-up and have asked for assistance with sanitizing the building. Chief Gracey who was present said they have the materials for this and have ordered an ultra-violet machine which they could share.

Swim Club

Ms. Siciliano said she was proud of the way Mr. Ives, manager of the pool is running the club this difficult season, is doing an amazing job in connection with safety; there are 195 memberships to date with \$20,000.00 received in day and guest passes, she said.

Website

Ms. Siciliano noted a test site for previews of the update for the site have been received and asked councilmembers to reach out to their respective committees regarding this.

Haworth School

Ms. Siciliano reported there is a draft for reopening plans for the school and interviews for Board of Education members are being scheduled.

Report of Councilwoman Wasser

Senior Van

Mrs. Wasser reported that van service resumed yesterday and thanked all the volunteers who shopped for the seniors.

Tennis

Mrs. Wasser noted 39 junior and 98 senior permits have been issued.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – cont’d.

Report of Councilwoman Wasser – cont’d.

Northern Valley Regional High School

Mrs. Wasser reported the following: an emergency Board of Education meeting was held to address a situation with an Old Tappan trustee who subsequently resigned; an Ad Hoc committee has been formed to develop curriculum and policy which will be more inclusive and non-discriminatory; reopening plan not yet made public and there will be no midterms or finals this year.

Report of Borough Administrator

Building Department

Ms. Fay read a letter received from a new resident which greatly commended and thanked the staff in this department in connection with a renovation of his home and said all the inspectors and Ms. Lee, the technical assistant, were more than accommodating and courteous.

Mayor’s Report

Pandemic

Mayor Ference explained updates to residents regarding best practices, noted the danger is not past in this situation, there have been two new cases of infection and encouraged all to exercise vigilance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Re-appointment of Building Inspector/Zoning Official

The following resolution was offered by Mrs. Wasser and seconded by Ms. Guenego:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council that Kevin Burnette is hereby re-appointed Building Inspector and Zoning Official for a one-year term to July 28, 2021 for the Borough of Haworth effective July 28, 2020.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Introduction of Ordinance No. 20-10 – Social Media Policy

Mrs. Wasser noted that recent revisions were circulated, noting minor changes in this ordinance.

A motion was offered by Mrs. Wasser, seconded by Ms. Guenego and unanimously carried that Ordinance No. 20-10 be introduced on first reading.

Ordinance No. 20-10 was then read by title only as follows:

**AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY FOR THE BOROUGH OF HAWORTH AND TO ESTABLISH REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO THE USE OF BOROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA SITES**

A discussion was held regarding adding “website” to every section of the ordinance. Mr. Regan suggested including it in Section I of the ordinance.

A motion was offered by Ms. Guenego and seconded by Mr. Poosikian that Ordinance No. 20-10 be passed on first reading.

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

A motion was offered by Mrs. Wasser, seconded by Ms. Siciliano and unanimously carried that Ordinance No. 20-10 be advertised as required by law and a date set for public hearing on August 11, 2020 at 7:30 PM.

Further New Business

Mrs. Wasser suggested the Board of Health consider a campaign in connection with there being no shame in testing for the COVID virus and sharing this information would be a benefit to the community at large. She noted there have been recent positive cases, the mayor and council were the last to know and there is no embarrassment in sharing the information.

Mayor Ference commented the more people are made aware of the situation the better and those tested are fully protected by the HIPA regulations. He said there could be more discussion on this matter at the next meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was offered by Mr. Bain and seconded by Mr. Rosenberg that the following consent agenda be approved.

CONSENT AGENDA – cont'd.

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

Approve Bylaws of Joint Insurance Fund

**WHEREAS**, The Borough of Haworth is a member of the Bergen County Municipal joint Insurance Fund, hereinafter the “FUND” and;

**WHEREAS**, Recent changes were made to the FUND’S bylaws; and

**WHEREAS**, After a public hearing conducted on March 19, 2020 the Executive Committee of the FUND distributed the proposed bylaw amendment to the membership for their consideration; and

**WHEREAS**, these revised bylaws must be ratified by at least three fourths of the member towns before they can become effective.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the governing body of the Borough of Haworth that the revised by laws are hereby ratified.

Authorize Submission of Strategic Plan for Municipal Alliance Grant

For resolution  
see page  
of permanent minutes.

Payment of Bills

FOR COPY OF RESOLUTION AND BILL LIST  
SEE PERMANENT MINUTES  
PAGES

Approval of Minutes

Executive Meeting of June 9, 2020  
Closed Meeting of June 9, 2020  
Regular Meeting of June 23, 2020  
Closed Meeting of June 23, 2020  
Emergency Meeting of June 25, 2020

Open Meeting to Public

The meeting was opened to the period of public discussion.

Ms. B. Borghi, St. Nicholas Av. referred to the earlier discussion regarding the damage to the flower boxes in the downtown area and explained they have been moved in, however will still be easy for the DPW to water. Mayor Ference commented it will be safer for them to be turned in and still look good.

Dr. M. Kahn, Paulson Place thanked the mayor and council for getting the minutes approved up to June however he said they could be more up to date and suggested having them approved at the following meeting. He questioned ordinances not being available to which Mayor Ference responded the ordinances could be put on the website after introduction which Mr. Regan agreed to.

Dr. Kahn asked what was the problem in getting the minutes out earlier. Ms. Fay explained the minute process whereby she completes them in a few days after the meetings, they are then proofread, copied and placed in the mayor and council mail boxes for them to be reviewed. Mr. Regan noted the minutes have to be approved at a public meeting.

Dr. Kahn then referred to the disposal of the borough's recyclable materials. Ms. Fay responded she has contacted the borough's hauler who has indicated these materials are taken to their recycling facilities, they then go to the shipyards to be sent to wherever there is a market however now with China shut down there is very little of a market. Mayor Ference added that finding a market for these materials will be harder and harder. Dr. Kahn said there are plastic companies who take the materials.

Dr. Kahn questioned plastics in the drinking water to which Mayor Ference explained Suez Water has been contacted again, they have provided data indicating they clean out any particles from the water filtering process, noted they have said bottled water contains more plastic particles and said this plant is very efficient. Dr. Kahn responded there is reason not to trust them completely. The mayor said there will be follow-up on this matter.

Dr. Kahn then asked Mrs. Wasser about the use still of plastic dry cleaning bags which one vendor in town is using. Mrs. Wasser responded the matter will be brought up at the next Environmental Commission meeting.

Dr. Kahn then referred to the 2013 Master Plan which included an initiative regarding solar. Mayor Ference responded the borough will go through the Master Plan and have a group meeting to see what is possible, progress is being made and a meeting has been held with an expert in the solar field.

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

Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the council a motion was offered at 8:30 PM by Mrs. Wasser, seconded by Ms. Guenego and unanimously carried.

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Ann E. Fay, RMC, CMC  
Clerk-Administrator

124A. Regular Meeting of July 28, 2020

124B. Regular Meeting of July 28, 2020





124E. Regular Meeting of July 28, 2020





