

89. Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of
held on April 25, 2023 at the Municipal Center

Present: Hon. Heather Wasser, Mayor

Councilmembers: Glenn Poosikian
Andrew Rosenberg
Dina Siciliano
Lisa Dhamija
Howard Lau

Borough Attorney: Robert T. Regan

Mayor Wasser called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM and upon roll call all members of the council were present with the exception of Ms. Guenego. The mayor then read the following statement: "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 Wasser led those present in the pledge of allegiance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of Councilman Lau

Tennis

Mr. Lau reported the courts are being prepped, the committee is trying to obtain a banner to display on Schraalenburgh Road to promote tennis, the committee is seeking sponsors and explained the trust fund where fees can go into.

Environmental Commission

Mr. Lau noted Earth Day was held last Saturday, thanked all for their assistance with Clean-Up Day and the commission has applied for a grant.

Recreation

Mr. Lau reported the Egg Hunt was a great success, the Fishing Contest will be held May 6th. He said discussions were held regarding maintenance of the fields, repairs, etc. and the commission's budget.

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Report of Councilwoman Dhamija

Library

Ms. Dhamija reported painting, repairs, etc. due to a recent storm have been completed as well as installation of new carpet at a cost under budget and this is National Library Week.

Board of Health

Ms. Dhamija noted the Fitness Challenge is going well with over 90 participants so far with two weeks still left for this event. She further noted that Dr. Welish, a member of the board led a discussion at a board meeting in connection with AED's.

Ambulance Corps

Mrs. Dhamija reported the following: 28 calls last month – 24 day- time with most calls in Haworth for a total of 164 manhours for the year, the fund drive is underway and continuing education is ongoing.

Report of Councilman Rosenberg

Planning and Zoning Boards

Mr. Rosenberg reported the planning board did not meet and the zoning board met with one application for a variance which was approved.

Police Department

Mr. Rosenberg noted the department is participating in the Distracted Driving Campaign, more flashing stop signs are being installed at various intersections and a discussion was held regarding two of these flashing signs at the Haworth Avenue and Maple Street intersections.

Report of Councilman Poosikian

Fire Department

Mr. Poosikian reported the department responded to 22 calls last month, 75 calls so far this year, two work nights were held, a hands-on drill and they responded to mutual aid in Closter

Mr. Poosikian noted the department has been installing the lighted stop signs and speed radar sign; the planters for the downtown area will go up soon and cleaning to the rear of the pond has taken place.

Department of Public Works

Mr. Poosikian reported the department has been installing the lighted stop signs and speed radar sign; the planters in for the downtown area will be put up soon and cleaning at the rear of the pond has taken place.

Report of Councilwoman Siciliano

Shade Tree Commission

Ms. Siciliano reported the commission's May meeting has been changed to May 8th and the winter tree program has been completed.

Website

Ms. Siciliano noted a revised proposal for the site is being reviewed.

Haworth School

A ceremony will be held at the school on Arbor Day, Ms. Siciliano noted.

Swim Club

Ms. Siciliano reported the ADA improvements have been completed for the women's room. She said no bids were received for the operation of the snack stand this season, and it will have to be re-bid and explained the early bird membership fees.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Wasser acknowledged the retirement of two long time borough employees – Margaret Celotto, Deputy Borough Clerk, 27 years and Robert Hennion, Police Dispatcher, 28 years, noting Mr. Hennion will remain as fire chief and thanked them both for their much appreciated service.

Ordinance No. 23-08-Addition to Borough Code to Provide Position of Deputy Clerk

A motion was offered by Mr. Poosikian, seconded by Ms. Dhamija and unanimously carried that Ordinance No. 23-08 be offered for first reading.

Ordinance No. 23-08 was then read by title only as follows:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HAWORTH
ENTITLED "ADMINISTRATION"

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A motion was offered by Mr. Rosenberg and seconded by Mr. Poosikian that Ordinance No. 23-08 be passed on first reading.

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

A motion was offered by Ms. Siciliano, seconded by Mr. Poosikian and unanimously carried that Ordinance No. 23-08 be advertised as required by law and a date set for public hearing thereon on May 9, 2023 at 7:30 PM at the municipal center.

Ordinance No. 23-09 – Amendments to Fire Department Ordinance

A motion was offered by Mr. Poosikian, seconded by Mr. Rosenberg and unanimously carried that Ordinance No. 23-09 be offered for first reading.

Ordinance No. 23-09 was then read by title only as follows:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REVISE SECTION 2-31, VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT,
OF CHAPTER 2, ADMINISTRATION

A motion was offered by Mr. Poosikian and seconded by Ms. Siciliano that Ordinance No. 23-09 be passed on first reading. On roll call the vote as follows: Ayes. Poosikian, Rosenberg, Siciliano, Dhamija. Nay – none. Declared carried.

A motion was offered by Mr. Poosikian, seconded by Ms. Siciliano and unanimously carried that Ordinance No. 23-09 be advertised as required by law and a date set for public hearing thereon on May 9, 2023 at 7:30 PM at the Municipal Center.

Pickle Ball Change Order

Mayor Wasser referred to the previous council meeting when configurations of the courts at the Swim Club were discussed. She said she has discussed this with the borough engineer, referred to the \$35,000 in change orders for the project, noted there is now room for the two courts and to continue with the third court involves additional costs.

Ms. Siciliano referred to a total of \$64,000. for this project so far.

Further discussion included the configuration of the courts, the space needed and using the recreation funds for several activities.

Mayor Wasser explained the fees pickleball collects, their dues, what is in the trust fund and how it is allocated.

Mr. Regan was requested to draft a resolution in connection with this discussion.

Open Meeting to Public for the Pickle Ball Discussion

Mr. N. Nakashian, Brook St., referred to pickle ball being funded by a grant and matching borough funds and questioned how that is not correct now.

Mayor Wasser explained visits to the site and the realization of the constraints at the site, the T-formation is the most cost efficient and these brand new courts are much improved from the present site at the rink at Memorial Field.

Mr. R. Hoyng, chairman of the Recreation Commission said there are details of all revenues and expenses on file.

This part of the public discussion was then closed.

Appointment to Fire Department

A motion was offered by Mr. Poosikian, seconded by Mr. Rosenberg and unanimously carried to appoint Yui Kwak a member of the Haworth Fire Department.

Appointment of Acting Municipal Clerk, Borough Administrator, Registrar

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Poosikian and seconded by Mrs. Dhamija:

WHEREAS, Ann E. Fay will retire as Borough Clerk and Administrator on July 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body has undertaken a comprehensive search and has interviewed candidates for these positions.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Haworth as follows:

1. Pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40A:9-133c* Jo Anna Myung (“the Appointee”) be and is hereby appointed as Acting Borough Clerk effective July 1, 2023 for a period of one (1) year in accordance with the aforesaid statute.
2. The Appointee be and is hereby appointed as Borough Administrator effective July 1, 2023.
3. The Appointee shall be compensated at an annual salary of \$75,000.00 per year for both positions.

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4. Effective May 3, 2023, the Appointee is appointed to the position of Acting Borough Clerk, with the salary consistent with the aforesaid paragraph.

5. If required, a copy of the within resolution pertaining to the Appointee's position as Acting Borough Clerk shall be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs.

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

Appointment of Senior Van Coordinator/Driver

A motion was offered by Mr. Poosikian and seconded by Mrs. Dhamija that Elizabeth Stass be appointed Senior Van Coordinator and Senior Van Driver at a salary of \$20.00 per hour.

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

Award 2022-23 Road Improvement Program

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Poosikian and seconded by Mr. Rosenberg:

WHEREAS, the Borough of Haworth advertised that sealed bids would be received for the 2022 NJDOT Roadway Improvements: Lake Shore Drive and Municipal Road Program on April 13, 2023; and

WHEREAS, in response to the advertisement for proposals, J.A. Alexander, Inc., 130-158 John F. Kennedy Drive North, Bloomfield, New Jersey submitted the lowest responsible bid in the amount of \$517,328.20; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available in the amount of \$517,328.20 from Account No. C-04-22-501-001 and Account No. C-04-23-001-001.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough does hereby award a Contract for the 2022 NJDOT Roadway Improvements: Lake Shore Drive and Municipal Program in the sum of \$517,328.20 to the Contractor, and the Mayor and Borough Clerk be and are hereby authorized to execute any Agreement or other documents in connection therewith; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Contract shall provide that the Lake Shore Drive portion of the repaving shall not be performed until the Contractor is directed by the Borough Engineer to repave that roadway, which is anticipated to occur in July or August of 2023.

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

Consent Agenda

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

Refund Summer Recreation Camp Registration

WHEREAS, the Recreation Commissioner requested registrations for one (1) week (Week 7/17/23-7/21/23) of Summer Recreation Camp for three (3) campers be refunded; and

WHEREAS, the \$150 Admin fee had not yet been posted to the website and therefore is not applicable;

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Jennifer Samples	560 Sylvan Pl Haworth, NJ 07641	\$570.00
	Total	<u>\$570.00</u>

Change Order Barrier-Free Improvements – Swim Club

BARRIER-FREE IMPROVEMENTS TO SWIM CLUB WOMAN’S ROOM (INCREASE)

WHEREAS, on July 26, 2022 the Borough of Haworth awarded the Barrier-Free Improvements to the Haworth Swim Club Women’s Room to Nela Carpentry & Masonry, LLC, 375 President Street, Saddle Brook, NJ 07663; and

WHEREAS, there was a change during the project scope due to increase in the usage of quantities resulting in an increase to the contract sum as recommended by the Borough Engineer.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Haworth that Change Order No. 1 for the above-mentioned be approved as follows:

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Original Contract Sum	\$65,000.00
Change Order No. 1 Increase	10,000.00
New Contract Sum	\$75,00.00

Payment of Bills

See Page 97A-H of permanent minutes.

Approval of Minutes

Executive Meeting of April 11, 2023

2023 Municipal Budget

Mr. Rosenberg referred to the budget workbook and explained not in the budget is an increase for shade tree as the finance committee is waiting for an amount which will be needed; stipends are not included regarding the ambulance corps and fire department yet and noted there are issues regarding social security and pension.

Mr. Bliss, borough auditor present at the meeting responded the amount for the stipends would have to go inside the spending CAP and suggested phase these in over a three year period, being effective July 1st he suggested.

Further discussion was held regarding stipends and eligibility and discussion was held by ambulance corps and fire department members regarding the stipends.

Mr. Rosenberg explained using more surplus in this budget, municipal clerk salaries, a new officer in the police department, overtime will have to be discusses as well as DPW wages. He then said the increase in this budget now is \$231 for the average assessment.

Open Meeting to Public

The meeting was opened to the period of public discussion.

Ms. L. Stepic, Hendrickson Street, referred to easement adjacent to her property which she would like to purchase.

Mr. Rosenberg suggested she put her request in writing.

Ms. Stepic explained cars drive on the easement and park there. Mr. Poosikian indicated this is not an access road and Ms. Siciliano said this issue is being addressed.

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Ms. R. Zelman, St. Nicholas Av. thanked the mayor and council for the pickleball informative discussion this evening.

Mr. Malcote, Brookfield Rd., Dumont asked if there were any updates regarding the past discussion on a quiet zone for the trains passing through Haworth and Dumont.

Mayor Wasser responded not now, but there will be further discussions.

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

Close Meeting to Public

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Rosenberg, seconded by Mr. Poosikian 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 April 11, 2023, at which time the following item will be discussed:

Financial Matter

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 10:00 PM and as there was no further business to come before the council a motion was offered by Mr. Rosenberg, seconded by Mr. Poosikian and unanimously carried to adjourn.

Ann E. Fay, RMC, CMC
Municipal Clerk



6600.101 Pickleball Parallel Courts 4-14-23



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