

178. Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
of the Borough of Haworth held on October
25, 2022 via Zoom

Present: Hon. Jacqueline Guenego, Mayor

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

Borough Attorney Robert T. Regan

Mayor Guenego called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and upon roll call all members of the council were present. The mayor then read the following statement: "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 Guenego led those present in the pledge of allegiance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of Councilman Bain

Recreation

Mr. Bain reported Haworth Day had a good turn-out, revenues were very strong, particularly considering it was a rain date. Ghost Stories will be held at the pond on October 30th and trick and treating in the manor section on October 31st.

Report of Councilman Rosenberg

Planning Board and Zoning Board

Mr. Rosenberg reported the planning board did not meet; the zoning board met and denied a variance for a fence at their meeting on October 6, 2022.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – cont'd.

Report of Councilman Rosenberg – cont'd.

Police Department

Mr. Rosenberg noted the department assisted with several events including the 5K Run, Haworth Day, etc. as well as the police auxiliary did; participated in the recent drill at the water company; nine officers attended training classes and the Department of Corrections conducted their inspection of police headquarters deeming it in compliance at the present time.

Report of Councilwoman Dhamija

Board of Health

Mrs. Dhamija reported the board did not meet however held the annual flu clinic for approximately 50 people who received vaccinations.

Parks and Playgrounds

This committee did not meet Mrs. Dhamija said.

Report of Councilman Poosikian

Fire Department

Mr. Poosikian said a full monthly report will be submitted.

Department of Public Works

Mr. Poosikian reported the department assisted with Haworth Day and the 5K Run; leaf season has begun and residents are urged not to place sticks and rocks in the leaf pile which can cause significant damage to the machinery and injury to the DPW personnel.

Report of Councilwoman Siciliano

Shade Tree Commission

Ms. Siciliano reported the winter tree program list is being compiled, members met with the arborist regarding evaluation of specific trees, 6 CEU's have been issued for the members to stay certified and tree planting will begin at 15 residences.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – cont'd.

Report of Councilwoman Siciliano – cont'd.

Library

Ms. Siciliano said the new drainage system is working well and thanked the engineer and contractor for their expertise; all the library programs have been well attended; holiday dates are being worked on and the state has increased its funding limit for municipal libraries.

Swim Club

Ms. Siciliano reported she has reviewed the past season and plans ahead for the next season at a meeting with the club management and the recently awarded ADA project at the club needs a date for the start of this project.

Report of Councilwoman Wasser

Ambulance Corps

Mrs. Wasser noted the monthly report has been forwarded; one of the rigs is in Bergenfield and will be returned shortly and she attended the recent water company drill which was very interesting.

Addition to Councilman Poosikian's Report

Mr. Poosikian reported the NJ Motor Mobile Vehicle presence in the borough last week was a success. He further reported the Fire Department will not participate in this year's ragamuffin parade due to staffing matters.

Mayor's Report

Upcoming Meetings

Mayor Guenego explained that the executive meeting in November has been changed to November 9th due to the general election on November 8th and she is recommending only one meeting in November and one in December which has already been decided.

Ms. Siciliano responded there should not be just one meeting in those months as budget preparations should be started.

Mayor Guenego replied the budget preparation is the function of various committees, the CFO and the Finance Committee who all should have discussions.

Further discussion was held and it was concluded to hold the November 9th meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment to Fire Department

A motion was offered by Mr. Poosikian, seconded by Mr. Bain and unanimously carried to appoint Rocco Vann as a junior member of the Haworth Fire Department.

Consideration of Draft Ordinance – Short Term Rentals

Mr. Regan explained this ordinance is consistent with the state statute, prohibiting short term rentals, etc.

Mayor Guenego asked if the council knows if there is an issue now in town with this process.

Mr. Regan commented if there were to be complaints the borough has no regulations now.

Mayor Guenego said that until there is an issue her instinct would not do this as she doesn't see people wanting to rent in Haworth and it seems premature to her. She suggested to table the ordinance and revisit it at a later date.

Pickle Ball Bids

Ms. Siciliano explained the background regarding this bid; the borough has received a \$156,000 grant; three bids have been received and Mr. Statile has issued his recommendation.

Mr. Bain said the decision that needs to be made involves if the borough wants the base bid for the installation of one new court and the re-surfacing of the existing court; the alternate bid includes the complete replacement of the existing court.

Ms. Siciliano commented this is a substantial amount of money and Mayor Guenego commented any additional dollars would have to come from the borough. Mr. Bain suggested going with just the base bid.

A motion was offered by Ms. Siciliano and seconded by Mr. Bain to accept the base bid of Jag Paving Corp., Kearney, NJ in the amount of \$148,900 for the pickle ball installation at the Haworth Swim Club.

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.

Refunds to Vendors due to Rescheduling of Haworth Day

WHEREAS, a number of vendors for Haworth Day are seeking refunds of fees paid to the Haworth Recreation Commission;

WHEREAS, at the time these vendors applied, Haworth Day was scheduled for Saturday, October 1, 2022. Because of inclement weather, Haworth Day was rescheduled for Saturday, October 8, 2022 and these vendors had other scheduled events on that day.

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Wendy Bain (Rodan & Fields)	355 Pine Lane Haworth, NJ	\$75.00
Doug Drohan (Bergen Neighbors Magazine Group)	38 Lee Avenue Harrington Park, NJ	\$50.00
Lisa Starobinsky (Crispy Edge Cookies)	605 Kennedy Court River Vale, NJ	\$75.00
Dazzle (Robert Retzlaff)	112 Warwick Avenue Staten Island, NY	\$75.00
Felicia Brobson (Dottera Essential Oils)	237 Mill Street Westwood, NJ	\$50.00
Ellen Lutvak (El Potter)	44 Columbus Avenue Closter, NJ	\$75.00
In Between It All Crochet LLC (Chris-Ann Amorese-Mara)	12 Holt Street Dumont, NJ	\$75.00
Kona Ice of Paramus	29 Sherwood Road	\$150.00

CONSENT AGENDA – cont’d.

Refunds to Vendors due to Rescheduling of Haworth Day – cont’d.

(Erick & Kristin)	Dumont, NJ	
Erica Stravato	14 Sunset Road	\$75.00
(Pixie Lane)	Demarest, NJ	
<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Tasco Worldwide	1915 Parkside Drive	\$75.00
(Thomas Ascough)	Forked River, NJ	
Miss Shelly’s BB LLC	105 Merritt Drive	\$75.00
(Shelly Platsky)	Oradell, NJ	

Refund of Building Permit Fee

WHEREAS, Gold Medal Services was issued a Construction Permit #22-210 on October 6, 2022 and paid a fee of \$306.00 for an air conditioner replacement at 216 Schraalenburgh Road; and

WHEREAS, Gold Medal Services informed Carolyn Lee, the technical assistant, that Steve Trevisan, the owner and resident, cancelled the work to be performed.

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Refund</u>
Gold Medal Services	216 Schraalenburgh	\$306.00	\$55.00 (Plan Review)	\$220.00
11 Cotters Lane	Rd.		\$31.00 (DCA fee)	
East Brunswick, NJ 08816	Construction Permit			

Approval of Payment of Bills

FOR COPY OF RESOLUTION AND BILL LIST

SEE PERMANENT MINUTES

PAGES 185A – 185H

CONSENT AGENDA – cont'd.

Approval of Minutes

Executive Meeting of October 11, 2022

Closed Meeting of October 11, 2022

Vote on Motions

Mr. Rosenberg said he disagreed with not allowing interested parties to speak during the process of the council approving motions, particularly regarding the motion to award the bid for the pickle ball courts earlier in the meeting.

Mayor Guenego said she disagreed, noting incredible attention has been paid to the pickle ball topic.

Mr. Rosenberg responded he was only suggesting regarding certain issues since the public often has comments.

Mayor Guenego said the council has spent months and months and taken comments on this matter and the process has been fair.

Open Meeting to Public

The meeting was opened to the period of public discussion.

Ms. C. Erfurt, 187 Pine St. referred to speeding vehicles on the streets particularly on Madison Avenue.

Mr. Rosenberg responded that speed flasher signs have been ordered - one will go on Madison Avenue and others on Maple Street, Valley Road and Prospect Avenue at Whitman Street.

Mr. Bain questioned the possibility of “rumble strips”. Mr. Poosikian said they can cause problems with plows and other equipment.

Ms. Lori Ross, Franklin Street, regarding the earlier awarding of the pickle ball bid said she felt she was not heard on this issue/decision, was incredibly disappointed and this was rushed to a vote this evening.

Mayor Guenego responded that she has met with the pickle ball group several times, there has been plenty of input and relayed information to the engineer which has all been consistent.

Open Meeting to Public – cont'd.

Ms. Siciliano commented this is an incredible financial issue, there has been extraordinary commitment to the pickle ball group, the matter has come a long way with all having to compromise and she felt all have been responsive to the pickle ball group.

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

Close Meeting to Public

The following motion was offered by Mrs. Wasser, 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 October 25, 2022 at which time the following items will be discussed:

Three Personnel Items

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 9:15 PM.

A motion was offered by Mr. Poosikian and seconded by Mr. Bain to hire a special labor counsel to investigate an employee matter at an amount not to exceed \$5,000 and authorize the mayor to select the special labor counsel.

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

As there was no further business to come before the council, a motion was offered at 9:20 PM by Mrs. Wasser, seconded by Mr. Bain and unanimously carried to adjourn.

Ann E. Fay, RMC, CMC
Clerk-Administrator

