

TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE
CAUCUS-REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
MINUTES

January 22, 2025 @ 6:30pm *Agenda subject to change*

This Meeting was called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this meeting was sent to the Star Ledger and the Union County Local Source. In addition, copies of notice were posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building, on the Town Hall doors, and filed in the Office of the Township Clerk. Notices on the bulletin board have remained continuously posted. Proper notice having been given; the Acting Township Clerk is directed to include this statement in the minutes of this meeting.

DATE: January 22, 2025 Time: 6:30PM

FLAG SALUTE: Craig M. Epps

PRESENT: Council Member Lisa Bonanno
Council Member Angela Garretson
Council Member Andrea Hyatt
Council Vice President Robert Rios
Council President Craig Epps

ALSO PRESENT: Glynn Jones, CFO
Gracia Montilus, Township Attorney
Hope Smith, Business Administrator
Shereefah Alexander, Keyboard Clerk I
Brook Nieves, Acting Township Clerk

EXCUSED: Council Member David Feuerstein
Council Member Daryl Joyner

Statement of Public Notice
Read By: Brook Nieves, Acting Township Clerk

PAYMENT OF BILLS- January 22, 2025

Motion to pull Wilson Tree Service Landscaping LLC for \$2,500.00 by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Member Garretson, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

Motion to pull Remington & Vernick Engineers, Inc for \$10,555.00 by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Member Bonanno, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

Motion to Pull Edmunds Govtech for \$71,215.00 by Council Member Hyatt; No Second **Motion Fails**

Motion to include the Assessment Notices of \$3,494.96 in the Bills List by Council Vice President Rios; Seconded by Council President Epps, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

Motion to Approve the Amended Bills List by Council Vice President Rios; Seconded by Council Member Hyatt, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE: First Reading & Introduction >> O-25-02

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 291 VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, ARTICLE IV – TRAFFIC REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 291-29 MULTI-WAY STOP INTERSECTIONS ON SALEM AVENUE AT WILDER STREET AND WESTMINSTER AVENUE AT WILDER STREET

Motioned by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members voted with the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

Mortifying the Agenda to move Public Hearing before Resolutions due to Weather.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Motion to OPEN Public Comments by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All-In-Favor

Vincent; Who made the appointments for the Library Committee? Are the update for the committee required to show up for a council meeting?

Annie Davis – 1544 Morris Place; Everything that was said in the meeting about the pool and library seems like the council has not heard of any information or no information has been passed on to the Council. Is this the reason why Hillside is stuck?

Is there any information on Crystal Myers?

Tyisha Jackson – 242 Dorer Ave; is there a better source to information about the meetings because there a lot of seniors have no social media.

Val Mayo – Who made the decision to give so much to Edmunds. Information about the Brystal Myers project. Also looking for information on the tree grant.

Tyrese Outlaw – 357 Winans Ave. Wilson Tree Service Landscaping is a small company they remove curbside trees. They do not remove private trees.

Motion to CLOSE Public Comments by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All-In-Favor

Motion to Reconsider the Bills List to Included Wilson Tree Service Landscaping for \$2,500.00 Seconded by Council Member Garretson, All Council Members voted with the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

Motion to Make All Items on the Agenda Action Items by Council Member Bonanno; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, **All-In-Favor**

The public hearing for the Margaret M. Roche Memorial Swimming Pool Phase II Project was called to order by Council President Epps. The purpose of this hearing was to present the project details and solicit public input as part of the NJDEP Green Acres application process.

Business Administrator Hope Smith provided an overview of the proposed project, including a review of the project description, and Environmental Impact Assessment. The Township outlined the necessity of the project, emphasizing its role in restoring a critical community resource within an Overburdened Community Subject to Adverse Cumulative Stressors (ACS/OBC).

After the presentation, the floor was opened for public comments. No members of the public provided comments or raised questions regarding the project.

Public Hearing was closed.

RESOLUTIONS

R-25-051 Green Acres Enabling (ACTION)

Motion by Council Vice President Rios; Seconded by Council Member Bonanno, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-039 Auth. Submission of a Grant Proposal to the NJ Dept. of Community Affairs FY25 Local Recreational Improvement Grant Program by the Township of Hillside for Improvements at the Hillside Parks Including Bristol Myers & Korlesky Park (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Member Garretson, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

Motion to Make Items R-25-021 through R-25-027, R-25-036, R-25-049, & R-25-050 Consent Agenda Items by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Member Garretson, **All-In-Favor**

Motion to Adopt R-25-021 through R-25-027, R-25-036, R-25-049, & R-25-050 by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Member Garretson, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

R-25-021 Auth. Credit of Senior Citizen Deduction (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Member Garretson, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-022 Auth. Tax Refund Overpayment (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Member Garretson, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-023 Auth. Refund of Premiums for Tax Sale Certificates (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Member Garretson, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-024 Tax: Refund Tax Sale Payment (Block 1709, Lot 18) (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Member Garretson, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-025 Tax: Refund Tax Sale Payment (Block 808, Lot 34) (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Member Garretson, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-026 Tax: Refund Tax Sale Payment (Block 1501, Lot 23) (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Member Garretson, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-027 Tax: Refund Tax Sale Payment (Block 1212, Lot 60) (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Member Garretson, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-028 Auth. Emergency Temporary Budget Appropriation for Total Sum pf \$11,270,015.16 (ACTION)

Motion by Council Vice President Rios; Seconded by Council Member Bonanno, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-029 Approving Change Order #1 to Messercola Excavating Company Co., INC. (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-030 Appointing Auditor – Suplee, Clooney & Company (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-031 Appointing Financial Advisor – NW Financial Group, LLC (ACTION)

Motion by Council Vice President Rios; Seconded by Council Member Bonanno, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-032 Appointing a Contract to Bruno Associates, INC as the Grant Writer (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-033 Appointing Risk Management Consultants (ACTION)

Motion by Council Vice President Rios; Seconded by Council Member Bonanno, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-034 Awarding a Contract for the Purchase & Installation of SonicWall for the Township of Hillside Security & Firewall to PCS (65 Mechanic St., Ste. 104 Red Bank, NJ 07701) (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Bonanno; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-035 Auth. the Purchase of Traffic Sign & Materials from National Highway Products, INC., Pursuant to Morris County Co-Operative Pricing Council Contract #28 "Traffic Sign Material" in an Amount Not to Exceed \$19,926.79 (ACTION) (PULLED) by Administration

R-25-036 Auth. the Acceptance of a Grant Award from Statewide Insurance Fund for the 2024 Risk Control Grant in the Amount of \$10,260.00 (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Member Garretson, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-037 Auth. an Emergency Budget Appropriation for Grant Award from Statewide Insurance Fund for the 2024 Risk Control Grant in the Amount of \$10,260.00 (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-038 Auth. Payment of Accumulated Severance Liabilities – Pamela Mclucas

Motion by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-040 Appointment to Zoning Board of Adjustments (ACTION)

Motion by Council Vice President Rios; Seconded by Council President Epps, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-041 Appointment to Planning Board (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-042 Appointment to the Council on the Arts (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-043 Appointment to Senior Citizens Council (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-044 Appointment to Recreation Advisory Council (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Member Bonanno, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-045 Appointment to Veterans Committee (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Vice President, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-046 Appointment to Health Advisory Council (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Bonanno; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative with the Exception of Council Member Hyatt who Voted Nay. **Motion Carries**

R-25-047 Appointment to Finance Committee (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Bonanno; Seconded by Council Vice President Rios, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-048 Appointment to Personnel Committee (ACTION)

Motion by Council Vice President Rios; Seconded by Council Member Bonanno, All Council Members voted in the Affirmative with the Exception of Council Member Hyatt who Voted Nay. **Motion Carries**

R-25-049 Auth. the Renewal of Limousine License to Route 22 Corp. (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Member Garretson, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

R-25-050 Auth. the Renewal of Limousine License Havana Rose LLC. (ACTION)

Motion by Council Member Hyatt; Seconded by Council Member Garretson, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

Motion from the floor to pay \$500.00 out of the Council O&E for the DJ and Photographer for the Senior Valentine Event on February 7, 2024

Motion by Council President; Seconded by Council Vice President, All Council Members Voted in the Affirmative.

Motion Carries

Motion to Adjourned by Council Vice President Rios; Seconded Council Member Bonanno, All-In-Favor

Adjourned at 8:35pm:

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



Brook Nieves, Acting Township Clerk



Craig Epps, Council President

DATE: 3/13/2025