

**BOROUGH OF HALEDON**  
**MAYOR AND COUNCIL**  
May 16, 2013

PRAYER  
FLAG SALUTE

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Haledon took place on May 16, 2013 at 7:00PM in the Council Chambers of the Haledon Municipal Complex located at 510 Belmont Avenue, Haledon, New Jersey.

This meeting was called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. Notice of this meeting was included in a notice sent to the North Jersey Herald & the Record on January 8, 2013 posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on January 8, 2013 and has remained continuously posted as the required notices under the Statute. In addition, copies of the above notices are and have been available to the public and are on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

Proper notice having been given, the Municipal Clerk is directed to include this statement in the minutes of this meeting.

ROLL CALL – Council President Almaita called the meeting to order at 7:00PM

Present: Council President Mounir Almaita, Councilwoman Belgica Costa, Councilman Michael Johnson and Councilman Rey Martinez. Borough Attorney Andrew Oddo and Deputy Clerk/Assistant Administrator Leena Abaza.

Absent: Mayor Domenick Stampone, Councilman Michael Tirri, Councilwoman Maha Kandis and Municipal Clerk/Administrator Allan Susen with prior notice.

ROLL CALL  
YES: ALMAITA, COSTA, MARTINEZ, JOHNSON  
NO: -0-

**PUBLIC HEARING**  
**(Privilege of the floor)**

Motion by Costa seconded by Martinez to open the public hearing.

ROLL CALL  
YES: ALMAITA, COSTA, MARTINEZ, JOHNSON  
NO: -0-

Joseph Moore, 9 Bushmann Ave. - The Shepherd and The Knucklehead client parked in my neighbor's handicap parking spot. I called the Police Department and Officer Negrón responded and did the right thing by checking license with the handicap placard. It turns out that the handicap placard was not for that vehicle. Officer Negrón issued summons and towed the car. I have numerous concerns regarding The Shepherd and The Knucklehead Pub and they are the following:

1. The dumpster in the back of the business is picked up at 5:35 AM. They make a lot of noise when they pick up the dumpster.
2. The Shepherd and The Knucklehead employees are littering and hang outside of the establishment all night. They continue to make loud noises throughout the night as they hang out.
3. Landscaping- does the Borough hire an outside landscaper to do the landscaping around that business?
4. Found a bag that contained drugs dumped by my house.

My neighbors would come and complain about this but they are afraid of retaliation. There should be a liaison between the Borough and the owner of the establishment to resolve these issues.

*Please shut off or set to vibrate all cell phones and other communication devices*

Larry Lombardi, Southside Ave.-issue with drivers speeding once they turn from Central Ave. onto Tilt Street (an average of 50 miles per hour). The one way sign that is by Gatherings is on the left side it should really be on the right side. Where does the one way begin? It is not clear when the one way begins. Seven Eleven on Haledon Ave. has an enormous amount of garbage in the parking lot area. The owners should be advised to clean it up. Super Super Market should have speed bumps in the back (where the apartments are). 375 Mason Ave. there is a dog that continues to bark all day long (from 8 am to 11 pm). I call the Police Department, when the Police are there the dog stops barking. Once the Police leave the location the barking starts again. What can be done about this issue? Would like to volunteer my time and assist Councilwoman Kandis with cleaning up the Borough.

Matt Zimmer, 537 Belmont Ave. I live adjacent to The Shepherd and The Knucklehead the following are the issues with the Pub:

- Employees urinating in public.
- Drugs.
- Very loud noises in parking lot.
- Stop sign- the clients of S & K park right in front of the sign.
- Garbage is everywhere.

This is not the owner's fault entirely but the issues should be addressed.

Frank Menyhardt- dog waste stations are not necessary because the owners will not put the bag with the dog waste in the waste station. I have talked to many of the residents they are not familiar with the Council. There are residents who park in handicap parking. I have been harassed when I spoke to the person advising them not to park in the handicap parking. Called the Police Department, no one was dispatched. This is a daily occurrence, how many times must I call the Police for the same matter?

Mary Mayer, 635 Belmont Ave.-is the Borough still paying for the fencing around the old violation building? Since it has been torn down we should not be paying for enclosure of that property anymore. In regards to the budget, does the Borough have 107 employees? Why does it state that the Manchester Utilities have 4.5 employees? What does that mean? Did see the pictures for the Spring Cleanup and did notice that there are no sidewalks between Lee Ave/West Broadway and West Broadway/Aberdeen Court. We do need sidewalks or at least a walking path in that area.

Motion by Martinez seconded by Johnson to close the public hearing.

ROLL CALL

YES: ALMAITA, COSTA, MARTINEZ, JOHNSON

NO: -0-

### **GOVERNING BODY RESPONSES**

Council President Almaita responded by stating the common theme is enforcement when it comes to the issues of The Shepherd and The Knucklehead and the Roe Street Park.

Chief Mercurio, we have been applying pressure in The Shepherd and The Knucklehead area.

Council President asked Joe Moore if The Shepherd and The Knucklehead has always been a problem?

Joe Moore responded by stating the pub now is double the size now that is why parking and other issues are arising.

Council President Almaita requested that Deputy Clerk Leena Abaza send out a memo to the Code Enforcer and the Fire Department regarding The Shepherd and The Knucklehead issues.

In regards to the pet waste stations the tax payer is not paying we are getting them through the Clean Communities grant. If the pet waste stations become an issue we will rectify the problems as they come along. Chief in terms of the one way by Norwood Street can you look into it?

Chief Mercurio- it's a small distance will find out which measurements were used.

Council President Almaita speeding issue on to Tilt Street how can we address this?

Chief Mercurio- are there markings on the pavement to slow people down? Not sure, I will discuss with Doug Morgan.

Councilman Martinez is there a way to have a Police Unit with radar at that location? If there is the people will automatically slow down once they see the Police Unit.

Chief Mercurio I will post a Police Unit in that location.

Council President Almaita in terms of residents knowing the Council I walked through the town all the time and meet residents. I enjoy meeting resident and the rest of the Council also enjoys it.

Councilman Johnson we have heard the issues The Shepherd and The Knucklehead for the past couple of months. Thanks to Officer Negron for addressing the issue properly. We try our best to address the issue that the residents have to the best of our ability. We should post a Police Officer at Tilt Street to address the speeding problem there. Enforcement is the key factor. No tolerance for violators. Chief please make sure the traffic laws are enforced. Park issues are enforcement issues also. We can utilize the Special Police Officers to foot patrol. Some residents have a sense of responsibility and others do not. Once they get a summons they will pay and learn. Southside Ave. entrance or exit we can put "Do Not Enter Signs". We have to take a survey safe corridor by Central Ave. to decrease the speeding there. The Crossing Guard between West Broadway/Central Ave. is having a difficult time due to the fact that they are speeding and running the light.

Council President Almaita Sheriff's Department used to put a Motor Cycle Officer at that light.

Chief can you look into why no one was dispatched when Frank called the Police Department regarding handicap parking?

Chief Mercurio, Motor Cycle Officer was banded. I will look to the call regarding the handicap parking.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Rey Martinez, Chair. No official report.  
Thanks to Officer Negron for doing the right thing. The Police department is shorthanded. The two Officers on duty could have been responding to other calls. Enforcement is just what it is. The Shepherd and The Knucklehead business has grown and maybe the clients have changed. Continue to call the Police Department for enforcement. Thank you for coming and bringing our attention to the issues at hand.

Police Liaison – Rey Martinez  
Police Department  
Housing Inspection/Building Maintenance  
Municipal Court

Fire Liaison– Michael Johnson- no official report.  
Fire Department

Office of Emergency Management Liaison – Michael Tirri- absent.

*Please shut off or set to vibrate all cell phones and other communication devices*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Mounir Almaita, Chair –no official report.

**ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL**

Maha Kandis, Chair – absent.

**ORDINANCE**

Mounir Almaita, Chair –new parking lot.

**HEALTH AND WELFARE**

Belgica Costa, Chair –Board of Health meeting cancelled due to lack of quorum.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

Michael Johnson, Chair –we are working on having street cleaning soon bear with us. The DPW are attending to maintaining all the abandoned houses throughout the Borough.

- Water Department & Utility Management
- Department of Public Works
- Streets & Roads
- Public Land, Parks & Building Maintenance
- Sanitation & Waste Services
- Clean Streets
- Recycling

**CAPITAL PROJECTS**

Rey Martinez, Chair – New Parking Lot on Tilt Street is almost complete. We are currently going out to bid for the Belmont Streetscape Phase II project.

**TECHNOLOGY**

Maha Kandis, Chair –absent.

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

Maha Kandis, Chair –absent.

Council President Almaita mentioned the Art Exhibition by local artist Rama Jamouka. All are welcome to attend.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor was absent.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Invitation from the Borough of Prospect Park to attend National Day of Prayer on May 2, 2013.
2. Letter from William Paterson University requesting permission from the Mayor and Council to hang a banner over Belmont Avenue.
3. Letter from the American Labor Museum requesting Norwood Street to be closed between Southside and Mason Avenues between 12PM-5PM for an event that they are holding Sunday, June 2, 2013.
4. Letter from Officer Frank Conca PBA President Local 349 stating that the revised Police Rules and Regulations have been approved during a PBA meeting.

Motion by Johnson seconded by Costa to accept and file.

ROLL CALL

YES: ALMAITA, COSTA, MARTINEZ, JOHNSON

NO:-0-

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

RESOLUTION#2013-092 APPOINTMENT OF THE SHADE TREE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Motion by Martinez seconded by Johnson to approve.

WHEREAS, Mayor Stampone requests the advice and consent of the Borough Council to appoint the below as the members of the Shade Tree Committee effective May 15, 2013;

Allan R. Susan  
Ruth Susan  
Nadia Alkaita  
Mireille Verna  
Melanie Barrett

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Haledon here by provide their advice and consent to appoint the above members to the Shade Tree Committee for the term expiring December 31, 2013.

ROLL CALL

YES: ALMAITA, COSTA, MARTINEZ, JOHNSON

NO: -0

RESOLUTION#2013-093 GOVERNING BODY AUTHORIZES A WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY BANNER TO HANG OVER BELMONT AVE

Motion by Johnson seconded by Costa to approve.

WHEREAS, Patrick DeDeo William Paterson University Director of External Relations requested in a letter dated April 15, 2013 permission to hang a banner over Belmont Ave. that will display Homecoming football game times and events;

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Haledon that the William Paterson University is authorized to hang a banner over Belmont Ave.

ROLL CALL

YES: ALMAITA, COSTA, MARTINEZ, JOHNSON

NO: -0-

RESOLUTION #2013-094   BILLS LIST – May 16, 2013  
Motion by Johnson seconded by Costa to approve.

WHEREAS, the attached bills have been submitted for payment; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has attached his certification of availability of funds stating that the Bills list for May will not constitute an over expenditure of any Ordinance or Line Item;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Haledon that the attached payments are hereby approved and payment made when the funds of the Borough are sufficient to meet them.

TOTAL BILLS LIST FOR May 16, 2013 WITH PREPAIDS IS:

CURRENT:	\$1,374,004.99
WATER (MUA):	<u>\$ 22,938.29</u>
TOTAL:	\$1,396,943.28

ROLL CALL  
YES: ALMAITA, COSTA, MARTINEZ, JOHNSON  
NO: -0-

**ADJOURN**

Motion by Johnson seconded by Costa to adjourn.

ROLL CALL  
YES: ALMAITA, COSTA, MARTINEZ, JOHNSON  
NO:-0-

Respectfully submitted:

Allan R. Susen, RMC/CMC  
Municipal Clerk/Administrator