2022 Highlands Year in Review

During 2022, we continued to work with Council to address past issues as well as plan for Highlands' future for both residents and businesses. We were again very successful in locating, pursuing and winning grants as well as other funding sources to help fund Infrastructure projects and updates to our open spaces.

The State of the Borough at the end of 2022:

- Residents, staff, businesses, charitable organizations, and clergy all worked together to help our neighbors who were and are in need of help. Food, clothing and toy drives showed how amazing and resilient our community remains.
- The Municipal tax rate was lowered for the fourth straight year. The combined valuation of all properties in the Borough increased to \$889,700,212. This was an increase in valuation of an incredible \$124,834,071. The largest year over year increase the Borough has ever seen.
- Three new businesses opened in town: U.N. Owen's Recording Studio, Café La Di Da and Farmacie.
- Grants and other funding sources awarded in 2022 was \$808,518.

Borough of Highlands

42 Shore Drive Highlands, NJ 07732 www.highlandsborough.org

Mayor & Council Goals that were accomplished in 2022:

- Completed GIS mapping of stormwater & sanitary sewer systems, stormwater outfalls and bulkhead mapping.
- Completed North St pump electric mitigation improvements.
- County completed the Kerry E. McEntee Gowan Off-Leash Dog Run at Popamora Point.
- Completed repairs and paint to Marine Place Bulkhead and cap as well as new platform on the Snug Harbor side.
- Completed upgrades to Huddy and Veteran's Parks playground areas.
- Completed reconstruction of South Bay Avenue.
- Completed reconstruction of King & Matthews Streets.
- Completed installation of the gabion on the hill behind Twin Lights Terrace.
- Completed the Area of Redevelopment process for Bay Ave.
- Updated the Slope Ordinance.
- Broke ground on building the Municipal Building.
- Continued to actively address runoff issues at Monmouth Hills and submitted three grants to pay for the work.

Mayor & Council Goals Targeted Goals for 2023

- Continue implementing stormwater projects from the 2021 Flood Mitigation Resiliency Plan.
- Work with a Landscape Architect to create a holistic approach to using resilient flora on all Borough properties.
- Finally regionalize the school districts of Highlands, Sea Bright & Atlantic Highlands.
- · Move forward with mitigation to fix the runoff issues at Monmouth Hills that have been ongoing for 100+ years.
- Complete new Skate Park and Courts at Snug Harbor.
- · Complete upgrades to Gertrude Ederle Park.
- Complete Waterwitch Pump upgrades and install backup generator.
- Complete Phase 1 of the 2019 Waterwitch Area Sanitary project.
- Complete the installation of the EV Charging Station at 171 Bay Ave.
- Complete the new Municipal Building.
- Complete the reconstruction of Bayside Drive & Marie St from Shore Dr to the Borough border, Work includes sanitary sewer main replacement, storm drainage improvements and paving, DOT grant \$246,850.
- Complete upgrades to Frank Hall Park including a Bocce Ball Court. The Lion's Club has already raised \$4,000.
- Complete Overlook Park on empty lot on Route 36.

For a more detailed update please go to www.highlandsborough.org.

Wishing you all the best in 2022, Mayor Broullon