

Mayor & Council Goals that were accomplished in 2023:

- Completed the new Municipal Building.
- Reinstated our Buildings & Housing Department.
- Reinstated our Municipal Court with the first court date set for 1/16/2024.
- Received a grant for over \$12 million dollars to move forward with mitigation to fix the runoff issues at Monmouth Hills that have been ongoing for over 127 years.
- Completed Waterwitch Pump upgrades and installed backup generator.
- Continued implementing stormwater projects from the 2021 Flood Mitigation Resiliency Plan.
- Completed Landscape Architect design to create a holistic approach for resilient flora on all Borough properties.
- Completed new skate park, basketball and tennis courts at Snug Harbor.
- Completed upgrades to Gertrude Ederle Park.
- Completed the majority of sewer pipe replacement for the Phase 1 of the 2019 Sanitary Sewer Project.
- Completed the installation of the EV Charging Station at 171 Bay Ave.

Mayor & Council Goals Targeted Goals for 2024

- Complete Phase 1 of the 2019 Sanitary Sewer project. This includes all paving.
- Complete the reconstruction of Bayside Dr. & Marie St. from Shore Dr. to the borough border. Work includes 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 & we are submitting a grant to Green Acres in February.
- Complete Overlook Park on empty lot on Route 36. Grants awarded include Monmouth County Open Space \$148k+DCA Local Aid \$74k.
- Complete Marine Pl. elevated walkway East [Sea Drift], Monmouth County CDBG grant \$167,647.
- Complete the Shore Drive Pedestrian Safety Improvements including new sidewalks from Waterwitch to Willow. DOT \$284,000.

All the best to you and yours in 2024,
Mayor Carolyn Broullon

2023 Highlands Year in Review

During 2023, the Mayor, Council and Staff worked to address past issues as well as plan for Highlands' future. 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 2023:

- 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 consecutive year. The combined valuation of all properties in the Borough increased to \$1,103,964,900. This was an increase in valuation of an incredible \$214,264,688 over 2023. The largest year over year increase the Borough has ever seen.
- Our Chief Robert Burton was voted the 84th President of the Monmouth County Chief's Association for 2024.
- From over 300 submissions, Highland's own, Russell Karshmer, a Junior at Mast on Sandy Hook, a Cadet Chief Petty Officer in the NJROTC program won the USS New Jersey (SSN 796) Commissioning Coin "b-side" design.
- One new business opened in town: Bistro Iberia.
- Grants and other funding sources awarded in 2023 was an incredible \$15,631,589.

Borough of Highlands

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