

Monday, August 12, 2013.

RESOLUTION NO. 100 - 13

Offered By Councilperson **THEODOROU**
Seconded By Councilperson _____

AUTHORIZING A NONBINDING REFERENDUM ON THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE BOROUGH SHOULD INSTALL AN ARTIFICIAL TURF FIELD AT THE HURRELL FIELD

WHEREAS, Hurrell Field must be reconstructed due to usage; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Parks and Recreation Committee has recommended that an artificial turf field be installed at Hurrell Field as a way of increasing field availability for Borough recreation and Board of Education programs; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the initial installation will cost between \$900,000 and \$1,000,000 but actual costs may be more or less; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the artificial turf surface will have to be replaced every ten to fifteen years at an estimated cost of \$500,000 in today's dollars; and

WHEREAS, a substantial amount of the of the initial installation costs will be paid from contributions from the community; and

WHEREAS, the governing body feels that the residents of the Borough should have a say in whether Borough's Capital Improvement Fund and/or bonds or bond anticipation notes should be used to pay for the balance of this proposed project; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 19:37-1 provides that:

"When the governing body of any municipality . . . desires to ascertain the sentiment of the legal voters of the municipality . . . upon any question or policy pertaining to the government or internal affairs thereof, and there is no other statute by which the sentiment can be ascertained by the submission of such question to a vote of the electors in the municipality . . . at any election to be held therein, the governing body may adopt at any regular meeting an ordinance or a resolution requesting the clerk of the county to print upon the official ballots to be used at the next ensuing general election a certain proposition to be formulated and expressed in the ordinance or resolution in concise form. Such request shall be filed with the clerk of the county not later than 81 days previous to the election."; and

WHEREAS, the governing body finds that it is appropriate to conduct a nonbinding referendum on this question;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Borough of Glen Ridge in the County of Essex, New Jersey as follows:

1. The following nonbinding public question shall be submitted to the voters of Glen Ridge Borough at the November 5, 2013 general election:

PUBLIC QUESTION

Should the Borough of Glen Ridge install an artificial turf field at Hurrell Field at an estimated cost of between \$900,000 and \$1,000,000 (with the possibility that actual costs may be more or may be less), funding a substantial portion of said costs from contributions, and paying the balance by using the Capital Improvement Fund or through the issuance of bonds or bond anticipation notes.

2. The following statement interpreting the nonbinding public question shall also be placed on the ballot:

INTERPRETIVE STATEMENT

If this question is approved by the voters, the Mayor and Council will construe that as support to install an artificial turf field at Hurrell Field at an estimated cost of between \$900,000.00 and \$1,000,000 (with the possibility that actual costs may be more or may be less). It is anticipated that a substantial amount will come from contributions. The balance will be funded by the Capital Improvement Fund or raised through the issuance of bonds or bond anticipation notes. If bonds or bond anticipation notes are issued, they will be paid down in future years' budgets. Furthermore, it is anticipated that the artificial turf surface will have to be replaced every 10 to 15 years at a cost in today's dollars of approximately \$500,000, which will be paid for using the Borough's Capital Improvement Fund in future years.

If the question is not approved, the Borough will reconstruct the field using natural turf. Hurrell Filed was reconstructed in 2009 using natural turf at a cost of \$407,850.00. Additionally, the annual maintenance expense for Hurrell Field is approximately \$130,000.

3. The Borough Clerk is authorized and directed to submit a certified copy of this resolution to the Essex County Clerk and request that the nonbinding public question and interpretive statement be placed on the November 5, 2013 general election ballot.

I, Michael J. Rohal, Administrator/Clerk of the Borough of Glen Ridge, hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Governing Body at a duly convened meeting held Monday, August 12, 2013.

Michael J. Rohal
Borough Administrator/Clerk