

**Borough of Highlands
Public Notice**

Please take notice that the following Ordinance was adopted on final consideration at the meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Highlands held on Wednesday, December 3, 2014. Copies of the Ordinance are available free of charge in the office of the Borough Clerk located at 42 Shore Drive, Highlands, N.J. between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Copies are also available on the Borough's website www.highlandsnj.us.

**BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS
COUNTY OF MONMOUTH
ORDINANCE NO. O-14-30**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PRIVATE SALE OF CERTAIN
PROPERTY OWNED BY THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS NOT REQUIRED
FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b)**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b)(5) authorizes local governmental units to sell real property owned by the governmental unit, not needed for public use, by private sale, to the owner of the real property contiguous to the real property being sold provided that the property being sold is less than the minimum size required for development under the Borough's zoning ordinance and is without any capital improvement thereon; and

WHEREAS, when there is more than one continuous property owner, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b)(5) requires a local governmental unit to first offer to sell the real property to the highest bidder from among all such contiguous property owners; and

WHEREAS, the sale price shall be for not less than the fair market value of said real property; and

WHEREAS, the Borough is the owner of real property identified as Block 72, Lot 2 ("the Property") on the Official Tax Map of the Borough of Highlands; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body has determined that the Property is not needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, an appraisal report prepared for the Property determined that the Property's fair market value is sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00), that the Property is less than the minimum size required for development under the Borough's zoning ordinance, and is without any capital improvement thereon; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body has determined that it is in the public interest that Lot 2, Block 72 be sold the highest bidder from among all owners of real property contiguous to the Property for an amount not less than the fair market value of the Property; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body has determined that the list of property authorized to be sold pursuant to this Ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b)(5) is: Block 72, Lot 2 (Lot size is approximately 2,460 square feet) at a minimum price of \$60,000.00, said amount being not less than fair market value; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b)(5), the opportunity to bid will be available to all contiguous property owners.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Highlands, the County of Monmouth, in the State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1.

(a) The Governing Body hereby declares that the Property is no longer needed for public use and should be sold in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1, et seq.

(b) The Governing Body hereby authorizes the Borough Clerk to offer the Property for sale to the highest bidder among continuous property owners by sealed bid.

(c) Any owner of real property contiguous to the Property may submit a sealed bid to the Borough Clerk on or before 11:00 a.m. **on December 30, 2014** at the Temporary Borough Hall, 42 Shore Drive, Highlands, New Jersey. The bid must be accompanied by a deposit made payable to the Borough of Highlands in the form of cash, bank check, or cashier's check in the amount of 10% of the total bid.

(d) The sale, if not canceled, shall take place by sealed bid and by private sale to the highest bidder among the owners of property contiguous to the Property. The minimum bid shall be \$60,000.00.

(e) Any person bidding on behalf of a corporation or limited liability company must either submit a copy of a resolution of the corporation/company or a letter on corporate stationery, signed by an officer of the corporation, authorizing the bidder to bid on the property on the corporation's behalf. A person bidding on behalf of a partnership or using a trade name must submit a copy of the certificate of trade name and a letter of authorization from the other partners.

(f) The successful bidder, at the conclusion of the bidding, shall execute an Agreement of Sale. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid at closing which shall occur not later than 60 days following the acceptance of the bid by the Borough. The purchaser shall be entitled to possession immediately following closing of title.

(g) The Borough reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids at the private sale and to not award to the highest bidder.

(h) In the event the Borough is unable to convey marketable title, insurable at regular rates by a title insurance company licensed to do business in the State of New Jersey, the Borough will forthwith return to the purchaser any and all deposit moneys previously submitted by the purchaser, and neither party shall have any further rights against the other. The acceptance of a quitclaim deed by the purchaser from the Borough shall extinguish any claims that said purchaser may have against the Borough in connection with the quality of title conveyed.

(i) The Property herein sold is subject to existing encumbrances, liens, easements, zoning ordinances, other restrictions of record, such facts as an accurate survey would reveal and any present or future assessments for the construction of improvements benefiting said property. The Borough makes no representations as to the presence or absence of wetlands or any other environmental conditions on the property and the purchaser assumes the risk of any such condition, all property being sold "as is." A prospective purchaser shall have examined the Property or otherwise waived the right to examine the Property prior to submitting the stated bid to the Borough. The Borough does not make any representations, express or implied, that the Property is buildable or usable for any purpose whatsoever.

(j) The Borough represents that the property which is the subject matter of this ordinance is a non-conforming parcel by virtue of the zoning ordinance requirements of the Borough of Highlands. If sold to a contiguous property owner, this property will merge with and become a part of the lot owned by the successful bidder that is contiguous to this property. The sale of this property by the Borough shall in no way be construed as an indication that a construction permit can be secured for the property.

(k) All conveyances by the Borough shall be made by quitclaim deed.

(l) The Governing Body reserves the right to waive any and all defects and informalities in any proposal and to accept or reject the highest responsible and responsive bid deemed to be in the best interest of the Borough. No bid shall be considered finally accepted until passage of a resolution by the Governing Body as set forth in Paragraph (m) hereof.

(m) The acceptable bid shall be confirmed by resolution of the Governing Body no later than the second regular meeting of the Governing Body following the date of such sale.

(n) In the event that the successful bidder fails to close on the property, he shall forfeit the ten percent (10%) deposit.

(o) The successful bidder shall indemnify and hold the Borough harmless from any claim whatsoever arising out of the Borough's ownership interest including but not limited to environmental cleanup costs.

Section 2. NOTICE. The Borough Clerk shall post and advertise copies of this ordinance as required by N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b)(5). A copy of this Ordinance shall also be sent by the Borough Clerk to each contiguous property owner.

Section 3. AUTHORIZATION. The Mayor, Clerk, Borough Attorney, and such other officials as may be necessary are authorized to prepare and execute a deed and all other necessary documents to convey the Property to the successful bidder, subsequent to the Governing Body adopting a resolution awarding the bid.

Section 4. SEVERABILITY. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance, which shall otherwise remain in full force and effect.

Section 5. REPEALER. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall take effect after final passage as provided by law.

Carolyn Cummins
Borough Clerk