

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
MEETING – October 21, 2024**

Mayor Mueller *calls the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.* announcing that all laws governing the Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting has been duly advertised.

**PRESENT:** Mayor A. Mueller, Deputy Mayor V. Panico, Mr. J. Albanese, Mr. J. Heller, and Mr. J. Huelsebusch

**ALSO PRESENT:** Administrator R. Sheola, Municipal Clerk K. Parker, Attorney C. Corsini

**ABSENT:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Clerk read the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION**  
**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**WHEREAS**, *N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.*, the Open Public Meetings Act, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist and desires to authorize the exclusion of the public from the portion of the meeting in accordance with the act;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the specified subject matter as set forth in the following Exhibit “A.”

**EXHIBIT A**

<b><u>Subject Matter</u></b>	<b><u>Basis Of Public Exclusion</u></b>	<b><u>Date Anticipated When Disclosed to Public</u></b>
388 Readington Realty vs. Twp of Readington.....	Litigation .....	Certain information at the discretion of Twp tonight shall remain confidential
Ferreiro vs. Twp of Readington.....	Litigation .....	“ “ “
Police .....	Personnel .....	“ “ “
Personnel .....	Personnel .....	“ “ “
Library Staffing .....	Personnel .....	“ “ “
Local Union No. 469 .....	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Block 93, Lot 2 .....	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Website Provider Services .....	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Professional Services .....	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Executive Session Minutes.....	Attorney-Client Privilege.....	“ “ “
• October 7, 2024		
Affordable Housing.....	Potential Litigation.....	“ “ “

Block 48, Lot 23; Block 55, Lot 33;  
Block 56, Lots 1, 3, 6 & 8; Block 39,  
Lot 24 & Block 67, Lot 2  
(Solberg Aviation)..... Litigation..... “ “ “

It is anticipated at this time that the stated subject matter will be made public on or about the time set forth in Exhibit “A.”

2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Panico to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Albanese with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

The meeting reconvened at 7:45 p.m.

Mayor Mueller led those present in the *Salute to the Flag*.

A **MOTION** was made by Deputy Mayor Panico to amend the executive session agenda to add *Contract Negotiations / Solis Mountain Road*, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

**Executive Session:**

***Litigation / 388 Route 22 Readington Realty Holdings, LLC vs. Township of Readington, et als.***

Mayor Mueller stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

***Litigation / Ferreiro vs. Township of Readington***

Mayor Mueller stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

***Personnel / Police***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

***#R-2024-175***

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
RESOLUTION***

**WHEREAS**, Anthony Albanese was appointed Probationary Police Officer on October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 by way of Resolution #R-2023-167; and

**WHEREAS**, Probationary Police Officer Anthony Albanese has successfully completed his one (1) year probationary period in accordance with the existing Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Township of Readington and P.B.A. Local #317,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the Township Committee appoints Probationary Police Officer Anthony Albanese as permanent Police Officer for Readington Township effective October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at a salary set by contract.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Panico to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

- Mr. Albanese -Aye
- Mr. Heller - Aye
- Mr. Huelsebusch - Aye
- Mr. Panico - Aye
- Mayor Mueller - Aye

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**#R-2024-176**

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, Ryan Donovan was appointed Probationary Police Officer on October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 by way of Resolution #R-2023-166; and

**WHEREAS**, Probationary Police Officer Ryan Donovan has successfully completed his one (1) year probationary period in accordance with the existing Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Township of Readington and P.B.A. Local #317,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the Township Committee appoints Probationary Police Officer Ryan Donovan as permanent Police Officer for Readington Township effective October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at a salary set by contract.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Panico to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	-Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Panico	- Aye
Mayor Mueller	- Aye

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**#R-2024-177**

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, Brandon Gillikin was appointed Probationary Police Officer on October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 by way of Resolution #R-2023-165; and

**WHEREAS**, Probationary Police Officer Brandon Gillikin has successfully completed his one (1) year probationary period in accordance with the existing Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Township of Readington and P.B.A. Local #317,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the Township Committee appoints Probationary Police Officer Brandon Gillikin as permanent Police Officer for Readington Township effective October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at a salary set by contract.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Panico to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	-Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Panico	- Aye
Mayor Mueller	- Aye

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**#R-2024-178**

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of the Readington Township Police Department to maintain sufficient supervision over subordinates, and

**WHEREAS**, a resignation created a patrol sergeant vacancy within the Readington Township Police Department, and

**WHEREAS**, an unsettled personnel matter has delayed the possibility of a promotional process, and

**WHEREAS**, Director of Public Safety, James Curry and Township Administrator, Richard J. Sheola have recommended the temporary assignment of Corporal James Ayotte as Acting Sergeant.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, The Readington Township Committee agrees to assign James Ayotte as acting sergeant with the Readington Township Police Department for an unspecified period of time, with a stipend of the differential between Corporal and Probationary Sergeants salary on an hourly basis.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Panico to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	-Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Panico	- Aye
Mayor Mueller	- Aye

***Personnel / Personnel***

Mayor Mueller stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

***Personnel / Library Staffing***

Mayor Mueller stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

***Contract Negotiations / Local Union No. 469***

Mayor Mueller stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

***Contract Negotiations / Block 93, Lot 2***

Mayor Mueller stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

***Contract Negotiations / Website Provider Services***

Mayor Mueller stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

***Contract Negotiations / Professional Services***

Mayor Mueller stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

***Attorney-Client Privilege / Executive Session Minutes / October 7, 2024***

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Panico to approve the Executive Session Minutes of October 7, 2024 for content only, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

***Potential Litigation / Affordable Housing***

Mayor Mueller stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

***Litigation / Block 48, Lot 23; Block 55, Lot 33; Block 56, Lots 1, 3, 6 & 8; Block 67, Lot 2 (Solberg Aviation)***

Mayor Mueller stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

***Contract Negotiations / Solis Mountain Road***

Mayor Mueller stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Mayor Mueller read the following statement:

*All items listed with an asterisk “\*” are considered to be routine by the Township Committee and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a committee member or citizen requests, in which event the item will be removed from the General Order of Business and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.*

1. \* **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of meetings of October 7, 2024
2. \* **Release of Hunt Club Security Deposit / Triple A Bow & Gun Club**
3. \* **Resolution to Authorize Change in Custodian Petty Cash Fund**

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**#R-2024-179**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE CHANGE IN CUSTODIAN PETTY CASH FUND**

**WHEREAS**, Donna Mollineaux, former Interim Chief Financial Officer, was the custodian of the Finance Petty Cash Fund, and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with N.J.S.A 40:5-21, the Township of Readington is changing custodians to Richard Sheola, current Chief Financial Officer; and

**WHEREAS**, Richard Sheola is bonded in the amount of \$50,000 under the Public Alliance Insurance Coverage Fund Joint Insurance Fund and \$950,000 under the Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund (MEL).

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon hereby authorizes such action and two copies of this resolution be filed with the Division of Local Government Services, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approval.

4. \* **Resolution Appointing the Pensions and Benefits Certifying Officer and Certifying Supervisor**

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**#R-2024-180**

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE PENSIONS AND BENEFITS CERTIFYING OFFICER AND CERTIFYING SUPERVISOR**

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 52, P.L. 2011, N.J.S.A. 43:3C-15 establish procedures and employer training requirements for the enrollment and/pr transfer of employees into the State administered retirement systems; and

**WHEREAS**, it is mandatory that the Township of Readington appoint both a Certifying Officer and Certifying Officer Supervisor in order to perform the duties relating to matters concerning the New Jersey State administered Retirement Systems with respect to each of the employees of the Township of Readington; and

**WHEREAS**, Amanda Jessamine, Confidential Administrative Assistant, shall be appointed Certifying Officer Supervisor, and Shannon Paul, Finance Assistant, shall be appointed Certifying Officer.

**WHEREAS**, said named individuals have agreed to perform the duties associated with the said positions.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township of Readington as follows:

1. That Amanda Jessamine is hereby designated as Certifying Officer Supervisor in the Township of Readington for the Public Employees’ Retirement System and the Policeman’s and Fireman’s Retirement System of the State of New Jersey.
2. That Shannon Paul is hereby designated as Certifying Officer in the Township of Readington for the Public Employees’ Retirement System and the Policeman’s and Fireman’s Retirement System of the State of New Jersey.

5. \* **Release of Board of Health Escrow / Block 21, Lot 11 (Mountain Road)**

6. \* **Payment of Bills** – (Complete bill list is on file in Clerk’s Office)

<u>Fund Description</u>	<u>Fund No.</u>	<u>Received Total</u>
GENERAL	4-01	\$ 1,129,333.84
SEWER UTILITY OP FUND	4-02	\$ 11,647.31
GENERAL	G-01	\$ 19,502.19
OTHER TRUST	X-03	\$ 132,048.26
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	X-06	\$ 254,983.94
2023 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	X-23	<u>\$ 3,668.40</u>
<b>TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS</b>		<b>\$ 1,551,183.94</b>

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Panico to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

- Mr. Albanese -Aye
- Mr. Heller - Aye
- Mr. Huelsebusch - Aye
- Mr. Panico - Aye
- Mayor Mueller - Aye

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** for items listed on the agenda only

Stephanie Panico spoke to the continuous over capacity of vehicles during sporting events at Summer Road Park.

Lisa Routel reiterated the safety concerns of over capacity at Summer Road Park.

Katherine DeLuca spoke to exploring accessory dwelling units to address the burden of affordable housing.

***PUBLIC HEARING***

Clerk read by Title:

***AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DONATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF PUBLIC PARKLAND PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 73, LOTS 23.01 AND 25 ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF READINGTON TOWNSHIP AND BLOCK 28, LOT 1 AND BLOCK 37, LOT 1 ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF RARITAN TOWNSHIP, AND LOCATED ON 20 AND 24 RIVER ROAD, AND 189 AND 191 ROCKAFELLOW'S MILL ROAD, TO THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, FOR CONTINUED PUBLIC OPEN SPACE, CONSERVATION AND PASSIVE RECREATION PURPOSES***

***ORDINANCE #26-2024***

Mayor Mueller announced that the public hearing on Ordinance #26-2024 originally scheduled for the meeting of October 21, 2024 at 7:45 p.m. will be carried to the meeting of November 18, 2024 at 7:45 p.m. At that time, the ordinance will be considered for adoption.

***CORRESPONDENCE / OTHER INFORMATION***

There was none.

***OLD BUSINESS***

1. ***Special Items of Revenue and Appropriations in the 2024 Budget Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (Municipal Infrastructure Grant Program)***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

***#R-2024-181***

***SPECIAL ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION  
IN THE 2024 BUDGET  
PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87***

***WHEREAS***, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

***WHEREAS***, the Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount; and

***WHEREAS***, the Township of Readington received the sum of \$65,000.00 from the grant as listed below and wishes to amend its 2024 budget to include that amount as revenues.

**Resolution #R-2024-181**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey, hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of items of revenue in the budget of the year 2024 in the sum of \$65,000.00, which items are now available as a revenue from the following sources pursuant to the provision of statute:

Hunterdon County Municipal Infrastructure Grant	\$65,000.00
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**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a like sum of \$65,000.00 be and the same is hereby appropriated under the caption of the following:

Hunterdon County Municipal Infrastructure Grant	\$65,000.00
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**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Albanese to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Heller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	-Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Panico	- Aye
Mayor Mueller	- Aye

2. **2nd Request for Street Naming / Kaplan Camelot at Readington Urban Renewal LLC Block 36, Lots 5, 5.02, 5.04, 65 & 66**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Panico to approve the name of the interior road of the Camelot at Readington development as Michael Lane , seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	- Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Panico	- Aye
Mayor Mueller	- Aye

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Application for Special Event Permit / La Finca Paso Fino Horse Show**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Panico to approve the special event permit contingent upon hiring two (2) off duty police officers, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	- Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Panico	- Aye
Mayor Mueller	- Aye



2. ***Application for Special Event Permit / Readington Brewery / Meet 4 Meat Car Show and BBQ***

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mr. Panico to approve the special event permit, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese - Aye  
Mr. Heller - Aye  
Mr. Huelsebusch - Aye  
Mr. Panico - Aye  
Mayor Mueller - Aye

3. ***Use of Open Space Trust Funds for Historic Buildings*** – discussion

Mr. Heller addressed the urgent need for repairs to the Township’s historic buildings and recommended utilizing Open Space Trust funds to finance these repairs. Mr. Huelsebusch emphasized that Open Space Trust Funds should be used specifically for preservation purposes.

The Committee discussed proposing a referendum for the next General Election to introduce a tax dedicated solely to historic preservation.

4. ***Recreation Field Use / Schedules*** – discussion

Mayor Mueller highlighted the safety concerns caused by overcrowding at Summer Road Park and Hillcrest Park during weekend sporting events. The Committee discussed collaborating with the Director of Recreation to develop a scheduling action plan to address this issue.

5. ***Board of Health Food Handler Permits for Food Trucks*** – discussion

The Committee discussed several alternatives for the Board of Health to consider in amending the ordinance on the duration and requirements of food handler permits for food truck operators.

6. ***An Ordinance Amending Chapter 43-108 Et Seq. to Provide for Rates of Compensation for Police Officers Working Special Events in the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey***

The following ordinance was offered for introduction:

***AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 43-108 ET SEQ. TO PROVIDE FOR RATES OF COMPENSATION FOR POLICE OFFICERS WORKING SPECIAL EVENTS IN THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY***

***ORDINANCE #31-2024***

~~***WHEREAS***, the Township of Readington has established rates of compensation for Police Officers who perform outside duty jobs, commonly referred to “men in blue” and;~~

***WHEREAS***, it necessary to adjust the rate of compensation to reflect amended contractual hourly rates; and

***WHEREAS***, the following amendments are hereby approved [any addition is shown as thus and any deletion is shown as ~~thus~~.]

**Ordinance #31-2024 cont'd:**

43-108 Authority to employ.

The Township of Readington through the Chief of Police, *or* his/her designee, of Readington Township, when requested by an organizer ~~of a special event~~ to take place within the township, shall have the authority to employ or assign sworn police officers from Readington Township ~~and/or sworn police officers from other Police Departments to perform services associated with street openings, special traffic control or other types of police services for special events.~~

§ 43-109 Request for off-duty police services.

All requests for off-duty police services shall be made to the Chief of Police of Readington Township. Readington Township may choose to utilize a secondary service to administrate and perform actions related to the off-duty employment process. These actions include but are not limited to communicating with an entity or individual to schedule off-duty assignments, scheduling the officers for said jobs, invoicing the entity or individual, and receiving escrow and or payments from the entity or individual in a manner set forth by the secondary service provider. The secondary service provider may charge an additional fee for services that is above and in addition to the fee structure stated below and shall utilize business type collection rules as set forth in the contract between the Township of Readington and the secondary service provider. The secondary service provider will reimburse The Township of Readington via ACH or other funds transfer methods, according to the fees set forth below, due to the Township and officer in a timely manner, usually coinciding with payroll periods for assignments the officers have performed or were scheduled for, in accordance with the above listed rules of employment between the Township and entity or individual seeking services.

§ 43-110 Fee schedule.

The organizers and/or vendor of the above-stated ~~special~~ events who request off-duty police officers shall pay the Township of Readington in accordance with the following schedule:

A. All police officers of the Readington Township Police Department shall be paid at the rate of Sergeant First Class-at one and one-half times the hourly rate ~~plus an~~. In the event a secondary service is not utilized, an additional surcharge of 15% on that amount will be retained by the Township of Readington to cover fringe benefits and administrative costs incurred by the Township.

~~B. All police officers from outside Police Departments will be paid at a rate in accordance with their respective Ordinances or Collective Bargaining Agreement, as appropriate, plus an additional surcharge of 15% on that amount that will be retained by the Township of Readington to cover administrative costs incurred by the township.~~

C. If the special event requires the use of a police vehicle, then notwithstanding the fee set forth in Subsection ~~A~~ ~~or B~~ above, a vehicle usage fee in the amount of \$20.00 per hour per police vehicle shall be imposed and retained by the Township of Readington to cover the wear and tear on the police vehicles.

43-111 Cancellation Policy

Should the entity or individual hiring off-duty police officers cancel an assignment for any reason with less than two (2) hours-notice to the police department or secondary service before the scheduled start of the assignment, the entity or individual will be assessed a minimum of 4 hours of compensation per officer. Those scheduled officers shall not be required to be on-site during those paid hours. Additionally, the administrative fee set forth in 43-110 subsection B. shall apply to cancelled assignments necessitating police officer pay.

**Ordinance #31-2024 cont'd:**

Section 2. All other provisions, sections and language contained in Chapter 43 of the Township Code shall remain in full force and effect.

**Section 3 Effective Date.**

This ordinance shall take effect upon final adoption and publication according to law.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Panico to introduce this ordinance, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	-Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Panico	- Aye
Mayor Mueller	- Aye

*The Public Hearing was scheduled for November 4, 2024 at 7:45 p.m.*

**7. Special Items of Revenue and Appropriations in the 2024 Budget Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (Opioid Settlement)**

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**#R-2024-182**

**SPECIAL ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION  
IN THE 2024 BUDGET  
PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington received the sum of \$3,688.95 from the grant as listed below and wishes to amend its 2024 budget to include that amount as revenues.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey, hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of items of revenue in the budget of the year 2024 in the sum of \$3,688.95, which items are now available as a revenue from the following sources pursuant to the provision of statute:

National Opioid Settlements – ENDO Trust	\$ 3,688.95
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**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a like sum of \$3,688.95 be and the same is hereby appropriated under the caption of the following:

National Opioid Settlements – ENDO Trust	\$ 3,688.95
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A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Panico to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	-Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Panico	- Aye
Mayor Mueller	- Aye

8. \* ***Release of Hunt Club Security Deposit / Triple A Bow & Gun Club***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

9. \* ***Resolution to Authorize Change in Custodian Petty Cash Fund***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

10. \* ***Resolution Appointing the Pensions and Benefits Certifying Officer and Certifying Supervisor***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

11. \* ***Release of Board of Health Escrow / Block 21, Lot 11 (Mountain Road)***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

***ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT***

Administrator Sheola reported that work has begun on the 2025 budget. Administrator Sheola also gave an update on the fuel tanks at the Department of Public Works facility.

***ATTORNEY'S REPORT***

Attorney Corsini stated that he had nothing further to report.

***COMMITTEE REPORTS***

**JOHN ALBANESE**

Mr. Albanese stated that he had nothing further to report.

**JONATHAN HELLER**

Mr. Heller reported that the Board of Health is considering implementing a certification requirement for pumping residential septic systems. He added that the Environmental Commission is collaborating with the DEP to identify areas with past water issues and will distribute flyers to residents recommending well testing. Mr. Heller encouraged residents to test their wells and confirmed that the Township's well testing program with Raritan Headwaters is ongoing this week.

**JUERGEN HUELSEBUSCH**

Mr. Huelsebusch reported that traffic safety will be meeting this week to discuss Route 523 traffic improvements, Agriculture Advisory is sending out flyers to landowners to gauge interest in preservation. Mr. Huelsebusch continued that Open Space had a tree planting project and held walk on the Cole Road Greenway.

**ADAM MUELLER**

Mayor Mueller reported that Lamington Road will be closed for another two weeks between 7am and 5 Pm. Mayor Mueller also highlighted two grants currently in process, \$1.9 million for the police department and \$989,000 for the fire department.

**VINCENT PANICO**

Mr. Panico reported that the first installment of the newsletter will be coming out soon. Mr. Panico announced Recreation will host their annual Halloween event on October 26<sup>th</sup> at Pickell Park. Mr. Panico reported that Planning Board will be discussing the Route 22 zoning and Congressman Kean visited the police department earlier this week. In conclusion, Mr. Panico thanked resident Mike Brown for the display currently located in the lobby of mannequins representing the Sons of the American Revolution.

***COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC***

Pat Fisher Olsen, Chair of Historic Preservation, confirmed that Bowman Stickney is a historic building and explained the differences in requirements for publicly owned versus government-owned historic buildings

Katherine DeLuca commented on a suspected hazardous substance discharge notification that has not yet been resolved.

Renee Rao, Chair of the Museums Committee, spoke to the porch repair at Bowman Stickney.

Bob Shoenfeld inquired as to why the Township purchased the property at Rockafellows Mill Road and then donated it to the State.

Emanuel Bola commented on the use of Open Space Trust Funds for historic buildings and expressed concerns about traffic safety issues at the parks during recreational sporting events

***COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY***

There were none.

As there was no further business, ***A MOTION*** was made by Mr. Panico at 9:45 p.m. to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Submitted by:

Karin M Parker, *RMC*  
Municipal Clerk