



**BOROUGH OF MENDHAM
MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
April 28, 2025, 7:00 PM
Minutes**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kelly called the April 28, 2025, Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Garabrant Center, 4 Wilson Street, Mendham, New Jersey.

2. MOMENT OF SILENCE AND FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Kelly led a moment of silence and proceeded with the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. MAYOR'S OPENING STATEMENT

Mayor Kelly stated that notice of this meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mendham was published in the Daily Record and Star Ledger, posted in the Bowers Building, and was filed in the Office of the Borough Clerk in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Official action will be taken at this meeting.

4. ROLL CALL

Mayor, James Kelly
Council President Neil Sullivan
Council Member Marilyn Althoff
Council Member Matthew Bruin
Council Member Alexandra Henry Traut
Council Member Bruce LaFera
Council Member Will Russo

Also present were:

Fred Semrau , Esq., Dorsey & Semrau, LLC
Lauren McBride, Acting Borough Clerk

5. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS *(Items considered routine, Council will act on by a single motion and vote unless a member request that an item be removed and considered separately)*

Items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and will be acted upon by the Borough Council by a single vote unless a member of the Governing Body requests that an item be removed and considered separately

A. Minutes

1. March 24, 2025

B. Special Event License

1. Cub Scout Pack 3 Fishing Event, 5/17/25

2. Mendham Borough Library, Wine Event, 5/30/25

2. Mendham Boro Home School Assoc, Boro Bash, 6/9/25

C. Banner Application

1. Mendham First Aid Squad, 5/16/25-5/23/25

D. Raffle License

1. Mendham Borough Library, 5/30/25

E. Bernards Twp Health Department 2024 Annual Report

Motion to Approve: Council Member Henry Traut

Second: Council Member Bruin

Ayes: Sullivan, Althoff, Bruin, Henry Traut, LaFera, Russo

Nays: None

6. MAYOR AND COUNCIL RECOGNITION OF SERVICE

Mayor Kelly presented Recognition of Service to Officer Christopher Gobbi.

7. PRESENTATIONS

A. Joseph Carangelo's presented his Eagle Scout project map kiosk for Borough Park.

B. Michael Peters of Trout Unlimited presented the India Brook Restoration Project, a collaboration with ECCOST aimed at preserving and revitalizing local headwaters to safeguard the trout population in India Brook. The brook faces increasing threats, exacerbated by climate change, making conservation efforts essential.

The project focuses on creating a sustainable trout habitat to promote biodiversity while enhancing recreational fishing opportunities. Key initiatives include removing invasive plant species, planting native trees, and restoring and improving the stream bed. The Department of Public Works (DPW) will be actively involved in supporting the restoration efforts.

8. ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION

#03-2025 ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS OR PURPOSES TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS,

NEW JERSEY, AND APPROPRIATING \$355,000 THEREFOR FROM VARIOUS FUNDS OF THE BOROUGH

Motion to Approve: Council Member Althoff

Second: Council Member LaFera

Ayes: Sullivan, Althoff, Bruin, Henry Traut, LaFera, Russo

Nays: None

9. ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

#02-2025 ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 206, VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, OF THE BOROUGH CODE TO ESTABLISH A TOWING ORDINANCE

Public Hearing: Mayor Kelly opened the public hearing; any interested person was given an opportunity to be heard on this Ordinance.

No one from the Public wished to speak.

After the public hearing was closed, the Borough Council passed Ordinance #02-2025 for final passage and adoption.

Motion to Approve: Council Member Sullivan

Second: Council Member Althoff

Ayes: Sullivan, Althoff, Bruin, Henry Traut, LaFera, Russo

Nays: None

10. RESOLUTIONS

#86-2025 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INDIA BROOK RESTORATION PROJECT BETWEEN TROUT UNLIMITED AND THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM

Motion to Approve: Council Member Henry Traut

Second: Council Member Russo

Ayes: Sullivan, Althoff, Bruin, Henry Traut, LaFera, Russo

Nays: None

**#87-2025 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE AND REFUND OF SPECIAL
ENGINEERING ESCROW BALANCE FOR 34 DEERFIELD RD**

Motion to Approve: Council Member Henry Traut
Second: Council Member Bruin
Ayes: Sullivan, Althoff, Bruin, Henry Traut, LaFera, Russo
Nays: None

**#88-2025 RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 48 (NJSA 52:14.17.38)
UNDER WHICH A PUBLIC EMPLOYER MAY AGREE TO PAY FOR THE SHBP COVERAGE OF
CERTAIN RETIREES**

Motion to Approve: Council Member Althoff
Second: Council Member LaFera
Ayes: Sullivan, Althoff, Bruin, Henry Traut, LaFera, Russo
Nays: None

**#89-2025 RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE
OF NEW JERSEY, OPPOSING LEGISLATION THAT PERMITS ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS**

Motion to Approve: Council Member Henry Traut
Second: Council Member Russo
Ayes: Sullivan, Althoff, Bruin, Henry Traut, LaFera, Russo
Nays: None

**#90-2025 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 4 AND AN
AMENDATORY CONTRACT FOR THE PHOENIX HOUSE STRUCTURAL UPGRADES AND
INTERIOR RESTORATION Project**

Motion to Approve: Council Member Bruin
Second: Council Member Althoff
Ayes: Sullivan, Althoff, Bruin, Henry Traut, LaFera, Russo
Nays: None

**#91-2025 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO BOSWELL ENGINEERING FOR
SERVICES REGARDING BASKETBALL COURT RENOVATIONS AT BOROUGH PARK**

Motion to Approve: Council Member Bruin
Second: Council Member Russo

Ayes: Sullivan, Althoff, Bruin, Henry Traut, LaFera, Russo
Nays: None

11. COUNCIL REPORTS

Recreation and Parks/School Boards Liaison – Matthew Bruin

Recreation-

The next meeting is scheduled for May 17th.

Schools- West Morris Regional is meeting to approve their budget tonight, and Mendham Borough School District is meeting tomorrow night.

Public Safety- Chair Marilyn Althoff

The Chair reported that Public Safety is meeting this week with Bill Craig and Officer-in-Charge McNichol.

Fishing Frenzy is this Sunday.

Public Works & Utilities- Chair Bruce LaFera

The chair reported that the DPW and the Mayor participated in a tree planting event this week.

WRF- The chair gave an update on current inspections at the sewer plant.

Land Use - Chair Alexandra Henry Traut

JLUB- Next meeting will be on May 16 at 7:30 pm.

HPC- Next meeting will be on May 19 at 7:30 pm.

ECCOST- Excited about the partnership with Trout Unlimited.

Finance Committee- Neil Sullivan

No Updates for Finance Committee.

Personnel Committee/ Volunteer Projects Liaison- Will Russo

Upcoming Meeting in May.

12. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

13. MAYOR'S ITEMS

Mayor Kelly made a motion to move all Council meetings to Wednesdays. The Council vote was all ayes.

14. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Kelly stated, This is an opportunity for the public to comment on any matter or concern. To ensure that every citizen has an opportunity to speak, the Mayor will recognize the individual and ask them to state their name and address for the record. **THE SPEAKER DOES NOT NEED TO PROVIDE THEIR ADDRESS IF THEY HAVE BEEN VERIFIED BY THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRIVACY AS A COVERED PERSON IN THE BOROUGH UNDER DANIEL'S LAW.** Speakers are asked to limit their comments to four minutes. Please note that Public Comments do not follow a question-and-answer format; however, a member of the Governing Body may offer a brief response when it is helpful to do so.

Ryan Mullany, of 6 Prospect Street, inquired about the status of the light study at Hilltop. Officer in Charge McNichol provided responses to all questions concerning the study.

Sean Smith, of 8 Prospect Street, expressed concern about the volume of cut-through traffic in the area and emphasized the need for increased police presence on Prospect Street.

Tony Sisto, of 16 New Street, voiced his worries regarding pedestrian safety and urged law enforcement to issue more traffic citations to address the issue.

15. APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Bills List dated APRIL 28, 2025

Motion to Approve: Council Member Henry Traut
Second: Council Member Russo
Ayes: Sullivan, Althoff, Bruin, Henry Traut, LaFera, Russo
Nays: None

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:15 PM, Mayor Kelly asked for a motion to go into executive session and stated that no action would follow the executive session;

#92-2025 A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR AN EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO THE NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b #7 AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Motion to Approve: Council Member Bruin
Second: Council Member Russo
Ayes: Sullivan, Althoff, Bruin, Henry Traut, LaFera, Russo
Nays: None

17. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM

Motion to Approve: Council Member Bruin
Second: Council Member Russo
Ayes: Sullivan, Althoff, Bruin, Henry Traut, LaFera, Russo
Nays: None

The next meeting of the Mendham Borough Mayor and Council will take place on May 14, 2025, 7:00 PM, at the Garabrant Center, 4 Wilson St Mendham, NJ 07945