



**BOROUGH OF MENDHAM
MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 12, 2025, 7:00 PM
MINUTES**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Council President Neil Sullivan called the February 12, 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

Council President Neil Sullivan led a moment of silence and proceeded with the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. MAYOR'S OPENING STATEMENT

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

Council President Neil Sullivan
Council Member Marilyn Althoff
Council Member Matthew Bruin
Council Member Alexandra Henry Traut
Council Member Jim Kelly
Council Member Will Russo

Also present were:

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

Not Present:

Council Member Jim Kelly

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

1. **Peddler and Solicitor License Application: a. Trinity Solar, LLC**
2. **Raffle License: Pastime Club, September 1, 2025**
3. **Banner Application: Mendham Borough Day Camp, March 25, 2025- April 8, 2025**
4. **Resolution #47-2025 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE AND REFUND OF VARIOUS SPECIAL ENGINEERING ESCROW BALANCES**

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

6. **RESOLUTIONS**

#48-2025 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS OF OVERPAYMENT FOR PET LICENSE FEES CONSENT

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

#49-2025 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF NICHOLAS FOWLER AS A LABORER/DRIVER/OPERATOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 24, 2025

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

7. ADMINISTRATOR OPERATIONS REPORT

Administrator Bushman stated she had nothing to report

8. COUNCIL REPORTS

Recreation and Parks/School Boards Liaison –

Matthew Bruin

The chair reported that Recreation is currently hiring camp counselors and an assistant director for the 2025 Mendham Borough Day camp.

The Summer Concert Series bands are booked with new talent for Summer 2025.

The Recreation coordinator is working on finalizing the booklet and updating our facilities booking system. Residents will be able to reserve facilities on our webpage.

The Chair also reported that he attended the West Morris School Board meeting and introduced himself to the Board as the School Board Liaison. He plans on doing a walkthrough of the Mendham Borough schools.

Council members Bruin and Henry Traut met with all the departments in the town to see “behind the scenes” of the operations of the town.

Public Safety- Chair Marilyn Althoff

The Chair reported that there has been a recent increase in concern over pedestrian safety, working to get more see-me flags at crosswalks. She also reported that the Borough engineer and the county are working on an ongoing evaluation at Hilltop and Route 24 traffic lights and lighting issues.

The Officer in Charge reported that there are three officers retiring. The Borough offered conditional employment offers to two officers graduating from the Academy in June. And waiting to hear back from a third new hire.

Public Works & Utilities- Chair

Neil Sullivan

DPW- The chair report the DPW has been salting and plowing.

WRF- Expected start date of the new equipment is March 25th.

The manhole rain inserts have

been ordered.

Land Use - Chair Alexandra Henry Traut

HPC- The chair reported will be meeting on Wednesday, February 19th at the Garabrant Center.

ECCOST- Working on an informational session for the work at Scott farm.

Worked with the attorney's office and the town to plan for an informational session on affordable housing.

Finance - Chair Jim Kelly

Was not present

Personnel Committee/ Volunteer Projects Liaison- Will Russo

The chair reported that the Personnel Committee met last week to discuss employee evaluations. Evaluations should be completed by the end of March.

9. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Borough attorney Fred Semrau reported that Mayor Serrano Glassner resigned on February 6th. He has been working with the administration and the Borough Clerk to follow the procedure to fill the Mayor's vacancy. As of February 6th, the office is vacant. The Council President will, in the interim, act as Mayor. The Republican Committee will meet to pick three names for the Council to decide at a public meeting which candidate it chooses to fill the vacancy.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ryan Mullany, 6 Prospect Street, and Matthew Stated he recently got hit by a car while crossing Main St. Matthew read a series of questions addressed to the Council regarding safety, traffic violations, crossing guards, speed limits, and traffic study results. Council President Sullivan referred to Sergeant McNichol to help answer questions. Sergeant McNichol answered all the questions that he could and offered to email specific statistical answers to Matthew. The council agreed to have the Public Safety Committee meet and discuss this issue.

Bob Ritger, 14 Gunther St, asked: Is it accurate that the Council adopted a resolution for 115 affordable units instead of the 133 units assessed by the State? Council President Sullivan stated that is correct. The Borough did their calculations and found 115 to be the number. He also asked what happens when there is a vote, and it is a tie with only six Council members. The Borough attorney stated that it would not carry if there was a tie vote.

Margaret Burke, of 8 Bockhoven Rd, stated she was very close to being hit while crossing at a crosswalk with flashing lights. She said that nothing will change until we start making people pay. More summons needed to be issued.

Henry Niemczyk , 55 Dean Rd said he had come before the Council in the past to complain about speeding on Dean Rd. He stated that nothing had changed. He also stated that people are not shoveling their sidewalks. If we issue more tickets, that's how change will happen.

David Sergio, 15 Demarest Drive, stated that he would like to commend Matthew for advocating for himself and his Mom.

11. APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Bills List dated February 12, 2025

Motion to Approve: Council Member Russo

Second: Council Member Henry Traut

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

Nays: None

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

#50-2025 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

Council President Sullivan asked for a motion to go into executive session at 7:47 pm.

Motion to Approve: Council Member Althoff

Second: Council Member Henry Traut

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

Nays: None

Having no further business to conduct, Council President Sullivan asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion to Approve: Council Member Russo

Second: Council Member Henry Traut

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

Nays: None

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm

Respectfully Submitted:

Lauren McBride
Acting Borough Clerk
The Borough of Mendham