



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

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kelly called the March 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

Mayor Kelly 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

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

Also present were:

Fred Semrau, Esq., Dorsey &
Semrau, LLC
Joyce Bushman, Administrator
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

1. Minutes: a. February 12, 2025
b. February 24, 2025
2. Joint Land Use Board Annual Report 2024
3. Special Event Permit: a. Interchurch Worship and Picnic, Hilltop Church, 6/15/2025
b. Concert on the Lawn, Sisters of Christian Charity, 6/22/2025
4. Peddler and Solicitor Application: TruGreen, Eric Cardell

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

6. RESOLUTION AND OATH OF OFFICE

#55-2025 RESOLUTION APPOINTING DANIEL CAMPIONE AS A POLICE OFFICER WITH THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

MAYOR KELLY ADMINISTERED THE OATH OF OFFICE TO DANIEL CAMPIONE

7. DISCUSSION ITEM – COUNCIL SEAT VACANCY

1. **#56-2025 RESOLUTION APPOINTING NEW MEMBER TO THE MENDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL FOR AN UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025**

Resolution 56-2025 was tabled until the next meeting on March 24, 2025.

9. ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION

#01-2025 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2025 (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

Motion to Approve: Council Member Althoff

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

The public hearing and adoption are scheduled for April 9, 2025

10. RESOLUTIONS

#57-2025 RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM CERTIFYING COMPLIANCE WITH THE UNITED STATES EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION'S "ENFORCEMENT GUIDANCE ON THE CONSIDERATION OF ARREST AND CONVICTION RECORDS IN EMPLOYMENT DECISIONS UNDER TITLE VII OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964"

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

#58-2025 RESOLUTION TO INTRODUCE THE 2025 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

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

#59-2025 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFERS BETWEEN CERTAIN BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS IN THE 2024 CURRENT FUND BUDGET PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58

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

#60-2025 RESOLUTION APPOINTING TIMOTHY PLASKON AS A POLICE OFFICER WITH THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

Motion to Approve: Council Member Henry Traut
Second: Council Member Althoff
Ayes: Sullivan, Althoff, Bruin, Henry Traut, Russo

Nays: None

#61-2025 RESOLUTION APPOINTING ZACHARY POISSANT AS A POLICE OFFICER WITH THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

#62-2025 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF TAXES FOR A 100% DISABLED VETERAN BLOCK 1003 LOT 142 PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A 54:4-3.31

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

#63-2025 RESOLUTION TO REFUND TAX OVERPAYMENT TO HOMEOWNER BLOCK 101, LOT 28

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

#64-2025 RESOLUTION TO REFUND TAX OVERPAYMENT TO CORELOGIC FOR BLOCK 1704, LOT 15, BLOCK 1707, LOT 8, AND BLOCK 2401, LOT 31.05

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

#65-2025 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 (FINAL) TO THE CONTRACT WITH DLS CONTRACTING, INC. FOR THE PHOENIX & KNOLLWOOD DRIVES ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT CLOSEOUT

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

#66-2025 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PRIVATE FIREWORKS DISPLAY AT ROXITICUS GOLF CLUB ON SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2025

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

#67-2025 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM TO ACCEPT SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT FUNDING ADMINISTERED BY THE NEW JERSEY HISTORIC TRUST FOR THE PHOENIX HOUSE STABILIZATION AND RESTORATION PROJECT

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

#68-2025 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #1 TO THE CONTRACT WITH JEV CONSTRUCTION LLC FOR THE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT FUNDED THROUGH NJ I-BANK

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

#69-2025 RESOLUTION APPOINTING JOSEPH MURPHY AS COORDINATOR OF THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FOR THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM

Resolution 69-2025 was tabled until the next meeting on March 24, 2025

11. ADMINISTRATOR OPERATIONS REPORT

Administrator Bushman stated that the County completed their inspection of Main Street and Hilltop. They recommended an all-phase stop. Lights will be red at the same time.

12. COUNCIL REPORTS

Recreation and Parks/School Boards Liaison –
Matthew Bruin

Recreation- The chair reported they are conducting cost assessments of various improvements at Borough Park for basketball courts and baseball fields.

The Recreation Department received 80 counselor applications, and multiple camp assistant director applications were received.

School Board Liaison- Reported that effective April 1st, Steve Ryan will be the new Superintendent.

Mayor Kelly stated that he would like to suggest Pat Serrano for the Grand Marshal of the Labor Day Parade.

Public Safety- Chair Marilyn Althoff

The chair reported the permanent speed signs at Talmadge Rd reported that majority of vehicles are obeying the speed limit. The School Bus company has GPS to monitor school bus speeds. Reported all but one bus had a report of driving over the speed limit.

Public Works & Utilities- Chair
Neil Sullivan

DPW- The Chair reported that DPW has been busy filling potholes and stormwater basin repairs. They plan on seal coating the basketball courts and repainting.

WRF- Progress meeting for upgrades on March 6th.

Land Use - Chair Alexandra Henry Traut

HPC- meeting canceled due to no new business

ECCOST- The chair reported they are working through the 2025 project list. Raritan Headwater's Stream clean up is planned for 4/19 at noon.

The chair reported she is working to plan an informational session for the Affordable Housing mandates.

Personnel Committee/ Volunteer Projects Liaison- Will Russo

Nothing to report on Personnel. Member Russo thanked Bill Craig and Officer in Charge

McNichol for their hard work hiring new Police Officers. He also thanked the finance department for their work preparing for the 2025 Budget.

13. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Borough Attorney Fred Semrau stated the Borough adopted a resolution in January for the 4th round of affordable housing requirements. The Borough calculated that, according to the state requirements, the Borough's 4th round of affordable housing number should be 115, not 133. The Fair Share Housing did not file a complaint against the Borough for reducing its numbers, like they did in 90 other municipalities. However, the Builders Association did file a complaint against the Borough. They filed complaints against any municipality that reduced their numbers.

14. MAYOR'S ITEMS

15. 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, I 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.

Bob Ritger, 14 Gunther Street, asked if the County is still going to entertain a traffic circle at Cold Hill Rd? Borough Engineer stated that the County has not reported on the potential roundabout.

Bruce Lafera, introduced himself to the Council as one of the three nominated candidates by the Republican Committee, and expressed his interest in being considered as a new council member.

Margaret Burke, 8 Bockoven Rd, stated her disappointment that the council candidates did not attend this meeting. She came to learn about how the council fills a vacancy. She also stated she does not understand why the meeting schedules are not sent out through Nixle.

16. APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Bills List dated March 12, 2025

Motion to Approve: Council Member Althoff

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

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION

#70-2025 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

Mayor Kelly asked for a motion to go into executive session at 8:00 pm.

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

Mayor Kelly asked for a motion to return to open public session

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

Meeting returned to open public session at 10:00 pm.

18. ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to conduct, Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm