

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
March 5, 2026 , at 6:30 P.M.**

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The Work Session of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fort Lee was held on the above date in the Memorial Municipal Building, 309 Main Street, Fort Lee, New Jersey.

PRESENT : Mayor Sokolich, Council Members Sohmer, Yoon, Suh, Drumgoole, Kasofsky, Cervieri

ALSO PRESENT : Alfred Restaino, Borough Administrator
Evelyn Rosario, Municipal Clerk
Nadine Drumgoole, Deputy Municipal Clerk
Brian Chewcaskie, Borough Attorney

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT

In accordance with Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 adequate notice informing the public of the time and place of this meeting was emailed to the Record on October 17, 2025, and emailed to the Star Ledger on January 8, 2026. Said notice was duly posted to the official newspaper notices section of the Borough website and posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board.

RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS:

On motion by Council man Cervieri seconded by Councilman Suh and approved **unanimously** , the meeting moved into closed session.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fort Lee that:
This body shall hereafter discuss in closed session, pursuant to Section 7B of the Open Public Meetings Act, certain items which may generally be described as follows:

1. Personnel:
 - a. Building Department
 - b. Community Center
 - c. Department of Public Works
 - d. Health Department
 - e. Police Department
 - f. Recreation Department

2. Legal:

- a. Affordable Housing
- b. Draft Redevelopment Plan: 453-459 Main Street and 2010-2018 Fletcher Avenue
- c. Little League Field
- d. Redevelopment Area 5
- e. Redevelopment Area 11
- f. Tax Foreclosures
- g. Doktor Litigation
- h. Parking Authority Contracts

The minutes of the discussion in closed session may be disclosed to the public when the Mayor and Council has determined that the need for confidentiality has been satisfied.

The open portion of the executive session will resume upon completion of the closed portion.

The closed portion of the meeting ended at 7:33 P.M. The open portion of the work session began at 7:39 P.M.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Name Change GW Leaf Dispensary, LLC

Borough Clerk Rosario stated GW Leaf Dispensary, LLC has received authorization from the State of New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission authorizing a name change. A resolution authorizing a name change to Cannabis License No. 2025-97 from GW Leaf Dispensary, LLC to Indoor Treez, LLC will be placed on the March 19th agenda.

NJDOT Route 9W Bridge Replacement Project

A zoom meeting was held on February 4, 2026, between the NJDOT and representatives of the Borough of Fort Lee concerning the Rt 9W, Bridge over Rt 95, 1 & 9, 46, and 4 project. A resolution authorizing said project will be placed on the March 19th agenda.

Tax Appeal Refund: 820 Kingsland Lane

A resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to issue a refund regarding an overpayment of 2024 taxes will be placed on the March 19th agenda.

2026 Designation of Depositories

A resolution authorizing the designation of depositories for the year 2026, to add Alma Bank, will be placed on the March 19th agenda.

2026 Cash Management Plan

A resolution authorizing the 2026 cash management plan, to add Alma Bank, will be placed on the March 19th agenda.

Authorizing Budget Transfers

A resolution authorizing budget transfers in the amount of \$232,500.00 will be placed on the March 19th agenda.

Authorizing a Refund for Overpayment of Property Taxes, 2165 Jones Rd

A resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to refund overpayments will be placed on the March 19th agenda.

Granting a Disabled Veteran 's Property Tax Exemption: 17 Cumbermeade Rd, # 102 and 2329 Hudson Terrace, #A4

Resolution's authorizing the Tax Assessor and Tax Collector to grant disabled veteran's property tax exemptions and refunds to Danny Benitez and Maksym Gunko, will be placed on the March 19th agenda.

Submission of Sustainable Grant Program Application for Bike Racks and Shelters in Parks, \$20,000.00

A resolution authorizing the submission of a sustainable Jersey grant application funded by PSE&G will be placed on the March 19th agenda.

New Jersey Transit Proposed Route 158 Bus Route

Mediterranean Towers West Management is seeking to relocate the bus stop on North Avenue due to the ongoing building construction. It was the consensus of the Governing Body Members to not indorse this request.

MOU with Fort Lee Police Department and the United Capitol Police

A resolution authorizing the execution of a memorandum of understanding with the United States Capitol Police will be placed on the March 19th agenda.

Shared Services: Edgewater Radio Communications

A resolution authorizing execution of a shared services agreement with the Borough of Edgewater for the use of Fort Lee's radio communications personnel for the

installation and maintenance of radio communication equipment in Edgewater's emergency services vehicles, will be placed on the March 19th agenda

2026 Easter Eggstravaganza Event

A resolution approving request to permit the 6th annual easter egg hunt on March 28th at Constitution Park will be placed on the March 19th agenda.

2026 BDA Events

A resolution approving request from the Business District Alliance to hold a series of events in the Borough will be placed on the March 19th agenda.

Hellenic Civic Club usage of the Sr. Center for its 2026 Greek Independence Day Celebration on March 22, 2026

A resolution approving request from the Hellenic Civic Club to host its 2026 Greek Independence Day Celebration will be placed on the March 19th agenda.

Fort Lee High School PRISM Club June 6, 2026, Usage of the Recreation Center

A resolution approving request from the PRISM Club will be placed on the March 19th agenda.

Tax Exemption Applicability

No discussion held.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

On motion by Councilman Cervieri seconded by Councilwoman Kasofsky and carried unanimously, the meeting was opened to the public for discussion.

Mr. George Porto, former Rent Leveling Board Member, addressed the Governing Body members regarding the rent leveling law and a request for vacancy de-control.

There being no further public discussion the meeting was adjourned on motion by Councilman Cervieri, seconded by Councilwoman Kasofsky, at 8:20 P.M.

Prepared By:
Nadine Drumgoole, RMC, CMC
Deputy Municipal Clerk

Evelyn Rosario
Municipal Clerk, RMC, MMC

