

January 13, 2026, 5:00 pm
Mayor and Council Caucus Meeting
Minutes

Meeting started at 5:00 pm, Flag Salute, Open Public Meeting Act read by Mayor Sauter

Roll Call by the Clerk: All Members of Council, and Mayor Sauter present

Francine Wright, Borough Clerk, Howard Long, Borough Solicitor, and Borough Engineer Steve Bach and Nick Bishop from Bach Engineering, Chief Perna and Chief DiRenzo were in attendance.

Approval of Caucus Meeting December 2, 2025

Motion Evans second Fina all in favor Motion passed

Nick Bishop, Borough Engineer stated he would rely on his written report he highlighted on a few: NJDOT has announced the application period for FY 2026 Local Freight Impact, application and resolution were submitted prior to deadline. NJDCA announced application period for FY 2026 Local recreation Improvement Grant (LRIG) funding, applications are due by February 13, 2026. Preconstruction meeting was held onsite for Replacement Well No. 3R, our office will supply construction inspection and administration services as project begins. D'Angelo asked what their office need from us, tell us what your wish list is and we will work together.

Chief DiRenzo reported that the drone training starting today and all was going well. Had a full time EMT resign last week, Clerk and myself will conduct interviews to full vacancy. Asked to have a resolution on agenda for public auction.

Chief Perna stated 2 Class II Officers started academy graduation will be June 11th. K9 was purchased from Florida, up to date no cost from the budget, have been able to utilize all cost from donations received.

Howard Long stated welcome applications for Bellmawr Community Garden are complete, there are 30 plots 10x10 at a cost of \$32 single plots. Met with Councilman Hoban and brought him up to date on all that has been going on recently within the borough.

Bider had no report only items for closed.

D'Angelo asked about VFW location and the time capsule, and we need to speak with new owner of that location. Going to be speaking with all organizations asking to see their financials. Howard stated we should be getting all their documents, corporate structure, nonprofit status, insurance policy copies. Stated I went and looked at all the playgrounds and at this time Kennedy Blvd playground just needs to be power washed, no need to be redone.

Hoban reported he met with Howard and sat with Frani got list of duties he is responsible for.

Wilhelm gave some quotes to Steve Bach and Nick Bishop to review and stated monies are in place for the projects. Stated Mike DePalma has retired from the borough as Building/Mechanical & Plumbing Inspector and will be hire 2 employees for these positions and need 2 resolutions.

Fina stated she has spoken with Larry and Timmy from sewer and water and will start getting down to their departments to learn their procedures.

Evans reports Community Garden Meeting will be on Thursday @ 6:00 pm, we need to get a date for opening day. Meet with Highway Department about how to handle transition properly.

Mayor Sauter thanked all for accepting their committees and looking forward to the 100th year celebration and planning year long events.

Public no one

RESOLUTION:

#01:01-26C EXECUTIVE SESSION: Personnel, Contractual & Attorney Client Privilege Matters

Motion Evans Second D'Angelo all in favor

Out of close session 7:25 motion Wilhelm second by D'Angelo second by all in favor

Meeting adjourned. 7:26 pm

Motion by Evans and seconded by Bider all in favor

ADJOURNMENT

Francine M. Wright, RMC
Borough Clerk