

Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council November 25, 2024
Town Hall Council Chambers, 100 Central Avenue
Executive Session 6:00 P.M.
Public Session 7:00 P.M.

CLOSED SESSION MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

Councilperson:
Furgione -
Gribbin –
Marino -
Oliva-
R. Rodio-
S. Rodio –
Mayor DiDonato -

PRESENT ALSO

Michael Malinsky, Town Solicitor

EXECUTIVE SESSION Resolution #158-2024

RESUME REGULAR MEETING-ROLL CALL

Councilperson:
Furgione -
Gribbin –
Marino -
Oliva-
R. Rodio-
S. Rodio –
Mayor DiDonato -

PRESENT ALSO

Michael Malinsky, Town Solicitor
Mark Herrmann of ARH, Town Engineer

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of this meeting has been posted and given to official newspapers. Please familiarize yourselves with the fire exits to the right and rear of the Council Chambers. Please do not proceed beyond the front benches without invitation from the Mayor to do so. Also, each person who wishes to address Council will be allotted 5 minutes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC HEARD FOR AGENDA ACTION ITEMS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Minutes October 28, 2024
Executive Minutes October 28, 2024

PRESENTATION

- Great Egg Harbor National Scenic & Recreation River Council

DISPENSE WITH REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

Introduction of Bond Ordinance #022-2024 by title only- Acquisition of 236 Bellevue Ave

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR PURCHASE OF Property Block 2815 Lot 1 at 236 BELLEVUE AVENUE,

BY AND IN THE TOWN OF HAMMONTON, IN THE COUNTY OF ATLANTIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$694,000 THEREFOR (INCLUDING A STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY PROGRAM GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$544,000 AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$142,500 IN BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWN TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF AND A DOWNPAYMENT OF \$7,500

Resolution #164-2024- Capital Budget Amendment Acquisition of 236 Bellevue Ave

WHEREAS, the local capital budget for the year 2024 was adopted on the 24th day of June, 2024; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire to amend said adopted capital budget;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Town of Hammonton, County of Atlantic, that the following modification to the adopted capital budget of the Town of Hammonton be made:

General Capital Fund

<u>1) Purpose</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Debt Authorized</u>	<u>Grants</u>	<u>CIF Downpayment</u>
Acquisition of 236 Bellevue Ave (Block 2815, lot 1)	<u>\$ 694,000</u>	<u>\$ 142,500</u>	<u>\$ 544,000 (a)</u>	<u>\$ 7,500</u>

(a) NJEDA Local Property Acquisition Program \$544,00.00

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration - Councilman Gribbin

Business & Industry – Councilman Oliva

Quality of Life – Councilwoman R. Rodio

Education – Councilman Marino

Public Works & Transportation Councilman S. Rodio

Law & Order – Councilman S. Rodio

Water & Sewer - Councilman Furgione

ENGINEER REPORT

ACTION ITEMS:

No Action Items for November.

PUBLIC WORKS INFORMATION ITEMS:

Roadway & Transportation Projects:

1. **NJDOT FY2022/FY2023 Municipal Aid: Old Forks Road (ARH #11-40061):** **Ongoing**
The Contractor has installed the water main and storm sewer improvements. The sanitary sewer main will be constructed starting November 25, 2024. Curb and sidewalk will be scheduled soon, while the milling and paving will occur after the utility trenches have had enough time to compact.
2. **NJDOT FY2023 Safe Streets to Transit: Front Street (ARH#P2024-0371):** **Ongoing**
The field work and base map are complete. We are working on the plans and specifications to submit to the NJDOT for review in December.
3. **NJDOT FY2024 Municipal Aid: Old Forks Road Phase 3 (ARH #11-40061):** **Ongoing**
Design for the final section of Old Forks Road has begun.
4. **11th Street Sidewalk Improvements (ARH #11-40062):** **95% Complete**
Our office has completed the design of the 11th Street Sidewalk project. We are awaiting approval from the NJDOT to advertise for bidding.
5. **Hammonton Bike Path Connector – Phase II (ARH #11-40052.07):** **90% Complete**
The plans, specifications, and estimate package have been submitted to the NJDOT for review and approval to bid. The NJDOT requested a site meeting at the railroad crossing, which was originally scheduled for November 19, 2024, but the PM canceled and will reschedule.
6. **MS4Program Compliance (ARH #91-00199.14):** **Ongoing**
Our staff continues with the data collection and mapping of the Town's storm sewer infrastructure.

Environmental Projects:

7. **Mazza Muffler Site / 104 S. Egg Harbor Road (ARH #P2024.0340):** **Ongoing**
We continue to work with the site LSRP performing site investigation and monitoring.
8. **K&K Linens Property / 224 Vine Street (ARH #P2023.0386):** **Ongoing**
We continue to work at the site performing site investigation and monitoring.
9. **Octagon Oil/Vine Street Parking Lot (ARH #11-01060):** **Ongoing**
The Remedial Action Permit (RAP) remains under review by the NJDEP.
10. **Skinner Property / 317 N. Egg Harbor Road (ARH #11-01074.06):** **Ongoing**
We will be preparing a new grant application to the State's Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Program to continue funding our investigation and monitoring efforts. A proposal will be presented to the Town in the future to perform that work.
11. **Celona Site Remediation - 130 Railroad Avenue (ARH #11-01054):** **Ongoing**
We will be preparing a new grant application to the State's Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Program to continue funding our investigation and monitoring efforts. A proposal will be presented to the Town in the future to perform that work.

SEWER/WATER INFORMATION ITEMS:

12. **Route 54 Water Main Replacement Project (ARH #11-30167):** **80% Complete**
Our office has completed documentation for an application to the NJDEP Water Bank program for project funding. Final construction documents will be prepared contingent upon the review of the NJDEP program.
13. **Boyer Avenue Pump Station (ARH #11-50058):** **90% Complete**
Plans and specifications are being finalized to advertise the project for public bidding. We supplied an Engineer's Estimate to the Business Administrator.
14. **Lakeview Gardens Water Main Extension (ARH #11-30172)** **80% Complete**
We have obtained the Pinelands letter of no interest. We await final review and approval by the NJDEP Bureau of Safe Drinking Water. A meeting with the neighborhood residents will be scheduled after the New Year.
15. **Water Quality Accountability Act Compliance (ARH #11-30166):** **Ongoing**
Our office has received approximately 30% of the expected responses to the lead service line survey we created. We continue to draft policy, notification, prioritization, funding, and implementation documents, which will also include annual LSL reporting to the state and GIS updates.
16. **Sanitary Sewer Study & Rehabilitation Program (ARH #P2023.0270):** **Ongoing**
The Inflow and Infiltration study will commence in the future, weather dependent. It has been abnormally dry and a study in the summer will not be representative of the current conditions.

GENERAL SITE AND RECREATION INFORMATION ITEMS:

17. **Lake Park ADA Playground/Small Cities (ARH #11-90032):** **Submitted**
We have received our first review letter from the Pinelands Commission and are working towards satisfying outstanding items. We will be discussing the changes with the Taylor Design Group to formalize a resubmission.

SOLICITOR REPORT
MAYOR REPORT

Public Works Report

- **Airport Taxiway Project**
Electrical work, milling, crack sealing and paving are complete. Swale grading work will occur from Monday November 25th until Wednesday the 27th. There will be supplementary work to be completed in the next week or so.
- **Old Forks Rd. Construction** – The installation of the water main and storm sewer improvements have been completed. The sanitary sewer main will start on November 25th.

- **Route 54 Water Main Project**- Application was submitted to H2O loans on 11/4/2024 (\$1.9 Million). We expect a response back in 4 to 6 months. We are coordinating with the State project to have this coincide with their project.

Town Public works Schedule for December 2024

Trash collection:

- **Thanksgiving Day Thursday November 28th** - Collection will be on Friday November 29th
- **Christmas Day Wednesday December 25th** – Collection will be on Thursday December 26th
- **New Years Day Wednesday January 1st**- Collection will be on Thursday January 2nd

Bulky waste pickup for December - will be from the 2nd to the 6th. The Holiday will delay removal services. Please place items curbside the day before your trash day.

Brush pickup for December- will be the 9th through 13th.

Leaf Collection - started October 2nd and will run until December 23rd

The County Recycling pickup for December will be 9th through the 13th, and December 23rd to the 28th. They will be no collections Christmas Day, Wednesday the 25th.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

1. Approval to hire Hardik Patel full time as a Police Officer, yearly salary per PBA contract. Effective December 16, 2024. Contingent upon civil service rules and regulations.
2. Accept resignation of Carter McCullough in good standing and accept new member Mike McCabe to Fire Company #1. Background Check complete, approved at Fire Company meeting November 20, 2024.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution #159-2025- Setting Council Meeting dates for 2025

Setting Time, Place and Date of Council Meetings

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meeting Act otherwise known as Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975 requires that all municipalities adopt a Resolution setting the time, place and date of their meeting; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HAMMONTON, COUNTY OF ATLANTIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, as follows:

1. There shall be an **Organization Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday January 6, 2025** at which time Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Hammonton will reorganize for the full year and conduct such business, including emergent matters, as is necessary. This meeting will be held in the Town Hall Council Chambers, 100 Central Avenue, Hammonton, New Jersey 08037. .
2. Monthly council meetings will begin at 6:00 p.m. with an executive session, if necessary, which will adjourn to the public portion of the meeting at 7:00 p.m., in the Town Hall Council Chambers, 100 Central Avenue,

Hammonton, New Jersey 08037. These meeting are subject to change and maybe held by way of video conference. The following is the list of **Regular Council Meeting dates for year 2025:**

January 27th	July 28th
February 24th	August 25th
March 24th	September 22nd
April 28th	October 27th
May 19th	November 24th
June 23rd	December 15th

3. The Hammonton Gazette and the Atlantic City Press are those newspapers designated as the papers to which all notices are to be sent per Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975.
4. Minutes shall be kept and provided as required by said statute by the Town Clerk of all the meetings set forth above and shall be available to the public pursuant to the requirements of said law.

Resolution #160-2024- Authorizing Lady of Guadalupe Procession -

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND ENDORSING THE ANNUAL
"OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE SPANISH COMMUNITY PROCESSION"**

WHEREAS, St. Mary of Mt. Carmel continues to promote the Town of Hammonton with their annual "Our Lady of Guadalupe Spanish Community Procession"; and

WHEREAS, Mayor and Council has and continues to support the efforts of St. Mary of Mt. Carmel; and

WHEREAS, December 12, 2024 4 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. is the scheduled date for the Spanish Community Our Lady of Guadalupe Procession; and

WHEREAS, St. Mary of Mt. Carmel has requested assistance of the Town of Hammonton Police Department for this scheduled event and closure of the following streets in the Town of Hammonton:

Procession begins on Third Street at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel
To French Street
To Second Street
To Pleasant Street
To Tilton Street
To French Street and back to church

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HAMMONTON, COUNTY OF ATLANTIC AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, that the Town of Hammonton authorizes "Our Lady of Guadalupe Spanish Community Procession."

Resolution #161-2024- Approval of Budget Transfers

TRANSFER OF BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Hammonton, County of Atlantic, and State of New Jersey, that there be and hereby is authorized the following transfer to be made from the 2024 Budget appropriations:

<u>CURRENT FUND</u>		
From: Construction Salary & Wages		\$ 9,000

From: Municipal Court Salary & Wages	\$10,000
From: Recreation Salary & Wages	\$ 4,000
To: Recreation Operating Expense	\$6,000
To: Highway Operating Expense	\$5,000
To: Police Operating Expense	\$7,000
To: Public Bldgs Grounds Operating Expense	\$2,000
To: Court Operating Expense	\$1,000
To: Assessor Operating Expense	\$2,000

Resolution #162-2024- Refund of Escrows

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE TOWN OF HAMMONTON
AUTHORIZING ESCROW REFUNDS**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HAMMONTON, COUNTY OF ATLANTIC AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY that the following refunds/close out of accounts are authorized as approved by the respective Department Heads of the Town of Hammonton:

Joseph Continisio	\$1,250.00	Refund Escrow
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Resolution #163-2024- Tax/Water/Sewer/ Refunds

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE TOWN OF HAMMONTON
AUTHORIZING TAX / WATER / SEWER REFUNDS**

Whereas, the following accounts need to have amounts credited, transferred, cancelled, refunded or changed

<u>Block / Lot</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reason</u>
2201/12.06	Forte, Peter	12 Arena Court	\$3,796.85	Overpayment
3402/22	Donio Realty	509 Bellevue Ave	\$1,639.60	Overpayment
2201/1211	DHI Title	Various	\$ 844.86	Overpayment
4115/9	Cooksey, Blake	303 Lakeview Dr.	\$ 613.23	Overpayment
2601/32.03	Clements, Alexis	57 Kay Drive	\$ 678.84	Overpayment
2201/11.06	Boone, Brittany	17 Arena Court	\$3,870.22	Overpayment
11803/11.03	Corelogic	Various	\$4,970.85	Overpayment

Whereas, the above amounts have been corrected in the Edmunds Billing system for the Utilities and or tax module showing the correct amounts.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HAMMONTON, COUNTY OF ATLANTIC AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY that the above refunds are authorized, as approved by the Tax Collector of the Town of Hammonton:

PUBLIC HEARD

MEETING ADJOURNED