

Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council October 27, 2025
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 – Present

Gribbin – Present

Marino – Present

Oliva- Present

R. Rodio - Present

S. Rodio – Present

Mayor DiDonato – Present

PRESENT ALSO

Michael Malinsky, Town Solicitor- arrived at 6:15

EXECUTIVE SESSION Resolution #156-2025

Motion by Council Person Marino Second Gribbin
Executive Session

Motion by Council Person Oliva Second R. Rodio
Close Executive Session

RESUME REGULAR MEETING-ROLL CALL

Councilperson:

Furgione – Present

Gribbin – Present

Marino – Present

Oliva- Present

R. Rodio - Present

S. Rodio – Present

Mayor DiDonato – Present

PRESENT ALSO

Michael Malinsky, Town Solicitor

Rich Rehmann of ARH

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

No one desired to be heard

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Minutes September 22, 2025

Executive Minutes September 22, 2025

Motion by Council Person Oliva Second Gribbin
Approval of minutes

Roll Call:

Councilperson:

Furgione – Yes

Gribbin – Yes

Marino – Yes

Oliva- Yes

R. Rodio - Yes

S. Rodio – Yes

Mayor DiDonato – Yes

Mayor DiDonato– Declares motion carried

PRESENTATION

Tunnel to Tower Foundation - given by Councilman Oliva. Councilman Oliva spoke about the Tunnel to Tower foundation and the hard work it took for these individuals to accomplish this feat. They raised awareness for the event and \$14,000.00 in donations.

NJ Solutions Joint Health Insurance Fund –

Lou Fuime and Ryan Smith gave an overview of the new health plan. They explained that the coverage will not change, and the coverage will be with Blue Cross Blue Shield of NJ. It will be an increase of 14.6% compared to the state increase of 37.6%. This change will occur as of January 1, 2026.

West End Development - Lee Grant and Mike Weisberg spoke about the Building on the corner of West End and Orchard. The building is in disrepair and they have tried working with the owner to cleanup the property to no avail. We will send our building inspector out to inspect the property.

DISPENSE WITH REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

Public Hearing of Bond Ordinance #015-2025- Re-appropriation of fund for Building upgrades and equipment

BOND ORDINANCE #015-2025

BOND ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING BOND ORDINANCE NUMBER 22-2024 FINALLY ADOPTED DECEMBER 16, 2024 AND PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS TO THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, BY AND IN THE TOWN OF HAMMONTON, IN THE COUNTY OF ATLANTIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$150,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$142,500 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWN TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Hammonton, in the County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey (the “Town”) heretofore finally adopted Bond Ordinance Number 22-2024 on December 16, 2024, entitled, “BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY, BY AND IN THE TOWN OF HAMMONTON, IN THE COUNTY OF ATLANTIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$694,000 THEREFOR (INCLUDING A GRANT FROM THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY) AND AUTHORIZING THE

ISSUANCE OF \$142,500 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF" (the "Original Bond Ordinance"); and

WHEREAS, the Town hereby seeks to repeal the Original Bond Ordinance and replace the Original Bond Ordinance with the following new bond ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HAMMONTON, IN THE COUNTY OF ATLANTIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all the members thereof affirmatively concurring), **AS FOLLOWS:**

SECTION 1. The improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance is hereby authorized as a general improvement or purpose to be undertaken by the Town. For the said improvement or purpose stated in Section 3, there is hereby appropriated the sum of \$150,000, said sum being inclusive of \$7,500 as the amount of down payment for said improvement or purpose as required by the Local Bond Law, N.J.S.A. §40A:2-1 et seq. (the "Local Bond Law"). Said down payment is now available by virtue of a provision or provisions in a previously adopted budget or budgets of the Town for down payment or for capital improvement purposes.

SECTION 2. For the financing of said improvement or purpose described in Section 3 hereof and to meet the part of said \$150,000 appropriation not provided for by the \$7,500 down payment, negotiable bonds of the Town are hereby authorized to be issued in the aggregate principal amount of \$142,500 pursuant to, and within the limitations prescribed by, the Local Bond Law. In anticipation of the issuance of said bonds and to temporarily finance said improvement or purpose, negotiable notes of the Town in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$142,500 are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to, and within the limitations prescribed by, said Local Bond Law.

SECTION 3. (a) The improvement hereby authorized and purpose for the financing of which said obligations are to be issued are for various improvements to the Municipal Building, including, as applicable, all work, materials, equipment, labor and appurtenances as necessary therefor or incidental thereto.

(b) The estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued for said improvement or purpose is \$142,500. **(c)** The estimated cost of said improvement or purpose is \$150,000, the excess amount thereof over the said estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued therefor is the down payment for said improvement or purpose in the amount of \$7,500.

Motion by Council Person Gribbin Second Oliva
Ordinance is Open for Public Hearing

Motion by Council Person Gribbin Second Oliva
Ordinance is adopted and approved for final Publication

Roll Call:

Councilperson:

Furgione – Yes

Gribbin – Yes

Marino – Yes

Oliva- Yes

R. Rodio - Yes

S. Rodio – Yes

Mayor DiDonato – Yes

Mayor DiDonato– Declares motion carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration - Councilman Gribbin

- Review of the Health Insurance meeting of October 14th
- Spoke about the hiring of a new deputy clerk for the court office
- wish everyone a Happy Veterans Day

Business & Industry – Councilman Oliva

- Thanked Mainstreet for all their hard work on the events they have organized.
- Thanked Ron's Garden Center for the donation of the flowers
- Halloween Parade will be this coming Wednesday the 29th at 7pm
- Trick or Treat will be held on the 31st from 5:30 to 8:00
- Small Business Saturday will be November 29th.

Quality of Life – Councilwoman R. Rodio

- Green Day will be this Saturday November 1st from 12pm to 4pm at Vets Parks
- Be careful when driving during Halloween there will lots of kids out and about.
- Thanked all the Veterans for their service.

Education – Councilman Marino

- Reviewed School Board Meeting
- Principal gave an update on the learning assessments for the school
- There will be a parent meeting on 11/9 from 6 to 7 at the middle school

Public Works & Transportation Councilman S. Rodio

- Leaf collection has started. Please be patient, the weather has been warm and not many leaves have fallen
- There will be a letter going out regarding the Lake cleanup

Law & Order – Mayor DiDonato – Given by Chief Friel

- Spoke about the donations for the cancer research our police department collected.
- Reviewed the crash reports, we are at ½ the fatal accidents from last year.
- EV Bike program will be coming to the schools
- ECEC & Sooy Halloween Parades will be this Friday the 30th

Water & Sewer - Councilman Furgione

Resolution #170-2025- Set Water / Sewer Rates for Sparks Car Wash Project

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING WATER / SEWER CHARGES
FOR SPARKS CAR WASH PROJECT**

WHEREAS, Mayor and Council desire to establish charges related to the connection to the Town of Hammonton water system / sewer system for the Sparks Car Wash Project ; and

WHEREAS, Mayor and Council desire to establish the following rates for the initial hookup and connections:

Water Service Fees -----	\$9,466.00
Sewer Service Fees-----	\$8,500.00

WHEREAS, these charges are subject to change based on the usage after operation have begun:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HAMMONTON, COUNTY OF ATLANTIC AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY that the above charges be approved effective immediately.

Motion by Council Person Forgione Second Marino

Set water usage fee to charge for Sparks Carwash Water fees total of \$9,466 and Sewer Fees total of \$8,500

Roll Call:

Councilperson:

Furgione – Yes

Gribbin – Yes

Marino – Yes

Oliva- Yes

R. Rodio - Yes

S. Rodio – Yes

Mayor DiDonato – Yes

Mayor DiDonato– Declares motion carried

- **Updated the following-**
 - o 2 trenches are being used, Fire Hydrant blowouts are complete and the GLO project will be complete in December.
- Thanked all Veterans for their service.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

ACTION ITEMS:

1. **Change Order #1 – ADA Pathways at Lake Park (ARH #1190032.06)**

The proposed change order is to provide additional ADA pathways within the Lake Park connecting existing structures to the proposed pathway and utilize the balance of the existing grant funding.

Action Item

Approve Change Order #1 in the amount of \$72,295.00.

Resolution #166-2025 – Authorizing Change Order #1 ADA Lake Park Walkways

**Rambone Concrete
ADA Lake Park Walkways**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Hammonton, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey authorized a contract to Rambone Concrete on September 18, 2025, in the amount of \$441,915.10 for the ADA Lake Park Walkways; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that additional work is needed; and

WHEREAS, the change order reflects an increase to the contract in the amount of **\$72,295.00**; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Hammonton hereby:

1. Formally authorize the execution of Change Order #1, to the contract in an additional amount of \$72,295.00.

Motion by Council Person Furgione Second S. Rodio

Roll Call:

Councilperson:

Furgione – Yes

Gribbin – Yes

Marino – Yes

Oliva- Yes

R. Rodio - Yes

S. Rodio – Yes

Mayor DiDonato – Yes

Mayor DiDonato– Declares motion carried

2. NJDOT FY2022 11th Street Sidewalk Improvements (ARH #1140062.02)

The Town received bids for the 11th Street Sidewalk Improvements on October 9, 2025. Eight contractors purchased the construction documents, and all responded. Most responses were within the project funding allocation through NJDOT. We have reviewed the bid documents and sent a bid summary and award recommendation to the Mayor and Business Administrator.

Action Item

Award the construction contract for the 11th Street Sidewalk Improvements to Charles Marandino LLC for a total cost of \$138,749.00 (base bid only), and subject to the concurrence of NJDOT.

Resolution #163-2025- Award Contract 11th Street Sidewalk project

Motion by Council Person Marino Second Furgione

RESOLUTION AWARDING BIDS FOR

Safe Streets to Transit 11th Street Sidewalks

WHEREAS, the Town of Hammonton received bids for the Safe Streets to Transit 11th Street Sidewalks on October 9, 2025 in accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law; and

WHEREAS, said bids were received and consisted of a base bid; and

WHEREAS, a bids were received and evaluated; and

WHEREAS, the summary of the bids received for the project is as follows:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Base Bid</u>
Charles Marandino, LLC	\$138,749.00
Lexa Concrete, LLC	\$149,815.00
Fred M. Schiavone Inc	\$160,885.00
Paving Plus, LLC	\$172,205.45
Lanberg Construction	\$194,481.45
Diamond Construction, LLC	\$214,495.00
DiMeglio Construction	\$225,617.50
The Ambient Group, LLC	\$262,179.00

WHEREAS, after review and consideration of bids and the funding to be made available through Town Ordinances; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Hammonton that an award of the contract for Safe Streets to Transit 11th Street Sidewalks, for the bids received on October 9, 2025 is made to Charles Marandino, LLC 233 Main Ave Milmay, NJ in the amount of \$138,749.00.

Roll Call:

Councilperson:

Furgione – Yes

Gribbin – Yes

Marino – Yes

Oliva- Yes

R. Rodio - Yes

S. Rodio – Yes

Mayor DiDonato – Yes

Mayor DiDonato– Declares motion carried

3. **11th Street Sidewalk Improvements CA/CI (ARH#P2025.0712)**

We are requesting authorization to provide construction administration and inspection for the construction work related to 11th Street Sidewalk from Washington Street to Egg Harbor Road.

Action Item

Approve ARH's proposal for construction administration and inspection services for an amount not to exceed \$20,680.00.

Motion by Council Person Furgione Second S. Rodio

Approval of PO to ARH in the amount of \$20,680.00

Roll Call:

Councilperson:

Furgione – Yes

Gribbin – Yes

Marino – Yes

Oliva- Yes

R. Rodio - Yes

S. Rodio – Yes

Mayor DiDonato – Yes

Mayor DiDonato– Declares motion carried

4. **Change Order #1 – 11th Street Recreation Area Fence Replacement (ARH #1101065.12)**

The proposed change order is for installing additional 8' high fence in lieu of existing 4' fencing to provide a substantial perimeter and for safety including the area around the existing dugouts for all the fields.

Action Item

Approve Change Order #1 in the amount of \$26,818.00.

Resolution #167-2025- approval of change order 11th recreation fence project

Motion by Council Person S. Rodio Second R. Rodio

Approval of change order #1 11th Street Fence Project

AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #1

All Vinyl Fence

11th Street Recreation Fence Project

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Hammonton, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey authorized a contract to All Vinyl Fence on August 28, 2025 in the amount of \$143,989.00 for the 11th Street Recreation Fence Project; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that additional work is needed; and

WHEREAS, the change order reflects an increase to the contract in the amount of **\$26,818.00**; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Hammonton hereby:

2. Formally authorize the execution of Change Order #1, to the contract in an additional amount of \$26,818.00.

Roll Call:

Councilperson:

Furgione – Yes

Gribbin – Yes

Marino – Yes

Oliva- Yes
R. Rodio - Yes
S. Rodio – Yes
Mayor DiDonato – Yes

Mayor DiDonato– Declares motion carried

5. **Change Order #1 – Old Forks Road Phase 2 (ARH #1140061.06)**

The proposed change order is to provide replacement asphalt driveway aprons to help convey stormwater runoff away from existing properties along Old Forks Road.

Action Item

Approve Change Order #1 in the amount of \$4,050.00.

Resolution #168-2025- Authorizing Change Order #1 for Old Forks Road Phase III

Motion by Council Person Marino Second Gribbin

Approval of change order #1 Old Forks Road Phase III Project

**AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #1
Arawak Paving
Old Forks Road Project Phase III**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Hammonton, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey authorized a contract to Arawak Paving on July 22, 2025 in the amount of \$141,000.00 for the Old Forks Road Project Phase III; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that additional work is needed; and

WHEREAS, the change order reflects an increase to the contract in the amount of **\$4,050.00**; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Hammonton hereby:

3. Formally authorize the execution of Change Order #1, to the contract in an additional amount of \$4,050.00.

Roll Call:

Councilperson:

Furgione – Yes

Gribbin – Yes

Marino – Yes

Oliva- Yes

R. Rodio - Yes

S. Rodio – Yes

Mayor DiDonato – Yes

Mayor DiDonato– Declares motion carried

SOLICITOR REPORT

- No Actions Items

MAYOR REPORT

- No Action items

Public Works Report

Town Public Works Schedule October

- **Lake Lowering**- Town received a permit to start lowering the lake November 1st. The permit runs until March 1, 2026.

Bulky waste pickup – the Month for the month of November will be from November 3rd to the 7th.

Brush pickup - will be the 10th through 14th.

Trash Collection- Election Day Tuesday November 4th will be collected on Wednesday November 5th and Veterans Day Tuesday November 11th. Trash Collection will be collected on Wednesday November 12th.

Thanksgiving Day Thursday November 27th, trash collection will occur on Friday the 28th.

Curb Side Leaf Collection – Started on October 20th and will run until December 23rd.

The County Recycling pickup – will be November 10th to the 14th and November 24 to the 26th and the 28th and 29th.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

1. Approval of the move of Michael Carrelli Jr., to the position of Heavy Truck Driver and Justin Day and Michael Bruce to the position of Truck Driver in the Highway Department per the current contract. Contingent upon all Civil Service rules and regulations.
2. Approval of the hiring of Andrea Lanutti as a Deputy Court Administrator. Effective October 14, 2025. Single benefits, 32.5 hours per week, salary to follow current White-Collar contract. Contingent upon all Civil Service rules and regulations.
3. Approval of the Best Practices Inventory Questionnaire from the State of New Jersey regarding the Town's State Aid.

Motion by Council Person Gribbin Second Oliva
Items 1 to 3 above are approved

Roll Call:

Councilperson:

Furgione – Yes

Gribbin – Yes

Marino – Yes

Oliva- Yes

R. Rodio - Yes

S. Rodio – Yes

Mayor DiDonato – Yes

Mayor DiDonato– Declares motion carried

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

Motion by Council Person Gribbin Second Oliva

Approval of Bill list

Roll Call:

Councilperson:

Furgione – Yes

Gribbin – Yes

Marino – Yes

Oliva- Yes

R. Rodio - Yes

S. Rodio – Yes

Mayor DiDonato – Yes

Mayor DiDonato– Declares motion carried

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution #158-2025- Authorize refunds for 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>
2503/2	Amendolia, John	415 Grape St	\$8,235.27	Cancel/100% exempt Veteran
2511/14	Scola, John J & Christine	11 S Grand St	\$1,217.64	Refund/paid in error

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:

Resolution #159-2025- Approval to end Towns Participation on the State Health Benefits Program

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
DIVISION OF PENSIONS AND BENEFITS
STATE HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM
PO BOX 299 TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0299**

R E S O L U T I O N

A RESOLUTION to terminate participation under the State Health Benefits Program (including Prescription Drug Plan and/or Dental Plan coverage).

BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The Town of Hammonton ,hereby resolves to terminate its participation in the program (Medical Plan, Prescription Drug Plan, and/or Dental Plan coverage) thereby canceling coverage provided by the

State Health Benefits Program and/or School Employees' Health Benefits Program (N.J.S.A. 52:14-17.25 et seq.) for all of its active and retired employees.

2. We shall notify all active employees of the date of their termination of coverage under the program.
3. We understand that the Division of Pensions and Benefits will notify retired employees of the cancellation of their coverage.
4. We understand that all COBRA participants will be notified by the Division of Pensions and Benefits and advised to contact our office concerning a possible alternative health, prescription drug, and dental insurance plan.
5. We understand that this resolution shall take effect the first of the month following a 60-day period beginning with the receipt of the resolution by the State Health Benefits Commission or School Employees' Health Benefits Commission.

Resolution #160-2025- Authorizing the Town of Hammonton to join the NJ Solutions Joint Health Insurance Fund

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF HAMMONTON AUTHORIZING THE
TOWN OF HAMMONTON TO JOIN THE NJ SOLUTIONS JOINT HEALTH
INSURANCE FUND.**

WHEREAS, a number of public entities in the State of New Jersey have joined together to form the NJ Solutions Joint Health Insurance Fund, hereafter referred to as the "Fund", as permitted by N.J.A.C. 11:15-3.1 ET. seq., N.J.S.A. 17:1-8.1 ET. seq. and N.J.S.A. 40A:10-36 et. seq., and

WHEREAS, the Fund was approved to become operational by the Department of Banking and Insurance and the Department of Community Affairs (collectively, the "Departments") and has been operational since that date; and

WHEREAS, the statutes and regulations governing the creation and operation of a joint insurance fund in the State of New Jersey contain certain restrictions and safeguards in connection with the administration of the public interest entrusted to such a Fund; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of Town of Hammonton, hereinafter referred to as "Local Unit" has studied the feasibility of joining the Fund and has determined that membership in the Fund is in the best interest of the Local Unit.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the governing body of the Local Unit hereby agrees and authorizes the following:

- i. Execution of the application for membership to the Fund, including all documents and/or certifications as may be necessary, in order for the Local Unit to complete the application process and join the Fund.
- ii. The Local Unit shall become a member of the Fund for an initial period outlined in the Local Unit's Indemnity and Trust Agreement, subject to the approval of the Fund Commissioners, which in no event shall exceed three (3) years as prescribed in N.J.A.C. 11:15-3.3(a).
- iii. The Local Unit shall participate in the following type(s) of coverage(s) offered by the Fund: Health Insurance and/or Prescription Insurance and/or Dental Insurance and/or Medicare Advantage/Employer

Group Waiver Program as defined pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17B:17-4, the Fund's Bylaws, and Plan of Risk Management.

iv. Adoption and approval of the Fund's Bylaws, a true and correct copy of which is annexed hereto as Attachment A, which has been approved by the Departments.

v. Execution of the Local Unit's Indemnity and Trust Agreement, a true and correct copy of which is annexed hereto as Attachment B, which has been approved by the Departments.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governing body of the Local Unit certifies, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 11:15-3.3(a), that the Local Unit has never defaulted on claims under a self-insured plan and that it has not had its insurance canceled for nonpayment of premium for a period of at least two (2) years prior to this application.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governing body of the Local Unit is authorized and directed to execute the Indemnity and Trust Agreement and such other documents signifying membership in the Fund as required by the Fund's Bylaws, and to deliver these documents to the Fund's Executive Director with the express reservation that these documents shall become effective only upon acceptance of the Fund's By-laws as prescribed in N.J.A.C. 11:15-3.3(a).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect upon its passage.

Resolution #161-2025- Establish a Veteran Medical Center

Resolution urging the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to establish an extensive outpatient treatment Veterans Medical Facility in Hammonton, New Jersey, to serve the veteran population of South Jersey

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey is home to over 300,000 veterans, with approximately 65,000 residing in South Jersey—including Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Salem, and parts of Camden counties—many of whom depend on the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for their healthcare needs; and

WHEREAS, current Veteran Medical Centers offering extensive specialty care are in East Orange and Philadelphia, requiring veterans in South Jersey to travel considerable distances for access to specialists in cardiology, oncology, orthopedics, mental health services, physical rehabilitation, and advanced diagnostics; and

WHEREAS, while Community-Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs) provide valuable primary care, they are not equipped to offer the full range of specialty services that aging and chronically ill veterans require; and

WHEREAS, Hammonton, New Jersey, located centrally within South Jersey along major transportation corridors, such as the Atlantic City Express Way, the New Jersey Turnpike and the New Jersey Parkway has emerged as an ideal site for a new Veterans outpatient treatment facility due to its geographic accessibility to the Tri-State Area, community support, and infrastructure readiness; and

WHEREAS, the Hammonton Town Council fully supports the establishment of this facility and will work on identified available land and interested private developers capable of facilitating the project; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project would also include a dedicated transportation hub designed to help veterans across South Jersey and the Tri-State area reach the facility conveniently and reliably, thereby removing a significant barrier to access for those with limited mobility or transportation options; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of such a facility will ensure that South Jersey veterans receive timely, equitable, and comprehensive care closer to home, in line with the nation's obligation to honor their service; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. That this Legislature respectfully urges the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to authorize and construct an extensive outpatient treatment Veterans Medical Facility, including a supporting transportation hub, in Hammonton, New Jersey, to meet the long-standing and growing healthcare needs of veterans in South Jersey.

2. That this Legislature commends the Town Council of Hammonton for its leadership, vision, and commitment to serving the veteran community by offering land, community support, and developer interest to advance this project.

4. That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of the New Jersey Congressional Delegation.

Resolution #162-2025- award State purchase of synthetic turf for Lake Park

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONTRACT TO AWARD
THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF SYNTHETIC TURF**

WHEREAS, there exists a need to purchase and install synthetic at lake park; and

WHEREAS, after comparing the prices, a contract be to be awarded to Becker School Supplies , 1500 Melrose Hwy, Pennsauken, NJ 08110-1410 to purchase and install the turf under state contract T103#16-FLEET-00119, in the amount not to exceed \$59,927.88; and

WHEREAS, funds are available in ordinance #018-2023 for the purchase; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1-et seq. requires that the resolution awarding the contract without competitive bidding and the contract must be available for public inspection;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF HAMMONTON, ATLANTIC COUNTY, NEW JERSEY that the Mayor and Town Clerk of the Town of Hammonton are hereby authorized and directed to enter into an agreement with Becker School Supplies , 1500 Melrose Hwy, Pennsauken, NJ 08110-1410 .

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the contract is awarded without competitive bidding in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12 of the Local Public Contracts Law as a State Approved Contract T103#16-FLEET-00119; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the contract is subject to the mutual acceptance of the appropriate contact documentation between Becker School Supplies and the Town of Hammonton.

Resolution #164-2025 – Approval of various refunds

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE TOWN OF HAMMONTON
AUTHORIZING VARIOUS 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:

Johnna Tomasello	\$ 1,250.00	Refund Escrow
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Resolution #165-2025- Approve transfer of budget appropriations

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 **effective November 1, 2025:**

Utility Fund

From: Utility Operating Expense	\$3,000.00
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To: Utility Interest on Notes	\$3,000.00
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Resolution #169-2025- request a time extension for Front Street Pedestrian Connector

Requested time extension for NJDOT Grant-L.A. – 2023 Front Street Pedestrian Connector, Hammonton Town

Resolution Requesting a Six (6) Month Time Extension for Project Award for use of the NJDOT Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Funds

Whereas, the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Hammonton desire to use the NJDOT Municipal Aid project funds, and

Whereas, the Town has received the following funding allotments from the NJDOT Municipal Aid program:

FY-2022, \$325,000 dated December 12, 2022, and

Whereas, the requirements for project award of the NJDOT Municipal Aid fund is two (2) years from the receipt of letter related to project funding allotment as listed within the NJDOT, and

Whereas, the Town has endeavored to comply with the project deadline standards as established by the NJDOT, and

Whereas, certain circumstances have caused delays in the project completion which are listed as follows:

- Coordination with NJ Transit at train station.
- Property line issues with neighbors affecting the scope of work.
- Ongoing coordination with Line Street railroad crossing between NJ Transit and NJ DOT

Furthermore, The Town is requesting a six (6) month time extension on the award for the FY-2022 project funds until May 15, 2026.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Hammonton that the adoption of this resolution be approved and forwarded to the NJDOT, Local Aid District IV Office for review and approval consideration for the reasons as stated above.

Motion by Council Person Gribbin Second Oliva
Resolution #158 to 169 are approved

Roll Call:

Councilperson:

Furgione – Yes

Gribbin – Yes

Marino – Yes

Oliva- Yes

R. Rodio - Yes

S. Rodio – Yes

Mayor DiDonato – Yes

Mayor DiDonato– Declares motion carried

PUBLIC HEARD

- No One desired to be heard

Councilman Rodio wished all the candidates running for election good luck.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Motion by Council Person Oliva Second R. Rodio