

Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council November 24, 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

Kevin Friel - Police Chief – Arrived at 6:45

EXECUTIVE SESSION Resolution #171-2025

Motion by Council Person Marino Second R. Rodio
Executive Session

Motion by Council Person R. Rodio Second Oliva
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 October 27, 2025

Executive Minutes October 27, 2025

Motion by Council Person Marino Second R. Rodio

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

John Caruso – Spoke about VA hospital. He wants to make sure they VA are involved in more Town events, start a scholarship program, have a yearly BBQ in the fall and work on getting housing for Veterans.

DISPENSE WITH REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration - Councilman Gribbin

- Reviewed admin meeting
- No Action items

Business & Industry – Councilman Oliva

- Thanked Mainstreet for the down Town open house
- Upcoming events - Small Business Saturday the 29th of November please shop local
- Tree lighting event will be December 6th
- Saturday December 13th the Fireman's Christmas parade will be held. The theme will be the 80's.
- Rotary winter fest will be December 5th to the 7th at the Mt. Carmel fairgrounds.

Quality of Life – Councilwoman R. Rodio

- We will developing a committee for the 250th Birthday
- Happy Thanksgiving

Education – Councilman Marino

- Reviewed School board meeting
- Would like to have a sign put above Pratt Street naming it after a local Vet, Frank Coletta. This will go to law and order committee.

Public Works & Transportation Councilman S. Rodio

- December 1st the 4th Street fence project will start
- West End Project is moving along quickly, homes are being built.
- Happy Thanksgiving

Law & Order – Mayor DiDonato (Given by Chief Friel)

- Officers are participating in no shave November
- Annual food drive is going on now. We are collecting food every Thursday at Shop Rite and there is a collection bid in Town Hall.
- Toy drive will be held December 6th
- Drive Sober Get Pulled Over will be stating November 26th.

Water & Sewer - Councilman Furgione

- Glow project is moving along, there will be another door knocking event in the last week of December. There are about 500 homes left in the process.
- Trenches at Boyer Ave are working well; lagoons are about 2 feet deep.
- Reading of water meters is ongoing.
- Happy Thanksgiving
-

ENGINEER'S REPORT**ACTION ITEMS:**

No action items.

SOLICITOR REPORT

Motion by Council Person Gribbin Second Oliva

Approval for Mayor to execute AT&T lease for the 4th Street Water Tower.

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

MAYOR REPORT

- Thanked all the residents of the Town for their support over the last 16 years, and thanked all of the council members he has worked with.
- Thanked his family for their support.

Public Works Report

- Lake lower- all 3 boards have been removed, please clean around your Lake front and put at curb for collection by the Town's public works dept.

Town Public Works Schedule December

Bulky waste pickup – for the Month of December will be from December 8th to the 12th.

Brush pickup – for the month of December will be the 15th through 19th.

Trash Collection- for Christmas Day will be on Friday the 26th. Please place trash cans curb side by 6am

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

The County Recycling pickup – will be December 8th to the 12th and December 22nd to the 26th.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

1. Approval to remove in good standing Thomas Busch and Michael Busch as regular members and Josh Ya'Shuah as a junior member from Fire Company #1. Approved at Fire Company meeting on October 15, 2025.
2. Accept retirement of Richard Falasco from his position as Plumbing Sub Code Official effective November 13, 2025.
3. Approval to hire Les Templeton as the Plumbing / Mechanical sub code official. \$45.00 per hour 8 hours per week, no benefits. Retroactive to November 13, 2025
4. Accept retirement of Eric Pohl from his position as Police Officer from the Town of Hammonton effective as of November 1, 2025, and approval of the payout of unused Sick / Vacation / Personal and comp. time per contract.
5. Approval of the finalized language for the Blue Collar Contract duration January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2027
6. Approval of the following promotions Abigail Deleon to Violation Clerk II and Catherine Andreini to Account Clerk II, salary based on current contract. Contingent upon all civil service rules and regulations. Effective December 1, 2025
7. Approval of the salary increases for the following positions per contract, "Confidential Clerk 1", "Communications Manager / Recreation Leader", "Town Clerk / Airport Manager / QPA / Administrator" effective date of December 1, 2025.

Motion by Council Person Gribbin Second Oliva
Items 1 to 7 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 Oliva Second R. Rodio
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 #172-2025- Setting Council meeting dates for 2026

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 5, 2026** 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 2026**:

| | |
|---------------|----------------|
| January 26th | July 27th |
| February 23rd | August 24th |
| March 23rd | September 28th |
| April 27th | October 26th |
| May 18th | November 23rd |
| June 22nd | December 28th |
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.

Motion by Council Person Marino Second Furgione
Resolution #173 is approved

Roll Call:

Councilperson:

Furgione – Yes

Gribbin – Recused

Marino – Yes

Oliva- Recused

R. Rodio - Yes

S. Rodio – Yes

Mayor DiDonato – Recused

Mayor DiDonato– Declares motion carried

Resolution #173-2025- Approval of the Lady 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, 2025 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 #174-2025- Budget addition for NPP grant (\$125,000)

WHEREAS, NJSA 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget, and

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for an equal amount, and

WHEREAS, the Town has received notice from the State of New Jersey Neighborhood Preservation Program Grant, in the amount of \$125,000.00 and wishes to amend its 2025 Current Fund Budget to include this amount as revenue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the Town of Hammonton hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the Current Fund Budget of the year 2025 in the sum of \$125,000.00 which has been awarded and is available as a revenue from:

Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written Consent of the Director of Local Government Services - Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:

2025 Neighborhood Preservation Program

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a like sum of \$125,000.00 be and the same is hereby appropriated under the caption of:

General Appropriations:

Operations - Excluded from "CAPS":
Public and Private Programs Offset by Revenues:

2025 Neighborhood Preservation Program

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Director of Local Government Services.

Resolution #175-2025- Approval of ABC liquor license transfer

Transfer Person to Person Liquor License

WHEREAS, an application has been filed for a person to person and transfer of Consumption License 0113-33-022-015;

WHEREAS, the submitted application form is complete in all respects, transfer fees have been paid, and the license has been properly renewed for the current license term;

WHEREAS, a police background check was not needed due to the background has been completed. The applicants are qualified to be licensed according to all standards established by Title 33 of the New Jersey Statutes, regulations promulgated thereunder, as well as pertinent local ordinances and conditions consistent with Title 33;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Town of Hammonton do hereby approve the transfer of the aforesaid Consumption License owned by Tomasello Catering Services LLC 225 N. White Horse Pike Hammonton, NJ 08037, to CAP 25 Properties, LLC, 555 North Egg Harbor Road Hammonton, NJ or its assignee, and does hereby direct the Town Clerk to endorse the license certificate as follows: "this license, subject to all its terms and conditions, is hereby transferred from Tomasello Catering Services LLC 225 N. White Horse Pike Hammonton, NJ 08037 , to CAP 25 Properties, LLC, 555 North Egg Harbor Road Hammonton, or its assignee.

Resolution #176-2025- Approval of 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> |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2201/36 | Vega, Reinaldo | 379 Fairview Ave | \$ 974.83 | Refund/Overpayment Tax |
| 2412/10 | Dream Home Abstract | 278 Messina Ave | \$2,041.61 | Refund/Overpayment Tax |
| 2505/19 | Jacob Spivey | 511 Passmore Ave | \$159.39 | Refund/Overpayment Tax |
| 2713/19 | John & Christina Scola | 215 Tilton Street | \$1,139.83 | Refund/Overpayment Tax |
| 2812/13 | Lily Applebaum | 217 Grape Street | \$2,382.99 | Refund/Overpayment Tax |
| 3106/24 | Peter Macrie | 522 E Pleasant St | \$2,379.09 | Refund/Overpayment Tax |
| 3203/16 | Foundation Title I | 110 Valley Ave | \$1,074.26 | Refund/Overpayment Tax |
| 3202/19 | Trident Land Transfer | 443 Peach Street | \$2,023.65 | Refund/Overpayment Tax |
| 3403/16.02 | Kennedy, Kristine & Nee | 410 S Liberty Street | \$2,446.57 | Refund/Overpayment Tax |
| 3901/22 | NVA RE LLC | 357 S White Horse Pike | \$5,333.99 | Refund/Overpayment Tax |
| Various | Corelogic/Cotality | Various | \$9,306.23 | Refund/Overpayment Tax |
| 754-0 | Di Salvo, Frances Estate | 606 W Orchard St | \$901.54 | Refund Inactive Utility Account |

| | | | | |
|--------|--------------------|-----------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|
| 853-0 | AFS Properties LLC | 426 12 th Street | \$151.67 | Refund Inactive Utility Account |
| 2151-0 | McMaster, Charles | 36 Allen Lane | \$123.75 | Refund Inactive Utility Account |

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 #177-2025- 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:

Resolution #178-2025 - 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 from the 2025 Budget appropriations:

CURRENT FUND

| | | |
|-------|--|-------------|
| From: | Assessor - Operating Expense | \$ 8,600.00 |
| From: | Airport - Operating Expense | \$55,000.00 |
| From: | Highway–Salary & Wages | \$10,000.00 |
| From: | Collection of Taxes – Salary & Wages | \$10,000.00 |
| From: | Assessor: Salary & Wages | \$ 3,000.00 |
| From: | Holiday Observance – Operating Expense | \$ 3,000.00 |

| | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|--------------|
| To: | Social Security | \$ 8,000.00 |
| To: | DCRP- Operating Expense | \$ 600.00 |
| To: | Construction – Salary & Wages | \$ 14,000.00 |
| To: | Police - Salary & Wages | \$ 55,000.00 |
| To: | Police Radio – Salary & Wages | \$ 12,000.00 |

UTILITY FUND

| | | |
|-------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| From: | Utility – Operating Expense | \$ 50,000.00 |
| To: | Utility – Salary & Wages | \$ 50,000.00 |

Motion by Council Person Gribbin Second Oliva
Resolution #173 to 178 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

MEETING ADJOURNED

Motion by Council Person Oliva Second R. Rodio