

Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council January 27, 2026
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

Roll Call

Councilperson:

Calderone – Present
Marino - Absent
Matro - Present
R, Rodio - Present
S. Rodio – Present
Scipione – Present
Mayor Furgione – Present

PRESENT ALSO

Michael Malinsky, Town Solicitor

EXECUTIVE SESSION Resolution #021-2026

Motion by Council Person Scipione Second R. Rodio
Executive Session

Motion by Council Person Scipione Second Matro
Close Executive Session

RESUME REGULAR MEETING-ROLL CALL

Roll Call

Councilperson:

Calderone – Present
Marino - Absent
Matro - Present
R, Rodio - Present
S. Rodio – Present
Scipione – Present
Mayor Furgione – 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 December 15, 2025
Executive Minutes December 15, 2025
Reorganization Minutes January 5, 2026

Motion by Council Person R. Rodio Second S. Rodio
Approval of minutes

Roll Call

Councilperson:

Calderone – Yes abstain on December Minutes
Marino - Absent
Matro - Yes abstain on December Minutes
R, Rodio - Yes
S. Rodio – Yes
Scipione – Yes abstain on December Minutes
Mayor Furgione – Yes

Mayor Furgione– Declares motion carried

PRESENTATION

- **Hammonton Hawks Football**- Councilman Calderone presented the plaque and congratulated them on their success. Each coach gave a preview of their season and introduced the players

- **Triad Associates** – Mike Epifanio gave a presentation on the grant that we are applying for with the NJ Green Acres program. This will be funding for the lake park. ARH also gave an overview of the project and the concept that we are looking to accomplish. James Sia and Rich Rehmann from ARH spoke regarding the above.
 - **Jason Simmons 600 Oak Road**- had questions regarding the project. He specifically asked about the basins that are part of the project. How come there are so many?

- **250th Celebration** – Mr. Parkhurst from the 250 the committee gave an overview of the planned events for this event.

- **Kevin Friel** – Police Hiring temporary officer

Motion by Council Person Calderone Second Scipione
Approval of Temporary hire of Luke Coia as a Police Officer for the Town of Hammonton

Roll Call

Councilperson:

Calderone – Yes
Marino - Absent
Matro - Yes
R, Rodio - Yes
S. Rodio – Yes
Scipione – Yes
Mayor Furgione – Yes

Mayor Furgione– Declares motion carried

DISPENSE WITH REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration - Councilman Marino(Given By Zuber)

- Reviewed the admin meeting and spoke about the health insurance and the rate increase for the court interpreter_

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Business & Industry – Councilwoman R. Rodio

- 3 new business are coming to Hammonton tin the coming months
- December events were very successful
- Mainstreet Hammonton is asking residents and business input to plan a tour of the Town
- Down Town Restaurant week will be 17th to 22nd.

Quality of Life – Councilman Calderone

- The chair of the environmental commission is Joe Berenato and Co chair is Terry Cafusio
- Met with canoe club members this past week and is working on a volunteer program to help our seniors.
- Veterans committee had their first meeting today, are working on a plan to complete the monument and other events for our vets.

Motion by Council Person Calderone Second R. Rodio

Invite the County commissioners and Denny Levison to our next council meeting toe give an update on the proposed Jail

Roll Call

Councilperson:

Calderone – Yes

Marino - Absent

Matro - Yes

R, Rodio - Yes

S. Rodio – Yes

Scipione – Yes

Mayor Furgione – Yes

Mayor Furgione– Declares motion carried

Education – Councilman Scipione

- All 3 teams of the Hawks football program made the finals
- Reviewed the re-org meeting of the school board. Jena Giraldo was appointed to the empty seat. John Lyons was appointed as president and Luke Coia was appointed as Vice President. National Honor society elections were also announced.
- Canoe club seniors meeting went well. Looking to develop a senior friends program. Looking into obtaining a van for the seniors. This would come from a private citizen.
- Working towards adding more content to channel 9.

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Public Works & Transportation Councilman S. Rodio

- Reviewed engineers report and the project that we are working on.
- Thanked the Highway Department for their hard work during the snow storm

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

- the Police department had 23,000 calls for service in 2025
- We had a total of 125 DUI's in 2025, 32 stolen vehicles and 4,867 motor vehicle stops
- During a snow storm, please remove your vehicles form the roadways. You will be ticketed and towed.

Water & Sewer - Councilman Matro

- Water / Sewer bills were mailed on January 9th

- The get the LEAD program is still ongoing and there are about 800 more homes that still need to be evaluated.
- Basin at Boyer Ave are low and in good shape
- Thanked the public works for their hard work in clearing the snow.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Change Order #2– Old Forks Road Improvements (ARH #1101061.02)

The proposed change order is a no cost change order to update the contract to address all the work adjustments.

Motion by Council Person Scipione Second Matro

Approval of change order Resolution #030-2026 no cost change order

Resolution #030-2026

**AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #2
Arawak Paving
Old Forks Road Project Phase I**

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 \$998,541.30, for the Old Forks Road Project Phase I and

WHEREAS, the change order reflects the final value of the contract in the amount of **\$998541.30**; 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 #2, to the contract with no additional costs.

2. Change Order #1 – Old Forks Road Improvements Phase II (ARH #1101061.03)

The proposed change order is a no cost change order to update the contract to address all the work adjustments.

Motion by Council Person Scipione Second Matro

Approval of Change order #2 Old Forks Road

Resolution #029-2026

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

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 II; and

WHEREAS, the change order reflects the final value of the contract in the amount of **\$167,954.12**; 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 with no additional costs.

Approval of Change order Old Forks Road #1

Roll Call

Councilperson:
Calderone – Yes
Marino - Absent
Matro - Yes
R, Rodio - Yes
S. Rodio – Yes
Scipione – Yes
Mayor Furgione – Yes

Mayor Furgione– Declares motion carried

3. **Bidding, Construction Administration, & Inspection – Route 54 Water Main Replacement Project (ARH #1130167.06)**

We are requesting authorization to provide construction administration and inspection for the construction work related to the Bellevue Avenue Water Main Project from First to Second Road. This contract is required for NJDEP permitting and authorization to bid.

Motion by Council Person S. Rodio Second Matro

Approval of Contract in the amount of \$220,560.00 Route 54 Water Main **contingent upon approval of funding from H2Loans. NO PO issued until funding is in place. This contract had to be awarded; H2loans would not take the application without this.**

Roll Call

Councilperson:
Calderone – Yes
Marino - Absent
Matro - Yes
R, Rodio - Yes
S. Rodio – Yes
Scipione – Yes
Mayor Furgione – Yes

Mayor Furgione– Declares motion carried

4. **Green Acres FY2026 Grant Application Support – Hammonton Lake Park (ARH #P2025.0895)**

We are requesting authorization to provide grant support services related to the submission of the 2026 Green Acres grant application for the continued improvements at the Lake Park.

Action Item

Approve ARH's proposal for grant support services for an amount not to exceed \$7,750.00.

We are requesting authorization to provide construction administration and inspection for the construction work related to the Bellevue Avenue Water Main Project from First to Second Road. This contract is required for NJDEP permitting and authorization to bid.

Motion by Council Person S. Rodio Second Scipione

Approval of PO to ARH in the amount of \$7,750.00 for Green Acres application.

Roll Call

Councilperson:
Calderone – Yes
Marino – Absent
Matro - Yes
R, Rodio - Yes
S. Rodio – Yes
Scipione – Yes
Mayor Furgione – Yes

Mayor Furgione– Declares motion carried

SOLICITOR REPORT

Motion by Council Person Scipione Second Matro

Introduction of Ordinance #001-2026 – Amendment to Redevelopment Plan for the 8th Street location Lot 801 blocks 7,8,9, & 11by title only

Roll Call

Councilperson:
Calderone – Yes
Marino - Absent
Matro - Yes
R, Rodio - Yes
S. Rodio – Yes
Scipione – Yes
Mayor Furgione – Yes

Mayor Furgione– Declares motion carried

MAYOR REPORT

Motion by Councilperson R. Rodio Second Calderone

Additions to Historical Society Commission: Barbara Neary, Christine McCullough, Jack Mazzeo, Lorraine Scipione, Marty Matro, Jeffrey Michelini, Carol Santora, Debbie Burton and Bill Parkhurst as Alternate 1's

Roll Call

Councilperson:
Calderone – Yes
Marino - Absent
Matro - Yes
R, Rodio - Yes

S. Rodio – Yes
Scipione – Yes
Mayor Furgione – Yes

Mayor Furgione– Declares motion carried

**Motion by Councilperson R. Rodio Second Calderone
Appoint Mickey Pullia as representative for School Board**

Roll Call

Councilperson:
Calderone – Yes
Marino - Absent
Matro - Yes
R, Rodio - Yes
S. Rodio – Yes
Scipione – Yes
Mayor Furgione – Yes

Mayor Furgione– Declares motion carried

- Updated the Weymouth Road Bridge- this will be closed for the near future NJ Transit will be working on the repairs. Requesting a copy of the detour plan. Rich is handling this by email.
- Land use mater plan is being reviewed and should be ready in the next couple of months.

Public Works Report

Town Public Works Schedule February 2026

Bulky waste pickup – for the Month of February will be from the 2nd through the 6th.

Brush pickup – for the month of February will be the 9th through the 13th.

Trash Collection- for Presidents Day Monday February 16 will be on Tuesday February 17th, Please place trash cans curb side by 6am

The County Recycling pickup – for February will be the 2nd to the 6th and the 16th to the 20th.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

1. Approval to increase the per session rate for the Municipal Court interpreter Miriam Alicea from \$125.00 per session to \$150.00 per session.

Motion by Council Person S. Rodio Second Matro
Item 1 above is approved

Roll Call

Councilperson:
Calderone – Yes
Marino – Absent
Matro - Yes
R, Rodio - Yes

S. Rodio – Yes
Scipione – Yes
Mayor Furgione – Yes

Mayor Furgione– Declares motion carried

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

Motion by Council Person S. Rodio Second Scipione
Approval of Bill list

Roll Call

Councilperson:
Calderone – Yes
Marino - Absent
Matro - Yes
R, Rodio - Yes
S. Rodio – Yes
Scipione – Present
Mayor Furgione – Yes

Mayor Furgione– Declares motion carried

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution #022-2026- 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>
2816/7	Zarella, Lorian	342 E Pleasant St.	\$86.91	Refund/Overpayment Tax
4112/13	Somers, Eric	133 Fernwood Dr	\$1,699.36	Refund/Pd Tax in Error
4501/27	De Marco, Ricky	239 Basin Rd	\$3,961.06	Cancel/Exempt Vet
3207/7	Pro Cap 8 LLC		\$953.59	Refund/Cancel TSC
3801/1.01/c0021	Berenato, Charles J III	21 Harbor Dr	\$380.01	Refund/Overpayment Utility
604/2.01	CT07-75 SWH LLC	65 S. White Horse Pike	\$4,943.13	Refund/Overpayment Utility

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 #023-2025- Approval of the Mt Carmel Festival

AUTHORIZE THE “FEAST OF OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL” PROCESSION,

CARNIVAL & FIREWORKS

WHEREAS, July 11th through July 20th is the scheduled date for the Lady of Mt. Carmel carnival and events in the Town of Hammonton; and

WHEREAS, the Mt. Carmel Society has requested assistance of the Town of Hammonton Police Department and the closing of Tilton Street aka "Mt. Carmel Lane" (between French and Pratt) and Third Street (between Pratt and Pleasant) during the week of the carnival; and

WHEREAS, July 16th is the scheduled date for processions, (times may vary at discretion of Hammonton Police Chief) and the Mt. Carmel Society requests police patrol and road closures of the following streets and times:

9:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. procession- with a Band through the Streets of Hammonton

From Place of Origin on Third Street to intersection of Third Street and Fairview Avenue
Continue on Fairview Ave to Egg Harbor Road to intersection of Egg Harbor Road and Bellevue Ave
Continue to Intersection of Bellevue Avenue and Third Street
Continue on Third Street to its conclusion at point of origin

4:00 p.m. procession

From St. Mary of Mt. Carmel Church west (N. Third Street to Fairview Avenue)
Continue south on Fairview Avenue to N. Egg Harbor Road
Continue east on N. Egg Harbor Road to Bellevue Avenue (Route 54)
Continue north on Bellevue Avenue to N. Third Street
Conclude west on N. Third Street and conclude procession at place of origin

WHEREAS, July 16th is the scheduled date for fireworks event, there will be no rain date

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HAMMONTON that the Lady of Mt. Carmel carnival, procession and fireworks are approved along with police traffic patrol and trash cleanup contingent upon the following:

1. Filing of necessary insurance certificate by Mt. Carmel Society.
2. Filing of required State and County road closure approvals with the Town Clerk's office.
3. Contacting Police Chief and Public Works Manager 2 months prior to event.

Resolution # 024-2026- Approval of the St John Procession

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND ENDORSING THE "ST. JOHN PROCESSION"

WHEREAS, St. John the Baptist Society was founded in 1910, for the purpose of Holding a celebration for the feast of St. John on his feast day (on or about June 24th)

WHEREAS, Mayor and Council continue to promote the Town of Hammonton with their annual "St. John" procession; and has and continues to support the efforts of St. John the Baptist Society; and

WHEREAS, **Tuesday June 24, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.** is the scheduled date for the Feast of St. John religious procession to be held in the Town of Hammonton; and

WHEREAS, St. John the Baptist Society 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 for procession:

From St. Joseph Church (N. 3rd St.) to Bellevue Ave

Straight Across Bellevue onto South Third Street
Left onto Vine Street back to Bellevue Ave
Across Bellevue to Tilton onto Mt. Carmel
Left onto Pratt Street, left onto Second Street
Left onto French and back to St Joseph 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 **Procession of St. John** is acknowledged and endorsed by the Town of Hammonton contingent upon the following:

1. Filing of necessary insurance certificates by St. John the Baptist Society as required by the Town of Hammonton.
2. Filing of required State and/or County written approvals for street closures with the Town Clerk's office and the Chief of Police at least two weeks prior to event.

Resolution #025-2026- Authorizing 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:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Leigh Wetterau	286 Chestnut St.	\$ 1,250.00	Refund Escrow

Resolution #026-2026 – Approval of Green Acres Grant Application

Green Acres Application

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Green Acres Program ("State"), provides grants and/or loans to municipal and county governments and grants to nonprofit organizations for assistance in the acquisition, development, and stewardship of lands for outdoor recreation and conservation purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Hammonton desires to further the public interest by obtaining total funding in the amount of \$600,000.00, in the form of a \$600,000.00 matching grant from the State to fund the following project(s): Recreational Improvements and related Stormwater Management Systems at Hammonton Lake Park at a cost of \$1,200,000.00;

WHEREAS, the State shall determine if the application is complete and in conformance with the scope and intent of the Green Acres Program, and notify the applicant of the amount of the funding award; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is willing to use the State's funds in accordance with such rules, regulations, and applicable statutes, and is willing to enter into an agreement with the State for the above-named project;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Hammonton Town Council resolves that: Mayor Steven Furgione, or the successor to the office of Mayor, is hereby authorized to: make application for such a loan and/or such a grant, provide additional application information and furnish such documents as may be required, and act as the authorized correspondent of the above-named applicant; The applicant agrees to provide its matching share to the Green Acres funding request, if a match is required, in the amount of \$600,000.00; In the event the State's funds are less than the total project cost specified above, the applicant has the balance of funding necessary to complete the project; The applicant agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations in its performance of the project; and This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Resolution #027-2026- Approval of Budget Transfer

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 reserves:

CURRENT FUND

From: NJ Disability – Operating Expense	\$ 12,800.00	
From: Admin – Salary & Wages	\$ 3,000.00	
From: Finance – Salary & Wages	\$ 3,100.00	
From: Computer – Operating Expense	\$ 3,400.00	
From: Health Benefit Waiver – Operating Expense	\$ 2,400.00	
From: Police – Salary & Wages	\$ 25,700.00	
From: Police Radio – Salary & Wages	\$ 2,000.00	
From: Road Repairs & Maint. – Salary & Wages	\$ 11,800.00	
From: Holiday Observance – Operating Expense	\$ 3,500.00	
From: Gasoline – Operating Expense	\$ 16,100.00	
From: Elections – Operating Expense	\$ 1,400.00	
From: Assessor – Operating Expense	\$ 1,400.00	
From: Finance – Operating Expense	\$ 200.00	
From: Assessor – Salary & Wages	\$ 400.00	
From: Collection of Tax- Operating Expense	\$ 200.00	
From: Planning Board – Operating Expense	\$ 400.00	
From: Construction – Salary & Wages	\$ 500.00	
From: Construction – Operating Expense	\$ 500.00	
To: Legal - Operating Expense		\$ 36,600.00
To: Police – Operating Expense		\$ 28,500.00
To: Road Repairs & Maint.- Operating Expense		\$ 23,700.00

Resolution #028-2026 - approval of Grant Application for local recreation improvements

Whereas, the Town of Hammonton desires to apply for and obtain a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approximately \$75,000 for improvements to the hockey rink at 11th Street Park.

Be it therefore RESOLVED,

- 1) That the Town of Hammonton does hereby authorize the application for such a grant; and,
- 2) recognizes and accepts that the Department may offer a lesser or greater amount and therefore, upon receipt of the grant agreement from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, does further authorize the execution of any such grant agreement; and also, upon receipt of the fully executed agreement from the Department, does further

authorize the expenditure of funds pursuant to the terms of the agreement between the Town of Hammonton and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

Be it further RESOLVED, that the people whose names, titles, and signatures appear below are authorized to sign the application, and that they or their successors in said titles are authorized to sign the agreement, and any other documents necessary in connection therewith:

Motion by Council Person R. Rodio Second Matro
Resolution #022 to #028 are approved

Roll Call

Councilperson:

Calderone – Yes, abstain to Resolution #24

Marino - Absent

Matro - Yes

R, Rodio - Yes

S. Rodio – Yes

Scipione – Yes

Mayor Furgione – Yes

Mayor Furgione– Declares motion carried

PUBLIC HEARD

No one desired to be heard

MEETING ADJOURNED

Motion by Council Person R. Rodio Second Scipione