

Minutes of the February 10, 2026 Township Committee Meeting of the Township of Hillsborough, in the County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, held in the Municipal Complex at 7:30 PM on February 10, 2026.

CALL OF THE ROLL

Upon call of the roll, the following Committee members were recorded present: Mayor Catherine Payne , Deputy Mayor Shawn Lipani, Committeeman Robert Britting, Jr., Committeewoman Jill Gomez and Committeewoman Samantha Hand. Also in attendance were Township Administrator Anthony Ferrera, Township Clerk Sarah Brake and Township Labor Attorney Richard Flaum.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

MAYOR STATES

Please be advised that in accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, of the Public Laws of 1975, notice of this meeting was made by the posting on the bulletin board at the Hillsborough Township Municipal Complex and notifying the officially designated newspapers that this meeting would take place at the Hillsborough Township Municipal Complex at Tuesday, February 10, 2026. Executive Session, if deemed necessary, to begin at 6:30 pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (b) (1-9)), Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee is of the opinion that such circumstances exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough in the County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of the hereinafter specified subject matters.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
 - o AFSCME - Contract negotiations
 - o OPRA Brook - Litigation GRC Complaint
3. The Township Committee may take official action on those items discussed in Executive Session upon completion of the Executive Session.
4. The minutes of the discussions shall be made available to the public as soon as the matters under discussion are no longer of a confidential or sensitive nature.
5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Upon a motion by Committeewoman Samantha Hand, seconded by Committeeman Robert Britting, the aforesaid resolution was unanimously approved upon call of the role. The Township Committee went into Executive Session at 6:35 pm.

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Shawn Lipani, seconded by Committeeman Robert Britting, the public meeting was re-opened at 7:07 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE LIAISONS, AND RECEIPT OF REPORTS, PETITIONS OR COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Payne

Mayor Payne asked the audience to mute all cell phones.

Mayor Payne announced that Hillsborough has been awarded \$1 million in funding from the FY2026 Appropriations for the Hillsborough Recreation Center Project at Merdinger Park. Mayor Payne stated Hillsborough Township is incredibly grateful to Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman and her entire team for initiating the project and to Thomas Kean, Jr., for voting for it and making it a reality.

Mayor Payne advised that the Lunar New Year begins next Tuesday. As Hillsborough welcomes the Year of the Horse, may everyone's paths be cleared of obstacles and hearts be filled with the courage to chase dreams and wished all a Happy New Year.

PROCLAMATIONS / APPOINTMENTS

1. RESOLUTION APPOINTING NICK DELISI TO THE POSITION OF HEALTH OFFICER

WHEREAS, there exists a vacancy in the position of Health Officer; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 73-90 of the Township Code, the Township wishes to appoint Nick DeLisi as the Township's Health Officer effective 2/1/2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that Nick DeLisi is hereby appointed to the position of Health Officer effective 2/1/2026.

Upon a motion by Committeeman Robert Britting, seconded by Committeewoman Jill Gomez, the Resolution Appointing Nick DeLisi to the position of Health Officer was approved upon the call of the roll.

2. OATH OF OFFICE HEALTH OFFICER - NICK DELISI

Mayor Payne swore in Nick DeLisi.

3. BLACK HISTORY MONTH

WHEREAS, during Black History Month, we celebrate the many achievements and vast contributions of African Americans to the economic, spiritual, political, and cultural development of both our nation and our community; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 theme of Black History Month is "A Century of Black History Commemorations," marking 100 years of focused national celebrations of Black life, history, and culture, focusing on resilience, identity, and ongoing impact; and

WHEREAS, the observance of Black History Month reminds us of the continued need to mitigate racism and build a harmonious community; and

WHEREAS, Hillsborough Township continues to work toward becoming a more inclusive community wherein all people are respected and recognized for their contributions and potential contributions to our community, state, country, and world; and

WHEREAS, Hillsborough Township is proud to honor the history and contributions of African Americans in our

community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that we, the Mayor and the Hillsborough Township Committee, do hereby recognize February as Black History Month.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that we, the Mayor and the Hillsborough Township Committee, urge all residents to recognize the contributions made by members of the African American community and to actively promote the principles of equality and liberty.

PRESENTATIONS

PERSONNEL ITEMS/APPOINTMENTS

1. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A ONE TIME STIPEND PAYMENT TO CAITLIN VAZ FOR HER DUTIES PERTAINING TO THE TOWNSHIP JIF SAFETY COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, Caitlin Vaz has additional duties as the Municipal Safety Coordinator on the Township Joint Insurance Fund Safety Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Township Administrator /JIF Safety Commissioner recommends payment of a one-time stipend in the amount of \$1,000 to Ms.Vaz for her extra work with the Township Joint Insurance Fund Safety Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the recommendation of the Township Administrator/JIF Safety Commissioner is hereby accepted and approved.

2. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND TOWNSHIP HR DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE 2026-2029 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSBOROUGH AND AFSCME AFL-CIO COUNCIL 63 LOCAL 3697

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that: (1) the 2026-2029 collective bargaining agreement between Hillsborough Township and AFSCME AFL-CIO Council 63 Local 3697 is hereby accepted and approved; and (2) the Mayor and Township Clerk are authorized to execute the agreement.

3. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PROMOTION OF SERGEANT PHILIP WOLFF TO LIEUTENANT AND CORPORAL JAMES SAKERS TO SERGEANT EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 10, 2026

WHEREAS, the promotional process conducted to select the most suitable candidates for promotion to the positions of Lieutenant and Sergeant in the Hillsborough Police Department has been completed; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police recommends the appointment of Sergeant Philip Wolff to the position of Lieutenant effective February 10, 2026, at an annual salary of \$186,296, pursuant to the current P.B.A. Contract; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police recommends the appointment of Corporal James Sakers to the position of Sergeant effective February 10, 2026, at an annual salary of \$154,599, pursuant to the current P.B.A. Contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the recommendations of the Chief of Police are hereby accepted and approved.

4. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF POLICE OFFICERS IN THE HILLSBOROUGH TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, there are vacancies in the position of Police Officer in the Hillsborough Township Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police and Police Committee conducted an examination of the top candidates; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police recommends the following individuals be hired as Police Officers in the Hillsborough Township Police Department, effective February 17, 2026, at the listed annual salaries:

Ryan P Enright	\$52,983
Thomas R Flaherty	\$52,983
Brett D Radomski	\$52,983
Aidan J Schweizer	\$52,983

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the recommendations of the Police Chief are hereby accepted and approved.

5. RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE 2026 ANNUAL SALARIES AND WAGES OF AFSCME AFL-CIO COUNCIL 63 LOCAL 3697 MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES

WHEREAS, the annual salaries and wages of AFSCME AFL-CIO Council 63 LOCAL 3697 Municipal Employees, effective January 1, 2026, need to be established in accordance with the Bargaining Unit agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the annual salaries and wages of the following employees are to be adjusted as listed below:

Last Name	First Name	Title	2026 Salary	2026 Stipend	Stipend Type
ALLATT	EDWARD	Fire Subcode Official	\$ 108,033		
ANGELO	JONAH	Field Representative/Assessor Clerk	\$ 41,924		
ARACO	CHRISTINE	Office Administrator Registrar	\$ 52,321	\$3,500	Registrar
AYNKARAN	SUWASTHIKKA	Business Office Program Coordinator	\$ 44,000		
BERTOLINI	JOANNE	Police Clerk - Investigations Division	\$ 49,892		
BIANCO	GIANNA	Police Clerk - Records Division	\$ 40,950		
CAPELL	SHELLY	Office Administrator	\$ 90,808		
CASSIDY	LISA	Technical Assistant / Office Administrator	\$ 68,330		

CEVALLOS-REINOSO	DANIELA	Violations Clerk / Office Administrator	\$ 60,936	\$6,000 \$1,500	Municipal Court Shared Services Translation Services
D'AMBROSIO	JACKLYN	Administrative Assistant Deputy Registrar	\$ 40,950	\$2,000	Deputy Registrar
DAUGHERTY	DONNA	Technical Assistant	\$ 71,546		
ELBAUM	KIMBERLY	Administrative Assistant	\$ 41,924		
FRITZINGER	DAVE	Engineering Aide	\$ 66,743		
GILLEECE	DANIELLE	Police Clerk - Services Division	\$ 48,344		
GLEMBOCKI	JENNIFER	Bookkeeper	\$ 44,000		
GONZALEZ	JOSEPH	Senior Transportation Driver	\$ 52,460		
KANE	MARIA	Planning & Zoning Clerk	\$ 45,241		
KNOX	ALEXA	Violations Clerk	\$ 48,100	\$6,000	Municipal Court Shared Services
LUKACS	FRANCIS	Plumbing & Mechanical Subcode Official	\$ 102,975		
MARCINEK	GRETCHEN	Clerk to CFO & Tax Collector	\$ 41,950		
MARGELIS	DANA	Clerk to CFO & Tax Collector / Deputy Tax Collector Public Agency Compliance Officer (PACO) Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA)	\$ 57,169	\$1,500 \$5,000 \$333.33	PACO QPA Alexandria Shared Services (Jan only)
MAZZAGATTI	DOMINICK	Building Inspector	\$ 80,633		
MCLARNON	SARA	Technical Assistant	\$ 57,664		
MILLER	DORIS	Office Administrator	\$ 49,929		
PADGETT	DEBORA	Administrative Assistant	\$ 71,463		
PARIS	BRANDON	Police Clerk - Records Division	\$ 40,000		
RAYMOND	TRACY	Technical Assistant	\$ 46,050		
ROBERTS	JENNIFER	Administrative Assistant	\$ 40,000		

ROTOLO	JUSTIN	Administrative Assistant	\$ 40,950		
SANTAROMITA	LEE	Office Administrator	\$ 54,385		
SCHWEERS	KEVIN	Building Inspector	\$ 78,794		
SIPOS	FRANK	Building Inspector	\$ 77,000		
SPINELLI	DAWN	Senior Transportation Driver	\$ 50,460		
SPISSO JR	BRIAN	Field Representative/Assessor Clerk	\$ 42,950		
VAZ	CAITLIN	Engineering Support Secretary / Grant Writer	\$ 50,962		
VENIS	CARSON	Recreation Assistant	\$ 43,000		
WALAKONIS	LOUIS	Civilian Police Specialist	\$ 57,440		
WILLIAMSON	SCOTT	Electrical Subcode Official	\$ 91,688		

6. RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE 2026 ANNUAL SALARIES AND WAGES OF MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES

WHEREAS, annual salaries and wages will be effective January 1, 2026, unless otherwise noted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the annual salaries and wages of the following employees are to be adjusted as listed below:

Department	Title	Last Name	First Name	Effective Date	2026 Salary	2026 Stipend	2026 Stipend
Planning & Zoning	Assistant Planner / Sustainability Program Manager	BALL	SAMANTHA	1/1/2026	\$58,349.50		
Administration	Executive Assistant	BARRANTES-GAMBOA	YAZMIN	1/1/2026	\$55,066.14	\$1,500.00	Translation Services
Engineering	Director, Engineering Director	BELANGER	THOMAS	1/1/2026	\$130,223.93		
Admininstration	Floater	BITTLE-ABRAMO	ROBYN	1/1/2026	\$19.00/hr		
Tax Assessor	Tax Assessor	BLANEY	DEBRA	1/1/2026	\$152,900.41		
Administration	Township Clerk / PIO	BRAKE	SARAH	1/1/2026	\$117,641.45		
DPW	Assistant Supervisor, Public Works	BRANDT	GREGORY	1/1/2026	\$84,667.03		

Finance	Finance Director, CFO & Treasurer	BUSHELL	CHRISTIAAN	1/1/2026	\$144,200.00	\$2,083.33	Alexandria Shared Svcs (Jan only)
IT	Technical Support Assistant	CARNEY	KYLE	1/1/2026	\$21.50/hr		
Health	Director, Environmental Programs	CARR	MICHAEL	2/1/2026	\$112,000.00	\$4,000.00	Licensed Recycling Coordinator
Finance	Tax Collector / Payroll Manager	CROSSEN	APRIL	1/1/2026	\$105,650.19	\$416.67	Alexandria Shared Svcs (Jan only)
Parks	Supervisor, Parks	CROSSEN JR.	JOHN	1/1/2026	\$107,664.87		
Admininstration	Floater	CUMMINGS	LINDA	1/1/2026	\$19.00/hr		
DPW	Assistant Supervisor, Public Works	DAVENPORT	DANIEL	1/1/2026	\$99,014.93		
DPW	Assistant Supervisor, Facility Maintenance	DEANGELIS JR.	GLENN	1/1/2026	\$101,375.69		
Health	Health Officer	DELISI	NICHOLAS	2/1/2026	\$100,000.00	\$2,750.00	Millstone Shared Svcs (Feb-Dec)
Police	Technical Support Assistant	DENEGRI	MARCELO	1/1/2026	\$21.50/hr		
DPW	Office Manager, Public Works	DIBELLO	MICHELE	1/1/2026	\$58,349.50		
Admininstration	Office Assistant	DRAB	MICHELLE	1/1/2026	\$20.00/hr		
Parks & Recreation	Director, Parks & Recreation	DUNNE	GRIFFIN	1/1/2026	\$108,665.00		
Health	Deputy Director, Environmental Programs & Public Health	DVORAK	DANE	2/1/2026	\$79,601.00		
Social Service	Assistant Director, Social Services	FAERBER	CATHY- JEAN	1/1/2026	\$80,597.50		
Public Works	Building Maintenance	FAERBER	GLEN	1/1/2026	\$20.00/hr		
Admin	Director, Human Resources	FENSTER- GUDE	HARRIET	1/1/2026	\$90,243.45		
Admin	Township Administrator	FERRERA	ANTHONY	1/1/2026	\$214,971.30		
Building	Construction Official	FIEDLER	JOHN	1/1/2026	\$151,395.58		
Police	Police Support Technician	FISHER	DAVID	1/1/2026	\$29.50/hr		

IT	Director, Information Technology	GRANATIR	RICHARD	1/1/2026	\$125,067.75		
Police	Crossing Guard	GREENBERG	IRA	1/1/2026	\$19.00/hr		
Recreation	Assistant Director, Recreation	HENDERSON	ANNETTE	1/1/2026	\$72,100.00		
Municipal Court	Deputy Municipal Court Administrator	HORVATH	NANCY	1/1/2026	\$82,370.13	\$10,000.00	Municipal Court Shared Svcs
DPW	Supervisor, Public Works	HUXLEY	JEFFREY	1/1/2026	\$114,562.78		
Building	Building Subcode Official	JANDOLI	MARK	1/1/2026	\$103,000.00		
Economic & Business Development	Director, Economic & Business Development	KARAS	ZUZANA	1/1/2026	\$95,054.58		
Municipal Court	Municipal Court Administrator	KEETH	SUSAN	1/1/2026	\$107,494.92	\$17,000.00	Municipal Court Shared Svcs
Planning & Zoning	Director, Planning & Zoning	KOIS	DAVID	1/1/2026	\$119,845.65	\$1,500.00	Municipal Housing Liaison
DPW	Assistant Supervisor, Public Works	LEMIEUX	RONALD	1/1/2026	\$92,999.73		
Administration	Deputy Clerk / Training Program Manager	LENZO	ERICA	1/1/2026	\$64,136.04		
OEM	OEM Coordinator	LENZO	DANIEL	1/1/2026	\$82,400.00		
Admininstration	Floater	LERMAN	JILL	1/1/2026	\$19.00/hr		
Police / Operations	Operations Manager, Police	MACIAGA	VIKTORIA	1/1/2026	\$53,045.00		
IT	Assistant Director, IT	MATTEI	FRANK	1/1/2026	\$61,603.27		
Admininstration	Floater	MAZZUCCO	JEANNE	1/1/2026	\$19.00/hr		
Police	Technical Support Assistant	MCLAIN	MARK	1/1/2026	\$21.50/hour		
Planning & Zoning	Assistant Director, Planning & Zoning / Zoning Official	MCLAUGHLIN	MARCELLA	1/1/2026	\$77,618.74		
Police	Police, Chief	MCMAHON	MICHAEL	1/2/2026	\$243,763.00		
Social Services	Office Assistant	MOREANO	PAOLA	1/1/2026	\$18.50/hr		

Administration	Deputy Public Information Officer	NG	DEBORAH	1/1/2026	\$49,400.86		
Administration	Office Assistant	NISENSEN	DEBORAH	1/1/2026	\$21.50/hr		
Police / IT	Manager, Police Information Technology	PINENO	MICHAEL	1/1/2026	\$144,444.11		
Planning & Zoning	Master Plan Assistant	RAMIREZ	NINA	1/1/2026	\$18.50/hr		
DPW	Director, Public Works	RESAVY	RICHARD	1/1/2026	\$136,391.57		
Tax Assessor	Assistant Manager, Tax Assessor	RING	SAMANTHA	1/1/2026	\$58,349.50		
Admininstration	Floater	SCALTRO	PAUL	1/1/2026	\$19.00/hr		
Health	Property Maintenance / Code Enforcement Officer	SKOBO	RONALD	1/1/2026	\$28.50/hr		
Engineering	Assistant Director, Engineering	SMITH	EVERETT	1/1/2026	\$107,770.96		
Health	Health Officer	SPANO-KLIMKO	SIOBHAN	1/1/2026	\$126,122.47	\$250.00	Millstone Shared Svcs (Jan only)
Police	Crossing Guard	STAATS	GREGORY	1/1/2026	\$19.50/hr		
Police	Executive Assistant	STRUZIENSKI	CHRISTINE	1/1/2026	\$67,199.45		
Building	Electrical Inspector	VANDENBERG	ROBERT	1/1/2026	\$50.00/hr		
Social Services	Director, Social Services / OEM	WAGNER JR.	ROBERT	1/1/2026	\$124,751.54		

7. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PROMOTION OF ONOFRIO (TONY) RIGA TO THE POSITION OF PARKS SUPERVISOR IN THE PARKS DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, there exists a vacancy in the position of Parks Supervisor in the Parks Department; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Parks and Recreation recommends the promotion of Onofrio (Tony) Riga as Parks Supervisor at a salary of \$90,000.00, effective February 11, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the recommendation of the Director of Parks and Recreation is hereby accepted and approved.

8. Resolution Authorizing The Hiring Of Alex Gilleece To The Position Of Public Works Worker I In Department Of Public Works

WHEREAS, there exists a vacancy in the position of Public Works Worker I in the Department of Public Works; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Public Works recommends the hiring of Alex Gilleece as a Public Works Worker I in the Department of Public Works at \$39,119 per year effective February 11, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the recommendation of the Director of Public Works is hereby accepted and approved.

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Shawn Lipani, seconded by Committeeman Robert Britting, the personnel resolutions were approved upon the call of the roll.

Committeeman Robert Britting commented on resolutions 2, 4,5, and 6. Committeeman Britting thanked all the employees for staying with Hillsborough and that he appreciates all the hard work they do.

Committeewoman Jill Gomez commented on resolution 6 and stated residents can look at last years salaries as a means of comparison and is concerned about the current budget and costs.

Mayor Payne thanked Committeewoman Gomez for being on the budget committee and looks forward to her work. Administrator Ferrera stated the last thing he wants to do is have layoffs. Everyone is working in good faith in light of the insurance costs going up 29% this year.

Committeewoman Hand encouraged again changing the budget cycle, congratulated Sergeant Wolf, the four new police officers, Tony Riga, and Alex Gilleece.

Committeeman Lipani stated most of the budget is based on union contracts. The discretionary amount is probably less than \$100,000. The township runs because of the quality of the people that work here. If you take away employee positions it ultimately hurts the residents through a lack of services.

Administrator Ferrera stated that raises in Hillsborough are not an anomaly; Somerset County has given the same percentage of raises and gave those in January as have many other municipalities.

Committeewoman Hand replied the committee should look at the surplus of those towns as compared to this town which she stated has none.

CONSENT

1. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF CASH ESCROW IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,500.00 TO LISA PAYNE FOR APPLICATION 03-PB-26-MSRV

WHEREAS, a cash escrow in the amount of \$1,500.00 was posted to guarantee trees planted as part of the approval for Planning Board Application 03-PB-26-MSRV; and

WHEREAS, the applicant has since sold the property and the new owners have satisfied the tree planting requirement; and

WHEREAS, the Engineering Director recommends the Township Committee authorize the release of the cash escrow in the amount of \$1,500.00 to Lisa Payne that was posted for the guarantee of tree plantings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough,

County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the recommendation of the Engineering Director be and hereby is accepted and approved.

2. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF CASH ESCROW IN THE AMOUNT OF \$250.00 TO KAMIL NIEDZIELA FOR ROAD OPENING PERMIT NO. 2023-02

WHEREAS, a cash escrow in the amount of \$250.00 was posted for Road Opening Permit No. 2023-02; and

WHEREAS, the Engineering Director certifies all work has been satisfactorily completed; and

WHEREAS, the Engineering Director recommends the Township Committee authorize the release of the cash escrow in the amount of \$250.00 to Kamil Niedziela for Road Opening Permit No. 2023-02.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the recommendation of the Engineering Director is hereby accepted and approved.

3. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF CASH ESCROWS AND INSPECTION FEES FOR HIGH BRANCH ESTATES, GLEN DEVELOPMENT AND AMWELL TERRACE PROJECTS

WHEREAS, cash escrow and inspection fee escrows were posted for the Amwell Terrace, Glen Development and High Branch Estates projects; and

WHEREAS, the Engineering Director certifies all work has been satisfactorily completed and recommends the following: (1) release of cash escrow in the amount of \$500 for Winter Certificate of Occupancy for High Branch Estates project; (2) release of cash escrow in the amount of \$10,756.34 for High Branch Estates project; (3) release of inspection fee escrow for Glen Development project: \$104.85 to the Township for engineering work completed and remaining balance of \$11,254.42 to Glen Development; (4) release of inspection fee escrow for High Branch Estates project: \$104.85 to the Township for engineering work completed and remaining balance of \$2,195.17 to High Branch Estates; (5) release of cash escrow in the amount of \$12,599.02 for Amwell Terrace project; and (8) release of engineering inspection fee escrow for Amwell Terrace project: \$104.85 to the Township for engineering work completed and remaining balance of \$7,514.80 to Amwell Terrace.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the recommendations of the Engineering Director are hereby accepted and approved.

4. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL TO A 1 YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026

WHEREAS, the Township Office of Emergency Management Coordinator recommends the appointment of the following individuals to one (1) year terms to the Local Emergency Planning Committee effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026:

OEM Coordinator	Daniel Lenzo
Chief of Police	Michael McMahon
Township Fire Marshal	Christopher Weniger
Robert Wood Johnson	Andy Ibanez
Fire Chief Unit 36	Tyler Riordan

Fire Chief Unit 37	Robert Gildea
Fire Chief Unit 38	Matthew Hand
Fire Chief Unit 48	CJ Davis
Township Fire Commissioner	William Woodruff
Township Engineer	Tom Belanger
Social Services	Robert Wagner
Health Department	Michael Carr
Environmental/SARA III Liaison	Pat Caulfield
Township Administrator	Anthony Ferrera
Township PIO	Sarah Brake

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the aforementioned individuals are appointed to one (1) year terms to the Local Emergency Planning Committee effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026.

5. RESOLUTION AWARDING CONTRACT TO SCHAEFER FIREWORKS FOR THE PROVISION OF A FIREWORKS DISPLAY AT THE HILLSBOROUGH FAMILY FUN EVENT

WHEREAS, the Township of Hillsborough solicited quotes for a fireworks display for the Hillsborough Family Fun Event and two (2) responses were received as follows:

Starfire Corporation	\$12,000.00
Schaefer Fireworks	\$14,560.00

WHEREAS, the Director of Parks & Recreation and the Township Qualified Purchasing Agent recommend the award of a contract to Schaefer Fireworks in an amount not to exceed \$14,560.00 in accordance with the project specifications and quote submitted; and

WHEREAS, funds will be available in the 2025 budget and have been certified as such by the Chief Finance Officer through account #01-201-30-797-910 (requisition #2313118).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that a contract is hereby awarded to Schaefer Fireworks in an amount not to exceed \$14,560.00 for the provision of a fireworks display at the Hillsborough Family Fun Event in accordance with the project specifications and quote submitted.

6. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF RECREATION PROGRAM FEES

WHEREAS, there are refunds due from Recreation program fees; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has received proof of such refunds being due and payable.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to refund said amounts as detailed below.

Phil Ruela	\$165.00
Nels Lauritzen	\$275.00
Jennifer Resetar	\$160.00

7. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF RACHEL CAMPBELL FROM DIFRANCESCO BATEMAN AS MUNICIPAL PROSECUTOR FOR THE YEAR 2026

WHEREAS, Requests for Proposals were solicited for Municipal Prosecutor services for the year 2026; and

WHEREAS, based upon the recommendation of the Evaluation Committee consisting of the Township Committeeman, Finance Committee Chair and Township Administrator, and as a result of the Fair and Open Selection Process, the Township Committee wishes to appoint the hereinafter specified professional service provider to the said listed position with the following financial stipulation where applicable:

- Rachel Campbell of DiFrancesco Bateman, 15 Mountain Blvd., Warren, NJ, as Municipal Prosecutor for the year 2026, in accordance with the proposal submitted in an amount not to exceed \$95,000.00; and

WHEREAS, funds will be available and certified by the Chief Financial Officer in the 2026 Municipal Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to execute a Professional Services Contract with Rachel Campbell of DiFrancesco Bateman, in the “not to exceed” amount indicated for the year 2026.
2. The Professional Service contract is awarded through the Fair and Open Selection Process as “Professional Services” in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)a of the Local Public Contracts Law and the New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4-5 et. seq., because these services will be performed by persons authorized by law to practice a recognized profession whose practice is regulated by law, the performance of which service requires knowledge of an advance type in a field of learning acquired by a prolonged formal course of specialized instructions as distinguished from general academic instruction or apprenticeship and training.
3. The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the Township’s standard form of agreement for “Professional Services” and any modifications thereto and related constituent documents as may be found acceptable by the Township Committee.
4. A notice of the Professional Service appointments/contract awards shall be printed once in one of the official Township newspapers.

8. RESOLUTION RATIFYING AND CONFIRMING THE EXECUTION OF VARIOUS FARM LEASES FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2026 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2030

WHEREAS, a notice of advertisement for bids and an Invitation to Bid were prepared and advertised for the lease of various farm properties owned by the Township; and

WHEREAS, sealed bids were opened and read on November 13, 2025 at 10:00 AM, which was the time and place as provided for in the Invitation to Bid entitled “Auction for Lease of Property for Agricultural Purposes” in

accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law; and

WHEREAS, bids were received for the following properties:

Block/Lot(s)	Property Description	Farmable Acres	Amount per acre	Bidder
192 -2	Hamiton Rd & Amwell Rd	424.275	\$14	Abma
198.01-1	Amwell Rd	4.626	\$14	Abma
198.02-1.01	Amwell Rd	4.581	\$14	Abma
171-2	Wertsville Rd	49.35	\$15	Crisfulli
171-6	Wertsville Rd	55.852	\$15	Crisfulli
171-6.03	Wertsville Rd	18.372	\$15	Crisfulli
12-26.01	29 East Mountain Rd	73.75	\$7	Doyle
12-47	South Branch Rd	85.902	\$10	Doyle
145.02-49	Orchard Drive	22.90	\$7	Norz
13.01-7.02	South Branch Rd	59.96	\$13	Norz
145-49	Beekman Ln	70.10	\$10	Quick
5-37.01	Amwell Rd	60.049	\$15	Lima
148-1	New Centre	42.08	\$10	Norz
203.23-53.25	Willow Rd	1.574	no bid	no bid

WHEREAS, the specifications provide that the award of the contract shall be made to the highest bidder for each property separately; and

WHEREAS, the Qualified Purchasing Agent has determined that the all bids are accepted as bidden.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hillsborough, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that: (1) the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to execute agreements with the successful bidders for farm leases for the period January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2030 with 4 potential extensions thereof for beginning calendar year 2031; and (2) a notice of this action shall be printed in the official Township Newspaper.

Mayor Payne stated, "We are going to hear all comments first. After that, if any committee member would like to take any item from the consent agenda separately for voting purposes, I will give you the opportunity to do so. There is no need to take items separately for the purpose of commenting or questioning.

Committeewoman Hand asked how many prosecutors were evaluated.

Mayor Payne responded two.

Administrator Ferrera stated Deputy Mayor Lipani and Committeeman Britting reviewed all of them and then the two finalists to maintain consistency through the process that began in December.

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Shawn Lipani, seconded by Committeewoman Jill Gomez, the consent agenda resolutions 1-3 and 5-8 was unanimously approved upon the call of the roll.

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Shawn Lipani, seconded by Committeewoman Samantha Hand, the consent agenda resolution 4 was approved upon the call of the roll. Committeewoman Samantha Hand abstained.

Maria Janucik, 720 E. Frech Ave, Manville asked the difference in resolutions with the same numbers.

Township Clerk Brake provided an explanation. Ms. Janucik asked if the new prosecutor would be considered an employee and then how municipal court employees are paid.

Administrator Ferrera stated she is on the professional staff that goes out for RFP. Court employees get stipends from the other towns that have shared services.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

INTRODUCTION OF NEW ORDINANCES

None

CLAIMS LIST

1. CLAIMS LIST 26-03

Mayor Payne asked to approve Claims List 2026-03.

Upon a motion by Committeeman Robert Britting, seconded by Deputy Mayor Shawn Lipani, Claims List 2026-03, was approved upon the call of the roll.

NEW BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NEW BUSINESS AND MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Township Clerk Sarah Brake stated the following. The Township Committee now opens the floor for public comment. To ensure a productive and civil environment for all, please approach the microphone, state your name and address, and spell your name for the record.

The Township of Hillsborough maintains a strict standard of decorum; please ensure your remarks remain respectful and focused on township business. Each speaker is limited to a single three-minute allotment. As this is a forum for public comment rather than a dialogue, please address all remarks directly to the Mayor. We thank you in advance for your cooperation and for treating your neighbors, Township employees, and this committee with courtesy.

Committeeman Lipani wished his mother a Happy Birthday.

Committeewoman Hand gave a shout out to a wedding at precisely 8:03 pm.

Maria Janucik, 720 E. Frech Ave, Manville stated she wants to know what is going on with the M&M settlement agreement as it related to the property owned by the town at the Sherman property.

John Ciccarelli, 14 Southland Drive highlighted the grant received to build a recreation center at Merdinger Pavillion and complimented the committee on its persistence with this project.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Shawn Lipani, seconded by Committeeman Robert Britting, the meeting duly adjourned at 8:09 pm. Said motion was unanimously carried upon voice vote.

Attested:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Brake', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Sarah Brake
Township Clerk