

TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM
TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 18, 2025
TRAINING SESSION – 6:30 P.M.
REGULAR SESSION – 7:30 P.M.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER –Mayor Rubenstein called the meeting to order.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Both adequate and electronic notice of the meeting has been provided, specifying the time and place. In addition, a copy of this notice is available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk, posted on the main door, the bulletin board of the Municipal Building, on the Township website at: https://www.byramtwp.org/index.php/town_hall/township_council, and has been forwarded to those persons requesting notice.

ROLL CALL OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL –Councilwoman Franco, here; Councilman Gallagher (virtual), here; Councilman Proctor, here; Councilman Roseff, here; Mayor Rubenstein. Also present was Township Manager Joseph Sabatini, Township Attorney Tom Collins, and Township Clerk, Cynthia Church

RESOLUTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Gallagher, to go into executive session and adopt the below resolution.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, P. L. 1975, Chapter 231 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

- A. Attorney Client Privilege Communication
 - General
- B. Personnel

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Byram, that the public shall be excluded from discussion of the following matters:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Minutes will be kept on file in the Municipal Clerk’s office, and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes shall be made public.

BYRAM TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Certification: I certify that the Byram Township Council adopted the above resolution on March 18, 2025.

Cynthia Church, Municipal Clerk

	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Proctor	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion	x				
2nd			x		
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION - Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor to return to open session at 7:41 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion Carried.

FLAG SALUTE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor to approve the agenda. Pulling Resolution 047-2025 for discussion.

	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Proctor	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion	x				
2nd			x		
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

PROCLAMATION – 2024 MS AWARENESS WEEK
Mayor Rubenstein read aloud the proclamation. Proclaiming March 9th – 15th as MS Awareness Week.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER, MAYOR, AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Township Manager – April 1st will be the budget adoption and public hearing and introduction of bond ordinances. Are expecting Grade Construction to start work March 24th at CO Johnson Field 8

Councilwoman Franco – *We had a successful Polar Plunge this past Sunday at Lake Lackawanna Beach. We had 27 brave souls entering the water and another 24 on the beach watching. We had our Fire Dept., Police Dept. and Lakeland EMS all there to lend a hand. The Recreation Committee along with Noah, Caleb, and Asher Rubenstein there to help also. Noah was there on behalf of the Scouts, and he single handedly helped navigate folks from the parking lot to the event. Sharon from the Waterloo Food Pantry was also there to accept the generous donations that all brought to the event.*

At our last Rec Committee meeting we discussed the following:

- 1. Outdoor Movies- June 28- Minions Rise of Gru and Aug 2- Inside/Out- funded by Municipal Alliance.
- 2. Outdoor Concert is set for July 19- The Woods Vibration is the band.
- 3. Byram Fest- Aug 23- Deb has secured
 - a. Food Trucks
 - b. DJ
 - c. Face painter
 - d. Fireworks Vendor
 - e. Rides Vendor.

The Committee will meet at CO Johnson Park in May to go over a new layout plan.

- 4. Our Spring/Summer Booklet is out, we have some new things like Fishing Contest on June 8 over at the Boat Launch at Cranberry Lake, this is sponsored by the State of NJ. Our Aladdin trip is sold out and we are selling Yankees and Mets tickets each day. Our other programs are beginning to sell too.
- 5. Senior Exercise has seen an increase in participants and is going well. Also, our Wednesday Beginner Line Dance is a big hit, we are now adding an intermediate class and a new beginner class.
- 6. Our New Line Dance and Fusion Class on Wednesday nights is a big hit, we have a good number of attendees and people already asking about the next session.
- 7. We have added an all-purpose camp through USA Sports to be run right after the school's summer camp ends for the day, this should give the parents a "full day" option.

Please do not forget about the Grand Opening of the Tennis Courts- April 15th at 6pm. Our Tennis and Pickleball instructors will be on hand to give demos and will have some students come by too.

Councilman Gallagher – Byram Township Board of Education Meeting met on March 12th. Had a meet and greet for the new Superintendent and Administrator The next meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2025.

Councilman Proctor – Planning Board meeting March 20th.

Councilman Roseff – Went to BPU meeting to be discussed later.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION I

Motion by Councilwoman Franco second by Councilman Proctor to open to the public. All members were in favor.

No Comments.

Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor to close to the public. All members were in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 4, 2025, Regular & Closed Session Meeting Minutes - Motion by Councilwoman Franco, seconded by Councilman Proctor to approve minutes.

	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Proctor	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion	x				
2nd			x		
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

CONSENT AGENDA – All are considered to be routine by the Members of the Township Council and will be enacted on by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a citizen or Council member requests in which event the item may be removed from the general order of business and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda. Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- A. Approval to Release 2024 Closed Session Township Council Minutes
- B. Approval of Raffle & 50/50 License to the Byram Township Vol. Fire Department – April 26, 2025
- C. Resolution No. 075-2025 – Resolution to Appoint Doris Flynn as Deputy Clerk for the Township of Byram
- D. Resolution No. 076-2025 – Resolution to Amend the 2025 Temporary Budget
- E. Resolution No. 077-2025 – Resolution to Amend the 2025 Temporary Budget for the Sewer Utility Fund

	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Proctor	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion	x				

2nd			x		
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

Resolution No. 074-2025 – Revised Annual Notice of Calendar Dates of the Scheduled Meetings of the Byram Township Council from 1/1/2025 – 12/31/2025 and the Beginning of 2026

	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Proctor	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion	x				
2nd			x		
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

BILL LIST – March 18, 2025 – Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor to approve the bill list.

	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Proctor	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion	x				
2nd			x		
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

ORDINANCE – 2nd Reading / Public Hearing
ORDINANCE 003-2025 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 172 ENTITLED “NUISANCE, ARTICLE I NOISE”
Purpose Statement: The purpose of this ordinance is to add a new chapter to the Code to regulate and prohibit nuisances caused by noise.

	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Proctor	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion	x				
2nd			x		
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

Councilman Roseff asked the Chief of Police if he was ready to enforce this ordinance. The Chief of Police said he is not prepared to speak on this tonight.

Joshua Garra said he read the ordinance and said there is a lot in the ordinance needing interpretation. Sections D&G.

BE IT RESOLVED that Ordinance No. 003-2025 is passed on final reading and that a notice of final passage be published in the official designated newspaper according to the law.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

ETG / SJI meeting update – Mayor Rubenstein provided an update on ETG and service in the Cranberry Lake area. ETG is finding that area of town to be challenging, the lack of mapping in the area, the change in tariff and costs of the projects, they will not be going into the Cranberry Lake Area. ETG will be conducting a survey regardless to see the level of interest in the area to see if it will work economically.

CO Park Improvements - Councilman Gallagher, Mr. Sabatini and the Mayor met with French and Parello regarding the plan reiteration they received and provided in the packet online. Mayor Rubenstein is looking for a consensus to send to DEP for permitting. Councilman Roseff asked if they have costs yet. Councilwoman Franco is looking for sizing on the walkways. There are no objections to move forward on obtaining the approvals from the DEP.

Mayor Rubenstein received a copy of a resolution from Lafayette regarding the advertising for meetings. Councilman Roseff would like to add special requirements for Special Meetings. Mayor Rubenstein will draft the resolution.

April 2026 the Department of Transportation will be milling and paving route 206 from Rt. 80 to Andover Tunnel.

Councilman Roseff asked about the Status of the dirty dirt issue on Hemlock Road. Mr. Sabatini said that it is in the hands of the DEP. Councilman Roseff asked for an update on the Cranberry Lake foot bridge. And if the DOT and DEP can attend a meeting to discuss both issues. Mayor Rubenstein provided an update on the footbridge. Mayor Rubenstein will reach out to the DOT/DEP.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION II

Motion by Councilwoman Franco, Second by Councilman Proctor to open to the public.

Annalise Demagistris – Reported a tree that came down on North Shore Road and took down wires. She said the road was not closed even though DPW was notified. Mr. Sabatini said that cones were placed and DPW closed portions of the road. The Superintendent of Public Works provided the update to the Township Manager showing that they were there closing the road.

Shawn Pond – Expressed is concern on the lack of attention of JCP&L for updating infrastructure. Mayor Rubenstein will ask JCP&L to attend a meeting.

Motion by Councilwoman Franco, Second by Councilman Proctor to close to the public.

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BYRAM TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

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Cynthia Church, Municipal Clerk

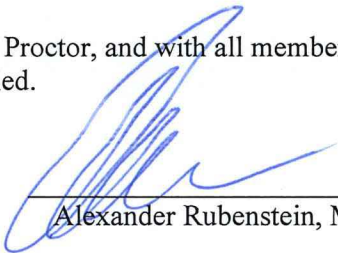
	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Proctor	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion	x				
2nd			x		
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION - Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor to return to open session at 9:45 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor, and with all members in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion carried.


Cynthia Church, RMC
Township Clerk


Alexander Rubenstein, Mayor