

TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM
TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 15, 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, (virtual),here; Councilman Gallagher (virtual), here; Councilman Proctor, here; Councilman Roseff, here; Mayor Rubenstein. Also present was Township Manager Joseph Sabatini, Township Attorney Tom Collins (virtual), and Township Clerk, Cynthia Church

RESOLUTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion by Councilman Proctor, second by Councilman Roseff, 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 April 15, 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 Councilman Proctor, second by Councilman Roseff to return to open session at 7:31 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion Carried.

FLAG SALUTE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Motion by Councilman Proctor, second by Councilman Roseff to approve the agenda. With the removal of Resolution No. 089-2025.

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

TOWNSHIP MANAGER, MAYOR, AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Township Manager – Elizabeth Township Gas (ETG) has completed installing gas lines within the township, and at this time no further expansion is expected. There is a survey ETG sent out into the Cranberry Lake area to get an understanding of interest in that area. Final restoration to the roads affected will begin before the end of the month. At the May 6th meeting we will be introducing amendments to ordinances pertaining to Chapter 240 (Zoning Code, accessory

structure, and checklists, and to remove reference to ARC committee) and Chapter 215. Mr. Sabatini received an update from the new Township Planner on the Affordable Housing and Fair Share Housing Plan. They are scheduling this for public hearing with the Planning Board in June.

Mayor Rubenstein – CO Field Playground path has been put in; however, inspections of the path are needed prior to opening. Field 8 has been rough graded and is still in progress. Provided update on the success of the recent Rabies Clinic. On April 11th he met with the new JCP&L representative. They are working on taking down trees. Open Space Committee along with the Environmental Commission would like to have a controlled burn in the Tamarack Park area. Today we had the grand opening of the tennis courts on Mansfield Drive.

Councilwoman Franco – *The Recreation Committee is working with Stanhope’s Recreation Advisory Committee on a combined Miss Byram/Miss Stanhope Contest for June 19th at Lenape Valley High School Auditorium. The Recreation Committee is putting the finishing touches on the 2025 Byram Fest. The Recreation Committee May 13th meeting will be at CO Johnson Park so we can go over the layout for this year’s event. We see steady signups for our programs, trips, and events. The Recreation postcards will be mailed out on Friday.*

Councilman Gallagher – The CO Johnson Park gate looks like it was damaged near the field house. The Board of Education Meeting Held a meeting on April 9th. The next meeting scheduled for the Board of Education is tomorrow April 16, 2025.

Councilman Proctor – The Planning Board met on April 3, 2025. The next Planning Board meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2025 with two residential applications.

Councilman Roseff – Went to Byram BOE meeting regarding their decision to declare the district as distressed that would allow for a 7% tax increase. There was a discussion on staffing and student ration in conjunction with the Budget. Passed a resolution they will send to Trenton to agree if it is a distressed district.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION I

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

No Comments.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 1, 2025, Regular & Closed Session Meeting Minutes - Motion by Councilman Roseff, seconded by Councilman Roseff 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 Councilman Proctor, second by Councilman Roseff to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- A. Resolution No. 087-2025 – Transfer of Liquor License from BBG Restaurant LLC to Freddy’s Bar & Gril Inc.
- B. Resolution No. 088-2025 – Chapter 159- Tonnage Recycling Grant \$9,530.04

	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 – April 15, 2025 – Motion by Councilman Proctor, second by Councilman Roseff 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					
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ORDINANCE – 2nd Reading / Public Hearing

- ORDINANCE NO. 004-2025 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM AMENDING SECTION 48-2 ENTITLED “RULES AND REGULATIONS” AND SECTION 48-24 ENTITLED “OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES” OF CHAPTER 48 ENTITLED “POLICE DEPARTMENT” TO MODIFY AND UPDATE THEIR PROVISIONS**

Purpose Statement: The purpose of this ordinance is to update and amend the Police Department Chapter 48 to amend and update its rules and regulations and the fees for outside activities.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that Ordinance No. 004-2025 is passed on final reading and that a notice of final passage be published in the official designated newspaper according to the law.

- ORDINANCE NO. 005-2025 - AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE A CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FOR IMPROVEMENTS OF VARIOUS STREETS AND LOCATIONS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP AND TO PROVIDE FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$150,000.00**

Purpose Statement: Reconstruction and Resurfacing of Various Streets and Locations in and by the Township including without limitation, Roseville Rd, Cascade Ave, Sussex St, Lauren Ct, Jefferson lakes Rd, Anderson Ln, Ascot Ln, Mara Ln, Matthew Dr, Carlson Ln, Mountain Heights Dr, Mountain View Terr, Circle Dr, Seneca Lake Rd, Birch Pkwy and other streets and roads in the Township to be determined including reconstruction of culverts and headwalls and all curbing, drainage facilities/inlets, landscaping, reclamation, milling, structures, roadway surfaces including milling and paving, oil and stone, cape sealing or similar application, crack sealing, roadway striping and repairs, all materials, equipment, site work and engineering costs.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that Ordinance No. 005-2025 is passed on final reading and that a notice of final passage be published in the official designated newspaper according to the law.

- ORDINANCE NO. 006-2025 - AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE A CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE ACQUISITION OF NEW EQUIPMENT FOR USE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS OF THE TOWNSHIP TO PROVIDE FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$135,000.00**

Purpose Statement: Acquisition of new equipment for use by the Department of Public Works of the Township.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that Ordinance No. 006-2025 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

CO Johnson Fieldhouse, Football Field Lighting, Announcer Stand & Score Board –

The Lenape Valley Jr. Football league would like to donate a score board.

Mayor Rubenstein is looking for a consensus from the council to allow himself and Councilman Gallagher to move forward.

Councilman Roseff was not in support of all that is being requested, as there is not a budget. He is however in favor of donations.

Councilwoman Franco was in favor of moving forward.

Councilman Proctor would like to get a full picture to move forward.

Councilman Gallagher was in support to move forward.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION II

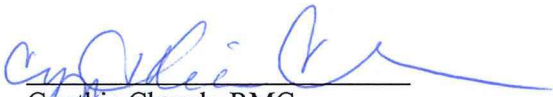
Motion by Councilman Proctor, Second by Councilman Roseff to open to the public.

No Comments.

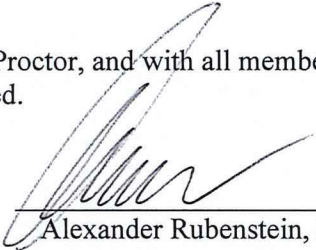
Motion by Councilman Proctor, Second by Councilman Roseff to close to the public.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor, and with all members in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion carried.



Cynthia Church, RMC
Township Clerk



Alexander Rubenstein, Mayor