

TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM
TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 18, 2024
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, 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, here; Councilman Proctor, here; Councilman Roseff, here; Mayor Rubenstein, here. 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 Proctor, 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
 - Professionals (Township Planner)
- b. Litigation
 - Block 330 Lot 1.07 (TSC#2021-007)

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 November 18, 2024.

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 7:30 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 199-2024 from the consent agenda.

	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 – Sent out a summary of the 2025 capital budget requests and posted it to the township website and would like to have a future discussion. Mr. Sabatini has put together a 10-year street improvement plan that has been sent out to the township council. There was a Nixel notice and Facebook page post on the playground project beginning tomorrow to remove the existing playground equipment.

CO Johnson Field 8 work will begin by the end of February 2025.

Employee Handbook has been updated. This will be adopted early in 2025.

Councilwoman Franco –

- The Recreation Committee met on Tuesday and voted to change the meeting time to 7pm from 8pm. This will help get some new members.
- At the Dec meeting the Recreation Committee will firm up the calendar for the Rec Committee events.

January 26

Coat Drive

February

Polar Plunge

July 12

Kids Triathlon

August 23

Byram Fest.
- The Tree Lighting will be December 1st at 6 p.m.- Deb has ordered all supplies and the LVRHS Choir is ready to go to the event plus much more.
- The Holiday Decorating Contest and Letters to Santa are set to begin November 25th and end December 13th.
- Flyers went to the PreK-4th grade Lakes School for distribution in their Friday Folders.

Councilman Gallagher – The Byram Board of Education meeting is December 4th. They hired the new Business Administrator starting January 1, 2025.

Councilman Proctor – Planning Board had two discussion items. One on the ARC and feels that it should be reimaged. Village Center application should be subject to additional scrutiny. They discussed the Application and Checklist would like better definition of what a minor vs. major set plan is. More will be discussed on Thursday.

Councilman Roseff – November 22nd is the Historical Society Spirt of Byram Fund Raiser. Byram Schools is interested in getting a grant for regionalization.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION I

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

Shawn Pond, asked about gas on Tamarack Road now that it is partially paved. Can there still be installations. Mr. Sabatini said they can still open it and get a road opening permit to do so.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

November 6, 2024, 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. Resolution No. 191-2024 – Resolution Authorizing Purchase of Gift Cards for Prizes at Holiday Decorating Contest November 25 – December 13, 2024
- B. Resolution No. 192-2024 – Resolution Authorizing 100% Disabled Veteran Block 337.01, Lot 7 Refund of Taxes Paid for 4th Quarter 2024
- C. Resolution No. 193-2024 – Resolution Authorizing 100% Disabled Veteran Block 337.01, Lot 98 Refund of Taxes Paid for 4th Quarter 2024
- D. Resolution No. 194-2024 – Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing a Refund for Duplicate Payment for 4th Quarter 2024”
- E. Resolution No. 195-2024 – Resolution Authorizing 1005 Disabled Veteran Exempt Status to Owner of Block 22 Lot 230.01 for Tax Year 2024 and the Cancellation of Taxes for the First Half of 2025 and Refund of Taxes Paid for 4th Quarter in 2024 – 12B River Road

- F. Resolution No. 196-2024 – Resolution Accepting the Township of Byram Lakes and Watershed Management Plan Revised August 2024 and the Supporting Appendices
- G. Resolution No. 197-2024 – Authorization to Purchase Self-Contained Beathing Apparatus (SCBA) Equipment for the Byram Township Fire Department – Not to exceed \$21,700.80
- H. Resolution No. 198-2024 – Resolution Approving the Execution of a Shared Service Agreement Between Byram Township and Sparta Township for Fire Prevention Services from January 1, 2025, Through December 31, 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 – November 18, 2024 – 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 NO. 019-2024 - AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE A CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FOR TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES FOR THE TOWNSHIP TO PROVIDE FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$80,000.00
Purpose Statement: Technology Upgrades for the Township including structured cabling for data communications, replacement switches, timeclocks, workstations and all related costs incidental thereto fully funded by Capital Improvement Fund.

	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. 019-2024 is passed on final reading and that a notice of final passage be published in the official designated newspaper according to the law.

ORDINANCE 020-2024 - AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE A CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE ACQUISITION OF NEW ALCOTEST MACHINE FOR USE BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OF THE TOWNSHIP TO PROVIDE FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$25,000.00
Purpose Statement: Acquisition of new alcotest machine for use by the Police Department 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. 020-2024 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

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION II

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

No Comments.

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

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

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BYRAM TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Certification: I certify that the Byram Township Council adopted the above resolution on November 18, 2024.

Cynthia Church, Municipal Clerk

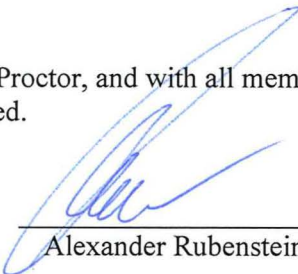
	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Proctor	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion	x				
2nd			x		
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION - Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor to return to open session at 9:55 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 9:55 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion carried.


Cynthia Church, RMC
Township Clerk


Alexander Rubenstein, Mayor