

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE
BOROUGH OF HAMBURG HELD ON MAY 4, 2026 AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING,
16 WALLKILL AVE., HAMBURG, NJ**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Krasnomowitz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Krasnomowitz requested a roll call:

Present:	Councilmember Burd	Councilmember Endres
	Councilmember Oehler	Councilmember Saliba
	Councilmember Sena	
	Mayor Krasnomowitz	
Absent:	Councilmember Haig	
Also Present:	Jean Stephens, Deputy Clerk	
	Attorney Richard Clemack	

STATEMENT OF CERTIFICATION:

Clerk advised:

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided to the public and the press January 9, 2026 by delivering to the New Jersey Herald and the Sunday Herald and posting at the Municipal Building a copy of the "Annual Notice of Meetings" pursuant the provisions of the "Open Public Meetings Act".

April 6, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Councilmember Endres, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to approve the April 6, 2026 Meeting Minutes. Councilmember Sena had a question regarding the overtime figures for the police department. Discussion ensued. Overtime figures yearly, not quarterly. Councilmember Sena requested that the number of hours worked over and above standard hours mentioned during the time clock discussion be recorded in the minutes.

Motion by Councilmember Endres, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to approve the April 6, 2026 Meeting Minutes subject to the following corrections:

Under Councilmember Saliba: amount for Police Department overtime yearly, not quarterly, *Councilmember Sena noted the Borough is on schedule based on the first quarter to be in the \$60,000 range for overtime. He questioned if the Borough might be going over the budgeted limit. CFO Joe Brezina stated the maximum is \$99,000. Councilmember Saliba stated they are hoping to fill the vacancies quickly so that we can keep overtime expenses down.*

Under time clock discussion: include Councilmember Haig's comment on number of hours worked.

Councilmember Haig asked the Borough to revisit the previous resolution for a time clock for Borough Hall staff. Councilmember Sena disagreed. Councilmember Haig stated he had spoken with staff and realized they were working well over office hours. Councilmember Sena noted a time clock is objective and consistent. Councilmember Haig stated if staff are salaried for a 40-hour

work week but working 50 to 60 hours they should be paid. Clarification on salaried vs. managerial and possible additional costs was requested from Attorney Clemack. Discussion ensued.

A roll call vote was taken. Burd, YES, Endres, YES, Oehler, YES, Saliba, YES, Sena, YES.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

As there were no additions or deletions to the bills list, a motion to open the bills list to the public was made by Councilmember Endres, seconded by Councilmember Oehler. All were in favor.

Upon hearing no comments or concerns, motion by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Endres to close the bills list to the public. All were in favor.

Motion by Councilmember Endres, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to approve the bills list as presented. A roll call vote was taken. Burd, YES, Endres, YES, Oehler, YES, Saliba, YES, Sena, YES.

ADOPTION OF BUDGET – 2026

Mayor and Council held a public hearing of the 2026 Hamburg Municipal Budget. Same was published on April 14, 2026 as required by law as certified by Deputy Municipal Clerk, Jean Stephens.

A motion was made by Councilmember Endres, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to open the meeting to the public for comments on the adoption of the budget. All were in favor. After hearing no comments from the public, a motion was made by Councilmember Endres, seconded by Councilmember Saliba to close the meeting to the public. All were in favor.

A motion was made by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Burd to adopt the budget as presented. A roll call vote was taken: Councilmember Burd, YES, Councilmember Endres, YES, Councilmember Oehler, YES, Councilmember Saliba, YES, Councilmember Sena, YES.

Mayor Krasnomowitz thanked everyone for working so diligently to put this budget together and keep increases and expenses down.

ORDINANCES:

Attorney Clemack offered a resolution to read the following ordinances by title only whether for introduction or adoption. Motion by Councilmember Endres, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to read all of the following ordinance by title only. All were in favor.

ORDINANCE 06-2026 2nd Reading

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 209 -WATER – AND CHAPTER 164 - SEWER OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HAMBURG, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO MODIFY WATER-SEWER RATES

Attorney Clemack read the Ordinance by title for second reading and publication. Motion by Councilmember Endres, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to open the meeting to the public for any questions or comments they may have with regards to the ordinance prior to adoption. All were in favor. Councilmember Sena noted that the BPW did not meet last month. He voiced concerns about meter and billing issues. He stated he would vote no to raising the fees. Mayor Krasnomowitz stated issues were being resolved and most had been fixed. Councilmember Sena continued to voice concerns. Discussion ensued. Councilmember Burd requested a report from the BPW regarding issues with meters. Motion by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Burd to close the meeting to the public. All in favor.

This ordinance was introduced at the April 6, 2026 regular meeting and published as provided by law.

Motion by Councilmember Endres, seconded by Councilmember Saliba to adopt Ordinance 06-2026 Amending Chapter 209 -Water – and Chapter 164 - Sewer of the Code of the Borough of Hamburg, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey to Modify Water-Sewer Rates. A roll call vote was taken: Councilmember Burd, YES, Councilmember Endres, YES, Councilmember Oehler, YES, Councilmember Saliba, YES, Councilmember Sena, NO.

ORDINANCE 07-2026 2nd Reading

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 148 - PEACE AND GOOD ORDER - OF THE GENERAL CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HAMBURG, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO REPEAL SECTION 148-2 – FEEDING OF BEARS PROHIBITED.

Attorney Clemack read the Ordinance by title for second reading and publication. Motion by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Endres to open the meeting to the public for any questions or comments they may have with regards to the ordinance prior to adoption. All were in favor. Motion by Councilmember Endres, seconded by Councilmember Saliba to close the meeting to the public. All in favor. This ordinance was introduced at the April 6, 2026 regular meeting and published as provided by law.

Motion by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Burd to adopt Ordinance 07-2026 Amending Chapter 148 - Peace and Good Order - of the General Code of the Borough of Hamburg, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey to Repeal Section 148-2 – Feeding of Bears Prohibited. Councilmember Sena questioned why the ordinance was being repealed. Attorney Clemack stated that although our ordinance was passed before the State statute, the statute takes precedence and would now be the law used regarding bear issues. Councilmember Sena was concerned that there was a bear dump located in the woods off Kirkwood Ave. He was concerned about the bear's proximity to children. Councilmember Endres noted that most of the neighborhood was now putting out the garbage later to deter the bears. He noted you cannot ticket someone for garbage unless there are identifiers in the garbage. Both Councilmember Sena and Councilmember Saliba noted they have not seen a bear yet this season. The garbage is from the previous season. Attorney Clemack noted this is more a health code violation as it is not intentional feeding of the bears. Councilmember Sena asked for clarification on enforcement mechanism for those you know are not properly securing their garbage. Mayor Krasnomowitz stated they would have to be reported to the Borough Property Maintenance Officer. Councilmember Sena asked for a letter to be sent to Borough homeowners. A roll call vote was taken: Councilmember Burd, YES, Councilmember Endres, YES, Councilmember Oehler, YES, Councilmember Saliba, YES, Councilmember Sena, YES.

RESOLUTIONS:

2026-45 - Resolution for a Change Fund in the Water/Sewer and Tax Office for the purpose of making Change for cash payments received

Motion by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Endres to accept Resolution 2026-45 - Resolution for a Change Fund in the Water/Sewer and Tax Office for the purpose of making Change for cash payments received. All in favor.

2026-46 - Resolution of the Borough of Hamburg, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey authorizing the Borough to participate in the North Jersey Wastewater Cooperative Pricing System Motion by Councilmember Endres, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to accept Resolution 2026-46 authorizing the Borough to participate in the North Jersey Wastewater Cooperative Pricing System. All in favor.

2026-47 - Resolution Calling for the Restoration of Energy Tax Receipts and Increased Municipal

Aid to Provide Real Property Tax Relief

Motion by Councilmember Burd, seconded by Councilmember Endres to accept Resolution 2026-47 Calling for the Restoration of Energy Tax Receipts and Increased Municipal Aid to Provide Real Property Tax Relief. All in favor.

2026-48 - Resolution Urging State Leaders to Implement Fair and Equitable Reforms to Mitigate the Unsustainable Increases in Health Benefit Premiums for Public Sector Employees

Motion by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Saliba to accept Resolution 2026-48 Urging State Leaders to Implement Fair and Equitable Reforms to Mitigate the Unsustainable Increases in Health Benefit Premiums for Public Sector Employees. All in favor.

ATTORNEY HOUR:

Properties with Municipal Tax Liens are still being investigated.

MAYOR'S AGENDA:

Mayor Krasnomowitz stated the County had requested each municipality submit an item to be included in a time capsule. He has reached out to Borough Historian Dan Barr for suggestions. Mr. Barr had a question about size limitations. Mayor Krasnomowitz is awaiting a response from the county.

Regarding the County Celebration of 250th Anniversary. Mayor Krasnomowitz opened the floor to Deputy Clerk, Jean Stephens to provide details of the Borough's participation. She stated the application was completed and the Borough has been preparing a game for attendees, prizes and information. Mrs. Stephens asked if each Councilmember could please sign up for some time to attend. There will be fireworks at the end of the event. Mayor Krasnomowitz noted that it was the same day as our Miss Hamburg contest but that it should not prevent everyone from participating. He asked the Deputy Clerk to send an email to all Councilmembers asking for their availability.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ALL MATTERS LISTED BELOW WERE CONSIDERED TO BE ROUTINE IN NATURE AND WERE ENACTED BY ONE MOTION, THERE WAS NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF THE ITEMS. IF ANY DISCUSSION WAS DESIRED, THAT PARTICULAR ITEM WOULD REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA AND CONSIDERED SEPARATELY.

Zoning Report:

Construction Report:

Treasurer Report: April 2026

Tax Report:

Water/Sewer Report

Police Report: April 2026

EMS Report: March 2026

Fire Report:

OEM

Court: March 2026

Board of Health: March 2026

Animal Control: --

Recycling Report FY 2025

Motion by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Endres to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. All were in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COUNCILMEMBER BURD

Councilmember Burd noted the new Borough flags and stand have been ordered. Various sizes for different purposes were ordered.

Councilmember Burd stated the School Board has decided to hire a retired officer part-time for the school resource officer position. They are looking for 180 days of service. Superintendent Dr. Kimberly Sigman said she would like to revisit sharing an officer with the Borough in the future.

Councilmember Burd noted the school budget had a four percent increase rather than the previous two percent. He stated the increase was requested by the state due to the increase in health care costs.

COUNCILMEMBER OEHLER

Councilmember Oehler noted that the Borough Trivia night was cancelled due to lack of registrations. It will be revisited later in the year.

Councilmember Oehler read a letter of resignation from the Commission Secretary, Anna Titka. She is resigning as she is moving out of state.

Motion by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Endres to accept Anna Titka's letter of resignation with much regret. All in favor.

Councilmember Oehler requested the position be advertised on the Borough website.

Councilmember Oehler noted only five tickets remain for the July 4th baseball game.

Regarding the Hamburg contest on June 7th. Judges are needed for the contests. Requested volunteers from the Council. Councilmember Burd volunteered.

Family Golf Day is May 17th. Instruction is free and it is a fun day.

Councilmember Oehler noted there was a small incident last year at Hamburg Day at the bouncy house. Chair Sam Villagomez has spoken company regarding better supervision and safety monitoring for their attractions.

COUNCILMEMBER ENDRES

Councilmember Endres noticed property on Fairview with a deceased owner is now being maintained. Construction trailer for the Woods has been approved by Land Use Board. Owner of 151 Rt. 23 is looking for ideas from the Borough for uses of the property. Previous proposal for a grow facility not acceptable. Owner is looking for other options. Mayor Krasnomowitz noted it would need to fit the purposes for its zone. Attorney Clemack noted the Borough should not suggest or approve an idea without the plans.

COUNCILMEMBER SALIBA

Councilmember Saliba stated Fire Department has been invited to participate in the Patriot's Day Parade. They are requesting Council approval to use Borough Fire truck in parade. Motion by Councilmember Burd, seconded by Councilmember Saliba approving the use of a Borough fire truck in out-of-town parade subject to confirmation of specific vehicle to be used. All in favor.

Councilmember Saliba noted the Police Department has received seven applications for new officers. It is not a large pool but they do have a promising candidate. He stated there had been an incident with a police vehicle. Officer went to assist a stopped dump truck. The truck's brakes failed and it rolled back onto the police vehicle. No one was injured.

Regarding School Resource Officer, Councilmember Saliba noted that there have been two applicants.

Councilmember Saliba is working with the Keith Sukkenikoff to schedule a meeting with grant writer Jeff Stevens.

COUNCILMEMBER HAIG *(Mayor Krasnomowitz will be addressing the items below in Councilmember Haig's absence.)*

Mayor Krasnomowitz stated that previously the Council has approved the purchase of a fake tree. Soon after Councilmember Haig received better pricing on real trees and found a beautiful 24-foot tree at a much lower cost and it can be installed in time. Mayor Krasnomowitz requested a motion to repeal Resolution 2026-3-2 Approving the purchase of a panel Christmas tree. Motion by Councilmember Burd, seconded by Councilmember Oehler to rescind Resolution 2026-3-2. All in favor. Motion by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Endres to purchase a real tree from Arboretum Gardens, LLC at a cost of \$7,950.00.

Councilmember Sena asked if there were methods in place to keep this tree healthy. The tree comes with a one-year guarantee and will contract with a tree service. Councilmember Saliba noted the tree experts had said the previous tree was the wrong type of tree for our area. The new tree is a Norway Spruce. All in favor.

Mayor Krasnomowitz noted we had some damage to the Boro Hall building over the winter. The insurance company is asking for the council to review the quotes and choose the contractor so repair may begin. After reviewing quotes, motion by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Endres to approve contract with Building & Remodeling Services at a cost of \$8,187.00 subject to insurance approval. All in favor.

Mayor Krasnomowitz provided an update on the Hometown Heroes Banners Installation. They will be going up on May 12 and 13, 2026 in time for the Memorial Day Service where they will be honored. Invitations have been sent.

COUNCILMEMBER SENA

Councilmember Sena wanted to thank the DPW for the great job they are doing maintaining the fields. We have been complimented by teams from other towns.

Councilmember Sena noted the next meeting for the Drug Alliance will be later this month and he has been asked to be a Sector Leader. He has accepted the position and looks forward to learning more about it.

PUBLIC PORTION :

Mayor Krasnomowitz requested a motion to open the meeting to the public for any questions or comments they might have with regard to the good and welfare with the Borough. Motion by Councilmember Endres, seconded by Councilmember Saliba to open to the public. All in favor.

Hearing no comments from the public, motion by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Endres to close to the public. All in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION:

Attorney Clemack offered the following resolution to enter into executive session.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hamburg find it necessary to enter into executive session for the reasons hereafter cited:

1. Contract Discussion with Regards to Franklin Fire Department Mutual Aid.

2. Personnel

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:14012(b) of the Open Public Meetings Act provided for matters of this nature to be discussed in closed session; and

WHEREAS, the minutes of the closed session be taken and made available to the Public upon conclusion of the matter.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council advise the public that formal action may be taken later this evening on the matters discussed in closed session or on other matter.

Motion by Councilmember , seconded by Councilmember Oehler to accept resolution to enter Executive Session. All in favor.

Motion by Councilmember Haig, seconded by Councilmember Saliba to end executive session and return to public session. All in favor.

Motion by Councilmember Saliba, seconded by Councilmember Endres authorizing the Borough to enter into a mutual aid agreement for fire protection services for the remainder of 2026, at a cost of \$7,000 and a cost of \$10,000 for the year 2027. All in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE (Parenthesis indicate correspondence already copied and the date it was copied to Council)

1. Hampton Twsp. Ord# 2026-01 (4-16-2026)
2. Sparta Twsp. Reexamination Report 4-17-2026 (4-20-2026)
3. NJ Transit FY 2026 Request for Assistance (4-20-2026)
4. NJDOT 2027 State Aid Programs (4-20-2026)
5. SC Final Equalization Table 2026 (4-21-2026)
6. Vernon ORD#26-07 (4-23-2026)
7. Vernon ORD#26-08 (4-23-2026)
8. Vernon ORD#26-09 (4-23-2026)
9. Sussex County Time Capsule (4-24-2026)
10. Sussex County Division of Health Newsletter (May 2026)
11. Board of Health Request for meeting (4-23-2026)
12. NJDOT Fiscal Year 2027 State Aid Programs (4-23-2026)
13. The Highlands Planning Council 2025 annual report (4-24-2026)
14. Hampton Twsp. Ord# 2026-09 (4-29/2026)

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Endres to adjourn the meeting. All in favor.

Date Approved 6/1/26

Date Released 6/1/26

Jean Stephens
Jean Stephens
Deputy Clerk