Minutes

Mayor and Municipal Council Regular Council Meeting
of the Township of Belleville at Council Chambers – Town Hall
152 Washington Avenue, Belleville, New Jersey,
Tuesday, August 25, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Call to Order:
By Mayor Velez at 6:16pm

Members Present:
Council Members Cozzarelli, Graziano, Guardabasco, Muldrow, Rodriguez, Wells and Mayor Velez

Also Present:
Township Attorney Mark DiPisa, Township Manager Brian Banda, Chief Financial Officer, Frank DiMaria, Fire Chief John Olivieri, Redevelop. Attorney Dean Donatelli, Recreation Director Leonard Averhoff and Municipal Clerk Jacqueline Guaman

Pledge of Allegiance:
By Mayor Velez

Sunshine Law:
By Clerk Jacqueline Guaman

Pursuant to the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975) known as the Sunshine Law, notice of this meeting was published in the January 9, 2026, Star Ledger. An annual meeting notice resolution was adopted, forwarded to the press, posted, and filed with the Municipal Clerk, establishing the date, time, and place of all meetings. A copy of the annual meeting notice has been posted on the Township website and Town Hall Bulletin Board.

Special Action – Municipal Budget

A. Public Hearing 2026 Municipal Budget

Motion by Councilwoman Guardabasco. Seconded by Councilman Graziano.
Ayes: Cozzarelli, Graziano, Guardabasco, Muldrow, Rodriguez, Wells and Mayor Velez.
Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None Motion Carries

Public Comments:
Michael Sheldon – 47 Floyd Street

- Presents line-item summary analysis of the 2026 introduced municipal budget and how there's a drastic change compared to the 2025 budget.
- Six (6) core matters to discuss with the budget:
- One – deferred 2025 liabilities forced into 2026 taxes = sheet #18: approx. $4.3 million in 2025 obligations delayed into 2026.

- Two – misleading tax campaign claims vs. budget reality: tax increased average $68 per year over the last 4 years, however budget shows withholdings of over $4.26 million in 2025 spending budget books.
- Three – CFO's administrations delayed oversight, CFO charged with independent financial stewardship in thousands of dollars in political campaign contributions to the former administration.
- Four – property tax and public safety cost surges; municipal local taxes increased nearly $2 million (3.8% tax hike) while minimum library tax increased by roughly 11.2% = total tax revenue to almost $63.3 million.
- Fifth – water utilities backdoor property tax and senior citizen impact: water bills have increased significantly since 2020, and the town has back door water payments to offset municipal spending with the excess of cash received.
- Lastly, PILOT revenues: anomalies on sheet 10 with pilot revenues at $100,000 for 2025 and 2026.
- Council must demand audit of all developer PILOT financial agreements and annual gross revenue audits.
- Suggest CFO to dismiss $4.05 million unappropriated deficit as a modified capital adjustment.

Vincent Frantantoni – 129 Mt. Prospect Ave.

- Ordinances or budgets during public hearing have no time limit.
- Sheet 4: parking meters – why are we taking in less money for parking meters when you raised the cost of parking meters from a quarter to a dollar and change?
- Who pays for ParkMobile? What portion of parking fees does ParkMobile get?
- How much did ParkMobile get?
- Sheet 7 - Belleville BOE pays the town $1,190,000 in principal and $476,000 in interest, what is that for?
- Is that shared service for the purchasing of the King Aluminum project?
- That was another failed project in which money was wasted, and it fell through.
- The Board of Ed don't have authorization to spend any money unless approved by referendum.
- Sheet 9 – Developers Community Benefit is for recreation and enhancements of the town, does that include people wanting to renovate their homes?
- Why are getting no money from the Developers Community Benefit? How many years did they pay?
- Sheet 10A – PILOTS, there was an increase of $455,000 is that going to give us tax relief?
- Sheet 3A – adopted budget $89 million and the water budget is $11 million totaling $100 million for 2025.
- Sheet 15B – solid waste collection for 2025 was $4,160,000 and in 2026 it drops to $2,275,000. So, is $1,400,000 somewhere else in the budget?
- Sheet 15A – Cortlandt St. Fire cost us $501,000 and on Sheet 10 it shows a BCA grant for fire expenses, was that $422,000 grant applied to the Cortlandt fire?
- So, we didn't spend $500,000, we got almost all but $80,000 reimbursed.

- Sheet 15C – Recreation salaries and wages from 2025 to 2026 increased from $750,000 to $950,000.
- Where in the budget does it show the income from the recreation fees?
- So, you telling me you don't know how much was taken into recreation fees? If so, then tell me.
- Sheet 18 – expenditure without appropriation $4,000,050, what was that for?
- What was the money spent on?
- Sheet 24- grants, did we not receive any? When?

CFO DiMaria:

- $175,000 combination of fees for the year and a deposit that was not paid in prior years.
- $114,000 for 2026 – you can't anticipate more than you realize in the previous year, 2025.
- ParkMobile takes fees out of the gross, so we get the net.
- No dollar amount right now because I don't have the report, but they take it right from the proceeds.
- $1,190,000 is one tenth of $11,900,000, that's one tenth of the shared service agreement and that's the estimated portion of their interest.
- Yes. The Board of Ed spends that money; it comes from their budget.
- The Board of Ed direct the Township how they want the money spent and we disperse it on their behalf. The money belongs to them.
- No, that's a cohort program.
- They're done and already paid for. There were two installments of $174,000 and two installments of $104,000.
- Yes, it is relief for taxpayers.
- Dump fees were being reported in the solid waste line item.
- Dump fee portion that was in that $4 million in the prior year was moved to another line item in 2026.
- That is correct, yes, dump fees.
- Yes, it was.
- Yes, but you still have to list it in the budget.
- You must look at the number after the transfers. The comparison is $910,000 to $950,000 because adjustments were made mid-year so you must account for that.
- It doesn't because it goes into a trust account so it's a dedication by rider.
- The budget doesn't contain any dedication by rider revenues.
- $180,000.
- This is raising the deferred charge in 2025 for the pre-empt regarding audit controls.
- It was spent on group insurance, raised by taxation in two years.
- The grants we received will be included in the amended budget. When a special meeting is set to pass a resolution for the amendment and adopt on the 15th.

Gary Hinton – 307 Fairway Avenue

- Page 4, are we not getting any grants this year?
- When we have the tax sales, where does the premium show up?

CFO DiMaria:

- All grant funds will be in the amendment of the budget.

- It comes in miscellaneous revenue, not anticipated. It doesn't go through the budget.

Nancy Blauvelt – 200 Beech St.

- The middle school project wasn't completed, where did that money go?
- Yes, where is the money?
- Okay, when are they going to finish it?
- We went to the polls for this specific project.
- The project not getting done is a liability for taxpayers.

CFO DiMaria:

- Are you referring to the shared service agreement?
- It's in our accounts, the full balance.
- That is up to the Board of Education.

Mayor Velez:

- Just to clarify, that project was discussed between the Board of Education, the bond counsel and the Council, that was not a referendum project.
- You're referring to the referendum that was approved in November of 2017 that was approved by the public for operational facility uses.
- That is unrelated to the middle school project you are referring to.

Motion to Close the Public Hearing of the 2026 Municipal Budget by Councilwoman Guardabasco; Seconded by Councilwoman Wells.
Ayes: Cozzarelli, Graziano, Guardabasco, Muldrow, Rodriguez, Wells and Mayor Velez.
Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None Motion Carries

Work Session/Council Discussion:

Dr. Alfonso – Superintendent of Belleville Schools

A. Discussion on shared services – Tina Ikeo, Business Administrator of Belleville School
    - Shares good news regarding the partnerships with the town and highlights a few of them.

Peter Caggiano – Belleville Unico

A. Discuss waiving fees for the use of the Belleville Senior Center
    - Belleville Unico requests the fees be waived for the use of the Belleville Senior Citizen for our 4th annual Unico ALS Walkathon held Saturday, September 26, 2026.
    - This walk brings awareness to ALS and the funds raised will assist families that are going through financial hardships.
    - Encourages City Hall and the town employees to participate in the walk, it is for a good cause.

    Director Lenny – Recreation:

    - The fees depend on the hours and can range from $125 for 3 hours to $250 for 6 hours.

Mayor Velez permitted a change to the agenda to allow for a last-minute presentation by the Redevelopment Attorney.

Redevelopment Attorney – Dean Donatelli

- Drone photo shown to the public of 321-333, 353, 355 and 363 Cortlandt Street, Belleville, NJ.
- Proposes a resolution for Council to consider which would direct the planning board to do an area needed redevelopment study of the three lots on a condemnation basis.
- Explains the step-by-step process before the Planning Board and the subsequent return to the Council, which will make the final decision based on the Planning Board's report and recommendations.
- Explains that, pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, an area may be designated as an area in need of redevelopment if it meets certain statutory criteria, including conditions such as vacancy, deterioration, or other deleterious effects on the community. Notes that such a designation provides the municipality with the authority to acquire property, including through a non-condemnation process.
- It involves photographs and investigations, a professional planner, consulting planner, a written report is prepared and then there is a public hearing and public notice; recommendations would then be presented to the Councill to approve based on the public feedback and the findings.

- Correct and yes, it would be paid for by the town.

Attorney DiPisa:

- The Redevelopment Committee met and discussed the shape of this property which is unpleasant to look at.
- Explains that the Town provided the property owners with an opportunity to address and clean up the property; however, the owners have not done so.
- The purpose of the redevelopment process is to obtain control of the property so it can be properly remediated and to ensure appropriate oversight of its future use.

Councilwoman Rodriguez:

- What does the preliminary investigation consist of?
- So, is it like an assessment? Is there a cost?

Councilman Cozzarelli:

- Community input on this project is this most important part.

Councilwoman Wells:

- What are the costs associated with this route? Will the impact on the taxpayers be in 2026 or the following year?

CFO DiMaria:

- The facilities ordinance adopted earlier in the year, section 20 expenses, this redevelopment would qualify for that so you can keep it out of your current budget and move it towards the capital.
- When you get reimbursed from the developer, you refund that money.

Report of the Manager:

Capital Projects Updates:

- Fairway Park phase II delayed.
- Plancion Park is on hold because the school district and the town administration haven't worked out the details yet.
- Friendly House is complete.
- Food Truck Park delayed due to costs.
- Santander municipal parking lot complete, waiting on ParkMobile.
- Dept. of Treasury – Washington Ave. project – town administration will meet with the contractors regularly to minimize local business disturbances.
- Railroad lease in the works for additional parking for town employees.
- TRANE HVAC system repair company presentation delayed until September 22nd.
- Main St. paving project bid process is complete and awarded to Reax – starts this fall.
- Center & Charles St. watermain network started this week.
- Lead Line replacement contract awarded and funded by IBank.
- Use of residents to use facilities will be discussed with Recreation to come up with an open play program.
- Upcoming infrastructure project – upgrades on hydrants valves and uniflow valves
- Vital Statistics Office transitioning from walk-in appointments to appointments only come October/November.

Councilman Cozzarelli:

- Where are the credit card machines for all town departments?
- Does that mean they are going to get us set up soon? What is the deadline?
- What about the building department?

CFO DiMaria:

- They are downstairs charging.
- Maybe a month to get it up and running.
- I have the machines but am missing one more piece.
- Yes, it is.

Councilman Graziano:

- When using credit card PCI data, all that's encrypted?

Report of the Mayor:

- Deputy Mayor Muldrow gave a report on the First Ward maintenance/rodent issues.
- Ward 1 and 2 meetings had great conversation and provided great feedback.
- Residents are starting to feel seen and heard through these meetings.
- Town administration working diligently to tackle these concerns.

Communications:

Clerk Guaman:

A. Email from Mayor Velez, Appointing Jeanne Lombardi to serve as his designee to the Belleville Public Library Board of Trustees

Ordinances:

Ordinances for Introduction:

ORDINANCE #35-26 AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF BELLEVILLE TO ACCEPT AND AGREE TO A WATER MAIN EASEMENT CONCERNING THE REAL PROPERTY COMMONLY KNOWN AS 681 MAIN STREET, BLOCK 10001, LOT 3.01 AND LOT 3.02 (FORMERLY KNOWN AS BLOCK 10001, LOT 3)

Motion by Councilman Graziano; Seconded by Councilwoman Guardabasco.

Ayes: Cozzarelli, Graziano, Guardabasco, Muldrow, Rodriguez, Wells and Mayor Velez.
Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None Motion Carries

ORDINANCE #36-26 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 13 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BELLEVILLE TO ADD SECTION 13.17 ENTITLED "USE OF PORTABLE PROPANE HEATERS AT PUBLIC OUTDOOR EATING, DRINKING AND ASSEMBLY ESTABLISHMENTS WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF BELLEVILLE"

Motion by Councilman Graziano; Seconded by Councilwoman Guardabasco.

Ayes: Cozzarelli, Graziano, Guardabasco, Muldrow, Rodriguez, Wells and Mayor Velez.
Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None Motion Carries

ORDINANCE #37-26 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 13 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BELLEVILLE TO ADD SECTION 13.18 ENTITLED "E-MOBILITY DEVICES AND LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES"

Motion by Councilwoman Guardabasco; Seconded by Councilwoman Muldrow.

Ayes: Cozzarelli, Graziano, Guardabasco, Muldrow, Rodriguez, Wells and Mayor Velez.
Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None Motion Carries

ORDINANCE #38-26 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BELLEVILLE, CHAPTER 8-2.2, PARKING PROHIBITED AT ALL TIMES ON CERTAIN STREETS

Motion by Councilwoman Guardabasco; Seconded by Councilwoman Muldrow.

Ayes: Cozzarelli, Graziano, Guardabasco, Muldrow, Rodriguez, Wells and Mayor Velez.

Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None Motion Carries

Ordinances for Public Hearing and Second and Final Reading:
None

Public Comments:
Motion to Open Public Comments by Councilman Cozzarelli; Seconded by Councilwoman Muldrow.
Ayes: Cozzarelli, Graziano, Guardabasco, Muldrow, Rodriguez, Wells and Mayor Velez.
Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None Motion Carries

Nick Briner – Daniel's Law

- Alert Mayor and Council of an error of record keeping from the Town representative sent to families of deceased retired policemen who will no longer be covered by medical insurance.
- The letter states families need to provide medical or township documentation that proves you get medical coverage no later than 9/11 otherwise your coverage will be terminated.
- This is false because a widow of someone killed in the line of duty gets free medical by a separate NJ Administrative Code (NJAC 17:9-6.7) which is paid and funded by the State.
- The date 9/11 was insensitive and shows lack of tact and judgement.
- The retiree's public campaign will continue to bring awareness of Belleville inhumane activities on all social media platforms.
- The need to talk about it publicly doesn't infringe on open litigation or HIPPA violation.
- This falls back on the Mayor and Council to fix this.
- Your job is to agree with the Mayor and Council because they hired you.
- The letter does not refer to secondary benefits whose 50+ and not covered under Medicaid.
- Had the town gone on a different route instead of sending a thoughtless letter, we would have more than provided whatever it is you needed.
- Apologies and hopes no one was uncomfortable, just wanted to alert some of the Council.
- We welcome the chance to have a sit down and work this out respectfully before litigation incurs.

Attorney DiPisa:

- You are referring to a letter generated by legal counsel which is a legal matter, we can agree to disagree.
- Your interpretation of the letter is misguided – the letter invites the individuals to provide any documentation they have showing they have a legal right to those benefits, specifically secondary benefits.
- If a meeting is what you prefer, a sit down with the Mayor, your attorney and the town attorney is something that is on the table.

- This is not a PBA or CBA matter and if this was an issue, you could've reached out to the attorney directly instead of poaching individual council members when professionals weren't present.

Chris Schwindt – Daniel's Law

- Initial letter sent out last year in October, four of you were sitting Council members and the blame was placed on the previous administration.
- Reads social media posts of then Councilman Velez had posted on his social media.
- Mayor, do you feel this is a misguided attempt to strip benefits from widows? What changed?
- Letters sent out were in poor taste with the timeframe to respond.

Victor Mesce – Daniel's Law

- We've lived by the contract, some which was binding arbitration and we took less pay to get those benefits.
- Council has never voted to eliminate these benefits.
- Reads an email from last year written by Mayor Velez.
- What changed in one year?

Tony Wieners – Daniel's Law

- Reads letter Mayor Velez drafted a year ago in November defending widowers who received termination letters for spousal benefits.
- What has changed is the election, false promises were made just to be elected in office.
- The counsel hired by the township works for the Mayor, they do not set the policy.
- Suggests Council, labor attorney, town attorney and the affected widowers have a sit down to come up with a resolution to this problem.

Carmela Fleischman – 33 Main St.

- Disgraceful, anyone who has served and put their lives on the line for this town is getting these kinds of letters.
- How does 9/11 become the cutoff date?
- We need to protect those who protect us.
- The banter and disrespect must stop between the taxpayers and the administration.

Patricia Wells – 8 Beech St.

- Ward 3 – the abandoned house next to the church on Stephens St. has been empty for 12 years, what is the town doing about it?
- Every time we ask about it, the response is the house pays their property taxes.

<u>CFO DiMaria:</u>

- What's the address?

Clerk Guaman:

- 158 Beech Street.

Manager Brian:

- Construction has the right to order and condemn the house to demolish.

Michael Sheldon – 47 Floyd St.

- On Friday, the court judge will most likely rule in favor of the township to take ownership of the Great Lawn property.
- If any Council member would like to join me at court to hear the ruling you are more than welcome.
- Has any testing been done for the presence of asbestos on the Cortlandt St. properties the town is looking to take ownership of?
- What officials have you used?
- Has there been any movement on introducing an ordinance to extend the health benefits for the Council members?
- Would like to see the town issue a statement that those who attend meetings at town hall for different boards will not be charged meter parking.
- Been 5 years since the O'Connor report was produced costing taxpayers $40,000, when will it be released?
- Mr. DeLorenzo, previous town construction official, signed a legal waiver allowing the report to be released.

Vincent Frantantoni – 129 Mt. Prospect Ave.

- Many thanks to the men and women in blue protecting us.
- Agrees the Cortlandt St. properties damaged by the fire is an area in need of redevelopment.
- Before moving forward with Cortlandt St., the zoning ordinance needs to be amended to include pervious area.
- Every piece of property needs to be maintained and provided for pervious area.

Manager Brian:

- The area of development will create a space that supersedes the current zoning ordinance.

Nancy Blauvelt – 200 Beech St.

- PSE&G property – the substation
- Reads excerpt of different towns suing PSE&G.
- Going to petition around town to get a bond for PSE&G.
- Did we receive $180,000 for the trees?

CFO DiMaria:

- $150,000 and yes, we did.

Jerry A. Delguercio – 8 Grove St.

- R-268-2026, wasn't this property issued a summons to clean the property?
- Caution Council to go through court system first.
- It could prevent the owner from selling it to a developer. Let them sell it and go the private route.
- R-263-2026 what is the agreement about? Are we paying for their officers?
- Are these police officers? Off duty?
- R-269-2026 what is this about?
- R-270-2026 what is this regarding?
- R-271-2026 what is this about?
- So, who's paying who?

Attorney DiPisa:

- Summons have been issued to this property.
- We are directing a study to be done; it does not mean determining whether this is an area or not for redevelopment.
- Will not absolve the owner from cleaning up this property nor absolve them of the outstanding summonses.

CFO DiMaria:

- These are the town officers we assign to the school, and the school will reimburse us on a contractual basis.
- They must be specialized officers.
- No, it does not. Today was about a mandate for directional flow.
- The State mandated that all water flow in one direction in the downstream of 250.
- You can't fix the flow until the hydrants and necessary valves are repaired/updated to control the flow.
- There is no pressure problem in Belleville.

Officer Andrew:

- They are Belleville officers on the payroll; they just detail the school.

Manager Brian:

- The Friendly House is for parking, the stadium is for parking, and the Senior Citizen Center is an emergency location if something was to happen at school 10.
- These are shared services, so the funds don't come from other department budgets.

Councilman Graziano:

- Does the valve you mentioned tonight address the water pressure?
- How do we address the question of pressure?

- Residents should give the new Council time to make positive changes for Belleville. It's only been three months—change doesn't happen overnight. Give it a fair chance before jumping to conclusions.

Fire Chief Olivieri:

- Just want to clarify, the water system is looking like a volume issue not a pressure one.
- Specifically, infrastructure volume issues.

Frank Acuna – America Veterans United (American Legion)

- Following up on previous request to waive the soccer team fees under the prior administration.
- Manager Brian was instructed to contact Recreation Director Lenny about the cost of the proposed waivers, but no update has been received.
- It's all been volunteer work with the rec. anytime they needed me on call.
- The members would help clean the field anytime we used it for scrimmages; to my knowledge, no other player is currently volunteering in the teams.
- I don't follow what the costs are to operating the field because it's an open field and the bathrooms are already open at the weekends.

Recreation Director Leonard:

- When someone makes a request, we go by the ordinance of what the price is.
- I cannot alter that price; I informed Mr. Acuna this is a decision only the Council can make.

Manager Brian:

- There's a cost associated with operating the fields and cleaning up.
- The ordinance reads in an extenuating circumstance, you can waive or reduce the fees for the fields or facilities, and it cannot constitute a precedent.
- If you move forward, you can't invite everyone to do it too.
- The costs associated includes Overtime especially if it is the weekend, weekends open for public residents.
- Once you close it to a private entity, regular taxpayers aren't allowed access so it is a cost associated with it being open.

Mayor Velez:

- I thought a resolution was going to be adopted for this.
- Mr. Acuna, we will prepare that for you.
- In May we said we would be willing to waive the fees for Mr. Acuna like we did with the ALS Walk.
- This new administration is working on implementing town fundraising events to fund situations like these that will go into the Rec. budget to accommodate said organizations.
- The costs are manpower associated right Manager?
- Mr. Acuna sends us an email and we will be in touch.

Councilman Graziano:

- What was the final decision?
- I recommend reviewing/amending the original ordinance establishing the Director's recommended fees across the board for all organizations.
- This would provide a consistent fee structure and eliminate the need for individual organizations to request fee waivers each time.

Councilwoman Wells:

- Mr. Acuna you said you volunteer for the Belleville recreation, is that during the soccer season or all year round?
- Are there other players that help with the town and the volunteer work?

Donald Collins – Wife worked for Belleville

- My wife, Judy Collins, passed away 10 years ago, and the Town honored her appropriately for the tremendous impact she had on so many people's lives.
- I recently received a letter from the Town's labor counsel requesting documentation to verify my continued eligibility for spousal medical benefits.
- I find this request deeply disrespectful given what my wife meant to this community and all she did for the Town. These benefits were part of what she left me, and I am concerned that the Town is now attempting to take them away.
- Was told the benefits were for life so long as I did not get married.

Motion to Close Public Comments by Councilman Graziano; Seconded by Councilwoman Wells.
Ayes: Cozzarelli, Graziano, Guardabasco, Muldrow, Rodriguez, Wells and Mayor Velez.
Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None Motion Carries

Council Remarks Addressing Public Comments:

Mayor Velez:

- Addresses the 9/11 date of the letters sent out to widowers/families of non-active policemen and suggests pushing the date back.
- Council has a responsibility to address this situation amicably.

Nick Briner:

- Requests any cancellation of benefits to be on hold until a discussion is had with both parties and legal counsel or until it goes into litigation.

Attorney DiPisa:

- As the Mayor stated, the Town Manager will move the 9/11 date to give us time to schedule a meeting and discuss.

Resolutions:

Consent Agenda:

Motion to Approve and Adopt the Consent Agenda by Councilwoman Muldrow; Seconded by Councilwoman Guardabasco.
Ayes: Cozzarelli, Graziano, Guardabasco, Muldrow, Rodriguez, Wells and Mayor Velez.
Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None Motion Carries

RESOLUTION #258-2026 AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO ISSUE CHECKS IN PAYMENTS OF BILLS FROM VARIOUS ACCOUNTS

RESOLUTION #259-2026 RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE 2026 TEMPORARY MUNICIPAL BUDGET

RESOLUTION #260-2026 RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR MAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS NJDOT LTPF-2023

RESOLUTION #261-2026 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE MORRIS COUNTY COOPERATIVE PRICING COUNCIL TO BECOME A MEMBER FOR THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2021, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

RESOLUTION #262-2026 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF BELLEVILLE TO APPLY AND ACCEPT FUNDS FROM THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS UNDER THE FY2026 RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES (ROID) GRANT PROGRAM

RESOLUTION #263-2026 ACCEPTING SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF BELLEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE BELLEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THREE (3) SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1, 2026, TO AUGUST 31, 2027

RESOLUTION #264-2026 RESOLUTION AWARDING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT PURSUANT TO A FAIR AND OPEN PROCESS TO ESSEX COUNTY ALL CLEAR LLC. FOR MASTER PLUMBER SERVICES

RESOLUTION #265-2026 RESOLUTION AWARDING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT PURSUANT TO A FAIR AND OPEN PROCESS TO MAGIC TOUCH CONSTRUCTION FOR MASTER PLUMBER SERVICES

RESOLUTION #266-2026 RESOLUTION AWARDING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT PURSUANT TO A FAIR AND OPEN PROCESS TO MAGIC TOUCH CONSTRUCTION FOR MASTER ELECTRICIAN SERVICES

RESOLUTION #267-2026 RESOLUTION AWARDING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT PURSUANT TO A FAIR AND OPEN PROCESS TO MONTILLO ELECTRIC LLC. FOR MASTER ELECTRICIAN SERVICES

RESOLUTION #268-2026 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BELLEVILLE AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING BOARD OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BELLEVILLE TO CONDUCT A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE WHETHER CERTAIN PROPERTY WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP KNOWN AS 321-333 CORTLANDT STREET, 335-353 CORTLANDT STREET, AND 355-363 CORTLANDT STREET (BLOCK 8802 LOTS 1, 2, AND 3) IS A CONDEMNATION AREA IN NEED OF REDEVELOPMENT

RESOLUTION #269-2026 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF BELLEVILLE AND THE BELLEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE USE OF THE BELLEVILLE SENIOR CITIZENS BUILDING LOCATED AT 125 FRANKLIN AVENUE, BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1, 2026, TO AUGUST 31, 2027

RESOLUTION #270-2026 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF BELLEVILLE AND THE BELLEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE USE OF THE BELLEVILLE MUNICIPAL STADIUM LOCATED AT 100 PASSAIC AVENUE, BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1, 2026, TO AUGUST 31, 2027

RESOLUTION #271-2026 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF BELLEVILLE AND THE BELLEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE USE OF THE FRIENDLY HOUSE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 23 FREDERICK STREET, BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1, 2026, TO AUGUST 31, 2027

RESOLUTION #272-2026 PROCLAMATION – HONORING DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE NEW JERSEY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (NJCDC) – CRISTINA TONE

RESOLUTION #273-2026 PROCLAMATION – HONORING JUAN COLMENARES, KNOWN AS "LA QUENA DE ORO DEL PERU" FOR PROMOTING PERUVIAN MUSIC AND CULTURE

RESOLUTION #274-2026 PROCLAMATION – HONORING DISTINGUISHED PERUVIAN BUSINESSWOMAN AND COMMUNITY LEADER – MARTA MAUTINO

RESOLUTION #275-2026 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE DONATION OF COMPETITION WRESTLING MAT FROM THE BELLEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR USE BY THE TOWNSHIP OF BELLEVILLE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

New Business:

Motion to Combine and Adopt Resolutions R-276-2026 and R-277-2026 together by Councilman Graziano; Seconded by Councilwoman Guardabasco.
Ayes: Cozzarelli, Graziano, Guardabasco, Muldrow, Rodriguez, Wells and Mayor Velez.
Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None Motion Carries

RESOLUTION #276-2026 RESOLUTION APPOINTING ATIYYAH HALL AS DEPUTY MUNICIPAL CLERK OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BELLEVILLE, ESSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION #277-2026 RESOLUTION AWARDING A FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR VEHICLE COLLISION REPAIRS & PAINTING TO NICOLETTE AUTO BODY

Resolution from the Floor:

Clerk Guaman submits resolution from the floor that did not get advertised in advance due to how late the resolution came in.

- License has been operating as of now off two extensions approved by the State. Their paperwork came in, fees paid so they are not renewed and in good standing for calendar year 2026-2027.

Attorney DiPisa:

- This is a standard liquor license renewal required to be renewed annually. If all fees were paid and the paperwork are in order, Council can adopt tonight.

RESOLUTION #278-2026 APPROVING THE ANNUAL RENEWAL AND ISSUANCE OF THE PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSE NO. 33 FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1ST, 2026 TO JUNE 30, 2027 (371 FRANKLIN AVE., BRIX RESTAURANT)

Motion by Councilwoman Guardabasco; Seconded by Councilman Cozzarelli.
Ayes: Cozzarelli, Graziano, Guardabasco, Muldrow, Rodriguez, Wells and Mayor Velez.
Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None Motion Carries

Executive Session:

Motion to enter Executive Session by Councilwoman Guardabasco; Seconded by Councilwoman Rodriguez.
Ayes: Cozzarelli, Graziano, Guardabasco, Muldrow, Rodriguez, Wells and Mayor Velez.
Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None Motion Carries

Motion to Exit Executive Session by Councilwoman Guardabasco; Seconded by Councilwoman Muldrow.
All-In-Favor

Adjournment:
Motion to Adjourn at 10:00pm by Councilwoman Muldrow; Seconded by Councilman Cozzarelli.
All-In-Favor

The next scheduled Regular Council Meeting is Tuesday, September 22, 2026.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jacqueline E. Guaman, RMC
Township Clerk