# MINUTES OF THE BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MARCH 20, 2025 - COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Township Council of the Township of Bridgewater, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, convened in a regular session on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers in the Municipal Complex, Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807 & via Live Online Broadcast.

Council President Norgalis read the following announcement:

# Notice of Meeting

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT OF NEW JERSEY, ADEQUATE NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS PROVIDED ON DECEMBER 10, 2024, WITH WRITTEN NOTICE AND ELECTRONIC NOTICE PROVIDED TO THE COURIER NEWS AND THE BREEZE POSTING ON THE WEBSITE AND THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND FILING WITH THE TOWNSHIP CLERK

On call of the roll, the following Council members were present:

Councilman Michael Kirsh

Councilman Allen Kurdyla (Absent)

Councilman Filipe Pedroso Councilman Timothy Ring

Council President Howard V. Norgalis

Also Present: Matthew C. Moench, Mayor

Michael Pappas, Township Administrator Christopher Corsini, Township Attorney

Grace Njuguna, Township Clerk

Council President Norgalis led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **Minutes**

## **MARCH 6, 2025 - REGULAR SESSION**

On the motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Ring, the March 6, 2025, regular session minutes were moved for approval and passed unanimously on a voice call vote.

# Council Reports

#### Councilman Kirsh:

- On March 11, 2025, the Zoning Board held a meeting to discuss two key items: the Starbucks application for a location on Route 22 at Morgan Lane and the 821 Bridgewater LLC case, which involves property along Route 202/206 adjacent to the JCC property.
- On March 18, 2025, the Planning Board met to discuss the introduction of the ordinance regarding the 1200 Route 202 property, which will be discussed later in the council meeting.

- Councilman Kirsh met with the president of the Bridgewater Baseball and Softball Organization to discuss urgent field-related needs, which he will be pursuing on their behalf.
- Attended an informal meeting to discuss the first steps of the 2025 road program in hopes of providing additional safety as it relates to the local roads.

## Council President Norgalis: (verbatim)

- At the last council meeting there was a question about the balance in the affordable housing trust fund. Mr. Pappas has confirmed the amount as \$2.060.274.
- Holi is a major Hindu festival celebrated on Mar 13 or 14 as the Festival of Colors, Love, and Spring. It celebrates the eternal and divine love of the deities Radha and Krishna. Additionally, the day signifies the triumph of good over evil.
- Mar. 14 was pi Day. I don't mean baked goods I am talking about pi, in mathematics, the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter. The symbol π was devised by British mathematician William Jones in 1706 to represent the ratio and was later popularized by Swiss mathematician Leonhard Euler. To 39 decimal places, pi is 3.141592653589793238462643383279502884197.
- I along with Councilman Kirsch attended a conference with Admin. Pappas, Deputy Admin Stevens, Director Genova, DPW Supt Shimp as we to continue to develop the criteria for a Professional Eng firm to assist us in the critical evaluation of both of our long serving sewer pumping stations. In the past you have heard the names Gilbride and Middle Brook Pumping Stations and you will continue to hear them refenced over the next year.
- Happy Spring as of 5:01am this morning.
- With Spring comes the next step in planning the fifth year of the five-year township road improvement project. So far, this \$40m project has received widespread resident approval. We are playing catchup after many years of band aides where patches were used as a proxy for genuine road improvement.
- The Council meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 6, 2025, is CANCELLED.
   This cancellation is due to the Municipal Courtroom being required for early voting. Rescheduled the Regular Meeting to Thursday, June 12, 2025.

#### Councilman Pedroso:

- Expressed his appreciation to the Bridgewater Police Department for the service they provide to the township.
- Acknowledged Officer Allatt for his heroism and stated that it's an honor to have him serve in Bridgewater Township.
- Councilman Pedroso read the following statement:

   I attended the Bridgewater-Raritan Board of Education meeting this past
   Tuesday, and I spoke out against Policy 5756, a well-intentioned but deeply flawed policy that unfairly prioritizes transgender rights over those of

cisgender girls. Although I had to leave after I spoke, I did watch the remainder of the meeting on YouTube. I'd like to share with you some thoughts and perceptions that I gathered from this experience.

First, I want to emphasize that I strongly believe that every student, irrespective of their gender identification or any other matters, deserves respect and protection from discrimination. However, this Policy 5756 forces female students to share bathrooms and locker rooms with individuals who were identified as male at birth but now identify as female, disregarding cisgender girls' discomfort, concerns and rights. It also undermines fairness in sports by allowing biologically male athletes to compete against cisgender girls, putting them at an undeniable disadvantage in many sports. Protecting one group's rights should not mean erasing safeguards for another.

Additionally, Policy 5756 wrongfully excludes parents from their child's gender-related decisions at school, prohibiting teachers and staff from sharing vital information to the parents that impacts their child's welfare. While some families may struggle with these gender-based conversations, most parents would and do offer the love and guidance their child needs. Cutting them out only causes more harm than good. I do not oppose transgender students, and I do not judge anyone and their family for what they have deemed appropriate for them. However, I did request that the Board revoke a policy that is clearly discriminatory. The Board should revoke Policy 5756.

I want to commend Board of Education members Jeremy Li and Lucy Li for their courage in calling for the revocation of this blatantly discriminatory policy. They have shown true leadership by standing up for what is right. I also appreciate Board member Jennifer Loughran for at least acknowledging that Policy 5756 needs revisions and attempting to push for change, while Emily Calistri appeared open to finding solutions. Unfortunately, it was clear that the rest of the Board, the majority of the members, remain indifferent to the rights of girls, prioritizing special interests over fairness and common sense.

It was also concerning to witness Superintendent Beers repeatedly interjecting during the meeting, pushing his own biased agenda instead of allowing the Board to deliberate independently. His overreach blurred the lines between his role as an administrator and that of a Board member. While it's up to the Board of Education to address this issue, it was a troubling dynamic that only reinforced the need for strong leadership willing to stand up for all students - especially the girls whose rights this policy disregards.

### Councilman Ring:

• Participated in a meeting for the 2025 roads program earlier today which will be discussed further in the future.

# Mayor's Reports

## Mayor Matthew C. Moench

- Mayor Moench was honored to be invited to the White House to attend a St. Patrick's Day event, which was held with the Taoiseach of Ireland, who offered remarks alongside President Trump. Mayor Moench thanked the president and his staff for the invitation.
- Met with the White House IGA staff, who are responsible for the relationships between the White House and local and state government officials.
- Mayor Moench commented on Councilman Pedroso's report from the previous night's meeting, addressing concerns about the conduct of Superintendent Beers. He emphasized that, regardless of opinions on policy, Superintendent Beers is a public employee, not an elected official, and should respect that elected officials set policy, not unelected bureaucrats. He thanked the board members who reminded Superintendent Beers of this point, noting that he works for the public, not the other way around.

#### Michael Pappas, Township Administrator

- Township Administrator Pappas stated that there were questions and comments from the public made at previous council meetings that he would like to address.
- Administrator Pappas confirmed he received a detailed memo from the Tax Assessor, Tony DiRado, regarding the process of how tax assessments are calculated. He offered that the governing body does not have a direct role in assessments as they are regulated by the state.
- Administrator Pappas addressed the issue of stolen political signs from resident properties. He reported that Chief Mitzak had identified a suspect in one incident. He urged residents to report any future occurrences of stolen signs to the police department for investigation.

• Township Administrator Pappas reported that on March 11, 2024, the township submitted a \$4.2 million grant application. This grant, if awarded, would fund the purchase of new radios for the police department, first responders, and public works, enhancing communication during emergencies and natural disasters. Further updates will be provided in the future.

# Proclamation

# BRIDGEWATER POLICE OFFICE NOAH ALLATT RECEIVES THE MAYOR'S AWARD OF EXCEPTIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE

Council President Norgalis recognized Officer Noah Allatt for the heroism he demonstrated earlier this month and welcomed his family, his fellow officers and the Bridgewater Police Department leadership, especially Chief Mitzak, for this momentous occasion. Noah will be receiving three different commendations tonight.

Councilman Ring recognized the first responder agencies that also arrived at the scene of the incident in which Noah so distinguished himself: Finderne Volunteer Fire Department, Martinsville Volunteer Fire Department, Green Knoll Volunteer Fire Department and Robert-Wood Johnson Hospital Paramedic Team.

Mayor Moench acknowledged all first responders in attendance and expressed that it is a privilege to honor Noah and the dedication of all Bridgewater Police Department officers.

A video was shown reflecting the heroism displayed by Office Noah Allatt.

Mayor Moench presented Officer Noah Allatt with The Mayor's Award for Exceptional Public Service, of which he is the inaugural recipient and the "Award for Valor" from the Bridgewater Police Department.

Council President Norgalis read the following proclamation:

**WHEREAS**, the safety and well-being of the residents of Bridgewater Township depend on the dedication, bravery, and selfless service of our law enforcement officers; and,

**WHEREAS**, on March 5th, 2025, at approximately 2:00 AM, Officer Noah Allatt of the Bridgewater Township Police Department responded to a motor vehicle collision west-bound on Route 22 involving a diesel tanker truck and a passenger sedan; and,

**WHEREAS,** upon arrival, Officer Allatt found the sedan's engine block engulfed in flames, the vehicle having crashed into the rear of the tanker truck; and,

**WHEREAS**, without hesitation, and with complete disregard for his own safety, Officer Allatt ran towards the burning vehicles and discovered the driver of the sedan unconscious in the driver's seat; and,

**WHEREAS**, demonstrating extraordinary courage, decisiveness, and selflessness, Officer Allatt extricated the unconscious driver, and dragged him to safety, thereby saving his life mere moments before the flames consumed the vehicle; and

**WHEREAS**, Officer Allatt's decisive and heroic actions reflect the highest standards of the Bridgewater Township Police Department and serve as an inspiring example of duty, service, and bravery; and

**WHEREAS,** in recognition of his extraordinary courage and unwavering commitment to the safety of the Bridgewater community, the Township of Bridgewater is proud to present Officer Noah Allatt with the inaugural Mayor's Award for Exceptional Public Service;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Matthew C. Moench, Mayor of the Township of Bridgewater, on behalf of the Bridgewater Township Council and all our residents, do hereby confer the Mayor's Award for Exceptional Public Service to Officer Noah Allatt. We commend and honor Officer Noah Allatt for his heroic and selfless actions which have brought great credit upon himself, the Bridgewater Township Police Department, and the entire community.

Chief Mitzak made the following statement:

It is my privilege and honor to stand before you today to present a distinguished officer with a Medal of Valor, an award reserved for those whose actions transcend ordinary expectations and elevate the standards of heroism within our profession. Today, we recognize Officer Allatt for his extraordinary courage and selflessness during an incident that has become a beacon of what it means to serve and protect. On March 5th, Officer Allatt responded to a call that would test his skills, instincts, and, most of all, his bravery.

As we all know, fires are unpredictable, chaotic, and often terrifying. Yet, without hesitation, Officer Allatt raced toward a burning vehicle, its flames engulfing the car, and without thinking of his own safety, managed to extract an individual trapped inside. His swift actions not only saved a life but exemplified what it means to be a protector, a true guardian of the public.

Major news outlets, recognizing the magnitude of this heroic act, sought to interview Officer Allatt in the days that followed. They wanted to hear his story, to capture the essence of his bravery on camera, to share with the world the profound impact of his actions. However, Officer Allatt humbly refused, stating, and I quote, "I was just doing my job."

In these simple words, we see the true nature of his character. He did not seek fame, recognition, or accolades. His singular focus was on doing what needed to be done,

without a second thought for the spotlight.

This humility is what makes his actions all the more remarkable, and it is what makes him a role model not only for this department but for our entire profession.

Officer Allatt's actions have brought pride to this department and to the law enforcement community at large. His commitment to duty, his selflessness in the face of danger, and his unwavering sense of responsibility represent the very best of who we are as officers. He has reminded us all, that sometimes heroism is not about seeking recognition but about doing what is right when it matters most.

Today, we celebrate his courage, but more importantly, we honor the spirit of service he represents—a spirit that each and every one of us in this room can strive to emulate. Officer Allatt, your bravery in the face of danger has saved a life, brought honor to your department, and reinforced the value of integrity in this profession. It is with deep admiration and respect that I present you with the Medal of Valor. Thank you for your selfless service, and for making us all proud to wear the badge. Congratulations, Officer Allatt. You are an inspiration to us all.

#### Presentation

#### WHITNEY COURT PROPERTY DONATION

Township Administrator Pappas provided the Council with a document from Township Planner Darlene Green concerning an affordable housing plan. The document contained an elevation diagram of a proposed five-unit dwelling on Whitney Court, illustrating the structure's appearance and approximate location on the lot. He explained that an ordinance would be required for the township to proceed with the property transaction.

Councilman Ring noted that the diagram appeared to depict only three units, not five. Administrator Pappas clarified that the diagram represented the first level, and additional units would be located on the second level.

# Public Comment

Members of the public wishing to address the Council on any matter will be allowed two minutes to speak unless there are unusual circumstances.

On the motion of Councilman Kirsh, seconded by Councilman Ring, the meeting was opened to the public for comment.

#### Curtis Kraut: 199 Adamsville Road – Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Mr. Kraut stated that he had attended the Planning Board meeting earlier in the week to provide input on the redevelopment plan as presented by Redevelopment Planner Sullivan. He expressed his disapproval of the plan, particularly the difficult redevelopment process and the untimely delivery of documents. He stated he had requested a copy of the revised draft throughout the day and only received it from Administrator Pappas shortly

before the council meeting. Mr. Kraut reiterated his concerns regarding the plan and disagreed with the Planning Board's actions. Administrator Pappas advised Mr. Kraut that the revised plan was posted on the township website.

Councilman Kirsh offered that the application heard by the Planning Board was extensively reviewed at the meeting. He added that he took notes and asked questions on behalf of the residents' concerns.

Councilman Pedroso thanked Mr. Kraut for being an active member of the public, who attends Planning & Zoning Board meetings regularly.

## Anda Cytroen: 642 Stangle Road – Martinsville, NJ 08836

Ms. Cytroen expressed her appreciation for Officer Noah Allatt, commending his training, character, and professionalism. She then addressed the recent Board of Education meeting, cautioning against disparaging the actions and work of other public entities on a policy largely dictated by state guidelines. Finally, she voiced her concerns and disappointment regarding the extension of the 2025 budget deadline.

## David Kleszyk: 215 Woodside Lane – Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Mr. Kleszyk expressed his concerns regarding the Greymark property and the proposed addition of three new homes on Woodside Lane. He pointed out that previous applications for the Greymark property did not include residential homes on the lot.

### Jane Gandolfe: 2000 Washington Valley Road – Martinsville, NJ 08836

Ms. Gandolfe, representing the Friends of Bridgewater History, formally invited the council to their event on April 29, 2025, which will feature a discussion on the history of Camp Cromwell.

## Cathy Franco: 766 Weemac Road – Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Ms. Franco expressed her disapproval of the comments made at the council meeting regarding the Board of Education policy. She then conveyed her gratitude to Officer Allatt, the Bridgewater Police Department, and all First Responders serving the township. Additionally, she expressed her appreciation for the Planning Board's dedication in listening to public comments concerning the redevelopment plan.

Finally, Ms. Franco thanked the Council, Township Administrator Pappas, Scott Stephens, and the township staff for providing her with information regarding sewer charges over the past five years.

## Aresti Poloma (address unknown)

Mr. Poloma requested clarification regarding the redevelopment plan's regulations concerning warehouse permitting. Councilman Kirsh clarified that the redevelopment plan establishes the zoning and development rules for the property, and that if the plan is adopted as written, warehouses will not be permitted in that area.

On the motion of Councilman Ring, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the public comment portion was closed.

# Introduction of Ordinances

# AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER ADOPTING A REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR BLOCK 221 LOTS 1.02, 1.03, 1,04, 2, AND 2.01, ALSO KNOWN AS 1200 ROUTE 22 AND ADDING DEFINITIONS TO SECTION 126-2

Michael Sullivan of Clark Caton Hintz PC, Township Redevelopment Planner, provided an update on the Greymark Office Tract redevelopment plan, now in its third draft. The plan aims to revitalize the underutilized site on Route 22 East, which was designated a non-condemnation redevelopment area on December 5, 2024. A preliminary investigation found unfinished construction contributing to stormwater runoff, flooding, and surface water quality issues. The plan allows for medical offices, research facilities, a data center, indoor recreational facilities, and up to 250 units of age-restricted multifamily housing. It also requires the creation of three single-family homes along Woodside Lane and a cul-de-sac for improved traffic safety. Conservation easements, acoustic controls, and environmental impact studies are mandated. During a March 18 consistency review, the plan was deemed aligned with the township's master plan. Public concerns about potential wireless interference from the data center led to new provisions for communication impact studies. These updates have been incorporated into the latest draft, which remains under review.

Councilman Ring raised a concern from a resident regarding emergency vehicle access to the Woodside Lane cul-de-sac. He inquired whether this issue falls within the scope of the current redevelopment plan or if it needs to be addressed at a later stage. He stressed that emergency vehicle access to Woodside Lane cul-de-sac should not be limited to fire department considerations. He emphasized the need to include law enforcement and EMS in the discussion to ensure a comprehensive approach to emergency access planning.

Michael Sullivan responded that the redevelopment plan neither requires nor prohibits emergency vehicle access to the Woodside Lane cul-de-sac. He explained

that as redevelopment progresses, the issue would need to be addressed through the standard review process.

Council President Norgalis added that the cul-de-sac provides flexibility for vendors, garbage collection, and other services. He noted that there had been no cul-de-sac previously, which often forced fire trucks to back out for long distances, creating inefficiencies and safety concerns.

Mr. Sullivan explained that the obligation to address the issue falls on the redeveloper. He clarified that the redeveloper would be required to design the cul-desac according to New Jersey residential site improvement standards, in collaboration with the municipal engineer, to ensure it functions properly for emergency vehicles and other necessary services.

Councilman Ring acknowledged the inclusion of the cellular communications impact study in the plan and asked if a future cell tower proposal would go before zoning or planning, confirming it would go to the planning board. He also addressed the recommendation on EV charging station placement, noting the shift from placing them near buildings to reducing fire risks. Ring thanked the council for incorporating this recommendation into the plan.

Councilman Kirsh asked if the building height updates were included in version four of the plan, which was distributed that evening. Mr. Sullivan confirmed they were in version three. He thanked the planning board and Mr. Sullivan for addressing the residents' concerns. He emphasized the need for clarity on the building height definition before moving forward with the ordinance.

Mr. Sullivan explained that after the planning board discussion, it was determined that to accommodate a data center on the site, mechanical elements, such as HVAC systems, would need to be placed on the roof above the 50-foot height limit. These mechanicals would be around 2 to 3 feet in height, while acoustic and visual screening would require an additional height of 5 to 6 feet. To allow access to the roof, such as via stairs or an elevator, a total allowance of about 7 feet would be needed. These elements are necessary for the development and cannot be excluded from the 50-foot height regulation.

Councilman Pedroso asked if the 50-foot height limit applied specifically to the data center, to which Mr. Sullivan clarified that it applies to any building. Pedroso then inquired how many floors the data center would have and why the building's height couldn't be reduced to accommodate the rooftop elements. Mr. Sullivan explained that the 50-foot height is a regulation that accounts for all necessary mechanical elements and screening required for the site.

Councilman Pedroso expressed confusion, noting that the ordinance provided to him in the packet had a different heading, although it was about the same topic. He mentioned that he did not have the correct ordinance.

Council President Norgalis called for a recess at approximately 9:40 PM to address the discrepancy. Following the recess, at approximately 9:48 PM, Township Clerk Njuguna conducted a roll call, and all council members were present as before.

Township Attorney Chris Corsini explained that the discrepancy arose from two ordinance revisions, one prepared by his Deputy, Alexander Fisher, and the other by former Township Attorney William Savo. The differing formats of these revisions caused the confusion. He clarified that the second ordinance, 11A, circulated by Township Clerk Njuguna, included amendments to the redevelopment plan and was functionally equivalent to the original. He also stated that the language Councilman Kirsh had read earlier would be incorporated, in consultation with Administrator Pappas.

Councilman Pedroso stated his intention to vote against the ordinance, citing three main reasons: 1) Insufficient information, particularly regarding the builder's need for a 50-foot height, and the need to balance development with quality of life; 2) The initial redevelopment designation only mentioned a data center, not a residential component, and he was dissatisfied with the late disclosure of this information; 3) Last-minute revisions to the ordinance prevented adequate public review and feedback. He emphasized the public's right to information and input, leading to his "no" vote.

On the motion of Councilman Ring, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the foregoing Ordinance was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh Aye
Councilman Kurdyla Absent
Councilman Pedroso Nay
Councilman Ring Aye
Council President Norgalis Aye

#### THE ORDINANCE WAS INTRODUCED.

A copy of resolution #25-03-20-102 is appended to the official minutes

Grace Njuguna, Township Clerk, read the following report:

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the said pending ordinance be passed on first reading and advertised as required by statute fixing the 24<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025, at 7:30 p.m. prevailing time on said day as the time and the Bridgewater Township Municipal Court Chambers at 100 Commons Way in said Township as the place for hearing and

final action.

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Township Clerk shall forthwith post on the bulletin board in the Township Municipal Building at 100 Commons Way a true copy of said ordinance and make copies available to members of the general public and spread the same upon the minutes of the meeting.

#### Resolutions

# APPOINTMENT TO THE BRIDGEWATER-RARITAN MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE AMELIA DOMINGUEZ

Council President Norgalis introduced Amelia Dominguez, a health consultant for the Middlebrook Health Consortium, of which the township is a member. He noted her past attendance at alliance meetings and expressed interest in her becoming a permanent member. He also stated that Amelia's supervisor strongly supports her appointment.

On the motion of Councilman Ring, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh Aye
Councilman Kurdyla Absent
Councilman Pedroso Aye
Councilman Ring Aye
Council President Norgalis Aye

#### THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution #25-03-20-103 is appended to the official minutes

AMENDING RESOLUTION 25-01-30-066, WHICH ORIGINALLY AUTHORIZED THE RELEASE OF \$32,428 IN SAFETY AND STABILIZATION GUARANTEES AND INCREASING THE RELEASED AMOUNT TO \$35,142.25 AND THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE SITE IMPROVEMENT FOR NORTH BRIDGE WOODLAWN, LLC, BLOCK 525, LOT 2 AT 81 WOODLAWN AVE

On the motion of Councilman Ring, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh Aye
Councilman Kurdyla Absent
Councilman Pedroso Aye
Councilman Ring Aye
Council President Norgalis Aye

#### THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution #25-03-20-104 is appended to the official minutes

# AUTHORIZING QUALIFIED FIRMS FOR PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES FOR LEGAL MATTERS REQUIRING A SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP FOR THE YEAR 2025

Council President Norgalis announced the successful firms that responded to the request. The firms are Antonelli Kantor Bell; Shivas & Bell; Decottis, Fitzpatrick, Cole & Giblin; Ruderman & Roth; and Lavery, Selvaggi & Cohen.

Councilman Ring clarified for the public that this is not the awarding of any contracts. He explained that these firms were selected through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process, where they submitted their rates. Following a review, these firms are now pre-qualified. This means they will be available for future hiring by the township on an as-needed basis, similar to the process used for engineering firms.

On the motion of Councilman Ring, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh Aye
Councilman Kurdyla Absent
Councilman Pedroso Aye
Councilman Ring Aye
Council President Norgalis Aye

#### THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution #25-03-20-105 is appended to the official minutes

# RESOLUTION TO EXTEND THE 2025 MUNICIPAL BUDGET DEADLINE AS PER LOCAL FINANCE NOTICE #LFN-2024-20

Council President Norgalis explained that the introduction timeline for the budget had been moved to March 31st, as the statutory deadline falls after that date. The adoption of the plan would then be scheduled for April 30th.

Councilman Ring noted that the finance committee was still awaiting the budget from the administration but acknowledged the mentioned dates were procedural requirements mandated by the state.

Councilman Pedroso inquired whether the finance committee had begun budget discussions with the administration. Councilman Kirsh confirmed that no such discussions had taken place. Councilman Pedroso expressed dissatisfaction with the delay but stressed the need to vote in favor of the resolution to maintain the

township's compliance with state regulations. He urged the administration to provide the governing body with the budget as quickly as possible to meet the revised deadline.

On the motion of Councilman Ring, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the foregoing resolution was proposed. The vote was as follows:

Councilman Kirsh Aye
Councilman Kurdyla Absent
Councilman Pedroso Aye
Councilman Ring Aye
Council President Norgalis Aye

### THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

A copy of resolution #25-03-20-106 is appended to the official minutes

## Adjournment

On the motion of Councilman Ring, seconded by Councilman Kirsh, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Grace Njuguna, RMC Municipal Clerk

Howard Norgalis Council President