Township of Hillside

CAUCUS MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
MINUTES

February 10, 2026 @ 6:30pm *Agenda subject to change*

The Caucus Meeting of the Township of Hillside Township Council was held on February 10, 2026 in the Municipal Building, 1409 Liberty Avenue Hillside, New Jersey 07205 at 6:30pm.

CALL TO ORDER
Dr. Angela R. Garretson, Council President called the meeting to order.

FLAG SALUTE
Dr. Angela R. Garretson, Council President, led the flag salute.

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC NOTICE
Rayna E. Harris, Township Clerk read the following statement: This Meeting was called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this meeting was sent to the Star Ledger on January 20, 2026. In addition, copies of notice were posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building, posted on the Town Hall doors, and field in the Office of the Township Clerk. Notices on the bulletin board have remained continuously posted. Proper notice having been given; the Township Clerk is directed to include this statement in the minutes of this meeting.

ROLL CALL
Rayna E. Harris, Township Clerk, read the roll call.

PRESENT
Council Member Lisa Bonanno, Council Member George L. Cook III, Council Member Armando DaSilva, Council Vice President David Feuerstein, Council President Dr. Angela R. Garretson, Council Member Daryl Joyner, Council Member Calvin Lofton

ALSO PRESENT
Faheem J. Ra'Oof's, Business Administrator & Chief Financial Officer; Dr. Williee Parker, Esq. Township Attorney; Dwayne D. Warren, Esq., LRO; Brook L. Nieves, Deputy Clerk and Rayna E. Harris, Township Clerk

PROCLAMATIONS: Black History Month 2026

PRESENTATIONS: Heritage Awards
1. Rosalia L. Clegg (Read by Council Member Bonanno)
2. Nicole Graves-Watson (Read by Council Member DaSilva)
3. Arthur Garrett (Read by Council Member Cook)
4. Marc Erminal (Read by Council Member Joyner)
5. Barbara George Johnson (Read by Council Member Feuerstein)
6. Queenie King (Read by Council Member Lofton)

MINUTES:

January 15, 2026 – Reorganization Meeting
Motioned by Council Member Bonanno; Seconded by Council Vice President Feuerstein
All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

January 27, 2026 – Regular Meeting
Motioned by Council Member Lofton; Seconded by Council Member Joyner
All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

PAYMENT OF BILLS: February 10, 2026
Motion by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Member Lofton
All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

RESOLUTIONS

R-26-019 Auth. Sewer User Charges for 2026

WHEREAS, the Annual Assessment Report has been received by the Township of Hillside from Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties that enables the annual calculation of Sewer User Charges for the year 2026, as prescribed by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Township of Hillside that the sewer User Charges for 2026 be, and are hereby established as follows:

CLASS 1: Residential units @ $211.00 per unit

CLASS 2: Commercial / Industrial properties (Class 4A & Class 4B) as designated in the current tax duplicate at $211.00 per 59,400 gallons per year of water use with a minimum charge of $209.00.

CLASS 3: Industrial user charge as calculated by Joint Meeting to be billed separately as follows:

BLOCK	LOT	NAME	AMOUNT
1801	5	Hillside Beverage	$50,953.74
1108	47	Manhattan Drugs	$3,101.66
201	3	AAK Foodservice	$326,634.97
1802	4	A&H Products	$24,582.49
101	18	Union Beverages	$3,329,652.79

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the due date for payment of the above Sewer User Charges shall be April 1, 2026.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Member Cook,
All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

R-26-020 Appointing Fund Commissioner & Alternate for Membership in Statewide Insurance Fund of Township of Hillside

WHEREAS, The Township of Hillside (hereinafter "Local Unit") is a member of the Statewide Insurance Fund (hereinafter "Fund"), a joint insurance fund as defined in *N.J.S.A.* 40A:10-36, *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Fund's Bylaws require participating members to appoint a Fund Commissioner.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE THAT:

1. Faheem J Ra'Oof, CPA, Business Administrator/CFO is hereby appointed as the Fund Commissioner for the Local Unit for the Fund Year 2026; and
2. Dr. Willie Parker, Esq, Township Attorney is hereby appointed as the Alternate Fund Commissioner for the Local Unit for the Fund Year 2026; and
3. The Local Unit's Fund Commissioner and/or Mayor is authorized and directed to execute all such documents as required by the Fund to meet the Local Unit's insurance needs.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion by Council Member Cook; Seconded by Council Member Joyner
All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

R-26-021 Appointment to Township of Hillside Fund Commissioners to the NJ Solutions Joint Health Insurance Fund

WHEREAS, various local units have received approval from the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance ("DOBI") and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs ("DCA") to form the NJ Solutions Joint Health Insurance Fund ("NJSJHIF" or "Fund"), and the NJSJHIF is operational as of that date; and

WHEREAS, Article III of the Bylaws of the NJ Solution Joint Health Insurance Fund requires the appointment of one (1) Commissioner and one (1) Alternate Commissioner to represent each local unit member in the Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Hillside, a member local unit of the Fund, and have passed a Resolution, appointing the Commissioner and Alternate Commissioner identified herein to represent Hillside in the Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Township Council of the Township of Hillside confirms that the following individuals hereby accept appointment as Commissioners and Alternate Commissioners of the NJ Solutions Joint Health Insurance Fund for a term beginning February 11, 2026 and continuing through January 31, 2027:

Faheem J Ra'Oof, CPA, Fund Commissioner Township of Hillside

Dr. Willie Parker, Esq, Alternate Commissioner Township of Hillside

1. That Exhibit A of the NJSJHIF Bylaws, Participating Local Units of Government be amended to reflect the Township of Hillside has joined as a participating Local Unit of Government and the updated effective date.

Motion by Council Member Cook; Seconded by Council Member Lofton
All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

R-26-022 Appointing Representatives to the County of Union Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Hillside, in the County of Union and State of New Jersey that the appointments to the Union County Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee are hereby confirmed as follows:

Position	Name and Tilte	Term Expires
Representative	Karla Spivey, Director of Health Depart.	12/31/2026
Representative	Mary Dawkins, Senior Services	12/31/2026
Alternate	Mayor Andrea L. Hyatt, Mayor	12/31/2026
Alternate	Faheem J Ra'Oof, BA/CFO	12/31/2026

Motion by Council Member Lofton; Seconded by Council Member Cook
All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

R-26-023 Auth. the Renewal of Limousine License to Route 22 Limousine, Corp.

WHEREAS, Chapter 274 of the Township Code of the Township of Hillside requires that all limousine companies operating within the Township of Hillside apply for a yearly license; and

WHEREAS, an application from Route 22 Limousine, Corp., has been accepted and investigated by The Hillside Police Department and all required fees have been paid.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Hillside that limousine licenses be issued to Route 22 Limousine, Corp., for the year 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be furnished by the Township Clerk to the Hillside Police Department and to the appropriate Township administrative officials, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion by Council Member Cook; Seconded by Council Member Joyner
All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

R-26-024 Appointing Mcmanimon, Scotland Baumann as Outside Counsel for Redevelopment Services

WHEREAS, there exists a need for Outside Counsel for various types of matters on an "as-needed" basis for the Township of Hillside; and

WHEREAS, proposals for Legal Services have been solicited via a Fair and Open Process through the issuance of a Request for Proposals the "New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law", N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq. for Outside Legal Counsel which was returnable on December 10, 2025.

WHEREAS, McManimon, Scotland, Baumann, (90 Woodbridge Center Drive, Woodbridge, NJ 07095) has been selected as qualified pursuant to the Township's Fair and Open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

WHEREAS , as required by Local Public Contract Law 2012, c. 25, N.J.S.A. 52:32-60.1, et seq. and N.J.S.A.40A:11-2.2 (L. 2022, c. 3. all new or renew contracts must complete the disclosure of Investment in Iran and Certification of Non-Involvement in Prohibited activities in Russia and Belarus; and

WHEREAS, these forms were not included in the original RFP package; and

WHEREAS, the Township has requested the vendors complete the forms and the same are now on file on the office of the municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council has cured this requirement and hereby approves the award of the professional service contract for Redevelopment Counsel.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE THAT:

1. McManimon, Scotland, Baumann, 75 Livingston Avenue, 2nd Floor, Roseland, NJ 07078 shall be awarded a contract for Redevelopment Counsel ratified from January 1, 2026, to the date of adoption of this resolution and shall end on December 31, 2026. The total amount of this contract shall not exceed $15,000.00.
2. Attached hereto is a certification of funds in the amount of $3,000.00 in accordance with the Temporary Budget.
3. Upon adoption of the Final Township Budget and availability of funds therein, this Resolution shall be amended to reflect an additional certification of funds in the amount of $12,000.00.
4. The Township Attorney is hereby directed to prepare a Contract/Engagement for execution by the Mayor in accordance with the RFP and this Resolution.
5. Upon approval, a notice of award hereunder shall be published in the official newspapers of the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.5(g).

Motion by Council Member Cook; Seconded by Council Vice President Feuerstein
All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

R-26-025 Appointing Acacia Financial Group to be a Financial Advisor for the Township of Hillside

WHEREAS, there exists a need for a Financial Advisor for the Township of Hillside "Township" to maximize financial opportunities that the Township might participate in as a result of bond issues and other financial initiatives; and

WHEREAS, qualification statements have been solicited via a Fair and Open Process through the annual issuance of a Request for Proposal ("RFP") for certain professional services returnable on December 10, 2025, in accordance with the "New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law", N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq; and

WHEREAS, Acacia Financial Group, Inc. (6000 Midlantic Drive, Suite 410 North, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054) has been selected as qualified pursuant to the Township's Fair and Open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

WHEREAS, as required by Local Public Contract Law 2012, c. 25, N.J.S.A. 52:32-60.1, et seq. and N.J.S.A.40A:11-2.2 (L. 2022, c. 3. all new or renew contracts must complete the disclosure of Investment in Iran and Certification of Non-Involvement in Prohibited activities in Russia and Belarus; and

WHEREAS these forms were not included in the original RFP package; and

WHEREAS, the Township has requested the vendors complete the forms and the same are now on file on the office of the municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council has cured this requirement and hereby approves the award of the professional service contract for Financial Advisor.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE THAT:

1. Acacia Financial Group, Inc. (6000 Midlantic Drive, Suite 410 North, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054) is hereby awarded a contract as Financial Advisor for a total contract amount not to exceed $25,000.00.
2. This contract is awarded in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq. subject to the attached certification of funds in the amount of $5,000.00 in accordance with the Township's Temporary Budget. Upon adoption of the Final Township Budget and availability of funds therein, this Resolution shall be amended to reflect an additional certification of funds for $20,000.00.
3. Upon approval, notice of award hereunder shall be published in the official newspaper of the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.5(g).

4. The Township Attorney is hereby directed to prepare and furnish to the entity named in Section 1, a Contract in accordance with this Resolution and the RFP.
5. The Mayor is hereby authorized to examine and execute said Contract.

Motion by Council Member Cook; Seconded by Council Member Joyner
All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

R-26-026 Appointing a Contract to Bruno Associates, Inc. as the Grant Writer for the Township of Hillside

WHEREAS, there exists a need for a Grant Writer for the Township of Hillside, and

WHEREAS, qualification statements have been solicited via a Fair and Open Process through the annual issuance of a Request for Proposal ("RFP") for certain professional services returnable on December 10, 2025, in accordance with the "New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law", N.J.S.A. 40A:l 1-l, et seq.

WHEREAS, Bruno Associates, Inc. (1373 Broad St., Suite 203B Clifton, NJ 07013) has been selected as qualified pursuant to the Township's Fair and Open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

WHEREAS, as required by Local Public Contract Law 2012, c. 25, N.J.S.A. 52:32-60.1, et seq. and N.J.S.A.40A:11-2.2 (L. 2022, c. 3. all new or renew contracts must complete the disclosure of Investment in Iran and Certification of Non-Involvement in Prohibited activities in Russia and Belarus; and

WHEREAS, these forms were not included in the original RFP package; and

WHEREAS, the Township has requested the vendors complete the forms and the same are now on file on the office of the municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council has cured this requirement and hereby approves the award of the professional service contract for Grant Writer.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE THAT:

1. Bruno Associates, (1373 Broad St., Suite 203B Clifton, NJ 07013) is hereby awarded a contract as Grant Writer for the total amount not to exceed $49,000.00, effective January 1, 2026, ending December 31, 2026.
2. This contract is awarded in accordance with N.J.S.A.19:44A-20.5 et seq., subject to a Certification of Funds in the amount of $7,500.00 consistent with the Township's Temporary Budget.
3. Upon adoption of the Final Township Budget and availability of funds therein, this Reso-lution shall be amended to reflect an additional certification of funds in the amount of $41,500.00.
4. The Township Attorney is hereby directed to prepare and furnish to the entity named in Section 1, a Contract in accordance with the RFP and this Resolution.
5. The Mayor is hereby authorized to examine and execute said Contract.

Motion by Council Member Lofton; Seconded by Council Member Cook
All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

R-26-027 Approving Kologi Simitz Counsellors at Law to Provide Labor / Employment and Human Resources Counsel Services for the Township of Hillside

WHEREAS, there exists a need for Outside Counsel for various types of matters on an "as-needed" basis for the Township of Hillside; and

WHEREAS, proposals for Legal Services have been solicited via a Fair and Open Process through the issuance of a Request for Proposals the "New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law", N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq. for Outside Legal Counsel which was returnable on December 10, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Kologi Simitz Counsellors at Law (500 N. Wood Avenue Suite 4B, Linden, NJ 07036) has been selected as qualified pursuant to the Township's Fair and Open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

WHEREAS, as required by Local Public Contract Law 2012, c. 25, N.J.S.A. 52:32-60.1, et seq. and N.J.S.A.40A:11-2.2 (L. 2022, c. 3. all new or renew contracts must complete the disclosure of Investment in Iran and Certification of Non-Involvement in Prohibited activities in Russia and Belarus; and

WHEREAS, these forms were not included in the original RFP package; and

WHEREAS, the Township has requested the vendors complete the forms and the same are now on file on the office of the municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council has cured this requirement and hereby approves the award of the professional service contract for Labor/Employment and Human Resources Counsel.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE THAT

1. Kologi Simitz Counsellors at Law (500 N. Wood Avenue Suite 4B, Linden, NJ 07036) shall be awarded a contract for Labor/Employment and Human Resources ratified from January 1, 2026 to the date of adoption of this resolution and shall end on ending December 31, 2026. The total amount of this contract shall not exceed $40,000.00.
2. Attached hereto is a certification of funds in the amount of $5,000.00 in accordance with the Temporary Budget.
3. Upon adoption of the Final Township Budget and availability of funds therein, this Resolution shall be amended to reflect an additional certification of funds in the amount of $35,000.00.
4. The Township Attorney is hereby directed to prepare a Contract/Engagement for execution by the Mayor in accordance with the RFP and this Resolution.
5. Upon approval, notice of award hereunder shall be published in the official newspapers of the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.5(g).

Motion by Council Member Bonanno; Seconded by Council Member Cook
All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

R-26-028 Appointing Renaud Colicchio LLC as Outside Counsel Services for Tax Appeal Matters

WHEREAS, there exists a need for Outside Counsel for various types of matters on an "as-needed" basis for the Township of Hillside; and

WHEREAS, proposals for Legal Services have been solicited via a Fair and Open Process through the issuance of a Request for Proposals pursuant to "New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law", N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq. for Outside Legal Counsel which was returnable on December 10, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Renaud Colicchio LLC (190 North Avenue East Cranford, N.J. 07016) has been selected as qualified pursuant to the Township's Fair and Open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

WHEREAS, these forms were not included in the original RFP package; and

WHEREAS, the Township has requested the vendors complete the forms and the same are now on file on the office of the municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council has cured this requirement and hereby approves the award of the professional service contract for Tax Appeal Counsel.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE THAT:

1. Renaud Colicchio LLC (190 North Avenue East Cranford, N.J. 07016) shall be awarded a contract for Tax Appeal matters, ratified from January 1, 2026, and shall end on December 31, 2026, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq. The total amount of this contract shall be $15,000.00.
2. Attached hereto is a certification of funds in the amount of $4,000.00 in accordance with the Temporary Budget.
3. Upon adoption of the Final Township Budget and availability of funds therein, this Resolution shall be amended to reflect an additional certification of funds in the amount of $11,000.00.
4. The Township Attorney is hereby directed to prepare a Contract/Engagement for execution by the Mayor in accordance with the RFP and this Resolution.
5. Upon approval, notice of award hereunder shall be published in the official newspapers of the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.5(g).

Motion by Council Member Cook; Seconded by Council Member Dasilva
All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

R-26-029 Approving Wilentz Goldman & Spitzer to Provide Bond Counsel Services for the Township of Hillside

WHEREAS, there exists a need for Outside Counsel for various types of matters on an "as-needed" basis for the Township of Hillside; and

WHEREAS, proposals for Legal Services have been solicited via a Fair and Open Process through the issuance of a Request for Proposals the "New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law", N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq. for Outside Legal Counsel which was returnable on December 10, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Wilentz Goldman & Spitzer, (90 Woodbridge Center Drive, Woodbridge, NJ 07095) has been selected as qualified pursuant to the Township's Fair and Open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

WHEREAS, these forms were not included in the original RFP package; and

WHEREAS, the Township has requested the vendors complete the forms and the same are now on file on the office of the municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council has cured this requirement and hereby approves the award of the professional service contract for Bond Counsel.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE THAT:

1. Wilentz Goldman & Spitzer, (90 Woodbridge Center Drive, Woodbridge, NJ 07095 shall be awarded a contract for Bond/Public Finance Counsel ratified from January 1, 2026, to the date of adoption of this resolution and shall end on December 31, 2026. The total amount of this contract shall be $15,000.00.
2. Attached hereto is a certification of funds in the amount of $3,000.00 in accordance with the Temporary Budget.
3. Upon adoption of the Final Township Budget and availability of funds therein, this Resolution shall be amended to reflect an additional certification of funds in the amount of $12,000.00.
4. The Township Attorney is hereby directed to prepare a Contract/Engagement for execution by the Mayor in accordance with the RFP and this Resolution.
5. Upon approval, a notice of award hereunder shall be published in the official newspapers of the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.5(g).

Motion by Council Member Cook; Seconded by Council Vice President Feuerstein
All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

R-26-030 Approving Antonelli Kantor Rivera PC to Provide General Litigation / Appellate Practice Counsel Services for the Township of Hillside

WHEREAS, there exists a need for Outside Counsel for various types of matters on an "as-needed" basis for the Township of Hillside; and

WHEREAS, proposals for Legal Services have been solicited via a Fair and Open Process through the issuance of a Request for Proposals the "New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law", N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq. for Outside Legal Counsel which was returnable on December 10, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Antonelli Kantor Rivera PC (354 Eisenhower Pkwy, Suite 1000, Livingston, NJ 07039) has been selected as qualified pursuant to the Township's Fair and Open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

WHEREAS, as required by Local Public Contract Law 2012, c. 25, N.J.S.A. 52:32-60.1, et seq. and N.J.S.A.40A:11-2.2 (L. 2022, c. 3. all new or renew contracts must complete the disclosure of Investment in Iran and Certification of Non-Involvement in Prohibited activities in Russia and Belarus; and

WHEREAS, these forms were not included in the original RFP package; and

WHEREAS, the Township has requested the vendors complete the forms and the same are now on file on the office of the municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council has cured this requirement and hereby approves the award of the professional service contract for General Litigation/Appellate Practice.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE THAT

6. Antonelli Kantor Rivera PC (354 Eisenhower Pkwy, Suite 1000, Livingston, NJ 07039) shall be awarded a contract for General Litigation/Appellate Practice ratified from January 1, 2026 to the date of adoption

of this resolution and shall end on ending December 31, 2026. The total amount of this contract shall not exceed $40,000.00.

7. Attached hereto is a certification of funds in the amount of $5,000.00 in accordance with the Temporary Budget.
8. Upon adoption of the Final Township Budget and availability of funds therein, this Resolution shall be amended to reflect an additional certification of funds in the amount of $35,000.00.
9. The Township Attorney is hereby directed to prepare a Contract/Engagement for execution by the Mayor in accordance with the RFP and this Resolution.
10. Upon approval, notice of award hereunder shall be published in the official newspapers of the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.5(g).

Motion by Council Member Bonanno; Seconded by Council Member Cook
All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

R-26-031 Approving Antonelli Kantor Rivera PC to Provide Labor / Employment and Human Resources Services for the Township of Hillside

WHEREAS, there exists a need for Outside Counsel for various types of matters on an "as-needed" basis for the Township of Hillside; and

WHEREAS, proposals for Legal Services have been solicited via a Fair and Open Process through the issuance of a Request for Proposals the "New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law", N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq. for Outside Legal Counsel which was returnable on December 10, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Antonelli Kantor Rivera PC (354 Eisenhower Pkwy, Suite 1000, Livingston, NJ 07039) has been selected as qualified pursuant to the Township's Fair and Open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

WHEREAS, as required by Local Public Contract Law 2012, c. 25, N.J.S.A. 52:32-60.1, et seq. and N.J.S.A.40A:11-2.2 (L. 2022, c. 3. all new or renew contracts must complete the disclosure of Investment in Iran and Certification of Non-Involvement in Prohibited activities in Russia and Belarus; and

WHEREAS, these forms were not included in the original RFP package; and

WHEREAS, the Township has requested the vendors complete the forms and the same are now on file on the office of the municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council has cured this requirement and hereby approves the award of the professional service contract for Labor/Employment and Human Resources Council.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE THAT

11. Antonelli Kantor Rivera PC (354 Eisenhower Pkwy, Suite 1000, Livingston, NJ 07039) shall be awarded a contract for Labor/Employment and Human Resources ratified from January 1, 2026 to the date of adoption of this resolution and shall end on ending December 31, 2026. The total amount of this contract shall not exceed $40,000.00.
12. Attached hereto is a certification of funds in the amount of $5,000.00 in accordance with the Temporary Budget.
13. Upon adoption of the Final Township Budget and availability of funds therein, this Resolution shall be amended to reflect an additional certification of funds in the amount of $35,000.00.

14. The Township Attorney is hereby directed to prepare a Contract/Engagement for execution by the Mayor in accordance with the RFP and this Resolution.
15. Upon approval, notice of award hereunder shall be published in the official newspapers of the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.5(g).

Motion by Council Member Bonanno; Seconded by Council Member Cook
All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

R-26-032 Approving Jalloh and Jalloh, LLC to Provide General Litigation/Appellate Practice Counsel Servies for the Township of Hillside

WHEREAS, there exists a need for Outside Counsel for various types of matters on an "as-needed" basis for the Township of Hillside; and

WHEREAS, proposals for Legal Services have been solicited via a Fair and Open Process through the issuance of a Request for Proposals the "New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law", N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq. for Outside Legal Counsel which was returnable on December 10, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Jalloh and Jalloh, LLC (21 West Blancke Street, Linden, NJ 07036) has been selected as qualified pursuant to the Township's Fair and Open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

WHEREAS, as required by Local Public Contract Law 2012, c. 25, N.J.S.A. 52:32-60.1, et seq. and N.J.S.A.40A:11-2.2 (L. 2022, c. 3. all new or renew contracts must complete the disclosure of Investment in Iran and Certification of Non-Involvement in Prohibited activities in Russia and Belarus; and

WHEREAS, these forms were not included in the original RFP package; and

WHEREAS, the Township has requested the vendors complete the forms and the same are now on file on the office of the municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council has cured this requirement and hereby approves the award of the professional service contract for General Litigation/Appellate Practice.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE THAT

16. Jalloh and Jalloh (21 West Blancke Street, Linden, NJ 07036) shall be awarded a contract for General Litigation/Appellate Practice ratified from January 1, 2026 to the date of adoption of this resolution and shall end on ending December 31, 2026. The total amount of this contract shall not exceed $40,000.00.
17. Attached hereto is a certification of funds in the amount of $5,000.00 in accordance with the Temporary Budget.
18. Upon adoption of the Final Township Budget and availability of funds therein, this Resolution shall be amended to reflect an additional certification of funds in the amount of $35,000.00.
19. The Township Attorney is hereby directed to prepare a Contract/Engagement for execution by the Mayor in accordance with the RFP and this Resolution.
20. Upon approval, notice of award hereunder shall be published in the official newspapers of the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.5(g).

Motion by Council Member Cook; Seconded by Council Member Bonanno
All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

R-26-033 Approving Jardim, Meisner, Salmon, Sprague, And Susser, Pc to Provide General Litigation/Apellate Practice Counsel Services for The Township of Hillside

WHEREAS, there exists a need for Outside Counsel for various types of matters on an "as-needed" basis for the Township of Hillside; and

WHEREAS, proposals for Legal Services have been solicited via a Fair and Open Process through the issuance of a Request for Proposals pursuant to "New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law", N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq. for Outside Legal Counsel which was returnable on December 10, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Jardim, Meisner, Salmon, Sprague and Susser, PC (30B Vreeland Road, Florham Park, NJ 07932) has been selected as qualified pursuant to the Township's Fair and Open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

WHEREAS, as required by Local Public Contract Law 2012, c. 25, N.J.S.A. 52:32-60.1, et seq. and N.J.S.A.40A:11-2.2 (L. 2022, c. 3. all new or renew contracts must complete the disclosure of Investment in Iran and Certification of Non-Involvement in Prohibited activities in Russia and Belarus; and

WHEREAS, these forms were not included in the original RFP package; and

WHEREAS, the Township has requested the vendors complete the forms and the same are now on file on the office of the municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council has cured this requirement and hereby approves the award of the professional service contract for General Litigation/Appellate Practice services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Hillside that a contract with the following firm listed below are hereby approved:

1. Jardim, Meisner, Salmon, Sprague and Susser, PC. (30B Vreeland Road, Florham Park, NJ 07932) shall be awarded a contract for General Litigation/Appellate Practice ratified from January 1, 2026, and shall end on December 31, 2026, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq. The total amount of this contract not exceed $40,000.00.
2. Attached hereto is a certification of funds in the amount of $5,000.00 in accordance with the Township's Temporary Budget.
3. Upon adoption of the Final Township Budget and availability of funds therein, this Resolution shall be amended to reflect an additional certification of funds in the amount of $35,000.00.
4. The Township Attorney is hereby directed to prepare a Contract/Engagement for execution by the Mayor in accordance with the RFP and this Resolution.
5. Upon approval, notice of award hereunder shall be published in the official newspapers of the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.5(g).

Motion by Council Member Cook; Seconded by Council Member Lofton
All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

R-26-034 Approving Kologi Simitz to Provide General Litigation/Appellate Practice Counsel Services for The Township of Hillside

WHEREAS, there exists a need for Outside Counsel for various types of matters on an "as-needed" basis for the Township of Hillside; and

WHEREAS, proposals for Legal Services have been solicited via a Fair and Open Process through the issuance of a Request for Proposals the "New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law", N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq. for Outside Legal Counsel which was returnable on December 10, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Kologi Smitz Law Offices (500 N. Wood Avenue Suite 4B, Linden, NJ 07036) has been selected as qualified pursuant to the Township's Fair and Open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

WHEREAS, as required by Local Public Contract Law 2012, c. 25, N.J.S.A. 52:32-60.1, et seq. and N.J.S.A.40A:11-2.2 (L. 2022, c. 3. all new or renew contracts must complete the disclosure of Investment in Iran and Certification of Non-Involvement in Prohibited activities in Russia and Belarus; and

WHEREAS, these forms were not included in the original RFP package; and

WHEREAS, the Township has requested the vendors complete the forms and the same are now on file on the office of the municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council has cured this requirement and hereby approves the award of the professional service contract for General Litigation/Appellate Practice.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE THAT

21. Kologi Simitz Law Offices (500 N. Wood Avenue Suite 4B, Linden, NJ 07036) shall be awarded a contract for General Litigation/Appellate Practice ratified from January 1, 2026 to the date of adoption of this resolution and shall end on ending December 31, 2026. The total amount of this contract shall not exceed $40,000.00.
22. Attached hereto is a certification of funds in the amount of $5,000.00 in accordance with the Temporary Budget.
23. Upon adoption of the Final Township Budget and availability of funds therein, this Resolution shall be amended to reflect an additional certification of funds in the amount of $35,000.00.
24. The Township Attorney is hereby directed to prepare a Contract/Engagement for execution by the Mayor in accordance with the RFP and this Resolution.
25. Upon approval, notice of award hereunder shall be published in the official newspapers of the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.5(g).

Motion by Council Member Cook; Seconded by Council Member Lofton
All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

R-26-035 Appointment to the Planning Board

WHEREAS, the Township Council established the Hillside Township Planning Board ("Planning Board"), which requires the Township Council to appoint members to the Planning Board from time to time in accordance with the ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Hillside hereby makes the following appointment(s) to the Planning Board effective February 10, 2026:

Dr. Angela R. Garretson	Class III 1 Year term	February 10, 2026	December 31, 2026

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Council that the Township Clerk is directed to formally notify the proposed member(s) of their appointments and to ascertain whether or not they will accept said appointment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Council that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion by Council Member Joyner; Seconded by Council Member Lofton
All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

CONSENT AGENDA - RESOLUTIONS

R-26-036 Appointment to the Council on The Arts

WHEREAS, the Township Council established the Hillside Township Council on the Arts ("Council on the Arts") which requires the Township Council to appoint members to the Council on the Arts from time to time in accordance with the ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Hillside hereby makes the following appointment(s) to the Council on the Arts effective January 1, 2026:

Armando Silva Township Council Representative Member 1 year term January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2026

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Council that the Township Clerk is directed to formally notify the proposed member(s) of their appointments and to ascertain whether or not they will accept said appoint-ment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Council that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

R-26-037 Appointment to the Board of Health

WHEREAS, the Township Council established the Hillside Township Board of Health which requires the Township Council to appoint members to the Board of Health from time to time in accordance with the ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Hillside hereby makes the following appointment to the Board of Health effective February 10, 2026:

George Cook Member of Board of Health 1 year term

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Council that the Township Clerk is directed to formally notify the proposed member(s) of their appointments and to ascertain whether or not they will accept said appointment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Council that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

R-26-038 Appointment to the Recreation Advisory Council

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Hillside hereby appoints the following member to serve as the Township Council Representative to the Township's Recreation Advisory Council as follows:

Calvin Lofton Council Representative 1 Year term January 1, 2026 December 31, 2026

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Council that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

R-26-039 Appointment to the Senior Citizens Advisory Council

WHEREAS, the Township Council established the Hillside Township Senior Citizens Advisory Council which requires the Township Council to appoint members to the Senior Citizens Advisory Council from time to time in accordance with the ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Hillside hereby makes the following appointment(s) to the Senior Citizens Advisory Council effective February 10, 2026:

Calvin Lofton Township Council Liaison/Representative Term: Remainder of 5 year term until June 30, 2026

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Council that the Township Clerk is directed to formally notify the proposed member(s) of their appointments and to ascertain whether or not they will accept said appointment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Council that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

R-26-040 Appointment to the Veterans Advisory Council

WHEREAS, the Township Council established the Township of Hillside Veterans Advisory Council which requires the Township Council to appoint members to the Veterans Advisory Council from time to time in accordance with the ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Hillside hereby makes the following appointment to the Veterans Advisory Council effective February 10, 2026:

Lisa Bonanno Member Township of Hillside Veterans Advisory Council 2 year term

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Council that the Township Clerk is directed to formally notify the proposed member of their appointment and to ascertain whether or not they will accept said appointment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Council that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

R-26-041 Resolution Establishing an Ad Hoc Committee for Economic Development

WHEREAS, the Township of Hillside recognizes the critical importance of fostering economic growth and development to enhance the quality of life for its residents and strengthen the local economy; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has determined that establishing an ad hoc committee dedicated to economic development will provide focused attention and strategic planning for attracting businesses, supporting existing enterprises, and creating employment opportunities within the Township; and

WHEREAS, such a committee will serve to coordinate efforts between the Township, business community, regional economic development agencies, and stakeholders to identify and implement initiatives that promote economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council deems it in the best interest of the Township to formally establish this committee and define its purpose, composition, and responsibilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Hillside, County of Union, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. There is hereby established an Ad Hoc Committee for Economic Development to the Township Council (hereinafter the "Committee") of the Township of Hillside.

2. The Committee shall have the following purposes:
   a. To study and analyze current economic conditions within the Township and identify opportunities for growth and development;

b. To develop policy recommendations for attracting new businesses, supporting existing local businesses, and promoting the revitalization of commercial districts;

c. To coordinate with regional economic development agencies and identify funding sources and grant opportunities for economic development initiatives; and

d. To establish a Chamber of Commerce in the Township of Hillside and/or bring an annual goal for the Chamber.

3. The Committee shall consist of not less than five (5) and not more than nine (9) members appointed by the Township Council, which may include:

a. A Council representative appointed by the Council President;
b. A member from the administration designated by the Mayor;
c. A current or former member of the Hillside Chamber of Commerce;
d. Representatives from the local business community;
e. Township residents with expertise in economic development, finance, real estate, or related fields; and
f. Such other persons as the Township Council deems appropriate.

4. Committee members shall serve at the pleasure of the Township Council. The Committee shall elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson from among its members and shall meet monthly, with meetings coordinated with other council committees. The Committee shall submit periodic reports and recommendations to the Township Council.

5. Members of the Committee shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, subject to the approval of the Township Council.

6. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

R-26-042 Appointment to the Ad Hoc Committee for Economic Development

WHEREAS, the Township Council established the Township of Hillside Ad Hoc Committee for Economic Development which requires the Township Council to appoint members to the committee from time to time in accordance with the ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Hillside hereby makes the following appointment to the Committee for Economic Development effective February 10, 2026:

David Feuerstein	Member	Council representative	1 year term

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Council that the Township Clerk is directed to formally notify the proposed member of their appointment and to ascertain whether or not they will accept said appointment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Council that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion by Council Member Cook; Seconded by Council Vice President Feuerstein
All Council Members voted in the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Motion to Open Public Comments by Council Member Bonanno; Seconded by Council Vice President Feuerstien, **All-In-Favor**

Barbara Johnson – 1485 Orchard Terr.
She noted that this has been the most efficient council meeting in years and expressed support for the new Economic Development Committee, highlighting its collaboration with Kean

Arthur Garrett – 1585 Tillman Ave.
He requested clarification regarding the absence of a named appointee on the committee's resolution

Natasha Willson - 217 Williamson Ave.
She inquired about missing plow alerts, noting that the previous explanation was insufficient, and provided the mayor with advice on ways to enhance the notification process.

Phillip Wilson – 217 Williamson Ave.
Noted that Williamson Avenue (addresses 200–232) was plowed, but the section from Broad to Maple was not. Also mentioned hosting a post-Valentine giveaway and Sunday cooking event and hoped the Council could attend.

Val Mayo – 1424 Liberty Ave.
She expressed ongoing frustration with resident communication over the past five years, citing missed notifications for events despite paying taxes. She also complained about police and DPW, noting that streets are not properly cleaned and some cars avoid tickets during street cleaning.

Lorenzo Thompson – 1611 Bailey Ave.
Could not address the Council because of ongoing legal issues

Sheila Henricks
The resident complimented Public Works on the snow removal performance and inquired about street parking rules for 18-wheelers on Long Ave.

Diane Loafen – 1458 Maple Ave.
She made a request to the Police Department to install the speed monitoring device on West Bergen Street, noting repeated incidents where children and crossing guards were nearly hit by speeding vehicles.

Craig Epps – 1480 Stanley Terr.
He opened by expressing gratitude to the Council for the Black History program and commended Mayor Hyatt and her team for the excellent job managing snow removal.

Motion to Close Public Comments by Council Member Lofton; Seconded by Council Member Cook, **All-In-Favor**

COUNCIL REMARKS

Council Member DaSilva
Council Member Cook
Council Member Bonanno
Council Member Joyner
Council Member Lofton
Council Vice President Feuerstein
Council President Dr. Garretson

Motion to Adjourned by Council Member Cook; Seconded Council Member Joyner, <u>All-In-Favor</u>

Adjourned at 7:46pm

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Rayna E. Harris, Township Clerk

Dr. Angela R. Garretson, Council President

DATE: 03/10/2026