TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
MINUTES

March 24, 2026 @ 6:43pm *Agenda subject to change*

The Caucus-Regular Meeting of the Township of Hillside Township Council was held on March 24, 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.

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 George L. Cook III, Council Member Armando DaSilva, Council Vice President David Feuerstein, Council President Angela R. Garretson, & 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

EXCUSED
Council Member Lisa Bonanno & Council Member Daryl Joyner

MINUTES (March 10, 2026)
Motion by Council Member Cook; Seconded by Council Vice President Feuerstein
All Council Members voted with the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

PAYMENT OF BILLS (March 24, 2026)
Motion by Council Member Cook; Seconded by Council Member DaSilva
All Council Members voted with the Affirmative. **Motion Carries**

RESOLUTIONS
R-26-055 Auth. Tax Refund Overpayment

WHEREAS, overpayment of taxes exists on the properties listed below; and

WHEREAS, a tax payment was made after the approval of a veteran's exemption.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Hillside hereby that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue checks, as indicated to refund overpayment.

1. The Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check, as indicated, to refund overpayment.
2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Block	Lot	Owner Name	Property Location	Year	REFUND AMOUNT	Refund Payable:
808		13 Rhyne, Helen Jo & Johnson, Helen	410 John St	2025/3	$1,550.00	Rafael Von Klaveren 410 John St Hillside, NJ 07205
				Total	$1,550.00	

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

R-26-056 Auth. for Refund of Improvement Tax Only (Block 1219, Lot 16)

WHEREAS, the property located at 215 Conant Street, designated as Block 1219, Lot 16, suffered a devastating fire on November 21, 2023, resulting in the total destruction of the structure; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor at the time did not remove the improvement value from the property's total assessment following the fire; and

WHEREAS, the property owner subsequently paid the full amount of property taxes for tax year 2024 in the amount of $16,506.00, and for tax year 2025 in the amount of $17,798.00; and

WHEREAS, the property owner is entitled to a refund of the improvement portion of the taxes for tax year 2024 in the amount of $5,488.25, and for tax year 2025 in the amount of $5,917.84.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Township of Hillside that:

1. The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to issue a refund check to the property owner in the amount of $5,488.25 for tax year 2024 and $5,917.84 for tax year 2025.

Property Owner: Carreno, Nieves
Mailing Address: 1055 Potter Ave, Union, NJ 07086
Property Location: 215 Conant Street, Hillside, NJ
Block 1219, Lot 16

2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

R-26-057 Auth. for Refund for Exempt Property 2025-26 Taxes (Block 1414, Lot 28)

WHEREAS: the property owner was granted Veteran's Exemption by the Department of Veteran Affairs on September 25, 2025; and

WHEREAS: the Tax Assessor approved the exemption on December 26, 2025, as of the date of approval by the Department of Veterans Affairs; and

WHEREAS: the property owner paid their 3rd quarter 2025 property taxes in the amount of $3474.00.00, the 4th quarter 2025 property taxes in the amount of $4,391.08 and 1st quarter 2026 property taxes in the amount of $3,666.39 in full; and

WHEREAS: the property owner shall receive a partial refund in the amount of $193.00 for the 3rd quarter of 2025, 4th quarter 2025 in the amount of $4,391.08 and the 1st quarter 2026 in the amount of $3,666.39 as well as a credit for the 2nd quarter 2026 in the amount of $3,666.39.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Township of Hillside that.

1. The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to issue a refund check in the amount of $8,250.47 for partial refund of 3rd quarter 2025 property taxes, 4th quarter 2025 property taxes and 1st quarter 2026 property taxes.
2. The Tax Collector is hereby authorized to credit the 2nd quarter of 2026 property taxes.

Block 1414 Lot 28 Gomez, Dario D. & Cerda-Reyes, N., 1242 Salem Ave, Hillside, NJ 07205
Property Location: 1242 Salem Ave.

3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.
4. The Township Clerk shall provide a copy of this Resolution to the property owner.

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

R-26-058 Auth. Payment of Accumulated Severance Liabilities – Christopher Chervenyak, Fire Department

WHEREAS, Christpoher Chervenyak will be retiring from the Township of Hillside after 26 years and 2 Months of service as a member of the Fire Department, effective March 1, 2026; and

WHEREAS, under the applicable collective negotiated agreement between the Township of Hillside and the bargaining unit from which he is a member, he is entitled to a severance payout as indicated on the attached "Severance Pay Worksheet" in the total amount of $97,064.70.

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

1. The compensation set forth below is hereby approved for payment through Payroll, which must be funded from the Accumulated Severance Liabilities.

2. Payment in the amount of $97,064.70 shall be made to Christopher Chervenyak upon approval of this Resolution.

3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately, and a certified copy shall be placed in the employee's personnel file.

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

R-26-059 Auth. Payment of Accumulated Severance Liabilities – Steven Waters, Fire Department

WHEREAS, Steven Waters will be retiring from the Township of Hillside after 26 years and 7 Months of service as a member of the Fire Department, effective March 1, 2026; and

WHEREAS, under the applicable collective negotiated agreement between the Township of Hillside and the bargaining unit from which he is a member, he is entitled to a severance payout as indicated on the attached "Severance Pay Worksheet" in the total amount of $112,499.58.

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

1. The compensation set forth below is hereby approved for payment through Payroll, which must be funded from the appropriation Accumulated Severance Liabilities.

2. Payment in the amount of $112,499.58 shall be made to Steven Waters upon approval of this Resolution.

3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately, and a certified copy shall be placed in the employee's personnel file.

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

R-26-060 2025 Budget Appropriation Reserves Transfer

WHEREAS various bills have been presented for payment this year, which bills represent obligations of the prior fiscal year and were not covered by order number and/or recorded at the time of transfers between the 2025 Budget in the last two months of 2025; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S. 40A:4-59 provides that all unexpended balances carried forward after the close of the fiscal year are available, until lapsed at the closed of the succeeding year, to meet specific claims, commitments or contracts incurred during the preceding fiscal year, and allow transfers to be made from unexpended balances to those which are expected to be insufficient during the first three months of the succeeding year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council of the Township of Hillside, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, (2/3 of the majority of the full membership concurring herein) that the transfers in the amount of $341,743.12 be made between the 2025 Budget Appropriation Reserves as follows:

Account	From	To
20-1001 General Administration- SW	6,227.74	-
20-1011 Temporary Summer Employees -SW	1,078.06	-
20-1201 Municipal Clerk - SW	11,205.27	-
20-1301 Financial Administration - SW	4,039.00	-
20-1451 Collection of Taxes - SW	15,631.75	-
20-1501 Tax Assessment Administration - SW	3,392.94	-
20-1551 Legal Services - SW	5,351.89	-
20-1701 Economic Development Agencies - SW	80.08	-
21-1801 Planning Board - SW	1,531.25	-
21-1851 Zoning Board of Adjustment - SW	1,531.25	-
22-1951 Code Enforcement (Building - SW	22,438.34	-
23-2202 Employee Group Insurance - OE	-	207,283.00
25-2401 Police Department - SW	62,154.44	-
25-2411 Crossing Guards SW	20,501.50	-
25-2521 Office of Emergency Management - SW	2,113.12	-
25-2651 Fire Department - SW	33,627.48	-
25-2661 Uniform Fire Safety - SW	1,000.00	-
25-2751 Municipal Prosecutor - SW	711.75	-
26-2901 Streets and Road Maintenance - SW	10,732.43	-
26-3101 Buildings and Grounds - SW	47,687.81	-
26-3151 Vehicle Maintenance - SW	3,453.29	-
27-3301 Public Health Services - SW	6,912.87	-
28-3701 Recreation Services and Prog. - SW	7,273.80	-
28-3711 Senior Citizens - SW	7,425.58	-
31-4352 Street Lighting - OE	-	134,460.12
31-4412 Utilities - OE	52,000.00	-
43-4901 Municipal Court - SW	13,641.48	-

Totals	**341,743.12**	**341,743.12**

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

R-26-061 Confirmation of Term of Zoning Board of Adjustment Appointment

WHEREAS, the Township Council established the Hillside Township Zoning Board of Adjustment ("Zoning Board of Adjustments") which requires the Township Council to appoint members to the Zoning Board of Adjustments from time to time in accordance with the ordinance; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N. J. S. A. **40:55D-69, the term of zoning board members shall be 4 years; and**

WHEREAS, the Zoning Board appointment term of Zoning Board member Dennis Kobitz requires clarification because it may have been improperly recorded at the time of appointment as a 2-year term instead of a 4-year term.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Hillside hereby clarifies and declares that Zoning Board member Dennis Kobitz was appointed on February 6, 2024, to a 4-year term to the Township of Hillside Zoning Board, which began on January 6, 2024, and ends on December 31, 2027.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Council that the Township Clerk is directed to formally notify the member(s) of his appointment term; and

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

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

R-26-062 Appointments to the Zoning Board of Adjustment

WHEREAS, the Township Council established the Hillside Township Zoning Board of Adjustments ("Zoning Board of Adjustments") which requires the Township Council to appoint members to the Zoning Board of Adjustments 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 Zoning Board of Adjustments effective February 10, 2026:

NAME	CLASS	TERM
Chijoke Ndubue	Member	February 10, 2026 – December 31, 2029
Barbara George Johnson	Member	February 10, 2026 – December 31, 2029

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

R-26-063 Establishing the Hillside Youth Advisory Committee (H.Y.A.C.)

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Hillside ("Township Council") recognizes that the youth of our community are a vital resource with unique insights into local programming; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council desire to establish a structured committee to advise on matters of youth-centric interest, activities, and community engagement.

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

1. **Name and Purpose"** There is hereby established the **Hillside Youth Advisory Committee**, hereafter referred to as "committee"**.** The primary purpose of **committee** shall be to provide the Township Council with recommendations regarding the development of educational, leadership, and vocational programs for residents aged 14–21.

2. **Committee Composition:** The **committee.** shall consist of **twelve (12) members** appointed by the Township Council:
   a. **Nine (9) Youth Members:** Hillside residents representing age groups (14–21).
   b. **Three (3) Advisors/Student Mentors:** Experienced leaders or mentors appointed to support the committee's operations.
   c. **Council President and/or designee**

3. **Governance:** The **committee** shall be self-governing under the following framework:
   a. **Officers:** The nine youth members shall elect a **Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary** annually
   b. **Operational Support:** The three Advisors/Student Mentors shall provide guidance on meeting procedures, reports, and/or external presentations
   c. **Meetings:** The committee shall meet at least once per month.

4. **Terms of Appointment:**
   a. **Youth Members:** Appointed for a term of one (1) year.
   b. **Advisors/Mentors:** Appointed for a term of two (2) years to ensure organizational continuity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all members of committee shall serve at the pleasure of the Township Council and this resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

R-26-064 Nomination to the Council on the Arts (MOTION FROM THE FLOOR)

WHEREAS, the Township Council established the Hillside Township Council on the Arts ("Council on the Arts") which requires the Township Council to nominate 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 nomination(s) to the Council on the Arts effective January 1, 2026:

NAME	CLASS
Stephanie Saklad	Member 1
Kimberly Cook	Member 2
Cherrena Dale-Rawls	Member 3
Cornel Evelyn	Member 4
Fay Frierson	Member 5
Joann Horton Givens	Member 6
Renee Howard	Member 7
Medgisssa Plessy	Member 8
Norman Orozco	Member 9

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

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

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

R-26-065 Nomination to the Board of Health (MOTION FROM THE FLOOR)

WHEREAS, the Township Council established the Hillside Township Board of Health which requires the Township Council to nominate 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 nomination to the Board of Health effective March 24, 2026:

NAME	CLASS
Martha Arias	Member 1
Sherri Branch	Member 2
Kati Evtimovski	Member 3
Alyssa Kimbrough	Member 4
Dorothy Mbamalu	Member 5
Shelby Mobley	Member 6

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

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

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

R-26-066 Nomination to Senior Citizens Advisory Council (MOTION FROM THE FLOOR)

WHEREAS, the Township Council established the Hillside Township Senior Citizens Advisory Council which requires the Township Council to nominate 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 nomination(s) to the Senior Citizens Advisory Council effective March 24, 2026:

NAME	CLASS
Craig Epps	Member 1
Keesha Lewis	Member 2
Charles Watts	Member 3

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

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

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

R-26-067 Nomination to Recreation Advisory Council (MOTION FROM THE FLOOR)

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

NAME	CLASS
Hawaiian Epps	Member

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

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

R-26-068 Nomination to Veterans' Advisory Council (MOTION FROM THE FLOOR)

WHEREAS, the Township Council established the Township of Hillside Veterans Advisory Council which requires the Township Council to nominate 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 nomination to the Veterans' Advisory Council effective March 24, 2026:

NAME	CLASS
Beverly Curl	Member 1
Christian Estremera	Member 2
Richard Frazier	Member 3
Shelia Newton	Member 4
Jonathon Sebbag	Member 5

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

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS
Motion to Open Public Comments by Council Member Lofton; Seconded by Council Vice President Feuerstein, **All-In-Favor**

Arthur Kobitz – 327 Trinity Pl.

- He is not against any public employee at all, because he has great respect for public employees, he is one himself. However, when reviewing the agenda since January of this year, it seems that with every meeting, the public and taxpayers are receiving less and less information. For example, there are items about paying out accumulated services, but no amounts are listed on the agenda.

Cheryl Ski – 133 Bailey Ave.

- On March 13, two police officers were called to request that vehicles be moved due to water damage, including six trucks that had been parked there a few nights earlier. The two individuals who parked there are believed to be her neighbors. The police officers who responded were phenomenal she had not seen that level of professionalism in a long time.
- Another concern is the review of handicap parking. She has contacted Ms. Harris in the Clerk's Office several times. The council had stated in December that they were going to review this matter

Bettie – 175 N. Ave

- She has expressed concern regarding the property located at 747 Westminster Avenue, currently identified as the Institute of Music for Children. The property appears to be abandoned and has become an eyesore. Additionally, it poses a safety concern due to the presence of unauthorized individuals on the premises.

Jennifer North – 780 Salem Ave. (Development Director at the Institute of Music for Children)

- She is requesting a meeting within the next few days with all relevant parties, including Council support, to explore potential pathways for acquiring the property. The organization has secured a grant to fund the purchase; however, they have not been granted access by the owner to conduct an appraisal. Additionally, the terms of the grant do not permit acquisition through an auction process.

Stephanie Sacca – 1107 Salem Ave.

- She is attending the meeting as a parent of a student enrolled at the Institute of Music for Children. She has been a dedicated supporter of the organization over time. While the campus includes multiple buildings, access to this

particular property would significantly enhance the organization's ability to serve her child and positively impact the broader community.

Cornelius Gabbard – N/a

- He would like to request a meeting with the Fire Chief and the Mayor to offer his services. He serves as the Syncing Director and is also certified in emergency management. He is aware of numerous grants that have been made available to the municipality, of which the town may not yet be aware, and would like the opportunity to present and explain these resources.

Phil Wilson – 217 Williamson Ave.

- He would like to honor his wife in recognition of Women's History Month for all she is and has done for him and his family.

Natasha Wilson -217 Williamson Ave.

- She has a follow-up question regarding the revaluation. She understands that permits are currently being submitted and would like to confirm whether this will result in an automatic reassessment for the 2027–2028 tax year.
- Additionally, she is inquiring whether, as in prior administrations, it may be possible to delay the reassessment given that the town has not conducted one in some time, and whether similar language or provisions could be submitted to support such a delay.

Amber Smith – 27 Baily Ave.

- She has raised several concerns. First, she would like to understand what regulations the town has regarding short-term rentals, such as Airbnb. On her block, there is a property listed to accommodate two occupants; however, limited parking on one side of the street has led to ongoing disputes among residents.
- Additionally, she expressed concern about the gas station located at Maple and Bailey Avenue, where the doors are reportedly left open throughout the night, with individuals frequently entering and exiting, raising safety and quality-of-life concerns.
- She requested an update on the Maple Avenue fire cleanup and reported difficulty reaching the Health Department regarding a neighbor's feeder that is attracting animals.

Faith Fryerson – 72 Hillside Ave.

- She has a couple of concerns and questions. First, she would like to know whether the town has any ordinances regarding pet owners allowing dogs or cats to roam freely, as well as regulations requiring owners to clean up pet waste left on other residents' properties. Additionally, she is concerned about 69 Hillside Avenue. She has taken photographs this time and suggests that the Council consider addressing the responsible LLCs or property owners, as individuals are cleaning the property and then placing garbage outside.

Paula King – 1462 Hiawatha Ave.

- Regarding the town pool, she emphasizes the need for adequate restroom facilities for children. She also suggests providing benches for parents to use while their children are playing at the recreation park. She would like someone to explain the purpose and function of the Recreation Youth Advisory Committee.

Annie Davis – 1544 Morris Pl.

- She believes that at the last meeting, the mayor stated that no additional overtime would be approved. However, regarding code enforcement on her block, Morris Place, she notes that trucks for local businesses often do not begin arriving until around 6:00 PM. She would appreciate it if the entire Council could visit and walk Morris Place, as it is difficult for her to sit in front of her home without being confronted by trucks and visible garbage, which impacts the quality of life in the neighborhood.

Sip Whicker – 4th Ward District Leader

- The presence of numerous Airbnb properties is negatively impacting the town. There are approximately 28 such properties in Hillside alone. This raises concerns about the high volume of unfamiliar individuals regularly passing through the township.

- In particular, the property located across the street from him has been problematic. Groups of more than 25 individuals frequently gather there for parties, often accompanied by disruptive behavior and the use of inappropriate language.

Mrs.Davis -78 Cognac St.

- She would like to revisit the discussion regarding the spray park, as she would like a better understanding of whether there will be a cost for children to access the pool and park. She is also concerned about potholes along Central Avenue. Another question is: what is the meaning of RFPs, and what does the town require them for?

Janice Cadwell – 140 Baltimore Ave.

- She thanked the mayor for requesting a postponement of the assessment and expressed concern about weekend issues at Blue Ribbon, noting calls and video evidence. She emphasized the importance of residents' quality of life and urged the council to investigate and make necessary changes. Residents would like the pool to be restored and used as a source of revenue.

Aldina Mitchell – 1431 Maple Ave.

- There is growing concern about homes being used as Airbnb properties with multiple occupants. Residents note that Hillside does not have rooming houses, yet some property owners appear to be operating them in a similar manner. While short-term rentals can be beneficial because guests do not stay long, the overall impact on the community remains a concern.

Val Mayo – 1424 Liberty Ave.

- Who is responsible for approving the agreement to sell the Bristol Myers property without guaranteeing that low-income senior housing would be included?

Michelle Hunter – 1480 Compton Ter.

- She raised concerns about being awakened early in the morning by a rooster and inquired whether keeping such animals is permitted within the township. She also requested an update on the hazardous tree at the corner of Compton and Bellevue, which has been marked with caution tape since last year. Lastly, she expressed concern regarding the tax abatement associated with the Bristol Myers project.

Mrs. Loise – N/a

- She would like to share a concern and offer a potential solution regarding food trucks. She noted that the area where they currently park at night, particularly on Tuesdays and Thursdays, is congested, disorganized, and has become a gathering spot. She suggested that the town consider relocating them to the Central Pool area, which offers more parking and is more regularly patrolled by police.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

County of Union	RE: Mosquito Spraying
County of Union	RE: Free Recycling Events Coming Up in March
Joint Meeting of Essex & Union Counties	RE: Annual Audit Report & Compliance Resolution
County of Union	RE: Revaluation Order (12/9/2024) Reval Order

COUNCIL REMARKS

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

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

Adjourned at 8:27pm:

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Rayna E. Harris, Township Clerk

Council President Angela R. Garretson

DATE: April 15, 2026