



STOCKTON BOROUGH COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: May 19, 2025, 7:00 P.M.

Held through Zoom

Mayor Aaron Lipsen., called the regular meeting of the Stockton Borough Council to order on May 19, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. Mayor Lipsen announced that this meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this meeting was transmitted to the Hunterdon County Democrat and the Trenton Times, was posted on the Borough Website, posted on the door at the Municipal Building and filed with the Borough Clerk.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Lipsen led those in attendance in the pledge to the nation's flag.

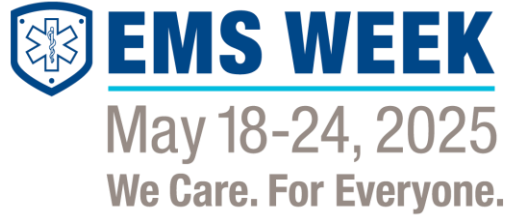
ROLL CALL

Present: Councilperson William Brown, Councilperson Fisher, Council President Michael Mann, Mayor Aaron Lipsen, Borough Attorney Lisa Maddox and Borough Clerk, Laurie A. Courter.

Absent: Councilperson Folz and Councilperson Kate Meltzer.

PROCLAMATION:

Mayor Lipsen read the following proclamation into record:



EMS Week Proclamation

To designate the Week of May 18-24, 2025, as Emergency Medical Services Week (EMS Week).

WHEREAS, emergency medical services is a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, emergency medical services fills healthcare gaps by providing important, out-of-hospital care, including preventative medicine, follow-up care, and access to telemedicine; and

WHEREAS, the emergency medical services system consists of first responders, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, emergency medical dispatchers, firefighters, police officers, educators, administrators, pre-hospital nurses, emergency nurses, emergency physicians, trained members of the public, and other out of hospital medical care providers; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating the Emergency Medical Services Week; now

THEREFORE, I Aaron Lipsen, Mayor, in recognition of this event do hereby proclaim the week of May 18 - 24, 2025, as

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

The 51st anniversary of EMS Week theme is **EMS WEEK: We Care. For Everyone.** I encourage the community to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities in honor of the EMS profession and the essential service it provides.

Aaron Lipsen, Mayor, Stockton Borough

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Brown and seconded by Mann to approve March 17, 2025, regular and executive session minutes, all were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion of the wastewater infiltration study. Mayor Lipsen gave an update on the infrastructure committee report. They had talked before about a wastewater infiltration study in the town because the wastewater system is taking on water, which means we have to pay extra to process it. The moderate to high-risk area would cost if we did, a study on the entire area would cost approximately \$28,000, plus additional engineering and other support. After speaking with the engineer and with the water department they are thinking about scaling that down and try a smaller part of the sewer lines first to see how that goes. This will reduce costs to about \$8,000, plus the other professional service fees. Brown stated that as a member of the committee, he agrees with the committee report. In the past the borough has done long term financing for those types of infiltration.

Authorize the parking-traffic and pedestrian safety study. Attorney Maddox explained that a resolution authorizes the borough engineer to work on behalf of the borough. The cost would be \$12,000. This will be presented at the next meeting.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT – PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

None

ORDINANCES-2nd Reading:

Motion made by Brown and seconded by Hunt to open the public hearing for Ordinance 2025-02. Seeing no public comment, motion made by Brown and seconded by Hunt to close the public hearing, all were in favor.

Motion made by Brown and seconded by Hunt to adopt Ordinance 2025-02.

Roll call: Brown, Fisher, Hunt and Mann.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Motion passes.

**ORDINANCE 2025-02
CALENDAR YEAR 2025****ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS
AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK
(N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)**

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget up to 2.5% unless authorized

by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton in the County of Hunterdon finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2025 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Council hereby determines that a 3.5 % increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$5,739.11 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS the Borough Council hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton, in the County of Hunterdon, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2025 budget year, the final appropriations of the Borough of Stockton shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$20,086.89, and that the CY 2025 municipal budget for the Borough of Stockton be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

Motion made by Hunt and seconded by Brown to open the public hearing for Ordinance 2025-03. Seeing no public comment, motion made by Brown and seconded by Mann to close the public hearing, all were in favor.

Motion made by Brown and seconded by Hunt to adopt Ordinance 2025-03.

Roll call: Brown, Fisher, Hunt and Mann.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Motion passes

Ordinance 2025-03**AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR AND DETERMINE A SCHEDULE OF MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM SALARIES FOR OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF STOCKTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stockton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. The following minimum and maximum salaries are hereby established for officers and employees of the Borough of Stockton, beginning January 1, 2025:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Mayor	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Council Member	1,200.00	2,500.00
Borough Administrator	4,500.00	18,000.00
Borough Clerk	18,000.00	35,000.00
Deputy Borough Clerk	10,000.00	20,000.00
Office Assistant	3,000.00	9,000.00
Deputy Finance	3,000.00	9,000.00
Purchasing Agent	3,000.00	9,000.00
Tax Collector	8,000.00	13,500.00
Zoning Officer/Flood		
Plain Administrator	5,000.00	9,500.00
Construction Office Control Person	2,000.00	4,000.00
Land Use Secretary	3,000.00	7,000.00
Animal Control Officer	800.00	2,000.00
Recycling Coordinator	200.00	600.00
Licensed Water & Sewer Operator	20,000.00	35,000.00
Water/Sewer Supervisor	1,000.00	7,500.00
Water/Sewer Operator/Assistant	8,000.00/20hr	40,000.00/40hr
Meter Reader (4 Qtr Readings)	1,200.00	2,500.00
Water & Sewer Collector	2,500.00	5,000.00
Building & Grounds Worker	20.00-38.00/hour	
Water & Sewer Worker	20.00-38.00 hour	

Section 2. One person may serve in more than one office or position of employment, when authorized by the Mayor and Council.

Section 3. The amounts shown in Section 1 hereof are the minimum and maximum amounts which can be paid.

Section 4. The governing body shall set wage and compensation rates to employees and officers by resolution, either on an annual basis or as determined to be required, in accordance with the salary ranges established by position in this ordinance.

Section 5. Nothing herein contained shall preclude the governing body from establishing the amount of compensation to be paid to temporary employees.

Section 6. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 7. This ordinance shall take effect upon final adoption and publication according to law.

2025 BUDGET HEARING 2025-48 Budget Read By Title Only

Motion made by Mann and seconded by Brown to approve Resolution 2025-48.

Roll call: Brown, Fisher, Hunt and Mann.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Motion passes.

Resolution 2025-48

Authorizing Budget To Be Read by Title Only at Public Hearing

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-8(1), the budget may be read at the public hearing by its title when a complete copy of the approved budget has been made available for public inspection and to each person upon request at least one week prior to the date of the hearing and at the hearing; and

WHEREAS, these conditions have been met.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by a majority of the full membership of the Council of the Borough of Stockton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the budget shall be read by title only.

Mayor Lisen introduced the CFO Diane McDaniel to present the 2025 Budget. Ms. McDaniel gave a presentation of the budget that includes a once cent increase, which is slightly higher than last year, which is based on net valuations of properties. The one penny increase on an average home valued at \$400,000 is about \$40 a year increase or broken down to \$10 per quarter. Ms. McDaniel explained that the borough will use less fund balance this year than normal, which brings the balance to just under one million dollars at a healthy balance of \$913,000. Ms. McDaniel explained the shared services that the borough has utilized in ways to save money. The collection rate is 99%, which is helpful to the operations at Stockton Borough. This is a sound budget which will take the borough through the year successfully. In closing, Mayor Lipsen gave special thanks to Ms. McDaniel for putting this together and having excellent communication and making sure everyone was on the same page.

Motion made by Mann and seconded by Brown to open the public hearing for the 2025 budget, all were in favor.

Brown commented that the CFO highlighted something that is very important and that is led than a quarter of the taxes in the town go to support the operations of the municipality. Brwon started that the percentage is very important to remember.

Mayor Lipsen added that they do their best to keep it very lean and in keeping the community beautiful. At the same time keeping costs down as much as possible. Mayir Lpsen added that they want to make sure to maintain safety and that this is a good place to live.

Hunt thanked Ms. McDaniel for the excellent job not only today but through the 12 years that she has been doing this, and she gives the council confidence in her knowledge and approach.

Hearing no further public comment, motion made by Brown and seconded by Hunt to close the public hearing, all were in favor.

RESOLUTIONS

Ms. McDaniel explained the need for Resolution 2025-43 amending the budget stating that there was a recommendation from the State to move \$1,423 from a state revenue line. It has a net effect on revenues, but it was requested this be done.

Motion made by Mann and seconded by Hunt to approve Resolution 2025-43.

Roll call: Brown, Fisher, Hunt and Mann.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Motion passes.

WHEREAS, the local municipal budget for the year 2025 was introduced and approved on the 21st of April, 2025 and WHEREAS, the public hearing on said budget has been held as advertised, and WHEREAS, it is desired to amend said approved budget, now THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton, County of Hunterdon, that the following amendments to the approved budget of 2025 be made:

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Name

Abstained	(
)
Absent	(
)

Abstained	(
	(
Absent	(
	(

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that two certified copies of this resolution be filed forthwith in the Office of the Director of Local Government Services for her certification of the local municipal budget so amended.

It is hereby certified that this is a true copy of a resolution amending the budget, adopted by the governing body on the 19th day of May, 2025.

Certified by me

_____, 2025

Municipal Clerk

Roll call: Brown, Fisher, Hunt and Mann.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Motion passes.

2025 Municipal Budget

of the BOROUGH of STOCKTON County of
HUNTERDON for the fiscal year 2025.

Revenue and Appropriations Summaries

Summary of Revenues		Anticipated		
		2025		2024
1. Surplus		149,400.00		152,625.00
2. Total Miscellaneous Revenues		359,895.55		292,230.21
3. Receipts from Delinquent Taxes		17,660.00		15,000.00
4. a) Local Tax for Municipal Purposes		561,480.67		549,589.11
b) Addition to Local School District Tax				
c) Minimum Library Tax				
Tot Amt to be Rsd by Taxes for Sup of Muni Bnd		561,480.67		549,589.11
Total General Revenues		1,088,436.22		1,009,444.32

Summary of Appropriations		2025 Budget		Final 2024 Budget
1. Operating Expenses:	Salaries & Wages	143,524.75		138,395.00
	Other Expenses	571,192.15		539,181.22
2. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations		27,767.00		34,193.00
3. Capital Improvements		90,000.00		43,000.00
4. Debt Service (Include for School Purposes)		120,952.32		119,675.00
5. Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	#	135,000.00		135,000.00
Total General Appropriations		1,088,436.22		1,009,444.22
Total Number of Employees				

2025 Dedicated Water/ Sewer Utility Budget				
Summary of Revenues		Anticipated		
		2025		2024
1. Surplus		120,000.00		130,000.00
2. Miscellaneous Revenues		435,382.00		396,390.78
3. Deficit (General Budget)				
Total Revenues		555,382.00		526,390.78
Summary of Appropriations		2025 Budget		Final 2024 Budget
1. Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages		70,000.00		53,000.00
Other Expenses		368,205.00		304,918.78
2. Capital Improvements		75,000.00		150,000.00
3. Debt Service		36,677.00		14,372.00
4. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations		5,500.00		4,100.00
5. Surplus (General Budget)				
Total Appropriations		555,382.00		526,390.78

Total Number of Employees		
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2025 Dedicated		Utility Budget			
Summary of Revenues		Anticipated			
		2025		2024	
1. Surplus					
2. Miscellaneous Revenues					
3. Deficit (General Budget)					
Total Revenues					
Summary of Appropriations		2025 Budget		Final 2024 Budget	
1. Operating Expenses:	Salaries & Wages				
	Other Expenses				
2. Capital Improvements					
3. Debt Service					
4. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations					
5. Surplus (General Budget)					
Total Appropriations					
Total Number of Employees					

2025 Dedicated		Utility Budget			
Summary of Revenues		Anticipated			
		2025		2024	
1. Surplus					
2. Miscellaneous Revenues					
3. Deficit (General Budget)					
Total Revenues					
Summary of Appropriations		2025 Budget		Final 2024 Budget	
1. Operating Expenses:	Salaries & Wages				
	Other Expenses				
2. Capital Improvements					
3. Debt Service					
4. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations					
5. Surplus (General Budget)					
Total Appropriations					
Total Number of Employees					

2025 Dedicated		Utility Budget			
Summary of Revenues		Anticipated			
		Anticipated			
1. Surplus					
2. Miscellaneous Revenues					
3. Deficit (General Budget)					
Total Revenues					
Summary of Appropriations		2025 Budget		Final 2024 Budget	
1. Operating Expenses:	Salaries & Wages				
	Other Expenses				
2. Capital Improvements					
3. Debt Service					
4. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations					
5. Surplus (General Budget)					
Total Appropriations					
Total Number of Employees					

2025 Dedicated		Utility Budget			
Summary of Revenues		Anticipated			
		Anticipated			
1. Surplus					
2. Miscellaneous Revenues					
3. Deficit (General Budget)					
Total Revenues					
Summary of Appropriations		2025 Budget		Final 2024 Budget	
1. Operating Expenses:	Salaries & Wages				
	Other Expenses				
2. Capital Improvements					
3. Debt Service					
4. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations					
5. Surplus (General Budget)					
Total Appropriations					
Total Number of Employees					

2025 Dedicated		Utility Budget			
Summary of Revenues		Anticipated			
		Anticipated			
1. Surplus					
2. Miscellaneous Revenues					
3. Deficit (General Budget)					
Total Revenues					
Summary of Appropriations		2025 Budget		Final 2024 Budget	
1. Operating Expenses:	Salaries & Wages				
	Other Expenses				
2. Capital Improvements					
3. Debt Service					
4. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations					
5. Surplus (General Budget)					
Total Appropriations					
Total Number of Employees					

Balance of Outstanding Debt						
		General		Water/ Sewer		
Interest						
Principal						
Outstanding Balance						

Balance of Outstanding Debt						
Interest						
Principal						
Outstanding Balance						

Balance of Outstanding Debt						
Interest						
Principal						
Outstanding Balance						

Notice is hereby given that the budget and tax resolution was approved by the COUNCIL MEMBERS
of the BOROUGH of STOCKTON, County of
HUNTERDON on April 21, 2025, 2025.

A hearing on the budget and tax resolution was held at Meeting through Zoom, on
May 19,, 2025 at 7:00 o'clock PM at
on the Budget and Tax Resolution for the year 2025.

Motion made by Brown and seconded by Hunt to approve Resolution 2025-44.

Roll call: Brown, Fisher, Hunt and Mann.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Motion passes.

Resolution #2025-44

AUTHORIZING THE QUALIFIED PURCHASING AGENT TO AWARD TWO AGREEMENTS BELOW THE BID THRESHOLD IN CONNECTION WITH REPLACEMENT OF THE SHUT-OFF VALVE AND PIPING FOR THE BOROUGH'S WATER SYSTEM

WHEREAS, Stockton Borough's Chief Financial Officer Diane McDaniel is a Qualified Purchasing Agent under New Jersey law; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution 2024-62 adopted on June 17, 2024, the Borough Council increased the bid threshold for purchases and contracts under the Local Public Contracts law to the maximum permitted, which is currently \$44,000; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3 permits the Borough Council to authorize the QPA to award contracts not exceeding the bid threshold without the necessity of a Council resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Borough seeks to contract for work necessary to replace a shut-off valve and related piping on the Borough's water system and has received proposals for completion of the work as follows:

Pro Tapping, Inc. not to exceed \$5,200.00; and
Richard E. Yard Plumbing & Heating, Inc. not to exceed \$16,700; and

WHEREAS, at this time the Borough Council seeks to authorize Ms. McDaniel to award contracts to the foregoing contractors necessary to complete improvements on the Borough's water system; and

WHEREAS, the contracts may include provisions for the payment of additional funds for unforeseen issues that may be discovered during the work, and to account for such circumstances, the contracts may allow for potential change orders for up to 20% of the contract amounts; and

WHEREAS, the contracts plus 20% for change orders if and when necessary shall not collectively exceed \$26,280; and

WHEREAS, sufficient funds are available for this purpose certified by the Chief Financial Officer in the attached Certification.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. Diane McDaniel shall be and hereby is authorized to execute contracts with Pro Tapping, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$5,200.00 and Richard E. Yard Plumbing & Heating, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$16,700 in connection with shut-off valve and piping replacement to improve the Borough's Water System.
2. The terms and conditions of the contracts shall be consistent with this Resolution and subject to the approval of the Borough Attorney.

Motion made by Mann and seconded by Hunt to approve Resolution 2025-45.

Roll call: Brown, Fisher, Hunt and Mann.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Motion passes.

RESOLUTION 2025-45

AWARDING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT TO MICHAEL CALAFATI, ARCHITECT LLC FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES NECESSARY TO UPDATE THE STOCKTON BOROUGH SCHOOL'S HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$58,500

WHEREAS, in March 2024, Stockton Borough retained the services of the firm of Michael Calafati, Architect LLC ("MCA") to assist the Borough with applying for a grant for a

preservation plan update and conditions assessment for the former Stockton Borough School located at 19 South Main Street in Stockton; and

WHEREAS, since that time, and with the assistance of MCA, the Borough applied for and received a \$43,875 grant for completion of a preservation plan update for the Stockton Borough School; and

WHEREAS, there is a 15% grant match for the Borough to fund of \$14,625, which the Borough appropriated at the time of applying for said grant via Resolution 24-40; and

WHEREAS, at this time the Borough seeks to award a professional services agreement to MCA for the next phase of the project, which is the completion of the update to the Stockton Borough School preservation plan; and

WHEREAS, MCA has submitted a proposal to complete the required professional architectural services for an amount not to exceed \$58,500, to commence within 75 days of execution of the Professional Services Agreement and to be completed within six months of commencement of the services; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that there are sufficient funds for this purpose, as set forth in the attached Certification of Funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Stockton as follows:

1. A professional services agreement is hereby awarded to Michael Calafati, Architect LLC (“MCA”) to complete professional architectural services on the Borough’s behalf in furtherance of updating the Stockton Borough School preservation plan.

2. The terms of the agreement shall be consistent with the “Whereas” clauses of this Resolution and the terms of MCA’s written proposal. The terms of the final agreement shall be subject to the final approval of the Borough Attorney.

Motion made by Brown and seconded by Hunt to approve Resolution 2025-46.

Roll call: Brown, Fisher, Hunt and Mann.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Motion passes.

**RESOLUTION 2025-46
BOROUGH OF STOCKTON
SALARY RESOLUTION**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton that the below salaries, wages or compensation shall be paid to the officers and employees of the Borough of Stockton for the year 2025, effective January 1, 2025:

Mayor	\$	2,298.00
Council Member		1,587.73
Borough Clerk		24,400.00
Deputy Borough Clerk		12,875.00
Tax Collector		11,507.51
Utility Collector		4,370.91
QPA		3,182.70
Special Projects Coordinator		26.78/hr
Zoning Officer/Flood Plain Adm.		8,179.54
Construction Office Control Person		2,482.18
Land Use Secretary		5,304.00
Animal Control Officer		1,055.51
Water/Sewer Director/Operator		31.83/hr
Water/Sewer Assistant Operator		12,730.80
Water/Sewer Supervisor		7,388.56
Meter Reader		1,774.41

Shared Service Agreement:

Chief Financial Officer	30,385.00
Tax Assessor	8,240.00

Motion made by Brown and seconded by Hunt to approve Resolution 2025-49. Attorney Maddox gave a brief explanation for the need for this resolution and stated it is essentially the borough reaffirming its interest in the program. Ms. Hibbs of Concord Energy was introduced and explained in further detail outlining the purpose of the Cooperative for the residential participation portion.

Roll call: Brown, Fisher, Hunt and Mann.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Motion passes.

RESOLUTION 2025-49

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF STOCKTON BOROUGH REAFFIRMING ITS PARTICIPATION IN THE HUNTERDON AREA ENERGY COOPERATIVE

WHEREAS, by Resolution 24-74 adopted on August 19, 2024, the Stockton Borough Council authorized the Borough's participation in a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Hunterdon Area Energy Cooperative ("HAEC"), a county-wide governmental energy aggregation program ("GEA Program") under which the residential ratepayers may have the opportunity to receive a direct reduction in their electric bills through the bulk purchase of energy from a third-party energy supplier; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Califon is the Lead Agency for the HAEC; and

WHEREAS, the GEA Program's Energy Agents are in the process of preparing to ask the current energy supplier, IDT Energy, for extension pricing for the existing program which may include Stockton Borough's residents if the supplier is amenable and/or taking the cooperative out to auction for new services to commence in December 2025; and

WHEREAS, due to timing, Stockton Borough was unable to participate in the 2024-2025 savings under the GEA Program, but wishes to continue its participation now and for the next term of the Program which would commence in December 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of Stockton Borough, in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey, duly assembled in public session, as follows:

1. The Borough of Stockton reaffirms its participation in this year's Hunterdon Area Energy Cooperative ("HAEC") bid and/or extension pricing for electricity supply service on behalf of its residential community. The bid and/or extension pricing will only be awarded to a third-party supplier if the resulting price provides a savings compared to the JCP&L tariff rates.

2. The Mayor, Clerk and such other appropriate municipal officers are hereby authorized and directed to execute on behalf of Stockton Borough any documents necessary to carry out the purpose of this Resolution including the Supplier Services Agreement providing a reduction is achieved at the time of auction.

Motion made by Hunt and seconded by Brown to approve Resolution 2025-50.

Roll call: Brown, Fisher, Hunt and Mann.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Motion passes.

RESOLUTION 2025-50

AUTHORIZING COLLIERS ENGINEERING & DESIGN, INC. D/B/A MASER CONSULTING TO COMPLETE A PARKING, PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AND TRAFFIC CALMING STUDY ON STOCKTON BOROUGH'S BEHALF

WHEREAS, the Borough of Stockton has a need to complete a Parking, Pedestrian Safety and Traffic Calming Study ("Study") for the Borough; and

WHEREAS, on April 15, 2025, Borough Engineer Colliers Engineering & Design, Inc. d/b/a Maser Consulting submitted a proposal to provide professional services for purposes of completing the Study for an amount not to exceed \$12,000; and

WHEREAS, Borough Council seeks to authorize the Borough Engineer to complete the Study on the Borough's behalf, subject to the scope of work set forth in the proposal and terms and conditions of its existing Professional Services Agreement with the Borough; and

WHEREAS, there are sufficient funds available for this purpose as set forth in the attached Certification completed by the Chief Financial Officer.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Stockton, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, that Borough Engineer Colliers Engineering & Design, Inc. d/b/a Maser Consulting is hereby authorized and directed to complete a Parking, Pedestrian Safety and Traffic Calming Study on the Borough's behalf, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the April 15, 2025 proposal and current Professional Services Agreement on file with the Clerk's office.

PAYMENT OF BILLS AND VOUCHERS

Motion made by Hunt and seconded by Brown to approve Resolution 2025-47.

Roll call: Brown, Fisher, Hunt and Mann.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Motion passes.

Stockton Borough Council Resolution 2025-47 Authorizing Payment of Municipal Obligations

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stockton find and declare that certain municipal obligations have come due and are now payable; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stockton further find and declare that said obligations have been itemized on the annexed schedules, which are hereby attached and deemed part of this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stockton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey does hereby authorize payment of said municipal obligations, in accordance with the recommendations of the Chief Financial Officer and the Treasurer in the amount of \$153,893.76

MAYOR'S REPORT, BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMENTS, & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Outreach: Blood Drive: Mann reminded everyone of the blood drive coming up on June 3rd, from 3pm to 8 pm. There's a form now on our website that you can look at, and you can connect with the Red Cross and be able to schedule yourself to donate blood.

Infrastructure Committee: Mayor Lipsen reported trying to do a lot to get everything in place and have more efficient systems moving forward. They are also researching codification. That means the digitizing of the borough documents in which they are making some progress.

Mayor Lipsen also reported that for the Fire Company for Memorial Day, they are going to be having a ceremony at the old Stockton Fire Company. Delaware Township is going to have another ceremony as well in honor of fallen heroes and to bring the community together.

Mayor Lipsen commented on the Christmas trees that have been placed at the old Stockton Fire company building. This year it was never advertised but people placed trees. Mayor Lipsen also reported that he has not received any official information on the future of the building. Mayor

Lipsen asked for ideas on what to place in the mailer regarding the disposing of the Christmas trees. The council discussed and agreed that residents should be instructed to dispose of their trees in the regular garbage pickup. Mayor Lipsen gave special thanks to TNT Tree Service which for many years have been volunteering in disposing of the trees for Stockton which was coordinated through the fire department.

Hunt reported on the new polling location being the Prallsville Grist Mill, instead of the firehouse.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion by Mann, seconded by Brown to approve a resolution to go into executive session, all were in favor.

RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this governing body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of Stockton Borough, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matter.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
 - Discussion Regarding Municipal Park and Recreation Grant Program Agreement & Funding Contract Negotiations N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b.(7)
 - Worman Road-Pot contract neg

The discussion is anticipated to take approximately 30 minutes. Action may be taken.

3. It is intended at this time that the above-stated subject matter will be made public when the matter has been resolved.
4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

A motion by Mann and seconded by Brown to return to regular session was unanimously approved by voice vote.

The council was in Executive Session until 8:41 PM.

ACTION ON ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

No action is being taken.

NEXT MEETING

June 16, 2025

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mann and seconded by Hunt to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:42PM.

Laurie A. Courter

Laurie A. Courter, Borough Clerk