

To register for the regular meeting via Zoom, please use this link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/aVlrqM8pQqW-eJK3cfpb_g

After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
MUNICIPAL BUILDING AUDITORIUM AND VIA ZOOM VIDEO
COMMUNICATIONS**

TENTATIVE AGENDA TO THE EXTENT KNOWN

Monday, February 17, 2026 – 6:30 P.M.

- 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER/STATEMENT OF PROPER NOTICE BY MAYOR** – Notice of this meeting has been posted on the municipal bulletin board and forwarded to the Hopewell Valley News, the Trentonian, MercerMe and the Hopewell Express on January 6, 2026, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975
- 2. ROLL CALL BY MUNICIPAL CLERK**
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG**
- 4. PROCLAMATIONS**
 - A. PHOTO CONTEST PROCLAMATIONS
- 5. ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR MEETING AGENDA**
- 6. COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND STAFF REPORTS**
- 7. PUBLIC SECTION**

8. MINUTES SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL

- A. SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 21, 2026
- B. SPECIAL BUDGET AND EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2026
- C. REGULAR AND EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2, 2026
- D. SPECIAL BUDGET AND EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 3, 2026

9. ORDINANCES/INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

- A. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL ADOPTING TRAFFIC REGULATIONS AMENDING THROUGH STREETS, STOP INTERSECTIONS, NO LEFT TURNS, AND PARKING RESTRICTIONS AT CERTAIN LOCATIONS, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER VII "TRAFFIC", AND CHAPTER VIIA, "TRAFFIC SCHEDULES," OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY
- B. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL TO ACCEPT THE DONATION OF SAFETY EQUIPMENT FROM THE SPIRIT OF BLUE FOUNDATION FOR THE USE OF THE HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT
- C. ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$152,000.00 FROM THE OPEN SPACE CAPITAL FUND BALANCE IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
- D. CALENDAR YEAR 2026 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

10. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. A RESOLUTION APPROVING A SALARY AND TITLE CHANGE – ABEY
- B. A RESOLUTION APPROVING A SALARY AND TITLE CHANGE – BENINATO

C. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE HOPEWELL QUARRY'S 2026 GREEN ACRES PARK DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPLICATION

D. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENT – CoreLogic

11. RESOLUTIONS

A. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENT – Peters

B. A RESOLUTION APPOINTING TOMIA MAC QUEEN TO THE HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

C. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE NEW JERSEY HISTORIC TRUST AND COMMITTING MATCHING FUNDS FOR THE PROJECT

D. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION AND THE EXECUTION OF A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FOR LEAF COMPOSTING AND WOOD WASTE RECYCLING

E. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, BOROUGH OF HOPEWELL AND BOROUGH OF PENNINGTON FOR SENIOR CENTER SERVICES

F. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENTS IN A NON-FAIR AND OPEN MANNER VARIOUS PROFESSIONAL MATTERS #2

G. A RESOLUTION CANCELLING THE UNEXPENDED BALANCES IN GENERAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATIONS

H. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT IN A NON-FAIR AND OPEN MANNER – SUBURBAN CONSULTING ENGINEERS, INC.

I. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LOCAL CANNABIS LICENSE RENEWAL OF PURE BLOSSOM, LLC FOR THE YEAR 2026

J. A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE RATES FOR THE USERS OF THE EWING LAWRENCE SEWER AUTHORITY UTILITY

K. A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A TEMPORARY CAPITAL BUDGET

L. BILLS AND CLAIMS #1

M. BILLS AND CLAIMS #2

12. PUBLIC SECTION

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION

- Litigation
- Real Estate
- Personnel
- Contracts

14. ADJOURNMENT

2-17-26

4-A



**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL MERCER
COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

Proclamation

**CONGRATULATING THE WINNERS OF THE 2025 HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP PHOTO
CONTEST**

WHEREAS, the 2025 Photo Contest, hosted by Hopewell Township, invited photographers of all ages and abilities to enter photos from within the Township that showcased the beauty of our community; and

WHEREAS, an assortment of 131 photos were submitted to the contest; and

WHEREAS, 159 members of the community at large voted for their favorite images; and

WHEREAS, Sari DeCesare, Ramesh Kumar, Carrie Coward, Marisa McGilliard, Judith Fish, Linda Frank, Matthew Young, Mike Chipowsky, Daria Messner, Kai Lee, C. Wyluda, and Ranajit Bhol (the "Winners") submitted beautiful images of bucolic Hopewell Township taken in 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Winners' images were chosen as the top vote-getters; and

WHEREAS, the Winners have shared their creativity with the community; and

WHEREAS, the Winners' pictures are featured prominently in the 2026 Hopewell Township Municipal Calendar; and

WHEREAS, the Winners' pictures are now on display in the Hopewell Township Municipal Building Auditorium; and

WHEREAS, the Winners' pictures are now available for all members of the public to view and enjoy; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to publicly thank all who entered their beautiful work into this contest, and congratulate the winners of the 2025 Photo Contest.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED on this 17th day of February, 2026, the Hopewell Township Committee thanks all the members of the community who shared their photographic talent by submitting photos to the Hopewell Township 2025 Photo Contest; and

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that the Township Committee Sari DeCesare, Ramesh Kumar, Carrie Coward, Marisa McGilliard, Judith Fish, Linda Frank, Matthew Young, Mike Chipowsky, Daria Messner, Kai Lee, C. Wyluda, and Ranajit Bhol and thanks them for their pictures which now grace the Hopewell Township Municipal Building auditorium and our homes by their inclusion in the 2026 Hopewell Township Calendar.

*In Witness Whereof, I Hereunto Set My
Hand and Cause to be Affixed the
Seal of the Township of Hopewell
This 17th day of February 2026*

2-17-26

8-A

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

ORDINANCE #26-

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL ADOPTING TRAFFIC REGULATIONS AMENDING THROUGH STREETS, STOP INTERSECTIONS, NO LEFT TURNS, AND PARKING RESTRICTIONS AT CERTAIN LOCATIONS, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER VII, "TRAFFIC," AND CHAPTER VIIA, "TRAFFIC SCHEDULES," OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell in Mercer County, New Jersey as follows:

Section 1. Amending Schedule VII: Through Streets

Chapter VIIA, Section 7A-7, Schedule VII, entitled "Through Streets," is hereby amended by adding the following location:

Name of Street	Location
Brandon Road West	From Denow Road to NJSH Route 31

Stop signs shall be installed on the near right side of each street intersecting the Through Street except where Yield signs are provided for in the designation.

Section 2. Amending Schedule VIII: Stop Intersections

Chapter VIIA, Section 7A-8, Schedule VIII, entitled "Stop Intersections," is hereby amended by adding the following locations:

Intersection	STOP Sign On
Howe Court and Brandon Road West	Howe Court
Federal City Road and Blackwell Road	Federal City Road at the north and south approaches and Blackwell Road at the east and west approaches (All-Way Stop)

Section 3. Amending Schedule XIII: No Left Turn

Chapter VIIA, Section 7A-13, Schedule XIII, entitled "No Left Turn," is hereby amended by adding the following locations:

Location	Turn Prohibited	Movement Prohibited	Hours
Intersection of Brandon Road West and Howe Court	Left	Left turn from Brandon Road West onto Howe Court	ALL

Location	Turn Prohibited	Movement Prohibited	Hours
Intersection of Howe Court and Brandon Road West	Left	Left turn from Howe Court onto Brandon Road West	ALL

Section 4. Amending Schedule III: No Stopping or Standing (Snowfall Restrictions)

Chapter VIIA, Section 7A-3, Schedule III, entitled "No Stopping or Standing," is hereby amended to include the following specific parking prohibitions during significant snowfall:

- **d.** Parking is specifically prohibited during significant snowfall in the six (6) parking spaces at the north end of Sandpiper Court.
- **e.** Parking is specifically prohibited during significant snowfall in the four (4) parking spaces at the west end of Hilton Court.

Section 5. Repealer.

All ordinances and resolutions or parts thereof inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 6. Severability.

If any section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged by the courts to be invalid, such adjudication shall only apply to the section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision so adjudged and the remainder of this Ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

Section 7. Effective Date.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon final adoption and publication in accordance with the law.

Date Introduced: February 17, 2026

Date Advertised:

Date Adopted:

David Chait
Mayor

Attest:

Katherine Fenton-Newman
Municipal Clerk

2-17-26
8-B

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

ORDINANCE #26-

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL TO ACCEPT
THE DONATION OF SAFETY EQUIPMENT FROM THE SPIRIT OF
BLUE FOUNDATION FOR THE USE OF THE HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS, the Township of Hopewell Police Department is committed to enhancing the safety and visibility of its patrol officers in the line of duty; and

WHEREAS, the Spirit of Blue Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to the safety and equipment needs of law enforcement, has offered to donate thirty-eight (38) Guardian Angel Elite Series personal safety lights, valued at approximately \$5,839.24, to the Hopewell Township Police Department; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-5 and N.J.S.A. 40A:5-29 authorize a municipality to accept bequests, legacies, and gifts of real and personal property for public purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell has determined that the acceptance of this safety equipment is in the best interest of the Township, as it provides critical safety enhancements for its law enforcement officers at no cost to the local taxpayers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1. The Township of Hopewell hereby formally accepts the donation of thirty-eight (38) Guardian Angel Elite Series safety lights from the Spirit of Blue Foundation.

SECTION 2. The Mayor, Township Administrator, and Chief of Police are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents, including any deeds of gift or acceptance forms, necessary to facilitate the transfer and receipt of said equipment.

SECTION 3. All donated equipment shall be utilized exclusively by the Hopewell Township Police Department in accordance with Departmental safety protocols.

SECTION 4. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 5. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication as required by law.



SPRIT OF BLUE

November 15, 2026

Sergeant Alexis Mirra
Hopewell Township Police Department
201 Washington Crossing Pennington Rd.
Titusville, NJ 08560

Dear Sgt. Mirra,

The Spirit of Blue Foundation is pleased to inform you that the Hopewell Township Police Department has been selected to receive a Safety Equipment Grant in the form of personal lighting devices for its officers. The equipment will be sourced from Guardian Angel Devices and donated by Spirit of Blue.

This grant is primarily sponsored by a generous donation from Law Enforcement United (LEU). LEU is a national organization of active and retired law enforcement officers, along with surviving family members of lost officers, who raise money and ride an average of 250 miles on bicycles into Washington, DC each year for National Police Week to honor fallen officers.

Guardian Angel devices donated the additional mounting accessories that accompany each light.

Sportsmen Organized for Law Enforcement (SOLE) and the Renee & Gordon Graham Foundation also participated to make this grant possible.

The grant includes:

- Thirty-Eight (38) Elite Series Red/Blue/IR (Guardian Angel Devices)
- Thirty-Seven (7) Universal Mounts (Guardian Angel Devices)
- One (1) Strap/Epaulet Mount (Guardian Angel Devices)

The value of the grant being awarded is \$5,839.24. Nothing additional will be provided as part of the grant.

In keeping with the Spirit of Blue's mission of enhancing officer safety and vitality through meeting safety equipment and training needs, this grant is intended to provide necessary equipment for your officers to be protected from threats while serving their community.

Spirit of Blue Foundation
1905 NE 47th Avenue | Portland, OR 97213
ryan.smith@spiritofblue.org | (585) 662-9032



SPIRIT OF BLUE

Again, congratulations on your agency being selected. We are hopeful that the use of this grant aids greatly in the safety of your officers and the effectiveness of your agency.

Sincerely,

Ryan T. Smith
Executive Director

Spirit of Blue Foundation is recognized as a National Public Charity (EIN 45-2685219)

Spirit of Blue Foundation
1905 NE 47th Avenue | Portland, OR 97213
ryan.smith@spiritofblue.org | (585) 662-9032

2-17-26

8-C

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

ORDINANCE NO. 26-

**ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$152,000.00 FROM
THE OPEN SPACE CAPITAL FUND BALANCE IN AND
BY THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, IN THE
COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW
JERSEY AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. \$152,000.00 is hereby appropriated from the Open Space Capital Fund Balance for the acquisition of a heavy-duty grooming mower and all incidentals thereto for the purpose of maintenance of municipally owned large area parcels.

Section 2. The Township hereby certifies that it has adopted a capital budget or a temporary capital budget, as applicable. The capital or temporary capital budget of the Township is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. To the extent that the purposes authorized herein are inconsistent with the adopted capital or temporary capital budget, a revised capital or temporary capital budget shall be filed with the Division of Local Government Services.

Section 3. This bond ordinance shall take effect after final adoption and publication and otherwise as provided by the Local Bond Law.

Date Introduced: February 17, 2026

Date Advertised:

Date Adopted:

David Chait
Mayor

Attest:

Katherine Fenton-Newman
Municipal Clerk

2-17-26

8-D

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

ORDINANCE NO. 26-

**CALENDAR YEAR 2026 ORDINANCE
TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET
APPROPRIATION AND TO ESTABLISH A
CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)**

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget to 2.0% 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 Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell in the County of Mercer finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2026 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 Township Committee hereby determines that a 1.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$269,531.89 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated, as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, in the County of Mercer, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2026 budget year, the final appropriations of the Township of Hopewell shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.15a be increased by 1.5% amounting to \$269,531.89 and that the CY 2026 municipal budget for the Township of Hopewell be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, 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 five 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 five days after such adoption.

2-17-26

10-A

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

R E S O L U T I O N #26:

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING
A SALARY & TITLE CHANGE**

BE IT RESOLVED on this 17th day of February, 2026 by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey that the following salary and title change be and is hereby adopted:

NAME	PRESENT TITLE	PROPOSED TITLE	PRESENT SALARY	PROPOSED SALARY	EFFECTIVE DATE
Kenneth Abey	Laborer	Truck Driver	\$51,502.79	\$56,653.07	02/22/2026

Date Adopted:

2-17-26

10-B

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

R E S O L U T I O N #26:

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING
A SALARY & TITLE CHANGE**

BE IT RESOLVED on this 17th day of February, 2026 by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey that the following salary and title change be and is hereby adopted:

NAME	PRESENT TITLE	PROPOSED TITLE	PRESENT SALARY	PROPOSED SALARY	EFFECTIVE DATE
Michael Beninato	Laborer	Truck Driver	\$50,774.79	\$55,852.27	02/22/2026

Date Adopted:

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

R E S O L U T I O N #26-

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN A LETTER OF SUPPORT
FOR THE HOPEWELL QUARRY'S 2026 GREEN ACRES PARK DEVELOPMENT
GRANT APPLICATION**

WHEREAS, the Hopewell Quarry is preparing an application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Program for the 2026 Park Development Grant funding round; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project includes the installation of a new septic system, a new water well, and the construction of a modern, ADA-compliant bathroom facility incorporating baby changing stations and designed using LEED-aligned sustainability principles; and

WHEREAS, the project also includes additional improvements to enhance public access, safety, and enjoyment of the Quarry, including an extended railing entry at the waterfront, and will support long-term environmental stewardship by reducing plastic waste and restoring access to a potable water refill station; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee recognizes the Hopewell Quarry as a valued recreational resource and supports efforts that improve accessibility, environmental sustainability, and visitor experience; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee wishes to formally express its support for the Hopewell Quarry's grant application through a letter signed by the Mayor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 17th day of February, 2026, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to sign a letter of support on behalf of the Township for the Hopewell Quarry's 2026 Green Acres Park Development Grant application.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be provided to the appropriate Township officials and to the Hopewell Quarry for their records.



TOWNSHIP of HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

DAVID CHAIT

February 17, 2026

State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection
Green Acres Program
Mail Code 401-07B
P.O. Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

Re: Letter of Support – Hopewell Quarry Park Development Grant Application

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of Hopewell Township, I am pleased to offer my strong support for the Hopewell Quarry's application to the Green Acres Park Development Grant Program for the 2026 funding cycle. The Quarry is a unique and cherished recreational resource in our community, and this proposal represents a thoughtful and much-needed investment in public access, environmental sustainability, and long-term operational resilience.

The project includes the installation of a new septic system, a new water well, and the construction of a modern bathroom facility designed to meet current ADA standards. The new building will incorporate baby changing stations and will be developed using LEED-aligned principles, reflecting the Quarry's and the Township's shared commitment to affordability, sustainability, and responsible design. The existing bathroom building will be repurposed in the future for seasonal staff or office use, ensuring efficient use of existing infrastructure.

These upgrades are long overdue. The Quarry's septic and well systems require capital repairs to ensure safe, reliable operations. A new well will allow the return of a water bottle refill station, reducing plastic waste and providing visitors with clean, potable water on-site. The project also includes an extended railing entry at the Quarry's waterfront, improving safety and accessibility for all who enjoy this historic swimming area.

Hopewell Township values the Quarry as an important public asset and fully supports efforts that enhance its environmental stewardship, accessibility, and visitor experience. I respectfully request your favorable consideration of this application.

Thank you for your continued support of open space and recreation in New Jersey.

Sincerely,

David Chait

Mayor, Hopewell Township

C: Hopewell Township Committee Members

George Snyder, Township Administrator/Director of Public Works

2-17-26
10-D

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
R E S O L U T I O N #26-**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF
TAX OVERPAYMENT**

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has determined that overpayments of taxes and/or utility charges have been made; said overpayments are caused by duplicated payments from owners, title agencies and mortgage companies who have been contacted by the Collector for proper settlement; tax appeals; or utility overpayments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 17th day of February 2026 by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the individuals and/or corporations so specified below be refunded the overpayment of taxes. Further, a copy of this approved resolution shall be forwarded to the Collector and to the Finance Officer.

<u>REFUND TO:</u>	<u>B/L/Q</u>	<u>ADDRESS:</u>	<u>AMOUNT:</u>
CORELOGIC	4/32	55 STONY BROOK RD	\$1,591.37
CoreLogic and Homeowner paid	68/8	105 ROUTE 31 SOUTH	\$6502.00
CORELOGIC	30/23	4 NEW RD	\$3,285.95
*CoreLogic and	37/24	81 TITUS MILL RD	\$3,572.04
Title Co paid*	49/26	78 ROUTE 31 NORTH	\$3,860.57
	78.10/3/C137	137 SHREWSBURY CT	\$2,332.60
CORELOGIC	95/13	340 WASH CROSS PENN RD	<u>\$2,661.76</u>
CoreLogic paid Property is Exempt TDV			

TOTAL DUE TO CORELOGIC \$23,806.29

2-17-26
11-A

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

R E S O L U T I O N #26-

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF
TAX OVERPAYMENT**

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has determined that overpayments of taxes and/or utility charges have been made; said overpayments are caused by duplicated payments from owners, title agencies and mortgage companies who have been contacted by the Collector for proper settlement; tax appeals; or utility overpayments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 17th day of February 2026 by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the individuals and/or corporations so specified below be refunded the overpayment of taxes. Further, a copy of this approved resolution shall be forwarded to the Collector and to the Finance Officer.

<u>REFUND TO:</u>	<u>B/L/Q</u>	<u>ADDRESS:</u>	<u>AMOUNT:</u>
PETERS, DEBORAH *Made Duplicate Payments Online in Error*	78.26/2	4 FOSTER RD	\$9,772.54

2-17-26

11-B

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

R E S O L U T I O N #26-

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING TOMIA MacQUEEN
TO THE HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

BE IT RESOLVED, that I, David Chait, Mayor of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, on this 17th day of February 2026, do hereby appoint Tomia MacQueen as a Member of the Agricultural Advisory Committee for a three-year expired term expiring 12/31/26.

2-17-26
11-C

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

R E S O L U T I O N #26-

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION
TO THE NEW JERSEY HISTORIC TRUST AND COMMITTING MATCHING
FUNDS FOR THE PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Township of Hopewell is committed to the preservation of its historical assets and seeks financial assistance to support these efforts; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Historic Trust provides grants for the preservation and restoration of historic sites and structures through its various assistance programs; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell has determined that it is in the best interest of the Township to apply for assistance from the New Jersey Historic Trust.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that:

1. The governing body hereby authorizes the submission of an application for assistance from the New Jersey Historic Trust.
2. George Snyder, Township Administrator, is hereby authorized to complete and sign the application documents and any other necessary forms on behalf of the Township of Hopewell.
3. The Township of Hopewell hereby commits matching funds in the amount of \$18,290.00 to complete the project within the required time frame, should the grant be awarded.
4. The Township Committee further resolves and acknowledges the following assurances:
 - a. The facts, figures, and information contained in this application, including all attachments, are true and correct;
 - b. Any funds received will be expended in accordance with the terms and conditions of N.J.A.C. 5:101 and the grant agreement to be executed with the New Jersey Historic Trust; and
 - c. The Township agrees to abide by the time frame set forth in the grant guidelines.

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**2-17-26
11-D**

R E S O L U T I O N #26-

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION
AND THE EXECUTION OF A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FOR LEAF COMPOSTING
AND WOOD WASTE RECYCLING**

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell desires to further the public interest by obtaining a grant from the State of New Jersey in the amount of approximately \$35,526.00 to fund the following project: Leaf Composting 2025 - Wood Waste Recycling and Leaf Composting (WRC) Permit Compliance; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) requires a formal resolution from the governing body authorizing the application and the execution of the subsequent grant agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that:

1. The Township Committee hereby authorizes the submission of a grant application to the NJDEP for the "Leaf Composting 2025" project.
2. George Snyder, Township Administrator (or the successor to the office of Township Administrator), is hereby authorized to: a. Make application for such a grant; b. If awarded, execute a grant agreement with the State for a grant in an amount not less than \$35,526.00 and not more than \$35,526.00; and c. Execute any and all amendments thereto.
3. The Township Committee authorizes and hereby agrees to match 0% of the Total Project Amount (as no match is required under the current grant terms), and the Township agrees to comply with all applicable Federal, State, and municipal laws, rules, and regulations in its performance pursuant to the agreement.
4. A certified copy of this resolution shall be attached to the grant application (Attachment E) as required by the NJDEP.

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**2-17-26
11-E**

R E S O L U T I O N #26-

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICES
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL,
BOROUGH OF HOPEWELL AND BOROUGH OF PENNINGTON
FOR SENIOR CENTER SERVICES**

WHEREAS, there exists a community need to provide a location in which senior activities serving Hopewell Borough, Hopewell Township, and Pennington Borough may occur; and

WHEREAS, the Hopewell Valley Senior Advisory Board and other community organizations are currently evaluating needs and alternatives for developing new facilities to meet future needs; and

WHEREAS, in the interim senior activities are provided in a building and site amenities ("SITE") owned by Pennington Borough located on Reading Street in Pennington Borough; and

WHEREAS, Hopewell Borough, Hopewell Township and Pennington Borough's use of the SITE is provided through a shared services agreement which sets forth responsibilities as being representative of each community's pro-rata use of the SITE; and

WHEREAS, the Interlocal Services Act, N.J.S.A. 40:8A-1 et seq permits local units of the State to enter into a contract with any other local unit for the provision of any service which any party to the agreement is empowered to render within its own jurisdiction.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 17th day of February, 2026, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey that the Mayor and Clerk be and hereby are authorized to enter into a Shared Services Agreement with the Borough of Hopewell and the Borough of Pennington for Senior Center Services. Said services shall be furnished and rendered pursuant to an agreement, in a form similar to that which is attached hereto.

SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT SENIOR CENTER SERVICES

THIS AGREEMENT, effective the day of , 2026 by and between the **Township of Hopewell**, in the County of Mercer, a municipal corporation of the State of New Jersey, with principal offices located at 201 Washington Crossing Pennington Road, Titusville, New Jersey 08560, (Hopewell Township) and the **Borough of Pennington**, in the County of Mercer, a municipal corporation of the State of New Jersey, whose principal offices are located at 30 N. Main Street, Pennington, New Jersey 08534 (Pennington Borough); and the **Borough of Hopewell**, in the County of Mercer, a municipal corporation of the State of New Jersey, whose principal offices are located at 88 East Broad Street, Hopewell, New Jersey 08525 (Hopewell Borough); and

WHEREAS, there exists a community need to provide a location in which senior activities serving Hopewell Borough, Hopewell Township, and Pennington Borough may occur; and

WHEREAS, the Hopewell Valley Senior Advisory Board and other community organizations are currently conducting a needs assessment and evaluating alternatives for developing new facilities to meet future needs; and

WHEREAS, in the interim senior activities are provided in a building and site amenities ("SITE") owned by Pennington Borough located on Reading Street in Pennington Borough; and

WHEREAS, Hopewell Borough, Hopewell Township and Pennington Borough's use of the Site is through shared service agreements which set forth "in-kind" responsibilities as being representative of each community's pro-rata use of the site; and

WHEREAS, Hopewell Borough, Hopewell Township and Pennington Borough have determined that in order to provide for the proper maintenance of the Site a shared service agreement which includes both payments to Pennington Borough for maintenance and for in-kind services for daily usage will reflect each communities pro-rata use of the Site; and

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and promises herein expressed, it is agreed:

1. That **Hopewell Township** shall pay to Pennington Borough the sum of \$5,808.00 for the 2026 calendar year and will continue to provide weekly cleaning services at the Senior Center which include:

- a. Sweep and damp mop all linoleum floors
- b. Vacuum all carpeted areas
- c. Disinfect and clean all toilet seats, toilet bowls, and kitchen appliances
- d. Clean and sanitize all washbasins
- e. Clean glass mirrors in the rest rooms

2. That **Pennington Borough** shall provide cleaning supplies for the Senior Center building and shall be responsible for all maintenance to the outside of the building, including but not limited to shoveling snow, deicing the sidewalks and parking lot, and maintaining the HVAC units, plumbing, painting and replacing light bulbs.

3. That **Hopewell Borough** shall pay to Pennington Borough the sum of \$1,450.00 for the 2026 calendar year.

This agreement shall supersede prior agreements and shall take effect upon passage of a resolution by the governing body of each municipality authorizing the mayor of the municipality to sign the agreement, and shall remain in effect until December 31, 2025, unless modified or amended by agreement of the parties prior thereto.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have set their hands and seals as of the day and year first above written.

ATTEST:

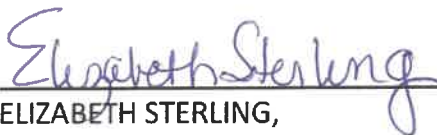
HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP

KATHERINE FENTON-NEWMAN
Hopewell Township, Municipal Clerk

David Chait, Mayor

ATTEST:

BOROUGH OF PENNINGTON



ELIZABETH STERLING,
Pennington Borough Clerk



JAMES DAVY, Mayor

ATTEST:

BOROUGH OF HOPEWELL

REGINA TOTH
Hopewell Borough Clerk

Ryan Kennedy, Mayor

**BOROUGH OF PENNINGTON
RESOLUTION 2024 – 2.8**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SHARED SERVICES
AGREEMENT FOR USE, MAINTENANCE
AND CLEANING OF THE SENIOR CENTER FOR 2024**

WHEREAS, use of the Senior Center on Reading Street in the Borough of Pennington is shared by Hopewell Borough, Hopewell Township and Pennington Borough;

WHEREAS, responsibilities for maintenance of the Senior Center are also shared among the three municipalities;

WHEREAS, the three municipalities intend to enter into a shared services agreement for 2026, superseding prior agreements, by which Hopewell Township will continue to provide weekly cleaning services at the Center and pay to Pennington Borough the sum of \$5,808.00; Hopewell Borough will pay Pennington \$1,450.00 for the year; and Pennington will provide cleaning supplies for the building and be responsible for all maintenance to the outside of the building and the HVAC and plumbing, painting and replacement of light bulbs, and snow and ice removal from sidewalks and parking lots;

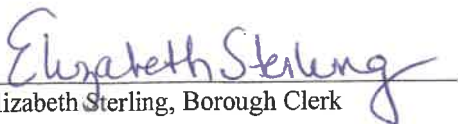
WHEREAS, the proposed form of agreement is annexed to this Resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Pennington, that the Mayor, with the attestation of the Borough Clerk, is hereby authorized to execute the annexed agreement on behalf of Pennington Borough, subject to approval as to form by the Borough Attorney.

Record of Council Vote on Passage

COUNCILMAN	AYE	NAY	N.V.	A.B.	COUNCILMAN	AYE	NAY	N.V.	A.B.
Angarone	X				Rubenstein	S			
Chandler	X				Stern	M			
Kassler-Taub	X				Valenza	X			

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Pennington at a meeting on February 2, 2026.


Elizabeth Sterling, Borough Clerk

2-17-26

11-F

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

RESOLUTION #26-

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT IN A
NON-FAIR AND OPEN MANNER
VARIOUS PROFESSIONAL MATTERS #2**

WHEREAS, there exists a need for professional services related to various matters for the Township; and

WHEREAS, the below professional firms have provided for a quotation for services without bidding as per N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(i); and

WHEREAS, the Township has procured these various professional firms in a non-fair and open manner in accord with N.J.S.A.19:44A-20.5; and

WHEREAS, all professional firms named below have provided for a Business Entity Disclosure and Political Contribution Disclosure in accord with N.J.S.A.19:44A-20.5 indicating the professionals have not made any reportable contributions in the past 12 months and will be prohibited from making reportable contributions in the coming year; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of the contract for services related to those stated below; and as certified by the chief financial officer as encumbered in the accounts referenced below that funds are available for this purpose are from:

FIRM/PURPOSE	AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED	TERM EXPIRES
McGowan Well Water Compliance Management, LLC Water Compliance – Buildings 6-01-26-310-028	14,462.40	12/31/2026
McGowan Well Water Compliance Management, LLC Water Compliance – Water Utility 6-05-55-502-028	\$8,860.00	12/31/2026
PCH Development Corporation Affordable Housing Administration Trust X-14-99-927-028	47,600.00	12/31/2026
Sockler Realty Services Group, Inc. Commercial Appraisal Services 6-01-20-150-028	25,000.00	12/31/2026

; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(i) et seq.) requires that a resolution authorizing the award of contracts for "Professional Services" without competitive bids and the contract itself must be available for public inspection.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, as follows:

1. The Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the above agreements with the above professionals for annual services.
2. The contracts are awarded without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" under the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 (1)(a) as a contract for services to be performed by persons authorized by law to practice recognized professions that are regulated by law.
3. The Business Entity Disclosure and Political Contribution Disclosure will be on file in the Municipal Clerk's office and available for public inspection.

2-17-26

11-G

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

RESOLUTION NO. 26-

**A RESOLUTION CANCELLING THE UNEXPENDED BALANCES
IN GENERAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATIONS**

WHEREAS, certain General Capital Improvement appropriations balances remain dedicated to projects and are no longer needed; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to formally cancel said balances so that the unexpended balances may be returned to each respective Capital Improvement Fund or credited to General Capital Fund Balance, also referred to as Surplus, and unused debt authorizations may be cancelled;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 17th day of February, 2026 by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey that the below listed General Capital Improvement appropriations are cancelled.

Ordinance	Date Adopted	Description	Balance to Cancel
25-1848	06/16/2025	A. Acquisition of Various Equipment Zero turn mowers; Line striper machine; Brush hog	\$5,143.02
25-1848	06/16/2025	B. Acquisition, installation and improvements to various Parks at Twin Pines Pavilion	\$100,000.00
25-1848	06/16/2025	D. Acquisition of Public Safety equipment including Key track security system	\$3,001.92
TOTAL			\$108,144.94

2-17-26

11-H

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

RESOLUTION #26-

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
AGREEMENT IN A NON-FAIR AND OPEN MANNER
SUBURBAN CONSULTING ENGINEERS, INC.**

WHEREAS, there exists a need for professional services related to the project known as the Woolsey Park Pavilion for the Township; and

WHEREAS, Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc., has provided for a quotation for services without bidding as per N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(i); and

WHEREAS, the Township has procured Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc. in a non-fair and open manner in accord with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5; and

WHEREAS, Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc., has provided for a Business Entity Disclosure and Political Contribution Disclosure in accord with N.J.S.A.19:44A-20.5 indicating that no reportable contributions have been made in the past 12 months and will be prohibited from making reportable contributions in the coming year; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of the contract for services related to those stated below; and as certified by the Chief Financial Officer as encumbered in the accounts referenced below that funds are available for this purpose are from:

FIRM/PURPOSE	AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED	TERM EXPIRES
Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc. Woolsey Park Pavilion at 221 Washington Crossing Pennington Road, survey, geotechnical, engineering, permitting & bidding services Account #X-04-00-678-510	\$69,960	Completion of Project

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A: 11-5(1)(a)(i) et seq.) requires that a resolution authorizing the award of contracts for "Professional Services" without competitive bids and the contract itself must be available for public inspection.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 17th day of February, 2026 by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the agreement with Suburban Consulting Engineers Inc. for engineering services related to the Woolsey Park Pavilion at 221 Washington Crossing Pennington Road, survey, geotechnical, engineering, permitting & bidding services.
2. The contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" under the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 (l)(a) as a contract for services to be performed by persons authorized by law to practice recognized professions that are regulated by law.
3. The Business Entity Disclosure and Political Contribution Disclosure will be on file in the Municipal Clerks office and available for public inspection.

2-17-26

11-I

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

RESOLUTION #26-

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LOCAL CANNABIS LICENSE RENEWAL
OF PURE BLOSSOM, LLC FOR THE YEAR 2026**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Township Committee Resolution #24-91, Pure Blossom, LLC is the holder of a local license to locate and operate a retail cannabis store at 2554 Pennington Road, Block 78, Lot 65 on the Hopewell Township Tax Map; and

WHEREAS, Pure Blossom, LLC now seeks renewal of this local license for the new license year of 2026 and in support thereof:

1. Certifies it continued compliance with the terms, conditions and requirements for issuance of its local license as set forth in Hopewell Township Committee Resolution #24-91;
2. Certifies its eligibility for continued State licensure by the CRC;
3. Certifies that it has paid to Hopewell Township all cannabis transfer taxes and use taxes as required by law;
4. Has submitted the required annual renewal fee of \$5,000 payable to Hopewell Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee finds and determines that Pure Blossom, LLC's Class 5 retail store complies with all applicable Township restrictions on the number of cannabis businesses within the Township and the location, manner and times of their operation, including compliance with all zoning and land use approvals and related conditions and standards as required by Hopewell Township Ordinance 22-1770.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Township Committee adopts the recitals and findings set forth above.
2. Renewal of a local license to Pure Blossom, LLC for the operation of a Class 5 retail store at 2554 Pennington Road, Block 78, Lot 65, on the Hopewell Township Tax Map is hereby approved subject to the following continuing conditions:
 - (a) Continued compliance with all applicable New Jersey State laws and regulations, including in particular Personal Use Act, CRC Rules and Regulations, the requirements of Ordinance 22-1770 and the Code of the Township of Hopewell, all as may be amended from time to time.

- (b) Continued compliance with the conditions of Conditional Use approval by the Hopewell Township Planning Board, as memorialized in the Planning Board Resolution.
- (c) Payment of all required taxes and fees owed to Hopewell Township in accordance with the Ordinance, Township Code and Resolution 24-91.
- (d) The local license shall be prominently displayed in the Pure Blossom, LLC store, visible to customers.

2-17-26

11-J

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

RESOLUTION #26-

**A RESOLUTION FOR TO APPROVE RATES FOR THE USERS OF THE
EWING LAWRENCE SEWER AUTHORITY UTILITY**

WHEREAS, Ordinance 24-1825 was adopted on May 20, 2024 establishing the Fee Schedule for the users of the Ewing Lawrence Sewer Authority (ELSA) Sewer Utility; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 24-1825 provided for a rate preservation provision which states that on April 1 of each year the rate per thousand gallons shall be increased by the annual increase in the trailing twelve-month Consumer Price Index (CPI) unless by March 1 the Township Committee determines by resolution that that the rate shall be adjusted depending on the needs of the system; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 24-1825 set a rate of \$13.69 per thousand gallons and in the year 2025 a resolution was not passed prior to March 1 therefore the CPI rate change of 3% was put into action and the 2025 rate was increased to \$14.09 per thousand gallons; and

WHEREAS, the Consumer Price Index established an increase of 2.7% over the months of January to December 2025 and it has been determined that the needs of the ELSA Sewer Utility does not require such an increase and that the increase should be in a lesser percentage of amount of 1.5% or creating the rate per thousand gallons of \$14.30.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 17th day of February 2026, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey that the 2026 rate per thousand gallons to be charged to the users of the ELSA Sewer Utility shall be established at \$14.30.



Economic News Release

Consumer Price Index Summary

Transmission of material in this release is embargoed until
8:30 a.m. (ET) Tuesday, January 13, 2026 USDL-26-0042

Technical information: (202) 691-7000 * cpi_info@bls.gov * www.bls.gov/cpi
Media contact: (202) 691-5902 * PressOffice@bls.gov

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - DECEMBER 2025

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.3 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis in December, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Over the last 12 months, the all items index increased 2.7 percent before seasonal adjustment.

The index for shelter rose 0.4 percent in December and was the largest factor in the all items monthly increase. The food index increased 0.7 percent over the month as did the food at home index and the food away from home index. The index for energy rose 0.3 percent in December.

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.2 percent in December. Indexes that increased over the month include recreation, airline fares, medical care, apparel, personal care, and education. The indexes for communication, used cars and trucks, and household furnishings and operations were among the major indexes that decreased in December.

The all items index rose 2.7 percent for the 12 months ending December, the same increase as over the 12 months ending November. The all items less food and energy index rose 2.6 percent over the last 12 months. The energy index increased 2.3 percent for the 12 months ending December. The food index increased 3.1 percent over the last year.

Table A. Percent changes in CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average

	Seasonally adjusted changes from preceding month							Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Dec. 2025
	Jun. 2025	Jul. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sep. 2025	Oct. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2025	
All items	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.3	-	-	0.3	2.7
Food	0.3	0.0	0.5	0.2	-	-	0.7	3.1
Food at home	0.3	-0.1	0.6	0.3	-	-	0.7	2.4
Food away from home ⁽¹⁾	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.1	-	-	0.7	4.1
Energy	0.9	-1.1	0.7	1.5	-	-	0.3	2.3
Energy commodities	1.0	-1.9	1.7	3.8	-	-	-0.4	-3.0
Gasoline (all types)	1.0	-2.2	1.9	4.1	-2.1	3.0	-0.5	-3.4
Fuel oil	1.3	1.8	-0.3	0.6	-	-	-1.5	7.4
Energy services	0.9	-0.3	-0.2	-0.7	-	-	1.0	7.7
Electricity	1.0	-0.1	0.2	-0.5	-	-	-0.1	6.7
Utility (piped) gas service	0.5	-0.9	-1.6	-1.2	-	-	4.4	10.8
All items less food and energy	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	-	-	0.2	2.6
Commodities less food and energy commodities	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	-	-	0.0	1.4
New vehicles	-0.3	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.3
Used cars and trucks	-0.7	0.5	1.0	-0.4	0.7	0.3	-1.1	1.6
Apparel	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.7	-	-	0.6	0.6
Medical care commodities ⁽¹⁾	0.1	0.1	-0.3	-0.1	-	-	0.3	1.5
Services less energy services	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	-	-	0.3	3.0
Shelter	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.2	-	-	0.4	3.2
Transportation services	0.2	0.8	1.0	0.3	-	-	0.5	1.5
Medical care services	0.6	0.8	-0.1	0.3	-	-	0.4	3.5

Footnotes

⁽¹⁾ Not seasonally adjusted.

NOTE: The Oct and Nov 2025 data values are not available due to the 2025 lapse in appropriations.

Food

The index for food rose 0.7 percent in December as did the index for food at home. Five of the six major grocery store food group indexes increased in December. The index for other food at home rose 1.6 percent over the month. The cereals and bakery products index increased 0.6 percent in December. The index for fruits and vegetables increased 0.5 percent and the index for nonalcoholic beverages increased 0.4 percent. The dairy and related products index rose 0.9 percent in December. In contrast, the index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs decreased 0.2 percent in December, as the index for eggs fell 8.2 percent.

The food away from home index also rose 0.7 percent in December. The index for full service meals rose 0.8 percent over the month and the index for limited service meals increased 0.6 percent.

The index for food at home rose 2.4 percent over the 12 months ending in December. The meats, poultry, fish, and eggs index rose 3.9 percent over the last 12 months. The index for other food at home increased 2.7 percent over the same period and the index for nonalcoholic beverages rose 5.1 percent. The cereals and bakery products index increased 1.5

2-17-26

11-K

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

RESOLUTION #26-

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A
TEMPORARY CAPITAL BUDGET**

WHEREAS, The Township of Hopewell desires to establish the 2026 Temporary Capital Budget; and

WHEREAS, N. J.A.C. 5:30-4.4B provides for the adoption of a temporary capital budget when it is desired to approve capital projects prior to adoption of the capital budget;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 17th day of February 2026 by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the following temporary 2026 capital budget be adopted:

Section 1.

PROJECT	AMOUNT
Acquisition of a heavy duty grooming mower including all incidentals thereto	\$152,000.00
Total	\$152,000.00

Section 2

The funding sources of the capital program includes Open Space Capital Fund Balance in the amount of \$152,000.00.

2-17-26
11-L

TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION #

BILLS & CLAIMS #1

BE IT RESOLVED, that the list of cash disbursements authorized for approval of bills for payment dated **February 17, 2026** in the following amounts:

Bills and Claims	-	\$6,281,288.20
Payroll		\$438,464.38
Total Disbursements	-	\$6,719,752.58

Itemized and listed on the submitted schedule are hereby approved and filed as a record as part of the minutes of this meeting.

Date Adopted:

2-17-26
11-M

TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION #

BILLS & CLAIMS # 2

BE IT RESOLVED, that the list of cash disbursements authorized for approval of bills for payment dated **February 17, 2026** in the following amounts:

Bills and Claims	-	\$149.89
Payroll	-	\$0.00
Total Disbursements	-	\$149.89

Itemized and listed on the submitted schedule are hereby approved and filed as a record as part of the minutes of this meeting.

Date Adopted:

P.O. Type: All
Range: First to Last
Format: Condensed
Vendors: All
Rcvd Batch Id Range: First to Last

Open: N
Rcvd: Y
Bid: Y

Paid: N
Held: Y
State: Y

Void: N
Aprv: N
Other: Y
Exempt: Y

Include Non-Budgeted: Y

Vendor #	Name	PO #	PO Date	Description	Status	Amount	Void Amount	Contract	PO Type
AUB01	THE AUBREY GROUP								
		25-00529	03/28/25	CC#25-02 Grant writing service	Open	33.23	0.00		B
BEN13	MICHAEL BENINATO								
		26-00281	02/02/26	EMERGENCY MEAL REIMBURSEMENT	Open	20.65	0.00		
BLG2	BLG2 LLC								
		26-00351	02/09/26	ESCROW REFUND 48.01/ 9	Open	576.34	0.00		
BRA02	BRANDON FARMS CONDOMINIUM ASSO								
		25-01326	12/08/25	MONTHLY CONDO FEE MARCH 2026	Open	296.00	0.00		
CAN14	The Canning Group LLC								
		26-00316	02/09/26	2026 QPA services	Open	2,583.34	0.00		B
CEN26	CENTURY PEST CONTROL LLC								
		26-00084	01/08/26	2026 BLANKET PEST CONTROL	Open	85.00	0.00		B
CEN34	CENTURYLINK COMMUNICATIONS LLC								
		24-00998	08/14/24	911 center dispatch upgrades	Open	704.54	0.00		B
COM41	COMCAST								
		26-00363	02/11/26	COMCAST BUSINESS ACCOUNT	Open	149.89	0.00		
COR15	CORELOGIC								
		26-00298	02/03/26	B48 L5.01 209 PENN HARB RD	Open	6,576.74	0.00		
DES11	NIKHIL DESHPANDE								
		26-00353	02/09/26	ESCROW REFUND 78.14 / 4	Open	113.58	0.00		
EAR06	EARLE ASPHALT COMPANY								
		25-00919	07/18/25	Bid25-08 Drainage Nelson Ridge	Open	23,180.73	0.00		B
EPI01	EPIC SYSTEMS GROUP								
		26-00078	01/08/26	2026 BLANKET FIRE ALARM MAINT	Open	468.50	0.00		B
EWI10	PETROS and SONS INC OF EWING								
		26-00050	01/08/26	2026 BLANKET EMERGENCY MEALS	Open	643.10	0.00		B
FOR05	FORMS SPECIALIST INC								
		25-01369	12/22/25	OFFICER NOTE PADS	Open	369.99	0.00		
GAR22	BAYARD GARDINEER								
		26-00352	02/09/26	ESCROW REFUND 43.02 / 2	Open	385.47	0.00		
GEB02	GEBHARDT and KIEFER P C								
		25-00831	06/27/25	Conflict Legal ZBOA	Open	2,467.50	0.00		B

Vendor #	Name	PO #	PO Date	Description	Status	Amount	Void Amount	Contract	PO Type
HEA03	HEATH LUMBER								
		26-00234	01/28/26	2026 BLANKET PW BLDG MATERIALS	Open	78.00	0.00		B
HOG03	HOGAN SECURITY GROUP LLC								
		25-01367	12/22/25	EXIT DEVICE REPLACEMNET DPW	Open	2,777.27	0.00		
HOP04	HOPEWELL VALLEY REG SCHOOL DIS								
		26-00001	01/02/26	2026 Payments	Open	6,127,045.50	0.00		
INT20	Integrity Consulting Group								
		26-00317	02/09/26	2026 Benefit Consultant	Open	6,500.00	0.00		B
INT23	INTERMEDIA NET INC								
		26-00365	02/11/26	2025 email svcs ACCT 3906659	Open	1,998.59	0.00		B
		26-00366	02/11/26	2026 phone account 2555571	Open	2,460.72	0.00		B
						4,459.31			
JUS03	JUST RITE EQUIPMENT								
		25-01306	11/24/25	ROLLING SHUTTER FOR COUNTER	Open	7,131.93	0.00		
KNE02	RANDI MALKIEWICZ								
		26-00291	02/02/26	2026 REIMBURSEMENT FOR MILEAGE	Open	94.32	0.00		B
KON03	KONICA MINOLTA								
		26-00108	01/09/26	2026 COPIER LEASE POLICE	Open	386.76	0.00		B
		26-00294	02/02/26	COPIER LEASE UL 500-50523208	Open	868.86	0.00		B
		26-00295	02/02/26	HEALTH DPT COPIER 500-50605953	Open	757.76	0.00		B
						2,013.38			
KUL04	KULAK ARMS AND OUTFITTERS LLC								
		25-01351	12/15/25	BLAUER SOFTSHELL FLEECE JACKET	Open	1,067.16	0.00		
LEA06	LEAF Capital Funding LLC								
		26-00088	01/08/26	COPIERS DPW & LL	Open	678.47	0.00		B
LIN11	Francis P Linnus								
		25-00292	02/04/25	2025 general legal PB	Open	798.00	0.00		B
		26-00237	01/28/26	PB LEGAL MATTERS ESCROW	Open	2,965.00	0.00		
						3,763.00			
LIN13	LINDE GAS and EQUIPMENT INC								
		25-00029	01/06/25	2025 BLANKET CYCLINDER GASES	Open	226.39	0.00		B
MAJ02	MAJESTIC OIL CO								
		26-00149	01/12/26	2026 BLANKET FUELS, VEHICLES	Open	23,580.51	0.00		B
		26-00151	01/13/26	2026 BLANKET HEATING OIL	Open	530.26	0.00		
						24,110.77			
MAS04	MASON GRIFFIN AND PIERSON								
		25-00290	02/04/25	2025 legal services ZB	Open	2,747.67	0.00		B
MCM01	Mcmanimon Scotland Baumann								
		25-00294	02/04/25	Legal Non-escrow Redevelopment	Open	427.50	0.00		B

Vendor #	Name	PO #	PO Date	Description	Status	Amount	Void Amount	Contract	PO Type
MER05	MERCER COUNTY CHIEFS ASSOC								
		26-00181	01/21/26	2026 MEMBERSHIP DUES/POLICE	Open	275.00	0.00		
MER27	MERCER COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM								
		26-00110	01/09/26	2026 EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROG	Open	4,158.00	0.00		
MER71	MERCER CNTY BOARD OF TAXATION								
		26-00278	01/30/26	WINTER SEMINAR 2/20 ERNST	Open	75.00	0.00		
MIS06	DAVID MISIOLEK								
		26-00150	01/13/26	2026 BLANKET MILEAGE REIMBURSE	Open	89.90	0.00		B
NJC02	NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE OF MAYOR								
		26-00103	01/08/26	NJCM WINTER SUMMIT 2026	Open	100.00	0.00		
NJEZ	NJ EZ PASS								
		26-00113	01/09/26	2026 BLANKET POLICE EZ PASS	Open	43.00	0.00		B
NJL01	NJ LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES								
		26-00020	01/08/26	Job posting 2026 - Laborer	Open	115.00	0.00		
		26-00183	01/21/26	SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL	Open	150.00	0.00		
						265.00			
NJM02	NJMMA								
		26-00168	01/15/26	2026 NJMMA ANNUAL RENEWAL	Open	300.00	0.00		
NJW02	NJ WOMEN IN LAW ENFORCEMNT INC								
		26-00180	01/21/26	POLICE: ALLEN/MCCALLUM	Open	598.00	0.00		
OGI01	BELINDA L OGITIS								
		26-00265	01/29/26	2026 vision reimbursement -fam	Open	178.00	0.00		
ONE03	ONE CALL CONCEPTS INC								
		25-00066	01/06/25	2025 BLANKET UTILITY MARKOUTS	Open	72.20	0.00		B
PAL14	PALLADIN TOUR & TRAVEL LLC								
		25-00528	03/28/25	SINATRA BALANCE 3/26/2026	Open	850.00	0.00		
PEN11	PENNINGTON SUPERMARKET								
		26-00047	01/08/26	2026 BLANKET EMERGENCY MEALS	Open	35.46	0.00		B
		26-00107	01/09/26	2026 SENIOR REFRESHMENTS	Open	14.97	0.00		B
						50.43			
REL06	RELIABLE OFFICE SOLUTIONS INC								
		26-00104	01/08/26	Annual Copier contract COURT	Open	103.95	0.00		B
RJS01	RJ SHERMAN AND ASSOCIATES INC								
		25-00534	03/31/25	PARTS FOR WOOD CHIPPER #96	Open	126.42	0.00		
RM001	R MOSLOWSKI EXCAVATING INC								
		26-00152	01/13/26	REPLACE MANHOLE FRAME	Open	3,800.00	0.00		

Total Purchase Orders:	67	Total P.O. Line Items:	0	Total List Amount:	6,281,438.09	Total Void Amount:	0.00
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Totals by Year-Fund							
Fund Description	Fund	Budget Rcvd	Budget Held	Budget Total	Revenue Total	G/L Total	Total
	5-01	16,038.13	0.00	16,038.13	0.00	0.00	16,038.13
	5-05	7.60	0.00	7.60	0.00	0.00	7.60
	5-07	30.40	0.00	30.40	0.00	0.00	30.40
	5-10	34.20	0.00	34.20	0.00	0.00	34.20
Year Total:		16,110.33	0.00	16,110.33	0.00	0.00	16,110.33
	6-01	6,182,595.03	0.00	6,182,595.03	0.00	0.00	6,182,595.03
	6-05	26.10	0.00	26.10	0.00	0.00	26.10
	6-07	3,837.70	0.00	3,837.70	0.00	0.00	3,837.70
	6-10	20,029.94	0.00	20,029.94	0.00	0.00	20,029.94
Year Total:		6,206,488.77	0.00	6,206,488.77	0.00	0.00	6,206,488.77
	X-04	43,186.27	0.00	43,186.27	0.00	0.00	43,186.27
	X-14	296.00	0.00	296.00	0.00	0.00	296.00
	X-15	3,460.00	0.00	3,460.00	0.00	0.00	3,460.00
	X-21	11,896.72	0.00	11,896.72	0.00	0.00	11,896.72
Year Total:		58,838.99	0.00	58,838.99	0.00	0.00	58,838.99
Total of All Funds:		6,281,438.09	0.00	6,281,438.09	0.00	0.00	6,281,438.09

2-17-26

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**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

R E S O L U T I O N

EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Township Committee to discuss real estate, legal, contract negotiations and/or personnel matters; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 permits the Township Committee to conduct a meeting from which the public is excluded in order to discuss such matters; and

WHEREAS, the time when and circumstances under which discussion conducted in executive session may be disclosed to the public is when appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the Township Committee shall forthwith conduct an executive session to discuss the above.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the scope of the aforesaid executive session will be limited to the above matters as stated.