

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

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**Monday, January 12, 2026 – 6:30 p.m.**

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**PROPER STATEMENT OF NOTICE** – Mayor Chait called the meeting to order stating that notice of the meeting had been posted on the municipal bulletin board and forwarded to the Hopewell Valley News, the Trentonian, MercerMe, and the Hopewell Express (the official newspapers) on January 6, 2026, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.

**ROLL CALL:** Those answering the roll call of the Municipal Clerk:

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Kevin Kuchinski, Courtney Peters-Manning, Michael Ruger, Deputy Mayor Uma Purandare, Mayor David Chait

**ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** Administrator/Public Works Director George Snyder, Municipal Clerk Katherine Fenton-Newman, CFO Julie Troutman, Director of Community Development/Engineer Wendy Birkhead, Township Attorney Steve Goodell

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**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG** – Members of the Hopewell Township Police Department presented the colors and led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

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**PRESENTATION** - Appointment and Swearing in of Officers in the Police Department

Chief Rosso welcomed the friends and family of the soon to be appointed Officers; and he gave a brief biography of each officer and congratulated them.

**RESOLUTIONS #26-14 THROUGH #26-19.** Read by titles.

Motion by Peters-Manning, seconded by Ruger to adopt Resolutions #26-14 through #26-19.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

**R E S O L U T I O N #26-14**

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING NICHOLAS VENETTONE  
AS PATROL OFFICER IN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, on this 12th day of January, 2026, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey that Nicholas Venettone be and is hereby appointed as Patrol Officer in the Hopewell Township Police Department.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Nicholas Venettone is to be compensated at an annual salary of \$50,562 (Academy on the Twelve Step Chart from PBA contract for January 2022-December 2026).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this appointment is effective January 13, 2026.

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**R E S O L U T I O N #26-15**

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING KARLA JENKINS  
AS PATROL OFFICER IN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, on this 12th day of January, 2026, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey that Karla Jenkins be and is hereby appointed as Patrol Officer in the Hopewell Township Police Department.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Karla Jenkins is to be compensated at an annual salary of \$50,562 (Academy on the Twelve Step Chart from PBA contract for January 2022- December 2026).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this appointment is effective January 13, 2026.

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**R E S O L U T I O N #26-16**

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MILO DE LOS SANTOS  
AS PATROL OFFICER IN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, on this 12th day of January, 2026, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey that Milo De Los Santos be and is hereby appointed as Patrol Officer in the Hopewell Township Police Department.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Milo De Los Santos is to be compensated at an annual salary of \$50,562 (Academy on the Twelve Step Chart from PBA contract for January 2022- December 2026).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this appointment is effective January 13, 2026.

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**R E S O L U T I O N #26-17**

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING NICHOLAS WRIGHT  
AS PATROL OFFICER IN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, on this 12th day of January, 2026, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey that Nicholas Wright be and is hereby appointed as Patrol Officer in the Hopewell Township Police Department.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Nicholas Wright is to be compensated at an annual salary of \$50,562 (Academy on the Twelve Step Chart from PBA contract for January 2022- December 2026).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this appointment is effective January 13, 2026.

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**R E S O L U T I O N #26-18**

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING SARAH SHARPE  
AS PATROL OFFICER IN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, on this 12th day of January, 2026, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey that Sarah Sharpe be and is hereby appointed as Patrol Officer in the Hopewell Township Police Department.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Sarah Sharpe is to be compensated at an annual salary of \$50,562 (Academy on the Twelve Step Chart from PBA contract for January 2022- December 2026).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this appointment is effective January 13, 2026.

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**R E S O L U T I O N #26-19**

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING FREDERICK REINIGER  
AS PATROL OFFICER IN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, on this 12th day of January, 2026, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey that Frederick Reiniger be and is hereby appointed as Patrol Officer in the Hopewell Township Police Department.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Frederick Reiniger is to be compensated at an annual salary of \$50,562 (Academy on the Twelve Step Chart from PBA contract for January 2022-December 2026).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this appointment is effective January 13, 2026.

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**OATHS OF OFFICE**

Mayor Chait administered the Oaths of Office to Patrol Officers Nicholas Venettone, Karla Jenkins, Milo De Los Santos, Nicholas Wright, Sarah Sharpe, and Frederick Reiniger.

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**RESOLUTION #26-20.** Read by title.

Motion by Ruger, seconded by Peters-Manning to adopt Resolution #26-20, as amended.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

**R E S O L U T I O N #26-20**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PASSAGE OF THE NEW JERSEY IMMIGRANT  
TRUST ACT (BILLS S-5036/S-5038/A6309) AND REAFFIRMING HOPEWELL  
TOWNSHIP AS A FAIR AND WELCOMING COMMUNITY**

**WHEREAS**, on November 13, 2017, the Hopewell Township Committee adopted Resolution #17-350, declaring Hopewell Township a "Welcoming Community" and establishing guidelines to ensure that all residents are respected and protected regardless of immigration status; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee recognizes that community safety and prosperity rely upon a foundation of trust between residents and law enforcement, ensuring that victims and witnesses feel safe reporting crimes without fear of immigration consequences; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hopewell Township Police Department currently operates in accordance with the New Jersey Attorney General's Immigrant Trust Directive (Directive 2018-6), which strengthens community trust by:

1. Prohibiting state and local law enforcement officers from assisting federal immigration authorities (ICE) in civil immigration enforcement;
2. Restricting officers from inquiring about a person's immigration status unless relevant to a local criminal investigation; and
3. Limiting the sharing of non-public personal information or providing access to individuals in custody for the purpose of civil immigration enforcement; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Immigrant Trust Act (S-5036/S-5038/A6309) seeks to codify these vital protections into state statute, providing long-term legal certainty and ensuring that sensitive locations—including schools, hospitals, and places of worship—remain safe spaces for all members of the community; and

**WHEREAS**, the passage of the New Jersey Immigrant Trust Act would align state law with the values of Hopewell Township by restricting the use of local resources for federal civil immigration enforcement and protecting the personal data of our residents.

**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 of Hopewell hereby expresses its strong support for the passage of the New Jersey Immigrant Trust Act (S-5036/S-5038/A6309) to ensure the principles of the Immigrant Trust Directive are permanently codified in New Jersey law.
2. The Township reaffirms its commitment to being a Fair and Welcoming Community, where municipal services and law enforcement protections are accessible to all individuals regardless of their immigration status.

3. A copy of this resolution shall be transmitted to the Township's representatives in the New Jersey Senate and General Assembly, as well as the Governor of the State of New Jersey.

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**PROCLAMATION - HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF HEIDI KAHME**  
Read into the record in turn by Township Committee members.

## **Proclamation**

### **HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF HEIDI KAHME**

**WHEREAS**, Heidi Kahme has served the residents of Hopewell Township with distinction since October 6, 2006, dedicating nearly two decades of her professional life to the health, safety, and well-being of our community; and

**WHEREAS**, as the Coordinator of the Hopewell Valley Municipal Alliance, Heidi has been a tireless advocate for our youth, championing the "Healthy Communities • Healthy Youth" initiative and working to build the "40 Developmental Assets" necessary for children and teens to thrive; and

**WHEREAS**, Heidi's leadership has been instrumental in the success of vital community programs, including the Annual Mayors' Breakfast, Hopewell Valley's Night Off, the Teen Job Fair, and the "Caring for Our Kids" mental health symposiums; and

**WHEREAS**, she has served as a bridge between municipal government, the regional school district, law enforcement, and local families, fostering a united front against substance abuse and promoting social-emotional learning; and

**WHEREAS**, Heidi's expertise and dedication have been recognized beyond the Township borders, notably receiving accolades from the Mercer Council on Alcohol and Drug Addiction for her profound impact on the opioid epidemic and prevention education; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout her tenure, Heidi has been known not only for her professional competence and grant-writing success but for her creative flair, her "Salon Redux" leadership with the Arts Council, and her genuine passion for making Hopewell Valley a warmer, more connected place to live.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the Township officially recognizes and honors **HEIDI KAHME** on the occasion of her retirement. We extend our deepest gratitude for her eighteen-plus years of exemplary service, her unwavering commitment to the youth of Hopewell Valley, and her lasting legacy of health and wellness. We wish her a retirement filled with the same joy and fulfillment she has provided to so many in our community.

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**PROCLAMATION – DECLARING JANUARY 2026 AS RADON ACTION MONTH**  
Read into the record in turn by the Mayor and each Committee Member.

### **PROCLAMATION**

### **DECLARING JANUARY 2026 AS RADON ACTION MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that is the second leading cause of lung cancer; and

**WHEREAS**, prolonged exposure to radon can kill as many as 500 people in New Jersey each year; and

**WHEREAS**, families who reside in homes with elevated radon levels are at risk of developing serious health problems; and

**WHEREAS**, any home could have high levels, even when neighboring homes do not; and

**WHEREAS**, radon testing can be done with great ease at a relatively low expense to the homeowner, with the cost of reducing radon concentrations being comparable to a home repair; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, the New Jersey Department of Health and the United States Environmental Protection Agency are collaborating

during the month of January to promote the need for radon testing in an effort to protect the lives of our State's residents.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, David Chait, Mayor of Hopewell Township, on behalf of the Hopewell Township Committee and residents of Hopewell Township, do hereby proclaim the month of January 2026 as

### **RADON ACTION MONTH**

in the Township of Hopewell and call upon all residents who have not yet tested to test their homes for radon, and to reduce radon levels if elevated levels are found, to protect their families from the serious health risk of radon.

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### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND STAFF REPORTS**

Ms. Birkhead shared that the new Community Development Coordinated recently started.

Ms. Troutman provided updates on the 2026 Municipal Budget process.

Committee Member Ruger announced the upcoming Citizens Equity Advisory Committee and Woolsey Park Advisory Committee meetings.

Committee Member Kuchinski reported on the 2026 Municipal Budget process.

Committee Member Peters-Manning reported on the Police Department's re-accreditation process; and shared the most recent deer harvest figures.

Mayor Chait thanked the Public Works Department for their continued winter storm clean-up and annual collection efforts; announced the upcoming Youth Advisory Board and Tourism and Economic Development Advisory Committee meetings; and shared information regarding Restaurant Week.

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### **PUBLIC SECTION**

The following members of the public spoke during public comment:

**Andrew Borders**, a resident of Hilton Court, provided an update regarding the posted signage along Hilton Court; and requested information regarding the roadway design of Hilton Court.

**Deborah Miliaresis**, a resident of Flower Hill Terrace, requested information regarding the proposed properties identified in the Fourth Round of Affordable Housing plan; shared recommendations regarding the Sonoco Pipeline; and commented on traffic safety along the Route 31 circle.

The detailed public comment may be viewed at [www.hopewelltwp.org](http://www.hopewelltwp.org) in the video library.

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### **MINUTES SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL**

Motion by Peters-Manning, seconded by Purandare to approve December 15, 2025 Regular and Executive Meeting Minutes; December 30, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes; and January 5, 2026 Reorganization Meeting Minutes.

#### **MOTION CARRIED**

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### **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**RESOLUTIONS #26-21 THROUGH #26-25**, Read by title.

Motion by Kuchinski, seconded by Purandare to adopt Resolution #26-21 through #26-25.

#### **MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

**R E S O L U T I O N #26-21**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF PAID TAX DUE TO VETERAN EXEMPTION GRANTED ON BLOCK 95 LOT 13 AND CANCELLATION OF 2026 TAXES**

**WHEREAS**, Block 95 Lot 13, known as 340 Washington Crossing Pennington Rd, is assessed to Heller, Christopher and Ana; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Heller had applied for, and had been granted as of December 8, 2025 by the Assessor of the Township of Hopewell, the status of totally disabled veteran, and, as a totally disabled veteran, Mrs. Heller is exempt from paying New Jersey real estate taxes; and

**WHEREAS**, the effective date of eligibility as set by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs for Mrs. Heller was June 30, 2025; the date of request to the Township was December 8, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 23, 2010 the Township of Hopewell, Mercer County, did pass Resolution #10-224, establishing the policy and effective date of disability for exempt veterans to be “the date of disability as declared by the United States Department of Veterans Administration, not exceeding one year prior to the date of the request;” this Resolution was reaffirmed December 28, 2018 for the period of 2018-2025 (18-363); and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Heller’s exemption status is dated to June 30, 2025, the effective date of permanent and total disability as determined by the VA; and

**WHEREAS**, the Heller’s paid \$5,477.44 in tax for the period of June 30, 2025 to December 31, 2025; this amount should be cancelled and refunded; and

**WHEREAS**, as an exempt veteran Mrs. Heller’s taxes for the first half 2026 should be cancelled; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, on this 12<sup>th</sup> day January 2026 by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that these taxes on Block 95 Lot 13 be cancelled, and the Powers refunded \$5,477.44.

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**R E S O L U T I O N # 26-22**

**RESOLUTION FOR REDEMPTION  
OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATES**

**WHEREAS**, on November 30, 2023 William Rich Jr purchased Tax Sale Certificate 23-00017 for property located at Block 133 Lot 18 known as 1476 River Rd, assessed to Kevin Hoyer; this certificate was redeemed for \$33,354.88 on December 30, 2025 by Capital Title Agency, Title company for owner; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township can now release the principal and interest received, and any premium received at time of sale.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, on this 12th day of January 2026 that the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, Mercer County, State of New Jersey, hereby authorizes the Tax Collector to release the amounts listed to the Lien Holder as specified below:

<u>BLOCK/LOT</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>LIEN HOLDER</u>	<u>PREMIUM</u>
133/18	\$33,354.88	William Rich Jr	\$6,100.00

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**R E S O L U T I O N #26-23**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING  
REFUNDS FROM HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP  
ESCROW ACCOUNTS**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026 by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the individual so specified below be refunded the Escrow account balance and or fees for Planning Board applications have been completed:

<u>A/C#</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
X6923	Jay Neary 115 Lewis Brook Pennington, NJ 08534 Block 46.04 Lot 8.011	\$1,193.16

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**R E S O L U T I O N #26-24**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS FOR  
HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS**

**WHEREAS**, registration fees were paid for participation in a variety of programs sponsored by the Hopewell Township Recreation Department; and

**WHEREAS**, some participants have requested a refund in accordance with department policy.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, on this 12<sup>th</sup> of January, 2026 by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the following program refunds be and are hereby authorized:

Rosemary Forsyth	23 Fabrow Drive	Titusville, NJ 08560	\$35.00
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**R E S O L U T I O N #26-25**

**A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FEES FOR VARIOUS HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP  
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES**

**WHEREAS**, the Hopewell Township Parks and Recreation Department sponsors Community Trips for Hopewell Township Residents and their guests, and Programs for both youth and adults, for residents and non-residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the Recreation Director is recommending the following 2026 Program Fees:  
**2026 PROGRAM/ACTIVITY FEES**

	<u>Program Fee</u>	<u>Twp. Res. Fee</u>
<b>Community Trips</b>		
Various Community Day Trips	Range of \$40 to \$350 with \$10-\$15 higher cost to Non-Hopewell Township Residents	Range from \$300 - \$1000 no additional cost for Non-Residents
Various Over-Night Trips		
<b>Seasonal Programs/Activities</b>		
Children's Programs besides summer camps	Range of \$40 - \$350 with a \$0-\$20 higher cost to Non-Hopewell Township Residents depending on various influences including if it is run by an outside organization.	
Adult Programs	Range of \$40 - \$200 with a \$5-\$10 higher cost to Non-Hopewell Township Residents	
Senior Citizen Programs	Range of \$5-\$50 no additional cost for Non-Residents	
Family Programs (per family)	Range of \$5-\$50 with a \$0-\$5 higher cost to Non-Hopewell Township Residents depending on various influences including if it is run by an outside organization.	

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January 2026, that the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, approves the above 2026 Program/Activity Fee Schedule.

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SHOOTING GALLERIES LICENSE RENEWAL – Hanson, 189 Woosamonsa Road

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**RESOLUTION #26-26.** Read by title.

Motion by Kuchinski, seconded by Peters-Manning to adopt Resolution #26-26.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

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

**A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING KATHERINE FENTON-NEWMAN TO THE POSITION OF MUNICIPAL CLERK AND CONFERRING TENURE PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:9-133**

**WHEREAS**, Katherine Fenton-Newman was duly appointed to the position of Municipal Clerk in the Hopewell Township Municipal Clerk's Office for a three-year term effective February 1, 2023, through January 29, 2026, pursuant to Resolution #23-68; and

**WHEREAS**, Katherine Fenton-Newman is and has been certified as a Registered Municipal Clerk who will have served for three (3) consecutive years as of January 31, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:9-133 provides that a Registered Municipal Clerk who has served for three (3) consecutive years and is reappointed as Municipal Clerk shall attain tenure; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell desires to reappoint Katherine Fenton-Newman as Municipal Clerk, thereby conferring tenure of office.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that Katherine Fenton-Newman be and is hereby reappointed as Municipal Clerk for the Township of Hopewell, effective February 1, 2026, thus conferring tenure pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:9-133.

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**RESOLUTION #26-27.** Read by title.

Motion by Ruger, seconded by Peters-Manning to adopt Resolution #26-27.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

**R E S O L U T I O N #26-27**

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING DANIEL PSZCZOLKOWSKI AS LABORER IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**WHEREAS**, on this 12th day of January 2026 by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey that Daniel Pszczolkowski (presently employed as temporary laborer in the Public Works Department) be and is hereby appointed as Laborer in the Hopewell Township Public Works Department; and

**WHEREAS**, that Daniel Pszczolkowski be compensated at an annual salary of \$48,228.87; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that this appointment is effective January 13, 2026.

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**RESOLUTION #26-28.** Read by title.

Motion by Ruger, seconded by Peters-Manning to adopt Resolution #26-28.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

**R E S O L U T I O N #26-28**

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD**

**BE IT RESOLVED** on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January 2026, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that Elaine Smith is hereby appointed as a member to the Hopewell Township Senior Advisory Board for a two-year unexpired term expiring December 31, 2026.

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**RESOLUTION #26-29.** Read by title.

Motion by Ruger, seconded by Purandare to adopt Resolution #26-29.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

**R E S O L U T I O N #26-29**

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING MANDATORY DIRECT DEPOSIT FOR FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME TOWNSHIP EMPLOYEES, WITH AN EXEMPTION FOR TEMPORARY AND SEASONAL EMPLOYEES**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Hopewell seeks to promote efficient, secure, and cost-effective payroll administration; and

**WHEREAS**, the use of direct deposit for employee compensation reduces administrative costs, minimizes the risk of lost or stolen checks, and improves the timeliness and reliability of payroll distribution; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14-15f and related regulations, municipalities are authorized to require direct deposit of net pay for employees, subject to reasonable exemptions; and

**WHEREAS**, the use of direct deposit shall ensure the processing of payments in the event of a natural or man-made disaster or state of emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Administrator recommends that direct deposit be made mandatory for all full-time and part-time Township employees, with an exemption for temporary and seasonal employees whose limited duration of employment may make direct deposit impractical;

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

1. All full-time and part-time employees of the Township of Hopewell shall be required to receive their net pay through direct deposit to a financial institution of their choosing.
2. Temporary and seasonal employees are exempt from the mandatory direct deposit requirement and may receive paper checks unless they voluntarily elect direct deposit.
3. The Township Administrator, Chief Financial Officer, and Payroll Department are authorized to implement this policy, including the distribution and collection of required enrollment forms.
4. This resolution shall take effect immediately and shall apply to the first full payroll cycle following its adoption and submission of processing forms.

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**RESOLUTION #26-30.** Read by title.

Motion by Purandare, seconded by Peters-Manning to adopt Resolution #26-30.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

**R E S O L U T I O N #26-30**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP'S PARTICIPATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ASSUNPINK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, Hopewell Township, through its professionals, staff, and elected officials, has been engaging with the participants of the Assunpink Watershed work group organized by The Watershed Institute; and

**WHEREAS**, the group started meeting in September 2022 to discuss issues of stormwater management, flooding, and water pollution; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Hopewell, as well as all municipalities, are required by the 2023 Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit to develop a Watershed Improvement Plan (WIP) to reduce flooding, reduce water pollution, meet the pollution reduction goals in Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), and achieve designated uses for waterways within each municipality; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) encourages municipalities to interact with their neighboring municipalities and to develop the Watershed Improvement Plans on a regional basis; and

**WHEREAS**, The Watershed Institute has been awarded a grant by the NJDEP to develop a watershed management plan for the Assunpink Watershed and has contracted with Princeton Hydro to develop that plan; and

**WHEREAS**, in anticipation of receiving the grant, The Watershed Institute retained Princeton Hydro to develop a water quality monitoring program and monitor the water quality in the Assunpink Watershed so that the data could be used to develop the watershed management plan; and

**WHEREAS**, The Watershed Institute has retained Princeton Hydro to prepare the watershed management plan for the Assunpink Watershed, which will utilize water quality data, develop a matrix of best management practices (stormwater management systems) to address water pollution impairments and flooding, and identify potential locations, projects, and costs within the watershed to reduce water pollution and reduce flooding; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed watershed management plan will provide the technical components for the Watershed Assessment Report, thus reducing the work and cost to the municipality in preparing said report; and

**WHEREAS**, the watershed management plan is being prepared at no cost to the municipality.

**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, or their designee, are hereby authorized and directed to participate in the development of the watershed management plan by The Watershed Institute and Princeton Hydro.
2. The Township Committee, or their designee, are directed to provide to The Watershed Institute and Princeton Hydro any information or data that they reasonably request.
3. The Township Committee, or their designee, will participate in the regional meetings scheduled by The Watershed Institute.
4. The Township Committee, or their designee, will participate in the public information sessions required by the permit and will help facilitate the advertisement of the meetings.
5. The Township Committee, or their designee, will utilize the technical information from the watershed management plan to prepare the required Watershed Assessment Report.
6. The designee for the purposes of the development of the watershed management plan and meetings is: **Wendy Birkhead**.
7. A copy of this Resolution will be kept on file in the Office of the Township Clerk.

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**RESOLUTIONS #26-31 and #26-32.** Read by titles.

Motion by Purandare, seconded by Peters-Manning to adopt Resolutions #26-31 and #26-32.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

#### **R E S O L U T I O N #26-31**

#### **RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, GRANTING AUTHORITY FOR APPROVAL OF CERTAIN PURCHASES IN EXCESS OF THE BID THRESHOLD THROUGH NEW JERSEY STATE CONTRACTS AND/OR PURCHASING COOPERATIVES FOR 2026**

**WHEREAS**, a need exists for the acquisition of various goods and services contained within cooperative contracts and over the bid threshold as aggregation of commodities, for the daily operations of the Township of Hopewell; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Hopewell may, without advertising for bids, purchase such materials through the New Jersey State Purchase and Property State Contracts and other approved Regional Cooperative Purchasing Systems of which the Township of Hopewell is a member, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12, and N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29 et. Seq., and

**WHEREAS**, under the state cooperative contract, or designated regional cooperative contract award, the following vendors hold valid cooperative contracts in accord with the New Jersey Local Publics Contract Law.

Advanced Auto Parts	R-LD-23013-01	Omnia	Auto Parts	10/31/2028
Amazon	#RTC- 17006	Omnia	General merchandise	1/31/2026
American Hose & Hydraulic	40866	NJ State	T0126 - OEM & NON-OEM MAINTENANCE & REPAIR SERVICES FOR LIGHT/MEDIUM DUTY VEHICLES	3/17/2026
Applied Concepts, Inc, dba Stalker Radar	17-FLEET-00726	NJ State	T0106 - Law Enforcement Firearms Equipment and Supplies	5/14/2026
AXON Enterprises	17-FLEET-00738	T0106	Police Equipment/ Tasers	5/14/2026
Bergen Fence	BC 24-07	Bergen Co Op	Fencing	3/19/2026
Campbell Freightliner LLC	Somerset CC-0129-23	Somerset	Oriningal Equipment Manufactured Parts and Repairs, Heavy Duty Vehicles	11/21/2026
CDW	ESCNJ/AEPA-22G		Technology Supplies & Services	5/24/2026
Cintas Corporation	99297	Bergen	NOI - Facilities Management Products and Solutions – Uniform Rentals	10/31/2026
Cliffside Auto Body	23-26 & 23-26.1	Bergen Co-Op	Automotive - Mechanical Repair Services - CK04 COOP	1/16/2026
Continental Fire & Safety	17-FLEET-00802	T0790	Firefighter Protective Clothing and Equipment	6/14/2026
CONTINENTAL FIRE & SAFETY INC New Jersey Fire Equipment Co Tasc Fire Apparatus Inc. Globe Manufacturing Company LLC State Line Fire & Safety Inc MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERVICES Witmer Public Safety Group Inc. AAA Emergency Supply Co Inc	17-FLEET-00805		FIREFIGHTER GEAR	6/14/2026
Custom Bandag (Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.)	socCC- CC-0016-23		Tires, Tubes and Services	6/22/2026
Custom Bandag (Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.)	socCC-0016-21		Tires, Tubes and Services	6/13/2026
Dell	20-TELE-01510	M0003	Software License & Related Service	5/24/2026
Dell	<a href="#">24-TELE-71883</a>	M0483	Computer Equipment and Peripherals	6/30/2026
Eagle Point Gun	17-FLEET-00721	T0106	Law Enforcement Firearms Equipment and Supplies	5/31/2026
East Coast Emergency Lighting	23-FLEET-68813	NJ State	T0106 - Law Enforcement Firearms Equipment and Supplies	3/31/2027
East Coast Salt Distribution	24-49	Bergen	Bagged Ice melt Products	4/30/2026
Eastern Auto Parts	T2761	NJ State	Auto Parts	2/25/2026

Eastern Autoparts Warehouse	State 86011	NJ State	Fleet Parts and Accessories Non-OEM for Light duty Vehicles	2/25/2026
ELITE EMERGENCY SERVICES	17-FLEET-00749		EMERGENCY LIGHTING AND OTHER VEHICLE ACCESSORIES	5/14/2026
Firefighter One LLC	17-FLEET-00807	T0790	Police Security Equipment and Supplies	6/14/2026
Firefighter One LLC	17-FLEET-00734	T-0106	Police Security Equipment and Supplies	5/14/2026
Firefighter One LLC HAIX north america All Hands Fire Equipment Witmer Public Safety Group Inc. Skylands Area Fire Equipment & Training LLC DiVal Safety & Equipment	17-FLEET-00809/00810/00810	NJ State	T0790 Firefighter Protective Clothing and Equipment	6/14/2024
Foveonics	ESCNJ 22/23-11	ESCNJ	Document Imaging	6/30/2026
Gabrielli Kenworth of NJ LLC	Somerset CC-0129-23	Somerset	Original Equipment Manufactured Parts and Repairs, Heavy Duty Vehicles	11/21/2026
Gabrielli Truck Sales	97568		BC-BID-21-60 - Automotive Parts and Accessories - COOP	8/13/2026
Goosetown Enterprises	83892	NJ State	T0109 - RADIO COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES	4/30/2026
Home Depot/ Lowes	<a href="#">18-FLEET-00234</a>	NJ State	Hardware and building supply	12/31/2026
Hudson County Motors	24-36	Bergen Co-op	Large Scale: Parts & Repair Services - CK04 COOP	12/3/2026
Majestic Oil	19-FOOD-01098		T1845 Ultra-Low Sulfur Diesel and Biodiesel Fuel	04/01/2020 03/31/2026
Majestic Oil	19-FLEET-00972		T0083 Unleaded Automotive Gasoline	11/01/2019-10/31/2026
Millennium Strategies	120904	Bergen	BC-RFP-22-008 - Grant Writing Services Coop	6/14/2026
Morton Salt	CONTRACT #3: ROCK SALT & CALCIUM CHLORIDE		MCCPC	10/31/2026
Motorola Solutions	83909	T0109	Radio Communications Equipment and Accessories	4/30/2026
Motorola Solutions	83925	T0109	Radio Communications Equipment and Accessories	4/30/2026
Motorola Solutions	23-FLEET-33791	T0106	Law Enforcement Firearms Equipment and Supplies	5/31/2026
Municipal Emergency Services	17-FLEET-00818	T0790	Firefighter Protective Clothing and Equipment	6/2026
NORTHEAST COMMUNICATIONS	83898	T0109	RADIO COMMUNICATIONS	4/30/2026
Rachle Micheles	Gasoline, Diesel, Fuel Oil: Bergen County Coop	Bergen	23-34	3/2/2026
Rachle Micheles	<a href="#">19-FOOD-01099</a>	NJ State	T1845 Ultra-Low Sulfur Diesel and Biodiesel Fuel	3/31/2026
Rachle Micheles	<a href="#">19-FLEET-00973</a>	NJ State	T0083 Unleaded Automotive Gasoline	3/31/2026
Rapid Pump & Meter		Bergen	BC-BID-21-13 - Pump and Meter Repair Services - Catalog - COOP	10/18/2026
Rapid Pump & Meter		Bergen	BC-C-23-017 24 MONTH ELECTRICAL AND	10/19/2024

MECHANICAL SERVICE CONTRACT				
SHI International	New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Alliance	CK-04/ BC Bid 22-24	Computer equipment, software and peripherals	6/1/2026
Taylor Oil Company	<a href="#">19-FOOD-01097</a>	NJ State	T1845 Ultra-Low Sulfur Diesel and Biodiesel Fuel	3/31/2026
Tony Sanchez Ltd	83906		T2108 - MAINT. & REPAIR FOR HEAVY DUTY VEHICLES (CLASS 5 OR HIGHER, OVER 15,000 LB GVWR)	11/20/2026
WB Mason	ESCNJ 21/22-22	ESCNJ	Office Supplies	1/31/2026
WB Mason	24-COMG-78752	State Contract	T0052 Office Supplies and Recycled Copy Paper Statewide	2/28/2027
IMPAC UNIVERSAL FUEL SERVICES (D/B/A MANSFIELD OIL COMPANY)	24-GNSV1-52509	10/18/2026	M2022 - FUEL CREDIT SERVICES STATEWIDE	10/18/2026
WB Mason	24-COMG-78752	State Contract	T0052 Office Supplies and Recycled Copy Paper Statewide	2/28/2027

**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 Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) upon receipt of an identified need and direction from the Township is hereby authorized to approve purchases in the aggregate over the bid threshold from the list of approved cooperative contract, through New Jersey State Contracts and/or Purchasing Cooperatives to which the Township of Hopewell is a member without further action from the Township Committee, provided that funds are available to cover the expenditure.
2. Purchase approvals made by the Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) by virtue of the adoption of this Resolution shall be subject to the provisions and requirements of the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq. and that no amount of any contract shall be in excess of the bid threshold in a single purchase or the aggregate without express individual resolutions authorizing such cooperative purchases by contract number.

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**R E S O L U T I O N #26-32**

**GRANTING AUTHORITY FOR APPROVAL OF CERTAIN PURCHASES THROUGH NEW JERSEY STATE CONTRACTS AND/OR PURCHASING COOPERATIVES FOR 2026**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq. and P.L.2011, c.139, the governing body may delegate the power to award purchases, contracts and/or agreements through New Jersey State Contracts and/or Purchasing Cooperatives to which the Township of Hopewell is a member; and

**WHEREAS**, in the interest of streamlining Township operations and improving efficiency, it is the desire of the Township Committee to authorize the Purchasing Officer/Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) to approve purchases, contracts and agreements through New Jersey State Contracts and/or Purchasing Cooperatives, subject to provisions and requirements of the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq. and P.L.2011, c.139 below the \$53,000.00 threshold in individual purchases and the aggregate as defined by N.J.S.A.40A:11-2(19);

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell that the Purchasing Officer/Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) upon receipt of an

identified need and direction from the Township is hereby authorized to approve purchases, contracts and/or agreements through New Jersey State Contracts and/or Purchasing Cooperatives to which the Township of Hopewell is a member without further action from Council, provided that funds are available to cover the expenditure.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, Purchase approvals made by the Purchasing Officer/Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) by virtue of the adoption of this Resolution shall be subject to the provisions and requirements of the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq. and that no amount of any contract shall be in excess of the bid threshold in a single purchase or the aggregate without express individual resolutions authorizing such cooperative purchases by contract number.

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**RESOLUTION #26-33.** Read by title.

Motion by Kuchinski, seconded by Peters-Manning to adopt Resolution #26-33.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

**R E S O L U T I O N #26-33**

**RESOLUTION FOR EXTENSION OF AWARD FOR BID #23-01  
BRUSH GRINDING SERVICES TO BRITTON INDUSTRIES**

**WHEREAS**, the Township has advertised and received formal bids for Bid #23-01 Brush Grinding Services, in a Fair and Open manner in accord with N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.5 et. Seq., and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Hopewell by Resolution #23-80 awarded Britton Industries a two (2) year contract; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Hopewell by Resolution #25-59, extended Britton Industries for a one (1) year extension; and

**WHEREAS** the New Jersey Local Publics Contract Law at N.J.S.A. 40A:11-15 provides for authorization to extend contracts for two (2), one (1) year extensions; and

**WHEREAS** Britton Industries has agreed to extend services for the same rate as in 2025, for a rate of unprocessed brush and stumps to \$5.59/CY.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, Mercer County, New Jersey, that the award of contract under Resolution #25-59 to Britton Industries 227 Bakers Basin Rd., Lawrenceville, N.J for a one (1) year extension at the rate of \$5.59 per cubic yard of unprocessed brush; is hereby extended under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-15; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, Mercer County, New Jersey, that the Mayor is authorized to effectuate a contract with Britton Industries 227 Bakers Basin Rd., Lawrenceville, N.J, reflecting the precepts as contained within this agreement.

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**RESOLUTION #26-34.** Read by title.

Motion by Peters-Manning, seconded by Purandare to adopt Resolution #26-34.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

**R E S O L U T I O N #26-34**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL CHANGE ORDER #1 TO BID #25-10, 2025 MICRO PAVING PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Hopewell awarded Bid # 25-10 2025 Micro Paving Program through resolution 25-321 to Asphalt Paving Systems Inc, PO Box 530, Hammonton, New Jersey 08037, in the amount of \$693,727.23; and

**WHEREAS**, the design engineers Van Cleef Engineering have concluded the change order is necessary for a downward adjustment of contract quantities; and

**WHEREAS**, the amount of change order is a minor modification and represents a \$4,821.26 decrease in the contract amount, giving the new contract amount of \$688,905.97;

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-11.3, the change order has not caused the originally awarded contract price to be exceeded by more than 20 percent; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, in the County of Mercer and State of New Jersey, that it authorizes a written amendment in the form of Change Order #1 in the amount of a decrease of \$4,821.26 for a total contract price of \$688,905.97.

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**RESOLUTION #26-35.** Read by title.

Motion by Kuchinski, seconded by Peters-Manning to adopt Resolution #26-35.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

**R E S O L U T I O N #26-35**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT  
IN A NON-FAIR AND OPEN MANNER**

**WHEREAS**, there exists a need for professional services related to the annual audit for the Township; and

**WHEREAS**, Inverso & Stewart, 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 Inverso & Stewart in a non-fair and open manner in accord with N.J.S.A.19:44A-20.5; and

**WHEREAS**, Inverso & Stewart, has provided for a Business Entity Disclosure and Political Contribution Disclosure in accord with N.J.S.A.19:44A-20.5 indicating Inverso & Stewart has 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 is not to exceed \$38,000.00 for services related to the annual audit; and as certified by the chief financial officer as encumbered in the accounts referenced below that funds are available for this purpose as:

6-01-20-135-028	\$33,000.00;	6-05-55-502-028	\$1,000.00;
6-07-55-502-028	\$ 3,000.00;	6-10-55-502-028	\$1,000.00; 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** on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January 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 Inverso & Stewart for annual audit 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 Clerks office and available for public inspection.

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**RESOLUTIONS #26-36 through #26-38.** Read by titles.

Motion by Purandare, seconded by Kuchinski to adopt Resolutions #26-36 through #26-38.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**AYES:** Kuchinski, Peters-Manning, Ruger, Deputy Mayor Purandare, Mayor Chait  
**NOES:** None

**R E S O L U T I O N #26-36**

**DEBT SERVICE MATURATION RESOLUTION  
(MATURING ON FEBRUARY 1, 2026)**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-19 provides authority for appropriating in a resolution the permanent debt service requirement for the coming fiscal year; and

**WHEREAS**, debt service payments will be due on February 1, 2026 on a 2020 Refunding Bond issued and outstanding;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** on this 12th day of January 2026, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the following appropriations be made to cover the payments due February 1, 2026.

**DEBT SERVICE – TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL - 2020 REFUNDING BOND**

	Principal	Interest
Affordable Housing	\$635,000.00	\$57,898.30
Open Space	\$230,000.00	\$20,665.18
<b>Total 2020 Refunding Bond</b>	<b>\$865,000.00</b>	<b>\$78,563.48</b>

**R E S O L U T I O N #26-37**

**DEBT SERVICE MATURATION RESOLUTION  
STONY BROOK REGIONAL SEWER UTILITY  
(MATURING ON FEBRUARY 1, 2026)**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-19 provides authority for appropriating in a resolution the permanent debt service requirement for the coming fiscal year; and

**WHEREAS**, debt service payments will be due on February 1, 2026 on a 2025 iBank Loan Series A-SW1/C-SW1 issued and outstanding;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** on this 12th day of January 2026, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the following appropriations be made to cover the payments due February 1, 2026.

**DEBT SERVICE – SBRSA 2025 iBank Loan Series A-SW1/C-SW1**

	Principal	Interest and Fees	Total
iBank Fund Loan Series	\$2,118.61	\$15,196.64	\$17,271.40

**R E S O L U T I O N #26-38**

**DEBT SERVICE MATURATION RESOLUTION  
(MATURING ON FEBRUARY 15, 2026)**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-19 provides authority for appropriating in a resolution the permanent debt service requirement for the coming fiscal year; and

**WHEREAS**, debt service payments will be due on February 15, 2026 on a 2017 Refunding Bond issued and outstanding;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January 2026, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the following appropriations be made to cover the payments due February 15, 2026.

**DEBT SERVICE – TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL 2017 REFUNDING BONDS**

	Principal	Interest

Current Fund	\$836,500.00	\$35,276.40
Affordable Housing	\$263,040.00	\$26,249.20
Open Space	\$420,460.00	\$41,674.40
<b>Total 2017 Refunding Bond</b>	<b>\$1,520,000.00</b>	<b>\$103,200.00</b>

**RESOLUTION #26-39.** Read by title.

Motion by Peters-Manning, seconded by Purandare to adopt Resolution #26-39.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**AYES:** Kuchinski, Peters-Manning, Ruger, Deputy Mayor Purandare, Mayor Chait

**NOES:** None

**R E S O L U T I O N #26-39****BILLS & CLAIMS #1**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the list of cash disbursements authorized for approval of bills for payment date January 12, 2026 in the following amounts:

Bills and Claims	\$ 884,075.86
Payroll	\$ 439,063.84
Total Disbursements	\$ 1,323,139.70

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

**RESOLUTION #26-40.** Read by title.

Motion by Kuchinski, seconded by Ruger to adopt Resolution #26-40.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**AYES:** Kuchinski, Peters-Manning, Ruger, Mayor Chait

**NOES:** None

**ABSTAIN:** Deputy Mayor Purandare

**R E S O L U T I O N #26-40****BILLS & CLAIMS #2**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the list of cash disbursements authorized for approval of bills for payment date January 12, 2026 in the following amounts:

Bills and Claims	\$ 170.60
Payroll	\$ 0.00
Total Disbursements	\$ 170.60

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

**PUBLIC SECTION**

The following members of the public spoke during public comment:

**JoLynn Moloughney**, Municipal Policy Specialist for The Watershed Institute, thanked the Township Committee and Ms. Birkhead for their commitment to participate in the Assunpink Watershed Management Plan.

The detailed public comment may be viewed at [www.hopewelltwp.org](http://www.hopewelltwp.org) in the video library.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION.** Read into the record.

Mayor Chait stated that the regular meeting may reconvene following the Executive Session.

Motion by Peters-Manning, seconded by Kuchinski to go to Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations, real estate, legal and personnel matters.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

**R E S O L U T I O N #26-41**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary for the Township Committee to discuss contract negotiations, real estate, legal, 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 Township Committee wishes to discuss the following:

- Litigation
- Real Estate
- Personnel
- Contracts

**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**, on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026 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.

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At 7:42 p.m. the Executive Session was held.

At 8:16 p.m. the Regular meeting reconvened.

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At 8:16 p.m., motion by Kuchinski, seconded by Purandare to adjourn the meeting.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

The detailed public meeting may be viewed at [www.hopewelltwp.org](http://www.hopewelltwp.org) in the video library.

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KATHERINE FENTON-NEWMAN  
MUNICIPAL CLERK