MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEEHAWKEN, COUNTY OF HUDSON, MUNICIPAL BUILDING IN SAID TOWNSHIP ON WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2026

CONVENED: 7:02 PM

Mayor Turner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilpersons Sosa, Silvestri-Ehret, Lavagnino, Curtis, Turner
Absent: None.

Mayor Turner: The notice requirements provided for in the "Open Public Meetings Act" have been satisfied. Notice of this meeting was properly given in the Annual Notice which was adopted by the Township Council on **December 22ND 2025.** Said Resolution was transmitted by the Township Clerk and a notice is posted in the Council Chambers of this Municipal Building.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: None

DISCUSSIONS FROM OFFICIALS: None to be heard.

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Roger Desmond Letters, C,D,F

Faye Boatright Letters, C & F

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mayor Turner opened for Hearing on the Solid waste budget 2026

Collection District Budget
ip of Weehawken
ear Ending December 31, 2026

ropriations Summaries

Summary of Revenues	Approved 2026 Budget	Approved 2025 Budget
1. Surplus	0	0
2. District Tax Levy	2,809,164.90	2,754,083.24
Total Solid Waste Collection District Revenues	2,809,164.90	2,754,083.24

Summary of Appropriations	Approved 2026 Budget	Approved 2025 Budget
1. Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages	857,100.00	830,050.19
Other Expenses	1,342,177.20	1,415,522.65
2. Administrative Expenses: Salaries & Wages	277,000.00	253,019.84
Other Expenses	149,450.00	71,700.00
3. Statutory Expenses	183,437.70	183,790.56
Total Solid Waste Collection District Appropriations	2,809,164.90	2,754,083.24

Faye Boatright wanted explanation on expenses

Mayor Turner explained

Motion to close hearing and adopt.

On motion by Councilwoman Silvestri-Ehret, seconded by Councilman Curtis , the foregoing budget was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Sosa, Silvestri-Ehret, Lavagnino, Curtis, Turner
Nays: None
Absent: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilwoman Lavagnino introduced the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the following listed Tax Sale Certificates of the Township of Weehawken, which were sold at the Tax Sale for delinquent taxes assessed against properties identified below, were redeemed by the person or entity and in the amount shown below for each redemption, which funds have been received by the Township, and the premiums, if any, for these certificates have been received by, and are being held by, the Township:

Tax Sale Certificate No.	Name of tax sale Certificate Purchaser	Block / Lot	Property Address	Name of Redeeming Property Owner/Taxpayer	Amount of Redemption	Amount of Premium
25-00001	Trystone Capital Assets LLC	B30/L26	218 Maple St.	Lereta/218 Maple St. CO.	$20,353.44	$26,600

TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REDEMPTIONS RECEIVED
TO BE REFUNDED UNDER THIS RESOLUTION Redemption $ 20,353.44
Premium $ 26,600.00

WHEREAS, the proceeds of each such redemption are now required by law to be turned over by the Township to the said Purchaser of the Tax Sale Certificate, and the premium, if any, of each such redemption is now required by law to be returned by the Township to the said Purchaser of the Tax Sale Certificate,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Weehawken that the sums shown above for each of the Tax Sale Certificates listed be paid over by the Township to the Tax Sale Certificate Purchaser in each case; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the premium amounts, if any, shown above for each of the Tax Sale Certificates listed be returned by the Township to the Tax Sale Certificate Purchaser in each case.

Councilwoman Lavagnino introduced the following resolution;

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A STATE OF NEW JERSEY SFY 2026 SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITIES GRANT

WHEREAS, the Township of Weehawken has been awarded a grant in the amount of $45,150.00 through the State Fiscal Year 2026 Safe and Secure Communities Grant Program, administered by the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General; and

WHEREAS, said grant award has been assigned Grant Number 26-0911 by the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety; and

WHEREAS, the period of performance for said grant award shall commence on March 5, 2026 and conclude on March 4, 2027; and

WHEREAS, the grant award will be supported by local salary costs provided by the Township of Weehawken, resulting in an approximate total project cost of $442,486; and

WHEREAS, the grant funds will be used to partially offset existing, ongoing salary costs associated with public safety operations that are already budgeted and incurred by the Township of Weehawken, thereby supporting the continued provision of essential police services without the creation of new positions and in a manner consistent with the objectives of the Safe and Secure Communities Grant Program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Weehawken, County of Hudson, State of New Jersey, that:

1. The Township of Weehawken is hereby authorized to accept the SFY 2026 Safe and Secure Communities Grant in the amount of $45,150.00, together with the local salary contribution, for the purposes set forth in the approved grant application.
2. The Mayor of the Township of Weehawken and the Public Safety Director are hereby authorized to execute any and all agreements and documents necessary to effectuate the acceptance and implementation of this grant award.
3.

On motion by Councilwoman Lavagnino, seconded by Councilman Sosa , the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Sosa, Silvestri-Ehret, Lavagnino, Curtis, Turner
Nays: None
Absent: None

Councilwoman Lavagnino introduced the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Township of Weehawken (hereinafter referred to as the "Employer"), by resolution, adopted a Deferred Compensation Plan (hereinafter referred to as the "Plan") effective February 1st 1993 for the purpose of making available to eligible employees the accrual of tax benefits under a Section 457 Deferred Compensation Plan; and

WHEREAS the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 amended Section 402A(e)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (the "Code"); and

WHEREAS, the Employer wants its Plan to add Roth provisions brought about by the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Employer desires to adopt a restated Plan that is substantially similar to one on which a favorable Private Letter Ruling has been previously obtained from the federal Internal Revenue Service including provisions of The Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996 (United States Public Law No. 104-188), the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 (United States Public Law No. 105-34), the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 (United States Public Law No. 107-16), Section 401(a)(9) of the Internal Revenue code, the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010, and all such provisions are stated in the plan in terms substantially similar to the text of those provisions in the Code Section 457 including pertinent applicable Treasury Regulations. The use of the Ruling is for guidance only and acknowledges that for Internal Revenue Service purposes, the Ruling of another employer is not to be considered precedent; and

WHEREAS, such revised Plan shall supersede the previously adopted Plan,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Weehawken that the Township of Weehawken hereby adopts the attached Restatement to the

Deferred Compensation Plan Document from 02-PD-Equitable-E020402 to the revised Plan 20-PD- EQUITABLE-091720; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

On motion by Councilwoman Lavagnino, seconded by Councilman Sosa , the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Sosa, Silvestri-Ehret, Lavagnino, Curtis, Turner
Nays: None
Absent: None

Mayor Turner introduced the following resolution:

TOWNSHIP OF WEEHAWKEN
HUDSON COUNTY NEW JERSEY

Hudson County Community College
50th Anniversary Celebration
"50 and Forward"

WHEREAS, (name of municipality) is proud to recognize **Hudson County Community College** during their 50th Anniversary celebration; and

WHEREAS, Hudson County Community College has proudly **served as one of the nation's most diverse, urban community colleges for 50 years,** offering transformative educational and economic opportunities to more than 24,000 credit and non-credit students annually; and

WHEREAS, Hudson County Community College is one of more than thirteen hundred community and technical colleges in the United States, public and private, that contribute enormously to the richness and accessibility of American higher education; and

WHEREAS, Hudson County Community College has been nationally recognized for student success, having increased its three-year graduation rate by 85% in the past five years, earning Achieving the Dream "Leader College of Distinction" designation, and receiving the 2023 National Bellwether Award and 2024 National Bellwether Legacy Award for its Hudson Scholars Program; and

WHEREAS, Hudson County Community College provides educational opportunities at costs and locations accessible to all, thus producing enhanced opportunities for students to enter a postsecondary school program, and offering varied programs and specialized training for more than one thousand occupations; and

WHEREAS, Hudson County Community College consistently offers best-practice, **transformative educational and economic opportunities for all residents of Hudson County,** with 90 degree and certificate programs, including nationally recognized programs in Culinary Arts, Nursing and Health Professions, Business, STEM including Cybersecurity (designated a Center of Academic Excellence by the National Security Agency), Advanced Manufacturing, and Construction Technology; Humanities and Social Sciences; and a wide range of Continuing Education and Workforce Development credentials; and

WHEREAS, Hudson County Community College is committed to fostering a culture of care and supporting students beyond the classroom by providing food pantries on both campuses, a clothing closet, mental health and social work counseling services, emergency funding for students, and has been awarded the Campus Prevention Network Seal of Prevention by Vector Solutions; and

WHEREAS, Hudson County Community College has invested in state-of-the-art facilities to support academic excellence and student success, including the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Building; award-winning Gabert Library with the

Benjamin J. Dineen III and Dennis C. Hull Gallery; signature Culinary Arts Conference Center with Bloomberg Finance Lab; comprehensive and state-of-the-art North Hudson Campus; Student Center; and the new 11-story Center for Student Success currently under construction; and

WHEREAS, Hudson County Community College has forged innovative and productive partnerships with K-12 and higher education institutions, business and industry leaders, local, state and federal government and non-government agencies, and others that have resulted in the creation of the HCCC Early College program (high school students graduate with an associate degree prior to receiving high school diplomas), internships and mentoring programs, dual-education programs, reentry education programs, and more; and

WHEREAS, the Hudson County Community College Foundation has raised more than $3.5 million for scholarships, and the College has awarded over $2.3 million annually in financial aid through the Community College Opportunity Grant, and secured major federal and private grants including a $3 million Title V grant to expand opportunities for Hispanic and Latino students, and a $1.75 million U.S. Department of Labor grant for workforce development; and

WHEREAS, Hudson County Community College has been recognized repeatedly for excellence and equity, including the *INSIGHT Into Academia* Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award (five consecutive years) and HEED Champion Award (two consecutive years), "Great Colleges to Work For" Honor Roll distinction, and multiple national awards for faculty, staff, and students; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT I,RICHARD F. TURNER, MAYOR of the Township of Weehawken hereby proudly proclaim September 2025 through September 2026 the

50th ANNIVERSARY YEAR OF CELEBRATION OF HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In the Township of Weehawken, in recognition of the College's half-century of extraordinary contributions and excellence in higher education, student achievement, and community engagement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, and Township Council commends Hudson County Community College's students, alumni, faculty, staff, leadership, and community partners, whose commitment and achievements have shaped HCCC's half-century legacy of access, innovation, and excellence.

On motion by Councilwoman Lavagnino, seconded by Councilman Sosa , the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Sosa, Silvestri-Ehret, Lavagnino, Curtis, Turner
Nays: None
Absent: None

Councilman Curtis introduced the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Township experienced an emergency need for extraordinary Snow Clearing and Removal Services and for the Replacement of a DPW Garage Door; and

WHEREAS, these are emergent matters since the nature of the conditions affects the public health, safety and welfare of the Township residents, property owners and visitors, for the reasons stated in the attached certification of the Township Manager; and

WHEREAS, the maximum amount of the contracts in question is $221,294.50 and a written request for the acquisition of such goods and services has been filed with the Finance Department by the Township Manager; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Township has certified that sufficient funds are available for the payment thereof in account #740022680, as evidenced by the attached

Certificate of Availability of Funds, or if said funds have not been budgeted, the Council intends to make appropriate provision in the 2025-2026 and other fiscal year budgets to provide for these payments,

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6, et seq.) requires that the resolution authorizing the award of contracts for "Emergency purchases and contracts" without competitive bids and the contract(s) themselves, if any, must be available for public inspection; and

WHEREAS, the Township Manager has certified that this meets the statute and regulations governing the award of said contracts,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Weehawken that the invoice(s) of **J&G Cruz Trucking LLC, Century Waste Services, LLC, Filco Industries, Inc.** and of **Plescia Building, Maintenance & Repair, Inc.** for **EMERGENCY SNOW CLEARING and REMOVAL EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES**, and of **Lombardy Door Sales & Service Corp.** for the **REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT of a DPW GARAGE DOOR** be and are hereby approved, and the Township Manager is hereby authorized, upon fulfillment of any and all conditions, to arrange for payment of the invoice(s) from the said contractor(s) for the goods and services supplied for the following amounts:

J&G Cruz Trucking LLC	-	$70,775.00
Century Waste Services, LLC	-	$22,950.00
Filco Industries, Inc.	-	$42,477.50
Plescia Building, Maintenance & Repair, Inc.	-	$72,650.00
Lombardy Door Sales & Service Corp.	-	$12,442.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the payments of each such invoice is conditioned upon the applicable contractor delivering to the Township Clerk all original, completed documents in proper form and content as may be necessary to comply with any and all applicable Public Contact laws, rules and regulations, including but not limited to affirmative action, prevailing wage, Business Registration and Public Works Contractors Registration.

On motion by Councilman Curtis, seconded by Councilwoman Lavagnino , the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Sosa, Silvestri-Ehret, Lavagnino, Curtis, Turner
Nays: None
Absent: None

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

On motion by Councilman Sosa , seconded by Councilwoman Silvestri-Ehret , all bills found to be correct and properly audited with all proper exemptions and recusals be paid provided funds are sufficient and appropriated.

Ayes: Sosa, Silvestri-Ehret, Lavagnino, Curtis, Turner
Nays: None
Absent: None

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

At this time Mayor Turner asked the public if anyone wished to address the Council;

Faye Boatright	***9 Bellevue Terrace***
Steven Sperber	***29 Hudson Place***
Tina Iordamlis	***104 Jefferson***
Roger Desmond	***Sterling Avenue***

There being no further business to come before the Township Council, motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn. So moved.

Mayor Turner announced the next Regular Meeting will be held on February 25, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:51 PM