

TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM
TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 6, 2026
EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:30 P.M.
REGULAR SESSION – 7:30 P.M.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER –Mayor Rubenstein called the meeting to order.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Both adequate and electronic notice of the meeting has been provided, specifying the time and place. In addition, a copy of this notice is available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk, posted on the main door, the bulletin board of the Municipal Building, on the Township website at: https://www.byramtwp.org/index.php/town_hall/township_council, and has been forwarded to those persons requesting notice.

ROLL CALL OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL –Councilman Esposito, here; Councilwoman Franco, here; Councilman Gallagher, here; Councilman Proctor, here; Mayor Rubenstein, here. Also present was Township Manager Joseph Sabatini, Township Attorney Tom Collins and Township Clerk, Cynthia Church

RESOLUTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Gallagher, to go into executive session and adopt the below resolution.

RESOLUTION

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

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

- a) Attorney Client Privilege Communication
 - i. General
- b) Contract Negotiations - Labor

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Byram, that the public shall be excluded from discussion of the following matters:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Minutes will be kept on file in the Municipal Clerk’s office, and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes shall be made public.

BYRAM TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Certification: I certify that the Byram Township Council adopted the above resolution on October 6, 2026.

Cynthia Church, Municipal Clerk

	Councilman Esposito	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Proctor	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion					
2nd					
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION - Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor to return to open session at 7:38 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion Carried.

FLAG SALUTE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor to approve the agenda for October 6, 2026.

	Councilman Esposito	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Proctor	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion		x			
2nd				x	
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

TOWNSHIP MANAGER, MAYOR, AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Township Manager – The Township Manager reported that the 2027 Budget process is proceeding, with work currently underway on Capital Budget requests. He noted that health benefits continue to be a significant cost driver and that the

Township is in the process of developing incentive offerings for employees. Departmental budgets are expected to be posted within the next few weeks. The Manager also reported that the Best Practices Inventory Survey is currently open, and a resolution regarding the survey will be presented for Council approval at the next meeting.

Mayor Rubenstein – Mayor Rubenstein reported that Phil Crosson, Peter Dlugos, and himself have been working on the Community Energy Plan. A draft plan is expected to be presented to the Council for review within the next few weeks, with completion anticipated by the end of November. The mayor also reported that Senator Tom Kean visited Byram Intermediate School to speak with the eighth-grade class. There is a Teams meeting with the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) scheduled for October 29 at 1:30 p.m. The Mayor and Councilwoman Franco will attend the meeting.

Councilman Esposito – Councilman Esposito reported that History Weekend will be held at the Schoolhouse on October 10th and 11th. He also announced upcoming events, including *The Story Behind a Christmas Carol* on November 5th at Wild West City and *Spirits of the Centuries* on November 20th.

Councilwoman Franco – Councilwoman Franco reported on several Recreation Department programs and upcoming events. She reported that a Senior Bocce Program has been established at the courts at CO Johnson Park and is held every Tuesday and Thursday at 11:00 a.m. Participation has been strong, with approximately 7 to 12 seniors attending each session and continued growth. The Department of Public Works has made improvements to the bocce courts, with plans to add clay to improve the playing surface. The program will continue until colder weather and resume again in the spring. Councilwoman Franco reported that the fall Tennis/Pickleball, Tai Chi, and other recreation programs are progressing well, with continued growth in participation. She announced that an Adult 70s–90s Music Trivia Night will be held on November 21 from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at the Firehouse, featuring DJ Louie, who also provided entertainment at Byram Fest. She encouraged residents to participate and noted that the Department hopes to reach capacity for the event. Councilwoman Franco also reported that the Recreation Department is preparing its Winter Recreation Brochure. Planned activities include a Winter First Day Hike on January 1, Family Bowling Day on January 10, a Snowman Building Contest to be held at participants’ homes, an indoor movie night at Lenape Valley Regional High School, and additional winter activities.

Councilman Gallagher – The next Board of Education meeting is on October 21st. The Fire Department put up the new memorial at the Cranberry Lake Fire House.

Councilman Proctor – The next Planning Board meeting is on October 15th at 7:30pm.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION I

Motion by Councilwoman Franco second by Councilman Proctor to open to the public. All members were in favor.

No Comments

Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor to close to the public. All members were in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 15, 2026, Regular & Closed Session Meeting Minutes - Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor to approve minutes.

	Councilman Esposito	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Proctor	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion		x			
2nd				x	
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

CONSENT AGENDA – All are considered to be routine by the Members of the Township Council and will be enacted on by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a citizen or Council member requests in which event the item may be removed from the general order of business and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda. Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- A. Resolution No. 178-2026 – Resolution Authorizing Navitend to Provide Proventiv Managed Services – Not to exceed \$53,411.60
- B. Resolution No. 179-2026 – Resolution Authorizing a Shared Services Agreement with the Township of Hardyston for the Provision of an Interim Fire Subcode Official
- C. Resolution No. 180-2026 – Resolution by the Township of Byram to Offer and Incentive Under the State Health Benefits Program to Subscribers who Select Enrollment into Tiered-Network Medical Plans
- D. Resolution No. 181-2026 – Resolution Acknowledging and Accepting the Employee Recognition & Service Award Policy

	Councilman Esposito	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Proctor	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion		x		x	

2nd					
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

BILL LIST – October 6, 2026 – Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor to approve the bill list.

	Councilman Esposito	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Proctor	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion		x			
2nd				x	
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

ORDINANCE – 1st Reading / Introduction

- ORDINANCE NO. 008-2026** - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER A287, "FEES," OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM TO AMEND THE MINIMUM BASIC CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FEE

	Councilman Esposito	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Proctor	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion		x			
2nd				x	
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

BE IT RESOLVED, that said Ordinance shall be further considered for final passage at the meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Byram on October 20, 2026, at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 10 Mansfield Drive, Byram Township, at which time and place all persons interested shall be given an opportunity to be heard.

- ORDINANCE NO. 009-2026** - AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE A SPECIAL EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION OF \$400,000.00 FOR THE PREPARATION & EXECUTION OF A COMPLETE PROGRAM OF REASSESSMENT OF REAL PROPERTY IN THE TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR THE USE OF THE LOCAL ASSESSOR OF THE TOWNSHIP

	Councilman Esposito	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Proctor	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion		x			
2nd				x	
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

BE IT RESOLVED, that said Ordinance shall be further considered for final passage at the meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Byram on October 20, 2026, at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 10 Mansfield Drive, Byram Township, at which time and place all persons interested shall be given an opportunity to be heard.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Fire Department Air Fill Station – The Council discussed the September 29th memorandum from Chief Pond regarding the Fire Department Air Fill Station. The Council authorized the purchase, which will be funded through a Capital Ordinance. The Capital Ordinance will be placed on the October 20th agenda for introduction.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION II

Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor to open to the public.

No Comments.

Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor to close to the public.

RESOLUTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Gallagher, to go into executive session and adopt the below resolution.

RESOLUTION

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BYRAM TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Certification: I certify that the Byram Township Council adopted the above resolution on September 15, 2026.

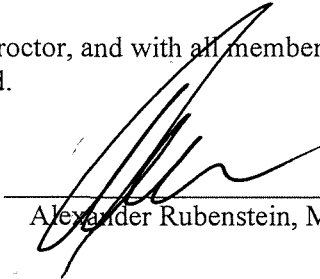
Cynthia Church, Municipal Clerk

	Councilman Esposito	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Proctor	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion		x			
2nd				x	
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor, and with all members in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 9:06 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion carried.


Cynthia Church, RMC
Township Clerk


Alexander Rubenstein, Mayor