

TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM
TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 17, 2025
TRAINING 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.byrampwp.org/index.php/town_hall/township_council, and has been forwarded to those persons requesting notice.

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

RESOLUTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor, 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
- General
- B. Personnel
- C. Contract Negotiations - DPW
- D. Shared Services – Fire Prevention

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 June 17, 2025.

Doris Flynn, Deputy Municipal Clerk

	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Proctor	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion	x				
2nd			x		
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 7:30 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 with the following changes: The addition of the adding 8b, Byram Township Historical Society Scholarship Presentation and removing Resolution No.119-2025 from the agenda

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

PRESENTATION – CO JOHNSON FIELD 8 – DENNIS KEENAN

The Mayor asked Dennis to give an update on the project. Dennis introduced himself and gave an overview. They had a problem with the irrigation system. The existing system and pump house were removed. We are keeping the existing well, and installing an irrigation control panel, which is backordered. Once it gets delivered, it will be installed. The project is substantially complete. The goal is to get the sod rooted. It usually takes 2-3 months, and right now we are a month in. In the beginning stages, it is heavily watered with 50,000 gal/day, which was done by the contractor. We have had a lot of rain the past month which has added to the soggy. Now, the field is getting 10,000 gallons of water every day on top of the rain. When the project was uncovered, they saw quite a few very bad areas. The engineers had the contractor modify the plan and address the concerns. Dennis was concerned about the pumping areas, which resulted in a change order in the contract. Dennis visited the site many times when it rained on weekends, evenings, etc. and addressed any issues that he saw. Harvey asked about the status of the whole plan CO Johnson Field. Dennis is trying to schedule with the NJDEP for a pre-op meeting within the next month to review plans. Harvey asked when will the Council see the plans. Dennis doesn't anticipate getting on the NJDEP schedule until at least August. It could take the NJDEP 1-2 years to give a wetlands permit. The Mayor thanked Dennis for coming in and asked to be kept updated.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER, MAYOR, AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Township Manager –

- Engineering Study of East Brookwood Drainage Issues - possible Highlands Grant
- Roseville Road - NJDOT Grant Project - NJ Natural Gas has agreed to pave the first 700 feet of Roseville Road to the parcel of house number 11 - curb to curb.
- **Prescribed Burn:**
 - A Representative from New Jersey Forest Fire Service will be attending the August 12 Township Council meeting to give a presentation on the prescribed burn.
 - In the interim, the New Jersey Fire Service has asked that we submit the application for the prescribed burn with the understanding it is contingent on the approval of the Township Council.
 - Worked with Peter Dlugos of the EC to submit the application.
- Clean communities grant distribution for counties for 2025 - BYRAM TWP SUSSEX \$ 27,529.41

Mayor Rubenstein – The EPA awarded a contract for the construction of the water line in the East Brookwood neighborhood to connect to the Viola water company. Attended a grand opening of the Karate Academy on Tamarack Road and the COJ Playground.

Councilwoman Franco – Recreation Committee met on Tuesday at CO Johnson Field and went over the layout and fireworks location for Byram Fest. 1st Annual Fishing Program co-sponsored by the State Dep went well. Now we are going to spin-off a few fishing programs of our own. Still looking for Rec Committee Volunteers we only have 4 on the Committee currently with 2 hopefuls that have been invited to our next meeting on July 8. Spring Session #2 beginning this week, Session #1 programs were all well attended, and folks are extremely happy with all we offer. Reminder Outdoor movie Friday June 27 at 8:30 pm at CO Johnson Field and Miners game on Saturday June 28.

Councilman Gallagher – BOE meeting July 18.

Councilman Proctor – At the last meeting the PB adopted the Fair Share Housing Plan. There is one variance application on for the next meeting.

Councilman Roseff – Byram Township Historical Society and Canal Society are holding Canal Day from 10-4 at Waterloo Village.

Attorney - When all the paperwork is done, we will continue to have immunity ...

June Dobson Scholarship Award – Frank Gonzalez, president of the Historical Society, presented the \$1000 check to Sarah O'Reilly, who will be attending Millersville University in the fall and studying Criminal Justice.

LVHS MEDIA CLASS PRESENTATION “HISTORY OF ROSEVILLE SCHOOLHOUSE”

TV Production/

LVR TV Production/Video Teacher Kai Simonsen came to the meeting with his students Jacqueline Brennan, Gia Slater and Lea Cavataio. The students, along with the assistance of their teacher, produced a short video on the history of Roseville Schoolhouse. It was a great video, which looked as if it was professionally done. They visited the schoolhouse twice this year to make the video and did a lot of research. The class also worked on the LVR 50th anniversary video. Mr. Simonsen stated that he thoroughly enjoys teaching the class and looks forward to future collaboration with the Historical Society and the Township on additional projects.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION I

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

Susie Von Lengerke, 2 Stag Pond, came up to speak.

On behalf of the Byram Township Historical Society, I want to sincerely thank the Mayor and Council for approving a matching contribution toward our recent state of NJ department of tourism grant application. We should receive notification by the end of August.

Over the past few years, the historical society has been working hard with our grant funds from the state and from Sussex county arts heritage council. We've made improvements to the Roseville Schoolhouse and hosted the local 3rd graders on a field trip each year. We have co-hosted Greater Byram Canal History Day at Waterloo Village, and put on the popular Spirit of Byram events. We have built some great partnerships with Wild West City and the Sussex County Arts & Heritage Council, hosting several events with great turnout. These have helped connect our community to its past and also draw tourists who spend money in our township.

We're excited to expand our programming for America's 250th anniversary. We are currently working with Wild West City to host an outdoor concert in 2026.

Your support helps us grow and share Byram's story—not just to attract visitors, but to offer local residents more opportunities to learn about and enjoy the town's history.

Lou Esposito, Roseville Road, asked about gas hookup and when it would be coming to his area. The Mayor informed him that they don't have a plan to go down Roseville and up Amity. The Mayor will pass contact information to Lou so that he can reach out directly.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 3, 2025, Regular & Closed Session Meeting Minutes - Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor to approve minutes.

	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Proctor	Councilman Roseff	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. 117-2025 – Resolution Renewing a Plenary Retail Consumption License Issued to Mosaico Tavern LLC Valid from 7/1/25 through 6/30/2026
- B. Resolution No. 118-2025 – Chapter 159 – 2025 Clean Communities
- C. Resolution No. 120-2025 – Resolution Authorizing 100% Disabled Veteran Exempt Status to Owner of Block 104, Lot 4 Partial Refund of Taxes Paid for 2nd Quarter 2025
- D. Resolution No. 121-2025 – Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License to 239 Route 206 LLC Trading as Stonewood Tavern Valid from 7/1/2025 through 6/30/2026
- E. Resolution No. 122-2025 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex and State of New Jersey, Endorsing the 2025 Housing Element and Fair Share Plan Adopted by The Planning Board of the Township of Byram on June 5, 2025
- F. Resolution No. 123-2025 – Authorization to Execute Change Order No. 1 for Byram Salt Dome Rehabilitation – net decrease \$8,338.00
- G. Resolution No. 124-2025 – Resolution Authorizing the Use of the Proposed Environmental Commission Logo
- H. Resolution No. 125-2025 – Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License to 263 Route 206 Holdings LLC Valid from 7/1/2025 through 6/30/2026

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

BILL LIST – June 17, 2025 – Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor to approve the bill list.

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

ORDINANCE – 2nd Reading / Public Hearing

ORDINANCE NO. 011-2025 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 173 ENTITLED “LIGHT NUISANCE AND TRESPASS”

Purpose Statement: The purpose of this ordinance is to add a new chapter regulating and prohibiting light nuisances and trespass and establishing procedures for abatement, enforcement, and penalties for violations

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

BE IT RESOLVED that Ordinance No. 011-2025 is passed on final reading and that a notice of final passage be published in the official designated newspaper according to the law.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Mayor stated that he is still trying to set up a meeting date with the NJDOT but due to vacation schedules, etc. it won’t be until September.

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 Proctor, to go into executive session and adopt the below resolution.

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BYRAM TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

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Doris Flynn, Deputy Municipal Clerk

	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Proctor	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion					
2nd					
Yes					

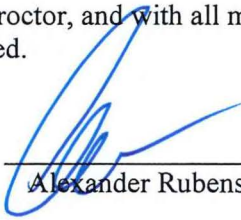
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION - Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor to return to open session at 9:15 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Proctor, and with all members in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 10:26 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion carried.


Doris Flynn, RMC
Deputy Township Clerk


Alexander Rubenstein, Mayor