

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF ESSEX
FELLS, ESSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Held at the Essex Fells Municipal Building in said Borough on January 20, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Present
Mayor Edward A. Davis
Councilman BJ D’Avella
Councilman John King
Councilwoman Maggie O’Connor

Absent
Councilman Michael Cecere
Councilwoman Carolyn Goldman
Councilman William Sullivan

Also Present
Borough Administrator /Borough Clerk Francine T. Paserchia
Borough Attorney James Parisi

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order. He stated that in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Law (Chapter 231, Public Laws of 1975) notice of this meeting was transmitted to The Progress and The Star Ledger and was filed with the Borough Clerk and is posted on the Bulletin Board of the Borough Hall.

Mayor Davis led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Invocation.

Mayor Davis asked the Clerk to report on written communications.

The Clerk reported receipt of the following:

A. Written:

December 2025 Department Reports:

- Construction Department Cash Receipt & Permit Fee Log Report
- Police Department Report
- Police Department Annual Report 2025

Mayor Davis said if there were no objections to the above, they will be placed on file. Hearing no objection, it was so ordered.

Councilman D’Avella moved, Councilwoman O’Connor seconded, approval of the following resolutions on consent:

2026-36

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Essex Fells, that;

WHEREAS, the Essex Fells Borough Code, Chapter 5, Article III, Section 5-9 Appointment of Board and Director, states that the mayor may, in his discretion and with the advice and consent of the Borough Council, annually appoint not less than three nor more than 12 persons, employees or citizens and residents of the Borough as members of the Board of Recreation. He may also, in his discretion, annually appoint a Director of Recreation; and

WHEREAS, the following list has been submitted to the Borough Clerk by the Mayor:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Full Term</u>	<u>Term Expires 12/31</u>
Mike Desiderio	1 year	2026
BJ D'Avella	1 year	2026
Chris Nowak	1 year	2026
Rick Coughlin	1 year	2026
Gary Buccino	1 year	2026

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Essex Fells that the Mayor’s nominations to serve on the Emergency Management Council of this Municipality are hereby confirmed and shall be as follows:

<i>NAME</i>	<i>WORKING TITLE</i>	<i>GROUP</i>
<i>REPRESENTED</i>		
<i>James M. Egan</i>	<i>EM Coordinator</i>	<i>Emergency Management</i>
<i>Paul Gomes</i>	<i>Deputy EM Coordinator</i>	<i>Emergency Management</i>
<i>Scott Cohen</i>	<i>Communications</i>	<i>Emergency Management</i>
<i>Edward Davis</i>	<i>Mayor</i>	<i>Elected Official</i>
<i>Francine T. Paserchia</i>	<i>Borough Administrator</i>	<i>Emergency Management</i>
<i>Darren Volker</i>	<i>Chief of Police</i>	<i>Police</i>
<i>Ken Monroe</i>	<i>Fire Chief</i>	<i>Fire</i>
<i>William Ryden</i>	<i>Licensed Water/Sewer Operator</i>	<i>Water Department</i>
<i>Vickram Kissoon</i>	<i>Superintendent</i>	<i>Public Works Department</i>
<i>Michelle Gadeletta</i>	<i>Superintendent of Schools</i>	<i>Elementary School</i>
<i>Michael Raimo</i>	<i>Health Officer</i>	<i>Health/Welfare</i>
<i>Jocelyn Gilman</i>	<i>Disaster Coordinator</i>	<i>Red Cross</i>
<i>Jeff Sutherlin</i>	<i>First Aid Squad Captain</i>	<i>First Aid</i>
<i>Elizabeth K. Parker</i>	<i>Newspaper Reporter</i>	<i>NJ Hills Media</i>
<i>Greg James</i>	<i>Assistant to OEM Coordinator</i>	<i>Resident</i>

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this list of members of the Essex Fells Emergency Management Council be transmitted by the Coordinator or Deputy Coordinator to the NJ Department of Law and Public Safety, Emergency Management Section, and to the Essex County Office of Emergency Management along with an explanation that James M. Egan also will serve as the Borough’s SARA Title-III alternate representative since no SARA facilities exist in Essex Fells.

2026-39

Authorization for Payment of Bills

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Essex Fells that;

WHEREAS, the bill list as attached has been presented by the Chief Finance Officer for payment.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Essex Fells that the bill list as presented is approved.

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Fund No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Current	5-01	\$130,215.08
Current	6-01	\$375,004.29
Borough Capital	C-04	\$1,616.65
Water	5-05	\$72,854.19
Water	6-05	\$25,422.51
Grant	04	\$0
Water Capital	C-06	\$381,630.91
Animal Control	T-10	\$0
Trust	T-11	\$5,327.25
Payroll	T-13	\$118,892.71
	T-16	\$950.00

And was carried on call of the roll:

<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>Absent</u>
BJ D’Avella	None	Michael Cecere
John King		Carolyn Goldman
Maggie O’Connor	<u>Abstain</u>	William Sullivan
	None	

On motion made by Councilwoman O’Connor, seconded by Councilman King and approved unanimously by the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:07p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Francine T. Paserchia
Municipal Clerk