

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 February 3, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Absent
Councilman Michael Cecere

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.

Public Comment:

Joseph Pannullo, 57 Holton Lane
Ben Steiner, 44 Inwood Road

West Essex Highlands Development
Fire Department – Junior Auxiliary

Councilman D’Avella moved, Councilman King seconded, approval of the following resolutions on consent:

2026-40

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has received funds from a property owner(s) or other party of interest for redemption of a Tax Sale Lien(s), and

WHEREAS, lien holders are entitled to payment for redemption of the Tax Lien(s) upon receipt of funds by the Tax Collector, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Essex Fells in the County of Essex and State of New Jersey that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to redeem said lien(s) and return applicable premiums in the following amount(s):

Certificate 21-00003

Block 10.02 Lot 1.01

Owner: BESHARA BUILDERS LLC
793 NORGATE DRIVE
RIDGEWOOD, NJ 07451

Address: 326 RUNNYMEDE ROAD

TOTAL TO REDEEM CERTIFICATE: \$79,744.61
REFUND OF PREMIUM: \$63,000.00
Check to be issued to: REALTY SOLUTIONS JV LLC
Mailing Address: 25 HUGHES PLACE, SUMMIT, NJ 07901

2026-41

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Essex Fells that the Borough Clerk be and is hereby authorized to advertise for the receipt of bids on March 11, 2026 at 10:00 am for the following:

Regular Unleaded Gasoline & Diesel Fuel

2026-42

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF ESSEX FELLS AND SUBURBAN CONSULTING ENGINEERS, INC. FOR PROFESSIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE COUNTY CLUB PFOA REMOVAL TREATMENT FACILITY PROJECT (SCE-P13159.041 – AMENDMENT #1)

WHEREAS, there is a need for additional professional engineering services in the Borough of Essex Fells in connection with the County Club PFOA Removal Treatment Facility Project; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has received a proposal dated December 16, 2025 from Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc. for additional professional environmental services and determined that it is in the best interest of the Borough to accept the proposal submitted by Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc.

WHEREAS, the maximum amount of this amendment: \$63,800.00 for additional services; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that the resolution authorizing the award of contracts for "Professional Services" without competitive bids and the contract itself must be available for public inspection; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Essex Fells, in the County of Essex, and State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. The Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute an agreement with Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc. for additional services for the Borough of Essex Fells County Club PFOA Removal Treatment Facility Project in the amount of \$63,800 as set forth in a proposal dated December 16, 2025.

Section 2. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a) of the Local Public Contracts Law because the contract is for a service performed by a person(s) authorized by law to practice a recognized profession that is regulated by law.

Section 3. Notice of this action shall be printed once in the legal newspaper of the Borough of Essex Fells.

2026-43

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	\$79,563.67
Current	6-01	\$1,041,137.39
Borough Capital	C-04	\$1,686.79
Water	5-05	\$67,329.53
Water	6-05	\$138,222.27
Grant	04	\$0
Water Capital	C-06	\$17,721.00
Animal Control	T-10	\$0
Trust	T-11	\$144,122.11
Payroll	T-13	\$164,454.53
	T-16	\$5,182.00

And was carried on call of the roll:

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

On motion made by Councilwoman O’Connor seconded by Councilman Sullivan and approved unanimously by the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Francine T. Paserchia
Municipal Clerk