

October 9, 2025

Township of Randolph
Municipal Building
Randolph, NJ
October 9, 2025

A. OPENING OF REGULAR MEETING

1. Opening of the Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Randolph Township Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Hathaway. The meeting is held pursuant to the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act. Adequate notice of the meeting has been provided by posting written notice of the time, date, location and to the extent known, the agenda of the meeting in Randolph Township. This notice was posted on the Bulletin Board within Town Hall, it was filed with the Township Clerk, and it was provided to those persons or entities requesting notification. Notice was also provided to the West Morris Reporter and the Morris County Daily Record on November 27, 2024, by emailing them the annual resolution adopted by the Council on November 26, 2024. The annual resolution, which included this meeting date, was advertised in the West Morris Reporter, the official newspaper of the Township of Randolph, on December 5, 2024, and the Daily Record on December 3, 2024. Notice was also provided to TapInto Randolph, the official Township online digital publication, on November 27, 2024.

2. Roll Call

PRESENT: Councilwoman Carey
Councilwoman Elbaum
Councilman Nisivoccia
Councilwoman Thornton
Councilwoman Veech
Deputy Mayor Forstenhausler
Mayor Hathaway

Also Present: Township Manager Poff, Assistant Township Manager Evan Covello, Communications Director Robert Rios and Township Attorney Keli Gallo from the Law Office of Surenian, Edwards, Buzak, & Nolan, LLC.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Hathaway led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. PRESENTATION

1. Communications Director Robert Rios - Township Communications Initiatives

Communications Director Robert Rios provided an overview of the township's communication channels and performance metrics. He reviewed the township's DASH software, which compiles information about traffic on the municipal website. The data showed significant growth in visits

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to the website's News Module and Alert Center. He noted that township communications feature improved visuals, messaging, and graphics on Facebook and Instagram, with YouTube most recently added as a platform. The same messaging is also shared through the township's weekly newsletter via MailChimp.

He reviewed follower growth on Facebook from November 2023 to September 2025, noting a 26.7% increase during that period. He also reviewed user interactions—including reactions, comments, shares, and views—of township content. He emphasized that increased exposure to township communications provides more opportunities to gain followers. He reported that Facebook remains the township's primary communication platform, while Instagram continues to grow as a significant channel for the municipality. He provided an overview of the township's social media campaign for NJ Local Government Week, which aimed to raise awareness among residents about the various functions and operations of municipal departments.

He reported that the township's most engaging content to date included posts about the retirements of Sergeant Eddie Mygas and Sergeant Kurt Edelman, the NJ Police traffic detail extension on Route 10, the kickoff video for NJ Local Government Week, and the Property Tax Relief Filing Event. He commented that content related to the Police and Fire Departments and public servants tends to perform very well in terms of engagement.

He noted that the DASH software automatically generates monthly data reports, distributed on the first of each month, providing the Communications Workgroup with analytics on website traffic, search engine activity, and social media performance. He concluded by stating that the township is offering residents more ways than ever to connect with their local government—through Facebook, Instagram, MailChimp, and YouTube.

Councilwoman Veech asked Director Rios to share his presentation with the council so that members could distribute it to their various committees and boards. She noted that doing so would help illustrate the benefits of having a Communications Director and encourage more people to follow township content.

Councilman Nisivoccia added that sharing the presentation could also inspire committees and boards to contribute more content ideas.

Councilwoman Carey commented that over the past two years, the township has become a credible source of information for the community, where residents can look for correct information. She felt that people were now more connected and engaged with the community. She recalled that Mayor Hathaway had noted a few months ago that Randolph Township was far ahead of other municipalities in terms of communication efforts.

Mayor Hathaway stated that Randolph has created an environment where residents can anticipate interacting with the township just as they would with any other organization in their everyday lives, particularly regarding social media and digital communication. He added that this level of interaction isn't necessarily expected everywhere and that he was glad that the township invested in communication resources for residents that place the municipality ahead of the curve.

Councilwoman Veech added that the Communications Workgroup has discussed the possibility of submitting an article to the NJLM Magazine highlighting Randolph's communication efforts.

Manager Poff complimented Director Rios on his efforts. He noted that, as Director Rios mentioned, the council's authorization to allocate resources to bring on a full-time Communication Director was something new. He recognized Director Rios for doing an exceptional job.

C. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Seeing and hearing none, the public session was closed.

D. MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Poff reported on the following items:

Public Works Road Assessment Innovation – The department has implemented a state-of-the-art process in the condition assessment of township roads and assets using artificial intelligence through a mobile app. This technology replaces the previous manual process that required over three weeks to drive down every township road and document conditions, plus additional days for data entry. The new process can be completed in less than one week, representing a time savings of approximately 65%. The system cost was just under \$17,000 for the annual startup and onboard training with the hardware package; it is expected to generate an annual savings estimate of 7% through improved maintenance scheduling and extended pavement life.

The application, which is mounted on a vehicle windshield, captures images every ten feet and automatically documents and counts manholes, catch basins, regulatory signs, and street signs. The “road condition assessment” feature provides superior rating capabilities, with a color-coded map displaying roads in green (good condition) or red (poor condition). The “assets” feature identifies regulatory signage issues, including dirty, blocked, or vandalized signs. Initial results show 123.4 miles of roads depicted into 992 segments, with 86,490 points identified. The initial total count of assets captured is 6,885, broken out to 2,890 storm drains, 2,348 manholes, and 1,647 regulatory signs. This technological advancement directly supports our capital planning process and will inform the FY2026 road resurfacing program recommendations.

Finance Department System Migration – Following the township's January 2022 conversion from Vital to Municipal Software (MSI) for tax and utility collection, MSI was acquired by competitor Edmunds GovTech. The township's migration from Municipal Software to Edmunds GovTech was completed on September 22, on schedule and within the anticipated budget of \$20,000. With this migration, the township began using Edmunds' online payment system, WIPP, which was activated on September 29. The Edmunds portal is now fully operational on the township website. As of October 7, 296 residents have successfully registered for utility payments and 217 residents have successfully registered for tax payments on the new system, representing 31% of our active AutoPay users. Transaction volume has averaged 45 daily one-time payments. Staff has responded to daily inquiries by phone and email, with most questions resolved on initial contact. Common issues have included whether/why there is a fee, confirming that this is a new system, and problems with signing up, which have been addressed through enhanced FAQ documentation on the website.

Interdepartmental Coordination Highlight – The successful Edmunds GovTech migration and WIPP payment system implementation exemplify effective interdepartmental collaboration. The Finance Department, IT Division, Clerk's Office, and Manager's Office worked cohesively over the past year and five months to ensure minimal disruption to residents while implementing a complex system transition. This coordinated approach to major technology projects serves as a model for the upcoming CivicPlus agenda management migration.

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Health Department Regulatory Updates – The Randolph Health Department has updated its septic ordinance to align with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's requirements, specifically N.J.A.C. 7:9A-1.1 et seq. This revision is essential to ensure the township can effectively provide local administrative oversight of septic systems, maintaining compliance and public health standards. The updated ordinance (Ordinance 26-25) also includes revised fee structures detailed in the ordinances section below. This alignment with state standards avoids potential enforcement issues and maintains our delegated authority over septic system oversight.

Agenda Management System Transition – The Clerk's Office, in collaboration with the Manager's Office and the Purchasing Department, is preparing for migration to a new agenda management solution. The township's current platform, BoardDocs, will be absorbed by Diligent Community beginning in 2026. In anticipation of this change, staff evaluated two solutions: Diligent Community and CivicPlus. After careful review, CivicPlus was determined to be the more cost-effective option, resulting in an annual savings of \$6,500 when compared to Diligent Community's annual fees. Additionally, the CivicPlus Agenda Management Solution is compatible with the existing CivicPlus-hosted municipal website, which will streamline integration and improve the efficiency of the website's Agenda Center. Migration and setup of the CivicPlus solution are anticipated to begin in November 2025 under the direction of the Clerk's Office, with full implementation expected by early 2026. More details will follow regarding an implementation timeline and staff training plan.

Building & Grounds Improvements – The flooring replacement in the hallways, originally scheduled to begin on October 6, has been delayed by the contractor until October 13, with completion anticipated by November 7. The project cost of \$61,823 was funded through capital improvement monies. Minor disruptions to normal operations are being managed through coordination with affected departments.

Parks & Recreation Achievements – The Tri-County Senior Olympics event was held on September 18 in Pequannock. The current participating towns, which began competition in 1990, are Morris Township, Pequannock, Randolph, Sparta, Wayne, and West Milford. Randolph Township won for the second consecutive year and the fourth time in the past five years, with a team of 24 seniors competing in six events. This marks the 12th time that Randolph has won this event. Both Sparta and West Milford are tied with 10 wins each. This achievement was featured on township social media and other outlets utilized by the Communications Director and generated positive community engagement on social media.

Other ongoing projects include grading and seeding of disturbed areas for the Freedom Park Ballfield Lighting, on schedule for an October 2025 completion date; bench slats have been re-installed and leveled for the Lance Tkacs bench dedication scheduled for October 14; awaiting a quote for Heistein Park fencing with an anticipated early November project start date; and scheduling a meeting with a contractor to review the staining and sealing of the bandshell and pavilion at Veterans Community Park, with work scheduled for late October to avoid peak usage periods.

Police Department Recruitment Progress – The new hiring process is progressing forward with twenty-five candidates being interviewed over the course of three days from an initial applicant pool of 100 candidates. Out of those twenty-five, the department identified the top four candidates, as well as three reserves. The top four were interviewed by the Township Manager and Chief of Police on October 1, after which it was determined that all four would be presented with conditional offers of employment by October 9. Successful candidates will begin the background investigation process immediately, with anticipated swearing-in dates in early January 2026, just prior to the start of the next police academy class. This will bring our sworn officer strength to 36 once all candidates complete training, achieving 100% of authorized staffing levels.

Engineering Department Retaining Wall Project – The existing timber retaining wall along the frontage of 42 Lawrence Road was deteriorated, with pieces falling into Lawrence Road and creating a safety hazard. Design plans were drawn in-house by the Engineering Department for a proposed modular block retaining wall and issued for bid. The contract was awarded to Viersma Construction at a cost of \$58,795, which

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was under the engineer's estimate of \$60,000. Construction began on September 29 and was completed on October 3, two days ahead of schedule. The homeowners were consulted during the project and expressed high satisfaction with both the process and the final result. River rock was placed at the base of the wall on October 2 at an additional cost of \$1,410, completing the aesthetic improvements. This project was originally outsourced for engineering work of \$10,850, and a schematic design plan and surveying were completed by the consultant; however, the final construction plans were prepared in-house and saved an estimated \$10,000.

Water & Sewer Operations – PSI has received the new check valves from their supplier; the parts are expected to be installed at the Den Brook Pump Station on October 29. These check valves represent the remaining equipment to be replaced for this pump station, completing a multi-phase upgrade project that began in December 2023. The total project cost has been \$402,382, funded through budgeted appropriations. Upon completion, the upgraded pump station will provide the replacement of all existing mechanical and electrical equipment—from the grinders to the pumps to the controls—that will improve the operation of the pump station and increase the capacity of the system to handle the increased sewage flows over its original design.

Planning & Zoning Department Activities – Recent activities include completion of landscape design for Rosenfarb Park, with implementation scheduled for November at an estimated cost of \$16,000. Staff evaluated the condition of 288 street trees installed last year, identifying 29 requiring replacement under warranty. Replacement is scheduled for later this fall. Staff also evaluated locations for Fall 2025 street tree installation, identifying appropriate sites for the planting of 29 trees primarily on Brookside Road and Mountainside Drive. Tree planting is scheduled for later this fall, with the installation of red maples and redbuds to enhance canopy coverage and meet our sustainability goals.

Fire Prevention Month Outreach – During Fire Prevention Month, the Bureau is presenting to all four elementary schools comprising six grades, including kindergarten, and reaching approximately 2,000 students; our private pre-K through 8 school; and twelve private schools and daycare centers within the township, with three to four presentations per location. As of October 7, twelve presentations have been delivered, with approximately 35 programs to be delivered through the end of the month. Staff will also be completing the reinspection of 639 open violations at the Gateways Apartment complexes. Those violations were noted during the initial inspection of approximately 950 units, 18 courts, and 53 buildings conducted by the Bureau staff in April 2025. Re-inspections are scheduled to begin on October 13 and will take approximately two weeks to complete.

E. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

1. Approval of Township Council Regular Meeting Minutes – September 18, 2025

Councilman Nisivoccia made a motion to approve the regular council meeting minutes of September 18, 2025. Councilwoman Veech seconded the motion, and the following roll call vote was taken:

AYES:	Councilwoman Carey
	Councilwoman Elbaum
	Councilman Nisivoccia
	Councilwoman Thornton
	Councilwoman Veech
	Deputy Mayor Forstenhausler
	Mayor Hathaway
NAYS:	None

F. COMBINED ACTION RESOLUTIONS

1. R 207-25 Authorizing Recreation Program Refunds
2. R 208-25 Authorizing the Rejection of a Bid for MCCPC Contract #3A (Bulk Rock Salt)
3. R 209-25 Authorizing Transfer of Forfeited Tree Bond Funds to the Tree Bank Fund
4. R 210-25 Authorizing North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund Resolution to Renew
5. R 211-25 Authorizing the Rejection and Award of MCCPC Contract #1 (Motor Gasoline)
6. R 212-25 Authorizing the Rejection of Bids for MCCPC Contract #2 (#2 Fuel Oil for Heating)
7. R 213-25 Authorizing the Rejection and Award of MCCPC Contract #12 (Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel Fuel - Dyed)
8. Raffle License - On-Premise Tricky Tray, The 16 Yard Hit Club, Inc., at The Meadow Wood, 461 Route 10, Randolph, November 17, 2025, 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
9. Raffle License - On-Premise Tricky Tray, Randolph High School Band Parent Association, Randolph High School, 511 Millbrook Avenue, Randolph, December 3, 2025, 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
10. Raffle License - Grand Prize Raffle, PTA A. Richard Spinola School, at 461 Route 10, Randolph, NJ, March 12, 2026, 5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
11. Raffle License - Off-Premise 50/50, PTA A. Richard Spinola School, at 461 Route 10, Randolph, NJ, March 12, 2026, 5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
12. Raffle License - On-Premise Tricky Tray, PTA A. Richard Spinola School, at 461 Route 10, Randolph, NJ, March 12, 2026, 5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
13. Raffle License - On-Premise 50/50, PTA A. Richard Spinola School, at 461 Route 10, Randolph, NJ, March 12, 2026, 5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Councilwoman Veech made a motion to approve the combined action agenda. Councilwoman Carey seconded the motion, and the following roll call vote was taken:

AYES:	Councilwoman Carey
	Councilwoman Elbaum
	Councilman Nisivoccia
	Councilwoman Thornton
	Councilwoman Veech
	Deputy Mayor Forstenhausler
	Mayor Hathaway
NAYS:	None

G. ORDINANCES: SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING

- 1. Ordinance 24-25 - An Ordinance of the Township of Randolph Appropriating \$260,000 From the General Capital Improvement Fund for Road Improvements**

BE IT RESOLVED, that an Ordinance entitled, An Ordinance of the Township of Randolph Appropriating \$260,000 From The General Capital Improvement Fund for Road Improvements, be read by title on second reading and a hearing held thereon.

Manager Poff explained that the purpose of this ordinance is to appropriate \$260,000 from the General Capital Improvement Fund for road improvements.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Seeing and hearing none, the public hearing was closed.

BE IT RESOLVED, that an Ordinance entitled, An Ordinance of the Township of Randolph Appropriating \$260,000 From The General Capital Improvement Fund for Road Improvements, be passed on final reading and that a Notice of Final Passage of said Ordinance be published in the official designated newspaper according to law.

Deputy Mayor Forstenhausler made a motion to adopt the ordinance. Councilman Nisivoccia seconded the motion, and the following roll call vote was taken:

AYES:	Councilwoman Carey
	Councilwoman Elbaum
	Councilman Nisivoccia
	Councilwoman Thornton
	Councilwoman Veech
	Deputy Mayor Forstenhausler
	Mayor Hathaway
NAYS:	None

H. ORDINANCES: INTRODUCTION

1. Ordinance 25-25 - An Ordinance Amending Article III, Zoning, of the Land Development Ordinance of the Township of Randolph to Establish the R-12 Single-Family Attached Inclusionary Zone (R-12 Zone) and to Rezone Block 44, Lot 12, on the Official Tax Map of the Township of Randolph From the OL Zone to the R-12 Zone

Manager Poff explained that the purpose of this ordinance is to amend Article III of the Land Development Ordinance of the Township of Randolph to establish the R-12 Single-Family Attached Inclusionary Zone and to rezone the property located at Block 44, Lot 12 on the Official Tax Map of the Township of Randolph from the OL Zone to the R-12 Zone in order to implement the mechanisms set forth in the 2025 Housing Element and Fair Share Plan and allow for the construction of an inclusionary development that will assist the Township in satisfying a portion of its Fourth Round affordable housing obligation.

BE IT RESOLVED, that an Ordinance entitled, “An Ordinance Amending Article III, Zoning, of the Land Development Ordinance of the Township of Randolph to Establish the R-12 Single-Family Attached Inclusionary Zone (R-12 Zone) and to Rezone Block 44, Lot 12 on the Official Tax Map of the Township of Randolph from the OL Zone to the R-12 Zone” be introduced, read by title by the Township Clerk and passed on first reading.

BE IT RESOLVED, that said Ordinance shall be further considered for final passage at the meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Randolph on the 4th, of November, 2025 at 5 o'clock in the evening, prevailing time, at the Town Hall in said Township, at which time and place all persons interested shall be given an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Clerk be authorized and directed to advertise said Ordinance in full or by summary with the notice of introduction thereof, in the official designated newspaper according to law.

Councilman Nisivoccia made a motion to introduce the ordinance. Councilwoman Thornton seconded the motion, and the following roll call vote was taken:

AYES:	Councilwoman Carey
	Councilwoman Elbaum
	Councilman Nisivoccia
	Councilwoman Thornton
	Councilwoman Veech
	Deputy Mayor Forstenhausler
	Mayor Hathaway
NAYS:	None

2. Ordinance 26-25 - An Ordinance Amending Division 2, Individual Sewage Disposal Systems, of Article III, Sewers, of Chapter 50, Water and Sewers, and Appendix A, Fee Schedule, of the Revised Ordinances of the Township of Randolph Regarding Individual Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems

Manager Poff explained that the purpose of this ordinance is to amend Division 2, Individual Sewage Disposal Systems, of Article III, Sewers, of Chapter 50, Water and Sewers, of the Revised Ordinances of the Township of Randolph to be consistent with state standards for individual subsurface sewage disposal systems. In addition, the purpose of the above Ordinance is to amend the Health Section of Appendix A, Fee Schedule, of the Revised Ordinances of the Township of Randolph to update the fees applicable to individual subsurface sewage disposal systems.

BE IT RESOLVED, that an Ordinance entitled, "An Ordinance Amending Division 2, Individual Sewage Disposal Systems, of Article III, Sewers, of Chapter 50, Water and Sewers, and Appendix A, Fee Schedule, of the Revised Ordinances of the Township of Randolph Regarding Individual Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems" be introduced, read by title by the Township Clerk and passed on first reading.

BE IT RESOLVED, that said Ordinance shall be further considered for final passage at the meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Randolph on the 4th, of November, 2025 at 5 o'clock in the evening, prevailing time, at the Town Hall in said Township, at which time and place all persons interested shall be given an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Clerk be authorized and directed to advertise said Ordinance in full or by summary with the notice of introduction thereof, in the official designated newspaper according to law.

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Councilwoman Veech made a motion to introduce the ordinance. Deputy Mayor Forstenhausler seconded the motion, and the following roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Councilwoman Carey
Councilwoman Elbaum
Councilman Nisivoccia
Councilwoman Thornton
Councilwoman Veech
Deputy Mayor Forstenhausler
Mayor Hathaway
NAYS: None

3. Ordinance 27-25 - An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Section 2-321, Continuation of Police Department, of Chapter 2, Administration, of the Revised Ordinances of the Township of Randolph Regarding the Regulation of Processions and Parades

Manager Poff explained that the purpose of this ordinance is to amend Section 2-321, Continuation of Police Department, of Division 10, Department of Police and Emergency Management, of Article III, General Administrative Organization, of Chapter 2, Administration, of the Revised Ordinances of the Township of Randolph to authorize the Chief of Police to regulate processions and parades throughout the streets of the Township including the temporary closure of streets to motor vehicle traffic.

BE IT RESOLVED, that an Ordinance entitled, “An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Section 2-321, Continuation of Police Department, of Chapter 2, Administration, of the Revised Ordinances of the Township of Randolph Regarding the Regulation of Processions and Parades” be introduced, read by title by the Township Clerk and passed on first reading.

BE IT RESOLVED, that said Ordinance shall be further considered for final passage at the meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Randolph on the 4th, of November, 2025 at 5 o'clock in the evening, prevailing time, at the Town Hall in said Township, at which time and place all persons interested shall be given an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Clerk be authorized and directed to advertise said Ordinance in full or by summary with the notice of introduction thereof, in the official designated newspaper according to law.

Councilwoman Thornton made a motion to introduce the ordinance. Deputy Mayor Forstenhausler seconded the motion, and the following roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Councilwoman Carey
Councilwoman Elbaum
Councilman Nisivoccia
Councilwoman Thornton
Councilwoman Veech
Deputy Mayor Forstenhausler
Mayor Hathaway
NAYS: None

4. Ordinance 28-25 - An Ordinance Amending Section 15-35.20 of the Land Development Ordinance of the Township of Randolph Regarding Garden Apartment Affordable Housing

Manager Poff explained that the purpose of this ordinance is to amend Section 15-35.20 of the Land Development Ordinance regarding the maximum building height, minimum setback and affordable housing set-aside conditions applicable to garden apartment affordable housing in order to encourage the construction of additional inclusionary development that will assist the Township in satisfying a portion of its affordable housing obligation.

BE IT RESOLVED, that an Ordinance entitled, “An Ordinance Amending Section 15-35.20 of the Land Development Ordinance of the Township of Randolph Regarding Garden Apartment Affordable Housing” be introduced, read by title by the Township Clerk and passed on first reading.

BE IT RESOLVED, that said Ordinance shall be further considered for final passage at the meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Randolph on the 4th, of November, 2025 at 5 o’clock in the evening, prevailing time, at the Town Hall in said Township, at which time and place all persons interested shall be given an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Clerk be authorized and directed to advertise said Ordinance in full or by summary with the notice of introduction thereof, in the official designated newspaper according to law.

Deputy Mayor Forstenhausler made a motion to introduce the ordinance. Councilwoman Veech seconded the motion, and the following roll call vote was taken:

AYES:	Councilwoman Carey
	Councilwoman Elbaum
	Councilman Nisivoccia
	Councilwoman Thornton
	Councilwoman Veech
	Deputy Mayor Forstenhausler
	Mayor Hathaway
NAYS:	None

I. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Seeing and hearing none, the public session was closed.

J. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilwoman Thornton reported that the Traffic Advisory Committee met on Tuesday, October 7. The committee continued discussions on e-bikes and traffic safety. The Police Department reported that the SeeClickFix application has been used to report a few traffic obstructions, which have since been remedied. The NJDOT was notified of signal complaints at the Millbrook and Route 10 intersection. The DPW will assist with increasing signage for weight limits at Sussex Turnpike and Park Avenue.

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She continued to report that the Library Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, October 8. She stated that the library's primary book vendor went out of business, resulting in other libraries scrambling to open new accounts, as some vendors are not accepting additional clients. She noted that Randolph fortunately began using a backup vendor a few years ago, allowing books to continue being purchased and keeping the library a premier institution stocked with materials. She reported that the MAIN Library Alliance will again expand by the end of 2025; it will span the entire northwest quadrant of New Jersey. Among some of the larger libraries joining will be the Somerset and Sussex County Libraries, as well as the Sparta Library.

She shared that the Randolph Library is assisting the Parks and Recreation Department with the Parks Master Plan Survey by providing paper copies in the lobby, promoting the survey at programs and the circulation desk, and collecting completed responses. She also shared information about upcoming library programs, including a Friends of the Library Tiny Art Class and the hosting of a *Randolph Reminisces* program by the HSOR. She mentioned the Saturday, October 11, garage sale benefiting the Randolph Regional Animal Shelter.

She concluded her report by sharing that just after the Film Ordinance was passed in the township, she worked on a Netflix film in a neighboring town to observe the benefits to local businesses, which she found to be fantastic.

Councilman Nisivoccia reported that he did not have any committee meetings. He attended the Ukrainian Festival with Deputy Mayor Forstenhausler. He also attended the Pediatric Dental Mission Gratitude event and congratulated the business on its ten years of hosting the successful program. He concluded his report by thanking Clerk Luciani and the Special Projects Team for the installation of the new sidewalk at the Randolph Museum.

Councilwoman Veech reported that the Parks Advisory Committee meets next week. She stated that the Planning Board met on Monday, October 6. The board approved an application from Aspen Suburban to install an outdoor fence around a truck storage area. She noted that the consultants for the Parks Master Plan were hosting an open house at the Community Center for residents to provide their input on the Master Plan. The consultants will also be meeting with various stakeholder groups. They plan to review received input sometime in November; the survey window closes on November 6. She added that, to date, approximately 621 survey responses have been submitted.

Councilwoman Elbaum reported that she did not have any committee meetings but attended a Land Use Workgroup meeting. She also shared that she, Mayor Hathaway, and Councilwoman Veech (remotely) viewed a presentation by Wonder regarding the establishment of a flagship site for drone food delivery. Wonder volunteered to hold a demonstration of the delivery method.

She attended a real estate open house for a defunct industrial building on Franklin Road. The property was purchased by a local developer who has made many cosmetic improvements. She commented that it was refreshing to see developers investing in the community and its real estate. She asked the property owner about their experience working with the township, and they were very complimentary of the township staff.

Councilwoman Carey noted that none of her committees have met since the last council meeting.

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Deputy Mayor Forstenhausler reported that he attended the Ukrainian Festival, which was a very nice event. He stated that the Wildlife Management Advisory Committee met on September 24 and discussed the upcoming hunt. The committee was able to procure signs from the state to mark hunting areas. The signs will be placed at trailheads to warn visitors about the activity. He reported that all hunters have been authorized to harvest coyotes should they be found during the deer hunt. He concluded his report by sharing that he attended the Pediatric Dental Associates of Randolph's Mission Gratitude event on Sunday, October 5, which marked the 10th anniversary of the program.

Mayor Hathaway reported that he visited Shongum Elementary School prior to the meeting. He was invited by Shongum Brownie Troop #9614 to learn about the troop's activities for the Clean Communities Initiative. The troop will be cleaning up the Fairy Trail and discussed their roles as individuals within their families and the broader community. They spoke about how the Clean Communities Initiative is an example of how individuals can positively impact their community.

He continued to report that the Economic Development Committee (EDC) met on Tuesday, October 7. Two local businesses have been selected to receive recognition: the Legacy Award will go to Randolph Pediatric Dental Associates, and the Newcomer Award will go to Randolph Athletic Club. He congratulated both businesses and commended the EDC for its proactive approach this year in encouraging more self-nominations. He noted that the EDC had a great turnout at their Country Fair booth.

He attended the New Jersey Conference of Mayors Fall event. During the conference he attended a session about Offices of Emergency Management and Safety; the Monmouth County OEM Coordinator served as the session speaker. Key takeaways from the session were the importance of communication between municipal departments, counties, and local resources, and the value of having dedicated members—preferably elected officials—engaged with their OEM Coordinators. He added that it was good to hear a county perspective.

He concluded his report by sharing that he attended the *From Trauma to New Life: The Healing Garden for Veterans Signing* event between the Morris County Commissioners and the Morris County Park Commission, where they entered a partnership with Veterans Valor, a nonprofit creating a healing garden at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum. The garden will be a place of reflection, resilience, and renewal for veterans and the community, supporting the national Disarm PTSD initiative to transform service-related trauma into purpose and connection. He suggested that the township share more information about this initiative in November, and that they work with the VFW and County College of Morris to spread awareness.

K. ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Veech made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Deputy Mayor Forstenhausler seconded the motion, and the following roll call vote was taken:

AYES:	Councilwoman Carey
	Councilwoman Elbaum
	Councilman Nisivoccia
	Councilwoman Thornton
	Councilwoman Veech

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Deputy Mayor Forstenhausler
Mayor Hathaway
NAYS: None