

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
February 25, 2025
7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

SALUTE TO COLORS

Mayor Wronko invited all those present to stand in a salute to the colors.

MAYOR'S STATEMENT AS TO COMPLIANCE WITH P.L. 1975

Adequate Notice of this Meeting has been provided according to the Open Public Meetings Act, Assembly Bill 1030. Notice of this Meeting was included in the Annual Meeting Notice sent to the New Jersey Herald and the Daily Record on January 8, 2025 and was placed on the Official Bulletin Board in the Municipal Building.

In the event the Mayor and Council have not addressed all items on this Agenda by 10:00 PM and they are of the opinion that they cannot complete the Agenda in a reasonable time period, the Mayor and Council may exercise their option to continue this meeting at an agreed to date, time and place. Please turn off all cell phones for the duration of this Meeting.

ROLL CALL

Council Members:

Councilwoman Kuncken – present
Councilman Riccardi – present
Councilman Romano – present

Councilman Simpson – present
Councilman Thornton – present
Councilman Wachterhauser – present

Mayor Wronko – present

CITIZEN'S TO BE HEARD

Mayor Wronko opened the meeting to the public after advising attendees that there is a five (5) minute time limit for each speaker.

Seeing no one from the public wishing to speak, Mayor Wronko closed the public portion of the meeting.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

Mayor Wronko read aloud the list of minutes being presented for approval:

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| January 7, 2025 | Reorganization Meeting |
| January 14, 2025 | Work Session and Agenda Meeting & Closed Session |
| January 28, 2025 | Business Meeting |

On motion by Councilwoman Kuncken, seconded by Councilman Thornton and carried by a majority voice vote, the minutes were approved. Councilman Riccardi abstained from the minutes of January 14, 2025

CORRESPONDENCE *(List Attached)*

On motion by Councilman Romano, seconded by Councilman Simpson and unanimously carried by voice vote, the list of correspondence was accepted and ordered placed on file.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Safety – Councilwoman Kuncken/Councilman Riccardi

(Police, Fire, Ambulance, Court & Violations Bureau, Emergency Management)

Councilwoman Kuncken stated the Sussex County Fire Marshal reported that for the month of January there were 5 inspections conducted with no violations.

Councilwoman Kuncken stated the Police Department reported there were 110 motor vehicle stops in January and there was a total of 281 calls overall.

Finance & Administration – Councilman Romano/Councilman Thornton

Councilman Romano stated the tax collections for January totaled \$642,209.67, which is also the year-to-date amount. The first quarter taxes are due February 1st and 20% has already been collected, which is approximately 3% better than last year.

Councilman Romano stated the water collections for January totaled \$32,843.29 and the sewer collection was \$43,021.27

Community Development – Councilman Wachterhauser/Councilman Simpson

Councilman Wachterhauser stated he brought ten Hometown Hero Banner orders to the manufacturer this past Friday. Two more orders have been received. The deadline for having the banners ready for Memorial Day is this coming Friday. Orders can still be submitted but we cannot guarantee those banners will be ready by Memorial Day.

Councilman Wachterhauser stated the Stanhope Community Foundation will be meeting at Borough Hall on the second Monday of the month at 6:00pm before the Land Use Board Meeting. Anyone who wishes to attend is welcome. Mayor Wronko thanked Councilman Wachterhauser for organizing the banner sale. Mayor Wronko will check with the American Legion to see if they would like to sponsor some of the banners.

Municipal Infrastructure – Councilman Thornton/Councilman Romano

(Water Distribution, Sewer Collection System, Road Construction & Maintenance, Buildings & Grounds)

Councilman Thornton stated he had no report.

Information Technology – Councilman Riccardi/Councilman Wachterhauser

Councilman Riccardi stated he had no report.

Boards/Commissions – Councilman Simpson/Councilwoman Kuncken

Councilman Simpson stated the Recreation Committee has the Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for Saturday, April 12th, noon, at Musconetcong Park and they are requesting permission to close Musconetcong Avenue for the event. The rain date is Sunday, April 13th at 1:00PM.

Mayor Wronko called for a straw poll and asked the council if they are in favor of closing Musconetcong Avenue during the Easter Egg Hunt on April 12th. The results are as follows: Councilwoman Kuncken – yes; Councilman Wachterhauser – yes; Councilman Thornton – yes; Councilman Riccardi – yes; Councilman Simpson – yes; Councilman Romano – yes. The governing body unanimously granted permission to close the road.

Councilman Thornton asked Councilman Simpson if he had spoken with the Recreation Committee regarding their budget for this year. Councilman Simpson stated he met with the Recreation Committee in December and again in January. The budget was reviewed, and they stated the reason for the increase is due to the costs for Family Fun Day. The event costs approximately \$4,000. They did receive a \$1,000 donation which helped cover the cost of supplies. The Recreation Committee also needs to purchase a new canopy which is causing the increase. Some of the funding in their budget was allocated to various groups and those funds have been reallocated elsewhere.

Councilwoman Kuncken stated she spoke with Maureen Kurtz, Secretary of the Recreation Committee, who informed her that the committee will be sponsoring the Miss Stanhope Contest this year in conjunction with Byram Township. Bryam has a full-time Recreation Director and together they are working out the details for this event which will be held at Lenape Valley High School.

Councilman Riccardi stated discussion had been held in the past about the fact that some of the Recreation Committee items were being stored at people's homes. Councilman Riccardi stated the Environmental Commission now has their own shed which is located at the DPW yard and there

is space available for the Recreation Committee to store their items there as well. Councilman Simpson stated he plans to attend the March Recreation Committee meeting, and he will let them know about the shed storage availability.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Emergency Appropriations – Administrator McNeilly stated there is an ordinance on tonight's agenda for an emergency appropriation to cover the cost of the re-evaluation project required by the Sussex County Taxation Board. Once approved, and the funds are available, the sole bid for this project can be accepted. The cost will be included in the budgets for the next five years. There is also a resolution on tonight's agenda awarding the contract.

Environmental Commission – Administrator McNeilly stated the Environmental Commission received their storage shed which is located at the DPW yard. The Environmental Commission will have access to the shed on Wednesday's and Saturday's.

Surplus Property (Leo Avenue) – Administrator McNeilly stated a while back the Borough attempted to sell Borough owned property located on Leo Avenue as a buildable lot. Due to the topography of the lot, steep slopes and no perc test, the lot did not sell. Administrator McNeilly suggested putting the lot up for sale at auction again, but this time limit the sale to an adjoining property owner with the requirement that the lot must be merged with their existing property. The minimum bid amount would be \$5,000. The governing body agreed to move forward with the sale process.

Pothole Repair – Administrator McNeilly stated it is that time of year again when complaints will be received regarding potholes. Administrator McNeilly asked the governing body to forward any complaints they receive to him. Pothole repairs which are made during this time of year can only be done with cold patch. Councilman Thornton asked if the DPW Superintendent has indicated when pothole repairs will begin. Administrator McNeilly stated the cold patch repairs will most likely begin next week. Councilman Thornton stated there are some significant holes on Main Street.

Electronic Waste Day – Administrator McNeilly stated the electronic waste collection day is set for April 26th. Administrator McNeilly stated the shredding company is unavailable on April 26th and finding a substitute shredding company has been unsuccessful. Changing to another date is not an option due to the fact the event needs to coincide with Clean Up Day. The electronics which are collected will be brought to the electronics recycling company in Randolph on Monday or Tuesday.

Old Sparta Road Property – Administrator McNeilly stated the rezoning ordinance for the old Sparta Road property needs to be discussed. Mayor Wronko asked if the developer is anxious for the ordinance to be put on the agenda. Administrator McNeilly stated the developer is looking for the status update. Mayor Wronko asked the governing body if there were any objections to placing the ordinance on the March agenda for first reading. There were no objections. Administrator McNeilly stated he will have the ordinance placed on the March 11th agenda. Councilman Wachterhauser asked if Eric Keller, Borough Engineer, will be present at that meeting. Administrator McNeilly stated he will ask Mr. Keller to attend. Councilman Wachterhauser stated there are traffic issues he would like to discuss. The Borough Clerk asked if the ordinance should be on the March 11th agenda for introduction or for Council Discussion. The governing body asked to have the ordinance on the agenda for Council Discussion. Administrator McNeilly asked the governing body if they could provide their questions to Mr. Keller prior to the meeting. One thing is certain, there are going to be cars and that is not something the Borough Engineer cannot mitigate. Councilman Wachterhauser asked if there are any studies, done over the past ten years, which indicate the amount of traffic in that area for Sparta Road and/or Brooklyn Road and what is the possibility of installing a traffic light. Councilwoman Kuncken stated she would like to know if a traffic light is not an option, are there alternative solutions. Discussion took place regarding County studies which may have been done with counting tapes on Sparta Road in Hopatcong or on Brooklyn Road. Councilman Wachterhauser asked if a tape has ever been done on Dell Road coming out of the condominiums. Administrator McNeilly stated no counts have been done by the Borough. Administrator McNeilly stated he will ask Mr. Keller to look into the option of a traffic light, the availability of surveys and whether or not he can attend the meeting.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Cannabis Ordinance – Ursula Leo, Borough Attorney, stated there are three different ordinances required for the cannabis retail. One for tax, one for licensing and one for zoning. This is a consideration for the governing body and the board. The number of licenses needs to be determined. Like any other ordinance, if it is decided to permit two licenses, that can be amended in the future to add additional licenses. Taking one back which has been added is not an option. Councilman Wachterhauser stated Wharton's ordinance has very restrictive signage requirements and Hackettstown's ordinance also states what can and cannot be displayed. Councilman Thornton asked Attorney Leo if the Borough can limit a particular business to the type of signage allowed. Attorney Leo stated, in this case, the Borough can do so because the ordinance has been drafted as a conditional use. Section 5 talks about signs being limited to one location identification, name of business sign, which states signage shall not promote consumption and a no loitering sign shall be posted. The number of signs can be limited because this is a conditional use which has stricter requirements. The ordinance will be adopted permitting two retail businesses. One can be required to be for a minority business owner or both can be general for now. This can be revisited in the future to add more, which would take a few months to go through the required process. Councilman Romano asked if the state requires there to be a license for minorities. Attorney Leo stated she is of the opinion the state does not require that. There is also the option of having a micro business license. Administrator McNeilly stated a micro business would have a very small square footage and it is a specialty item. Attorney Leo stated she would not recommend starting with the micro business as it would have different restrictions. In the future, if someone were to come in and say they have a micro business they would like to open, it could be added. Councilwoman Kuncken stated the governing body discussed previously about not wanting an area where people could loiter. Attorney Leo stated there will be a no loitering sign posted. Loitering will be prohibited around the building and no consumption on premises will be permitted. Councilwoman Kuncken stated the governing body does not want there to be a lounge area inside the building. Attorney Leo confirmed only retail will be permitted. The application fees are currently set at \$5,000 initially and \$2,500 for renewal years. Once the license is approved, there would be a non-refundable \$10,000 fee. These figures are consistent with others in Sussex County. The licensing requires state approval, Borough approval and approval by the Land Use Board. Councilman Wachterhauser asked how the enforcement would be handled. Attorney Leo stated the Borough would handle the enforcement for the items in the ordinance. Security and cameras etc. would be handled by other entities.

Administrator McNeilly stated the Borough is going to issue up to two licenses and he asked if the wording and methodology is included in this ordinance. Attorney Leo stated this will be handled on a first come first serve basis. There does need to be a wait list. When the applicant comes to the Borough with their initial application, they will need to have a conditional approval by the state. When they have the approval of the governing body, they will go before the Land Use Board. There will be a checklist to ensure all the requirements are being met. Administrator McNeilly stated once there is a third applicant how is that handled. Attorney Leo stated once the ordinance is approved it will have to be on a first come first serve basis and they will need to have the state approval. The application will have to be submitted to the Clerk along with proof, letter of intent for a location from the property owner. There are times when the location could change and that would need to be considered by the governing body. Councilman Thornton asked if the applicants should come before the governing body to make a presentation. Attorney Leo stated that it would not be advisable because that would be specific to the applicant. Criteria just need to be put in place and the applicant needs to meet that. Mayor Wronko asked if the fees are acceptable to the governing body. Councilman Thornton asked what the neighboring municipalities are charging. Administrator McNeilly stated he will find out what those figures are, and he will email them to Councilman Thornton. Attorney Leo stated she will provide a sample application and the fees. There being no further questions, Mayor Wronko thanked Attorney Leo for her input on this subject.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCES

Ordinance for Public Hearing and Final Adoption

Mayor Wronko offered the following ordinance for Public Hearing and Final Adoption which was read by title.

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A NEW ARTICLE III
OF CHAPTER 1, “GENERAL PROVISIONS”, SECTION 1-
16, ENTITLED “MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, RESTRICTED
AREAS TO SAFEGUARD RECORDS”**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Stanhope officials and employees are entrusted with the responsibility to maintain and safeguard public records that consist of or contain information deemed confidential pursuant to federal, State or local law; and

WHEREAS, to ensure compliance with such laws, including the New Jersey Open Public Records Act (“OPRA”) set forth at N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq. and its statutorily defined responsibilities, as well as for certain personnel records, the maintenance and custody of specific records are required; and

WHEREAS, the Borough desires to provide a productive, safe, and secure work environment in which Borough officials and employees can perform their official duties and responsibilities unimpeded or disturbed by intrusion or disruption; and

WHEREAS, due to this responsibility to maintain and safeguard records, reports, documents and information in municipal offices, records may not be available for immediate public viewing since they may contain personal information, phone numbers, social security numbers, medical data, and other confidential information; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Mayor and Council to protect records, and to create secure areas with clear signage that will prohibit persons from entering secured areas where government records exist and to a create safe, secure, productive work environment in which Borough officials and employees can perform their duties and responsibilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1.

Chapter 1 of the Borough Code, “General Provisions”, is amended to add a new Article III, Section 1-16, “Municipal Buildings, Restricted Areas”, which shall read as follows:

Article III, Municipal Buildings, Restricted Areas

§ 1-16. Municipal Buildings, Restricted Areas to Safeguard Records

- A. **Purpose.** Municipal offices, work areas, break rooms, storage areas, and other such areas not open to the public, located in, or adjacent to any municipally owned property, leased, or controlled by the Borough shall be secured against public entry for the purpose of protecting documents, digital data, and other written, copied or printed materials, displayed on computer terminals or screens, that are not subject to the Open Public Records Act, which materials may include, but are not limited to, personally identifiable information, and to provide a productive, safe and secure work environment in which Borough officials and employees can perform their official duties and responsibilities unimpeded or disturbed by intrusion or disruption.
- B. **Restricted areas.** While the general public may be permitted to access Borough buildings during regular business hours, municipal office areas, storage, and workstations have been secured and are closed to the public for the purposes set forth in this section, including protecting documents, digital data, and other written, copied or printed materials that may contain confidential information that is protected by relevant laws and regulations. These areas include, but are not limited to, the following departments:

1. Administrator’s Office
2. Clerk/Registrar Office
3. Finance/Tax/Utility Offices
4. Zoning/Code Enforcement Office
5. Employee Kitchen area
6. Storage Areas
7. Electrical Room
8. Public Works Department Areas
9. Police Department (except for the main lobby area)
10. Volunteer Fire Company (except for main lobby area)

C. Conditions imposed on access to municipal facility. All persons entering Borough-owned and/or Borough-controlled property, buildings, structures, and facilities, shall be subject to the following conditions upon entering or remaining in any such property, building, structure or facility.

1. All persons shall have access only to areas that are open to the public and shall not proceed past any posted sign as provided for herein and shall not enter before such time that the property, building, structure, or facility has been opened to the public, or remain therein after such property, building, structure, or facility has been closed to the public.
2. All persons entering Borough property, buildings, structures, and facilities shall comply with the directions of any Borough employee, official, or agent to immediately leave any area that has been designated as a restricted area, and to immediately relocate to the nearest public area. Such directions, notwithstanding any posted signage, shall constitute notice of violation of the conditions of entry imposed upon persons of the public.

D. Signage. The Borough shall post the terms and conditions of entry into any Borough building, structure, or facility at the main entrance of all buildings, structures, or facilities to which the public is permitted to access, together with the time the property, building, structure or facility is open to the public and the time which it is closed to the public.

At the entry point of all secured areas not open to members of the public inside buildings, structures or facilities, and in all exterior areas which are required to be secured, such as but not limited to, storage of equipment, vehicles, parking area, or places that pose a danger to the public, or for security purposes, a sign shall be posted which shall state, "Stop Restricted Area, Authorized Personnel Only. Violators shall be subject to prosecution pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:18-3".

Section 2. Severability. If any provision of this Ordinance or the application of this Ordinance to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected and shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 3. Repealer. All ordinances or parts of ordinances or resolutions that are inconsistent or in opposition to the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed in their entirety.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption and publication in accordance with law.

On motion by Councilman Romano, seconded by Councilwoman Kuncken and unanimously carried by the following roll call vote, the foregoing ordinance was adopted.

Mayor Wronko opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments on this ordinance only. Seeing no one from the public wishing to speak, Mayor Wronko closed the public portion of the meeting.

Roll Call:

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| Councilwoman Kuncken – yes | Councilman Simpson – yes |
| Councilman Riccardi – yes | Councilman Thornton – yes |
| Councilman Romano – yes | Councilman Wachterhauser - yes |

On motion by Councilman Romano, seconded by Councilman Riccardi, and unanimously carried by voice vote, the Mayor and Council instructed the Clerk to post the ordinance and authorized publication of same.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES

Ordinances for Introduction and First Reading [Public Hearings on March 25, 2025]

Mayor Wronko offered the following ordinances for Public Hearing and Final Adoption which were read by title.

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF
STANHOPE, SUSSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
AMENDING CHAPTER 15, FIRE DEPARTMENT OF THE
CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF STANHOPE**

WHEREAS, the Borough Code needs updating and revisions regarding the Borough Volunteer Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council reviewed the have decided to revise the Borough Code regarding the Fire Department, as follows.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope, Sussex County, New Jersey as follows:

SECTION 1.

Chapter 15, Fire Department of the Code of the Borough of Stanhope shall be and is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced as follows:

Chapter 15. Fire Department.

§15.1 Establishment

The Stanhope Borough Volunteer Fire Department is hereby established with jurisdictional boundaries that coincide with those of the Borough of Stanhope.

§15.2 Composition

The Stanhope Borough Volunteer Fire Department shall consist of a single company known as "Stanhope Hose Company No. 1." The Fire Department may adopt such Standard Operating Procedures ("SOP") as it deems appropriate for its government.

§15.3 Control and oversight by Council; appropriations.

The Fire Department shall be subject to the direct control and oversight of the Stanhope Borough Council. The Borough Council may appropriate such sums of money as authorized by law and as each governing body deems proper, on an annual basis, to fund the operations and capital expenses of the Fire Department, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:14-34.

§15-4 Probationary and Regular Membership Qualifications; Appointment and Dismissal; Duties

Any individual who is a resident of the Borough or resides within a contiguous municipality (per Department SOP), is a citizen of the United States, is at least 18 years of age, has obtained a high school diploma or GED, is of good character, able to pass a background investigation and interview process, and is physically fit to perform the duties of a Fire Department member, as evidenced by a certificate from certified physician following an examination, shall be eligible for appointment as a probationary member of the Fire Department. Any such medical information shall be collected and kept confidential in accordance with SOPs. Additionally, the individual must meet all relevant New Jersey State requirements, and the standards set forth by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

Each eligible candidate shall be recommended by the Company and approved by the Borough Council. Upon approval, the candidate shall serve an initial probationary period of 12 months after they have satisfied the State's minimum training requirements.

Probationary and regular members of the Fire Department shall be assigned duties as outlined in the Fire Department rules and regulations, in accordance with New Jersey State laws and NFPA standards.

Any member of the Fire Department may be dismissed, suspended, or relieved from duty for not meeting the Fire Department rules and regulations (as determined solely by the Department, in accordance with its Standard Operating Procedures), as well as New Jersey State laws and NFPA standards established for this purpose.

§15.5 Junior Firefighter Auxiliary

A Junior Firefighter's Auxiliary Company (hereinafter the "Auxiliary Company") to the Fire Department is hereby established and is subject to the supervision and control of the Fire Chief. The members of the Auxiliary Company shall be known as "junior members."

Junior members shall meet all the qualifications of regular members of the Fire Department, with the exception that their age requirements are as defined per N.J.S.A. 40A:14-98, as may be amended. A junior firefighter may perform non-hazardous support duties at a fire site, so long as they have been appropriately and adequately trained to perform the support duties and are appropriately and adequately supervised in performing those support duties at the fire site. A junior fireman shall be limited to attending meetings of the Junior Firefighter's Auxiliary, receiving instruction, participating in training that does not involve fire, smoke, toxic or noxious gas, or hazardous materials or substances, and observing firefighting activities, while under supervision.

Junior members are required to maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0, or a “C” average and may not be failing any class. Any member who receives a GPA below 2.0 or a failing grade for any class, shall be required to take an automatic temporary leave of absence from their firefighter duties and will not be permitted to attend any fire department functions, nor shall they be permitted at the station, until such time that they can prove that the grade(s) has been improved. Proof of improvement in the form of a report card or written letter from the course instructor shall be required.

Any person seeking to become a junior member must apply and be appointed in the same manner as a member of the Fire Department. Any person before being considered for membership in the Auxiliary Company must obtain notarized permission to join the auxiliary from their parents or guardian if under the age of 18 and must submit to the Fire Chief said notarized permission in writing and acknowledged or approved in the manner required by law.

Junior members shall be insured by the same coverage and in the same amounts provided for the members of the Fire Department.

Junior members shall be trained for eventual membership in the Fire Department in accordance with the general and special orders that the Fire Chief may promulgate for said purpose. Junior members shall not operate any Fire Department vehicle or apparatus.

Junior members shall be subject to all provisions of this Chapter and shall be subject to suspension or dismissal as provided for by Department Standard Operating Procedures and/or general or special orders issued by the Fire Chief for said purposes.

§15.6 Required Duty

All Fire Department members are required to fulfill at least 40% of their duties annually if they are non-exempt members and 30% if they are exempt members. The duties are as established each year by the Chief. To participate in these duties, each member must meet all the minimum requirements of a firefighter as defined by the NJ Division of Fire Safety, have satisfactorily passed their annual mask fit test, and have current firefighting personal protective equipment (PPE) (“Required Duty”). The actual duties include attendance and active participation in fires and drills. The Chief of the Fire Department is responsible for maintaining records of attendance and reporting them monthly to the Borough Clerk. Members can earn up to an additional 10% credit by participating in approved extra credit activities listed below. These activities must be formally approved in advance by the Chief to ensure alignment with the organization's standards and objectives.

Examples of approved firematic extra credit activities include, but are not limited:

1. Annual Sussex County Firefighter Parade
2. Hackettstown and Newton St. Patrick’s Day Parades
3. Stanhope Borough Halloween Parade
4. Stanhope HSA Trunk or Treat
5. Annual Fire Awareness/Prevention Training at the local schools
6. Annual Stanhope Borough Tree Lighting
7. Annual Holiday Santa Run
8. Annual Hose and Apparatus Testing
9. Annual Memorial Day Parade (Stanhope or Byram)
10. Annual Netcong Holiday Parade
11. Any other firematic duties as approved by the Chief

§15.7 Associate and Inactive Life Members

Members who do not meet the Required Duty standards may participate in non-firematic activities as either Associate Members or Inactive Life Members. These members are permitted to attend

meetings, participate in fundraisers, attend social events, and vote on non-firematic matters. However, they are prohibited from engaging in firematic activities unless they meet the minimum standards for Required Duty.

§15.8 Exempt Certificates

Members of the Fire Department can qualify for an exempt fireman certificate if, at the time of their appointment, they met the requirements of N.J.S.A. 40A:14-56, were between 18 and 58 years of age, and completed 40% of fire duty each year over a period of seven years, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:14-56.

§15.9 Application for Membership

Prospective members must apply to the fire company. Upon selection to membership, the individual shall be recognized as a member in good standing of the Fire Department. The election of new members must be promptly reported to the Borough Clerk, who will maintain an accurate and up-to-date record of all members. Members are exercising a governmental function, per N.J.S.A. 40A:14-68.

§15.10 Elected Officers

To be eligible for an elected officer position within the Stanhope Borough Volunteer Fire Department, candidates must have served a minimum of three years as an active member. Additionally, they must meet all State requirements and fulfill the Department's minimum duty requirements. Furthermore, no individual may serve in an officer role unless these criteria are met in full.

The Department shall elect a Chief, First Assistant Chief, Second Assistant Chief, Captain, Lieutenant, Fire Police Captain, and Fire Police Lieutenant, from among members who meet the minimum duty requirements and the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety standards for their respective roles. All elected officers are elected to serve a one-year term. Nominations for officers will take place in October. Only qualified candidates who meet the minimum duty requirements and the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety standards on the nomination date may be nominated and considered for election. Election of officers will take place in November.

The Chief is limited to a maximum of four consecutive one-year terms, with eligibility for reappointment after a two-year break in service. These officers are tasked with ensuring the Department conducts an annual review of Pre-Incident Planning (per NFPA 1620), Risk Assessment and Risk Reduction Plan (per NFPA 1300), firefighter qualifications (per NFPA 1001 and NJ Division of Fire Safety standards), and compliance with PPE standards (per NFPA 1851). Only firefighters who meet the minimum duty requirements and New Jersey Division of Fire Safety standards may vote during the election of fire officers. A compliance report, signed by the Chief, First Assistant Chief, and Second Assistant Chief, must be submitted annually to the Borough Clerk for review by the governing body.

§15.11 Removal of Officers and Firefighters

Any officer or firefighter shall be subject to removal for just cause upon charges brought by the Fire Chief or their designee; if charges concern the Chief, such charges may be brought by the Assistant Chiefs. Charges may be brought against the Chief based upon a majority vote of all eligible members. The officer or firefighter charged may request a hearing within 10 days of receiving the charges. The Borough Council shall designate a hearing officer who shall consider the sworn testimony of all witnesses and other evidence presented. Hearings may be conducted informally, and the formal rules of evidence need not apply. At the conclusion of the hearing, the hearing officer shall make his written report and recommendations to the Borough Council. The decision of the Borough Council shall be final.

Any firefighter who does not meet the minimum duty requirements and NJ Division of Fire Safety requirements, will initially be placed on probation for a three-month period. The firefighter may return to active duty once they have successfully achieved the required standards, demonstrated minimum percentage for a period of three consecutive months, and demonstrates basic firefighter skills commiserative with their level within the fire department.

§15.12 Duties of the Fire Chief

The Fire Chief of the Stanhope Borough Volunteer Fire Department holds the highest position of authority within the department and is responsible for the following key duties:

1. **Overall Command:** The Fire Chief is the primary leader and decision-maker within the department, responsible for commanding all firefighting operations, emergency responses, and training exercises. The Chief ensures that all activities are conducted safely, efficiently, and in accordance with departmental policies and state regulations.
2. **Strategic Planning:** The Fire Chief is responsible for developing and implementing the strategic direction of the department. This includes long-term planning for resources, personnel, training, and equipment to ensure the department meets current and future needs.
3. **Policy and Procedure Development:** The Fire Chief establishes and enforces departmental policies and procedures. The Chief ensures that all members of the department adhere to these guidelines, which are designed to promote safety, efficiency, and professionalism.
4. **Personnel Management:** The Fire Chief oversees the recruitment, training, and development of all department personnel. This includes evaluating the performance of officers and firefighters, making promotion recommendations, and ensuring that all members meet the required qualifications and standards.
5. **Budget Management:** The Fire Chief is responsible for preparing and managing the department's budget. This includes allocating funds for equipment, training, personnel, and other resources, as well as seeking additional funding or grants when necessary.
6. **Interagency Coordination:** The Fire Chief serves as the department's primary liaison with other emergency services, governmental agencies, and mutual aid partners. The Chief ensures effective collaboration and communication with these entities during joint operations and emergency responses.
7. **Public Relations and Community Engagement:** The Fire Chief represents the department in the community, promoting fire safety and prevention through public education programs and outreach efforts. The Chief also serves as the department's spokesperson, communicating with the media and the public during major incidents.
8. **Emergency Response Oversight:** The Fire Chief takes command of major emergency incidents, coordinating the deployment of resources, directing firefighting and rescue operations, and making critical decisions that affect the outcome of the response.
9. **Compliance and Reporting:** The Fire Chief is responsible for ensuring that the department complies with all applicable NFPA standards, state regulations, and local ordinances. The Chief must submit regular reports to the Borough Council and other governing bodies, detailing the department's activities, compliance status, and any significant incidents or issues.
10. **Risk Management and Safety:** The Fire Chief oversees the department's risk management program, ensuring that all operations are conducted safely and that potential hazards are identified and mitigated. The Chief is also responsible for the health and safety of all department personnel, including the implementation of occupational health programs and ensuring compliance with NFPA 1500 and NFPA 1582 standards.
11. **Pre-Incident Planning and Review:** The Fire Chief ensures that the department maintains up-to-date pre-incident plans for key locations within the community. The Chief also oversees the regular review and updating of these plans, as well as the department's Risk Assessment and Risk Reduction Plan in accordance with NFPA 1300.
12. **Reporting to the Borough:** The Fire Chief is responsible for providing monthly and annual reports to the Borough Administrator and Council detailing the department's firematic activities, training, and compliance with safety and operational standards.
13. **Succession Planning:** The Fire Chief is responsible for mentoring and developing the next generation of leaders within the department, ensuring that there is a clear and effective succession plan in place for key positions.

The Fire Chief is expected to perform these duties with the highest level of integrity, leadership, and commitment to the safety and well-being of both the department's personnel and the community it serves.

The Fire Chief is authorized to appoint additional officers each year, as deemed necessary to support the effective operation of the department. These appointments are at the Chief's discretion and each appointee must meet the minimum requirements of the position they are being appointed to. These may include roles such as Engineer, Training Officer, Safety Officer, Health and Wellness Officer, or any other positions that the Chief determines are essential to ensuring that all aspects of the department's mission are adequately managed. These roles are intended to enhance the department's capabilities and ensure that the team is fully equipped to meet its operational and safety needs. In addition, the Chief may appoint any other officers if there are any vacancies following the annual election.

§15.13 Duties of the Assistant Chiefs

The Assistant Chiefs of the Stanhope Borough Volunteer Fire Department play crucial roles in supporting the Fire Chief and ensuring the effective operation of the department. The duties of the First Assistant Chief and the Second Assistant Chief are as follows:

First Assistant Chief

1. **Assume Command in Chief's Absence:**
 - The First Assistant Chief is the second-in-command and assumes all responsibilities of the Fire Chief in their absence. This includes commanding emergency incidents, overseeing department operations, and making critical decisions.
2. **Support and Assist the Fire Chief:**
 - The First Assistant Chief assists the Fire Chief in the development and implementation of departmental policies, procedures, and strategic plans. This includes contributing to budget preparation, resource allocation, and personnel management.
3. **Training and Development Oversight:**
 - The First Assistant Chief is responsible for coordinating and overseeing the training programs within the department. This includes ensuring that all firefighters meet the required qualifications, certifications, and participate in regular drills and training exercises.
4. **Operational Readiness:**
 - The First Assistant Chief ensures that all equipment, apparatus, and personal protective gear are maintained and ready for immediate use. The Assistant Chief conducts regular inspections and addresses any deficiencies promptly.
5. **Safety and Compliance:**
 - The First Assistant Chief works closely with the Fire Chief to ensure that the department complies with all applicable NFPA standards, state regulations, and departmental policies. This includes overseeing safety protocols and conducting risk assessments.
6. **Incident Reporting and Documentation:**
 - The First Assistant Chief is responsible for assisting with the documentation of all incidents, training exercises, and departmental activities. This includes preparing reports for the Fire Chief and ensuring that records are accurate and up-to-date.
7. **Community Engagement:**
 - The First Assistant Chief plays a role in community outreach and public education programs, representing the department at public events and promoting fire safety and prevention.
8. **Mentorship and Leadership:**
 - The First Assistant Chief mentors junior officers and firefighters, providing guidance and support to help them develop their skills and advance within the department. The Assistant Chief fosters a positive and professional working environment.

Second Assistant Chief

1. **Assume Command in Absence of Chief and First Assistant Chief:**
 - The Second Assistant Chief steps into the role of commanding officer in the absence of both the Fire Chief and the First Assistant Chief. This includes managing emergency responses, directing operations, and ensuring the safety and effectiveness of all activities.
2. **Support the First Assistant Chief:**
 - The Second Assistant Chief provides support to the First Assistant Chief in overseeing training, operational readiness, and compliance with safety standards. This role includes assisting in the coordination of drills, training exercises, and equipment maintenance.
3. **Training and Development Support:**
 - The Second Assistant Chief assists with the planning and execution of training programs, ensuring that all department members are prepared to respond effectively to emergencies. This includes helping to organize training schedules and monitor progress.

4. **Operational Duties:**
 - The Second Assistant Chief is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the department, ensuring that all personnel and equipment are prepared for immediate deployment. This includes conducting inspections and addressing any operational issues.
5. **Safety and Compliance Monitoring:**
 - The Second Assistant Chief plays a key role in enforcing safety protocols and ensuring that all department activities comply with NFPA standards and state regulations. The Assistant Chief assists in conducting safety audits and risk assessments.
6. **Incident Documentation:**
 - The Second Assistant Chief assists in documenting incidents, training sessions, and other significant activities. This includes ensuring that all records are properly maintained and available for review by the Fire Chief and other authorities.
7. **Community and Public Relations:**
 - The Second Assistant Chief supports community engagement efforts, participating in public safety programs, and representing the department at community events. This role helps to strengthen the department's relationship with the public.
8. **Leadership and Mentorship:**
 - The Second Assistant Chief mentors junior firefighters and officers, helping them develop their skills and leadership abilities. The Assistant Chief works to maintain a strong, cohesive team that is dedicated to the department's mission.

Both the First and Second Assistant Chiefs are expected to perform their duties with a high level of professionalism, leadership, and commitment to the safety and well-being of the department and the community it serves. They are integral to the effective operation of the Stanhope Borough Volunteer Fire Department and play a key role in ensuring its success.

§15.14 Duties of the Fire Captain

The Fire Captain is responsible for the following key duties within the Stanhope Borough Volunteer Fire Department:

1. **Leadership at Emergency Scenes:** The Fire Captain shall assume command at emergency incidents in the absence of higher-ranking officers, ensuring the effective and safe operation of all firefighting and rescue efforts.
2. **Training and Development:** The Fire Captain is responsible for organizing and leading regular training sessions for all department personnel, ensuring that all firefighters are adequately trained and meet the necessary qualifications and standards, including those set by the NFPA and the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety.
3. **Operational Oversight:** The Fire Captain will supervise daily operations within the firehouse, including equipment maintenance, readiness checks, and the preparation of apparatus and gear to ensure that the department is fully prepared to always respond to emergencies.
4. **Compliance and Safety:** The Fire Captain is tasked with enforcing departmental policies and procedures, particularly those related to safety, and ensuring compliance with all applicable regulations and standards.
5. **Incident Reporting:** The Fire Captain is responsible for completing detailed reports on all incidents, training exercises, and other significant activities, and for ensuring that these reports are submitted to the appropriate officers and the Borough Clerk as required.
6. **Community Engagement:** The Fire Captain shall participate in community outreach programs, fire prevention education, and other activities that promote public safety and strengthen the relationship between the fire department and the community.
7. **Mentorship:** The Fire Captain shall serve as a mentor to junior firefighters, providing guidance, support, and leadership to help them develop their skills and advance within the department.

The Fire Captain is expected to carry out these duties with the highest level of professionalism, ensuring that the Stanhope Borough Volunteer Fire Department operates efficiently and effectively in its mission to protect the community.

§15.15 Duties of the Fire Lieutenant

The Fire Lieutenant within the Stanhope Borough Volunteer Fire Department is responsible for the following duties:

1. **Support and Leadership:** The Fire Lieutenant assists the Fire Captain in leading the department, taking charge in the Captain's absence or when directed. The Lieutenant is responsible for ensuring that all operations and duties are carried out effectively and safely.
2. **Training Assistance:** The Fire Lieutenant plays a crucial role in the training and development of department personnel. This includes assisting in organizing training exercises, conducting drills, and ensuring that all firefighters maintain their qualifications and meet departmental and state standards.
3. **Operational Readiness:** The Fire Lieutenant is responsible for overseeing the maintenance and readiness of firefighting equipment, apparatus, and personal protective gear. The Lieutenant ensures that all equipment is in proper working order and that the firehouse is prepared for immediate response to emergencies.
4. **Safety Enforcement:** The Fire Lieutenant monitors safety practices within the department, ensuring that all members adhere to safety protocols during training and emergency operations. The Lieutenant also identifies potential hazards and takes corrective actions to mitigate risks.
5. **Incident Reporting:** The Fire Lieutenant is responsible for assisting with the documentation of all incidents, training exercises, and other departmental activities. These reports are to be accurate and submitted promptly to the appropriate officers.
6. **Community Relations:** The Fire Lieutenant participates in public outreach and education programs, representing the department in the community and helping to promote fire safety and prevention.
7. **Mentorship and Guidance:** The Fire Lieutenant mentors junior firefighters, providing leadership, support, and guidance to help them grow within the department. The Lieutenant fosters a positive and professional environment that encourages teamwork and skill development.
8. **Coordination with the Fire Captain:** The Fire Lieutenant works closely with the Fire Captain to ensure the smooth operation of the department. This includes assisting with administrative tasks, coordinating training, and ensuring that all department objectives are met.

The Fire Lieutenant is expected to perform these duties with a high level of commitment and professionalism, contributing to the overall effectiveness and safety of the Stanhope Borough Volunteer Fire Department.

§15.16 Fire Police Captain and Lieutenant

The Fire Police Captain is responsible for overseeing fire police operations, ensuring scene safety and security, traffic control, and coordination with other emergency services. The Lieutenant assumes the captain's responsibilities in their absence. If both are unavailable, the next senior fire police member will take over until the Captain or Lieutenant returns.

Duties of Firefighters

1. **Incident Response:**
 - Every firefighter is required to promptly report to any fire, incident, or operation involving the Fire Department within the borough, unless directed otherwise by the Chief or any Assistant Chief.
2. **Familiarization with Guidelines:**
 - Each firefighter must take responsibility for familiarizing themselves with the Department's standard operating guidelines and fully understand the chain of command.
3. **Training and Compliance:**
 - Firefighters are required to regularly attend Department training drills and ensure that they remain current with all mandated state and local training requirements and meet the mandatory minimum duty requirements defined above.

§15.17 Stipend and Volunteer Incentives

No salary or other compensation shall be paid to the Chief, Assistant Fire Chiefs, Captains and Lieutenants, other staff officers and members of the Fire Department except that each may receive such stipends and clothing allowances as made available by appropriations of the Borough Council for those purposes, in accordance with relevant law and regulations.

Stanhope Borough may offer a volunteer incentive annually, subject to approval in the Borough's budget. This incentive, allocated on a tiered basis, will be available to members who meet the

minimum Duty Requirements for firematic activities, as defined by the Chief level officers. The incentive does not apply to members who do not meet these requirements.

§15.18 Drug & Alcohol Policy

The Stanhope Hose Company No. 1 maintains a strict zero-tolerance policy regarding the consumption of drugs and alcoholic beverages. Under no circumstances shall any member of the department operate a department vehicle, respond to a call, or participate in any fire or emergency-related activities if they have consumed any drugs or alcoholic beverages. This policy is in place to ensure the safety of all personnel, the public, and the integrity of our operations. Any violation of this policy will result in immediate disciplinary action, up to and including termination. Our commitment to safety and professionalism is paramount, and all members are expected to adhere to this standard without exception.

§15.19 Firematic Committee

The Firematic Committee consists of the Chief, First and Second Assistant Chief, Chair of the Stanhope Public Safety Committee, Vice Chair of the Stanhope Public Safety Committee, and the mayor. The committee will meet quarterly to review compliance with the Stanhope Borough Volunteer Fire Department Ordinance, NFPA Standards, and NJ Division of Fire Safety regulations. The Committee shall review quarterly report; review compliance with the Borough ordinance, relevant NFPA standards, and the NJ Division of Fire Safety; and other firematic issues as deemed relevant.

SECTION 2 - SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this Ordinance or the application of this Ordinance to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected and shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3 - REPEALER

All ordinances or parts of ordinances or resolutions that are inconsistent or in opposition to the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed in their entirety.

SECTION 4: EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption and publication in accordance with law.

On motion by Councilman Riccardi, seconded by Councilwoman Kuncken and unanimously carried by the following roll call vote, the foregoing ordinance was introduced.

Roll Call:

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Councilwoman Kuncken – yes | Councilman Simpson – yes |
| Councilman Riccardi – yes | Councilman Thornton – yes |
| Councilman Romano – yes | Councilman Wachterhauser - yes |

On motion by Councilwoman Kuncken, seconded by Councilman Simpson, and unanimously carried by voice vote, the Mayor and Council instructed the Clerk to post the ordinance and authorized publication of same.

Ordinance 2025-04

CALENDAR YEAR 2025 ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF STANHOPE, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NJ TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget up to 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope in the County of Sussex finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2025 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council hereby determines that a 1.0% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$41,552.38 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2025 budget year, the final appropriations of the Borough of Stanhope shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$145,433.34 and that the CY 2024 municipal budget for the Borough of Stanhope be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

On motion by Councilman Romano, seconded by Councilman Thornton and unanimously carried by the following roll call vote, the foregoing ordinance was introduced.

Roll Call:

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Councilwoman Kuncken – yes | Councilman Simpson – yes |
| Councilman Riccardi – yes | Councilman Thornton – yes |
| Councilman Romano – yes | Councilman Wachterhauser - yes |

On motion by Councilwoman Kuncken, seconded by Councilman Romano, and unanimously carried by voice vote, the Mayor and Council instructed the Clerk to post the ordinance and authorized publication of same.

Ordinance 2025-05

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION OF \$218,125.00 FOR THE REASSESSMENT OF REAL PROPERTY IN STANHOPE BOROUGH

WHEREAS, the Sussex County Board of Taxation has ordered the Borough of Stanhope, New Jersey (the “Borough”) to implement a municipal-wide reassessment of all real property in the Borough; and

WHEREAS, The Local Budget Law of the State of New Jersey and in particular, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53, provides that a municipality may adopt an ordinance authorizing a special emergency appropriation for, among other things, the preparation and execution of a complete revaluation program or any program to update and make current any previous revaluations program when ordered by the County Board of Taxation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. A special emergency appropriation in the amount of \$218,125.00 is hereby authorized and made for the purpose of undertaking a complete revaluation program of all real property in the Borough of Stanhope, County of Sussex, New Jersey.

Section 2. That said emergency appropriation shall be provided for in full in the budgets of the next succeeding years by the inclusion of not less than one-fifth of the total amount in each of the next succeeding annual budgets.

Section 3. The Borough hereby authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to finance such appropriation as a “special emergency appropriation”, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-55.

Section 4. In accordance with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53, a copy of this ordinance as adopted shall be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey.

Section 5. Severability. If any provision of this Ordinance or the application of this Ordinance to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected and shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 6. Repealer. All ordinances or parts of ordinances or resolutions that are inconsistent or in opposition to the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed in their entirety.

Section 7. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption and publication in accordance with law.

Attorney Leo stated the Borough is required to conduct a tax assessment and as expected, there is only one company that placed a bid. There is a resolution on tonight's agenda for approval, 068-25 to authorize the professional service. The CFO has worked on a special emergency appropriation for the \$218,000+. Administrator McNeilly stated this project will take place in the summer and will affect the 2026 taxes.

On motion by Councilman Romano, seconded by Councilman Wachterhauser and unanimously carried by the following roll call vote, the foregoing ordinance was introduced.

Roll Call:

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Councilwoman Kuncken – yes | Councilman Simpson – yes |
| Councilman Riccardi – yes | Councilman Thornton – yes |
| Councilman Romano – yes | Councilman Wachterhauser - yes |

On motion by Councilman Riccardi, seconded by Councilman Simpson, and unanimously carried by voice vote, the Mayor and Council instructed the Clerk to post the ordinance and authorized publication of same.

RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Wronko offered the following resolutions which were read by title.

Resolution 065-25

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF NOT EXCEEDING \$2,048,000 BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE BOROUGH OF STANHOPE, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF STANHOPE, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex (the "Borough") entitled: "Bond ordinance appropriating \$271,750, and authorizing the issuance of \$258,150 bonds or notes of the Borough, for various improvements or purposes authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey", finally adopted on April 28, 2015 (#201510) bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$905.04 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 2. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough entitled: "Bond ordinance appropriating \$128,000, and authorizing the issuance of \$128,000 bonds or notes of the Borough, for various improvements or purposes authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, for the water supply and distribution system of the Borough", finally adopted on April 28, 2015 (#201508) bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$16,661.79 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 3. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough entitled: “Bond ordinance appropriating \$338,034, and authorizing the issuance of \$305,200 bonds or notes of the Borough, for various improvements or purposes authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey”, finally adopted on April 26, 2016 (#2016-04), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$40,805 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 4. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough entitled: “Bond ordinance appropriating \$170,000 and authorizing the issuance of \$161,500 bonds or notes of the Borough, for various improvements or purposes authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey”, finally adopted on May 9, 2017 (#2017-03), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$20,726.54 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 5. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough entitled: “Bond ordinance providing for the improvement of Sparta Road and various trails in and by the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, appropriating \$1,905,000 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$90,000 bonds or notes of the Borough for financing such appropriation”, finally adopted on March 27, 2018 (#2018-03), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$27,307 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 6. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough entitled: “Bond ordinance appropriating \$1,622,850, and authorizing the issuance of \$1,328,740 bonds or notes of the Borough, for various improvements or purposes authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey”, finally adopted on May 8, 2018 (#2018-09), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$505,030.45 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 7. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough entitled: “Bond ordinance appropriating \$688,525, and authorizing the issuance of \$658,525 bonds or notes of the Borough, for various improvements or purposes authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, for the sanitary sewerage system of the Borough”, finally adopted on May 8, 2018 (#2018-10), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$233,350 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 8. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough entitled: “Bond ordinance appropriating \$54,850, and authorizing the issuance of \$54,850 bonds or notes of the Borough, for various improvements or purposes authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, for the water supply and distribution system of the Borough”, finally adopted on May 8, 2018 (#2018-11), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$29,566 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 9. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough entitled: “Bond ordinance appropriating \$431,800, and authorizing the issuance of \$409,900 bonds or notes of the Borough, for various improvements or purposes authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey”, finally adopted on February 19, 2019 (#2019-01), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$125,056.06 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 10. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough entitled: “Bond ordinance appropriating \$82,000, and authorizing the issuance of \$82,000 bonds or notes of the Borough, for various improvements or purposes authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, for the water supply and distribution system of the Borough”, finally adopted on February 19, 2019 (#2019-02), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$41,666 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 11. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough entitled: “Bond ordinance appropriating \$38,000, and authorizing the issuance of \$38,000 bonds or notes of the Borough, for various improvements or purposes authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, for the sanitary sewerage system of the Borough”, finally adopted on February 19, 2019 (#2019-03), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$10,740 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 12. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough entitled: “Bond ordinance providing for the acquisition of new and additional vehicular equipment for use by the sewer utility of the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, appropriating \$28,400 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$28,400 bonds or notes of the Borough for financing such appropriation”, finally adopted on January 28, 2020 (#2020-01), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$12,910 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 13. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough entitled: “Bond ordinance appropriating \$461,300, and authorizing the issuance of \$334,625 bonds or notes of the Borough, for various improvements or purposes authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey”, finally adopted on January 28, 2020 (#2020-02), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$87,831.13 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 14. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough entitled: “Bond ordinance appropriating \$236,400 and authorizing the issuance of \$236,400 bonds or notes of the Borough, for various improvements or purposes authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, for the water supply and distribution system of the Borough”, finally adopted on January 28, 2020 (#2020-03), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$96,789.26 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 15. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough entitled: “Bond ordinance providing for the acquisition of new and additional equipment for the Department of Public Works of the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, appropriating \$27,810 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$26,420 bonds or notes of the Borough for financing such appropriation”, finally adopted on April 27, 2021 (#2021-07), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$16,136 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 16. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough entitled: “Bond ordinance providing for the improvement of various roads in and by the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, appropriating \$294,000 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$42,750 bonds or notes of the Borough for financing such appropriation”, finally adopted on May 25, 2021 (#2021-11), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$26,612.50 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement

or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 17. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough entitled: “Bond ordinance appropriating \$521,325, and authorizing the issuance of \$323,120 bonds or notes of the Borough, for various improvements or purposes authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey”, finally adopted on May 10, 2022 (#2022-05), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$252,590.28 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 18. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough entitled: “Bond ordinance providing for the improvement of the water supply and distribution system in and by the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, appropriating \$687,540 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$10,540 bonds or notes of the Borough for financing such appropriation”, finally adopted on May 10, 2022 (#2022-06), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$8,466.95 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 19. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough entitled: “Bond ordinance providing for the acquisition of new and additional vehicular equipment for use by the water utility of the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, appropriating \$31,500 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$16,500 bonds or notes of the Borough for financing such appropriation”, finally adopted on April 25, 2023 (#2023-03), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$14,850 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 20. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough entitled: “Bond ordinance appropriating \$528,000, and authorizing the issuance of \$308,000 bonds or notes of the Borough, for various improvements or purposes authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey”, finally adopted on April 24, 2025 (#2023-04), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$268,000 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 21. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough entitled: “Bond ordinance making a supplemental appropriation of \$160,000 for the improvement of the water supply and distribution system in and by the Borough heretofore authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, and authorizing the issuance of \$152,000 bonds or notes of the Borough for financing such supplemental appropriation”, finally adopted on May 9, 2023 (#2023-08), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$136,000 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 22. Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough entitled: “Bond ordinance making a supplemental appropriation of \$86,000 for the improvement of the water supply and distribution system in and by the Borough heretofore authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of Stanhope, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, and authorizing the issuance of \$76,000 bonds or notes of the Borough for financing such supplemental appropriation”, finally adopted on May 28, 2024 (#2024-11), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$76,000 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Section 23. All bond anticipation notes (the “notes”) issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the treasurer, the chief financial officer or the acting chief financial officer of the Borough (the “Chief Financial Officer”), provided that no note shall mature later than one year from its date. The notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be

in such form as may be determined by the Chief Financial Officer and shall be signed and sealed by officials and officers of the Borough in any manner permitted by N.J.S.A. §40A:2-25. The Chief Financial Officer shall determine all matters in connection with the notes issued hereunder, and the Chief Financial Officer's signature upon the notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject to the provisions of N.J.S.A. §40A:2-8. The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the notes at not less than par from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchasers thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price. The Chief Financial Officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body of the Borough at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the notes hereunder is made. Such report must include the principal amount, interest rate and maturities of the notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

Section 24. Any note issued pursuant to this resolution shall be a general obligation of the Borough, and the Borough's faith and credit are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and interest on the notes and, unless otherwise paid or payment provided for, an amount sufficient for such payment shall be inserted in the budget and a tax sufficient to provide for the payment thereof shall be levied and collected.

Section 25. The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized and directed to do all other matters necessary, useful, convenient or desirable to accomplish the delivery of the notes to the purchasers thereof as promptly as possible, including (i) the preparation, execution and dissemination of a Preliminary Official Statement and Final Official Statement with respect to the notes, (ii) preparation, distribution and publication, if necessary, of a Notice of Sale with respect to the notes, (iii) execution of a Continuing Disclosure Undertaking, with respect to the notes in accordance with Rule 15c212 promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission and (iv) execution of an arbitrage and use of proceeds certificate certifying that, among other things, the Borough, to the extent it is empowered and allowed under applicable law, will do and perform all acts and things necessary or desirable to assure that interest paid on the notes is not included in gross income under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

Section 26. All action heretofore taken by Borough officials and professionals with regard to the sale and award of the notes is hereby ratified, confirmed, adopted and approved.

Section 27. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

On motion by Councilwoman Kuncken, seconded by Councilman Riccardi and unanimously carried by the following roll call vote, the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Kuncken – yes
Councilman Riccardi – yes
Councilman Romano – yes

Councilman Simpson – yes
Councilman Thornton – yes
Councilman Wachterhauser – yes

Resolution 066-25

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF THE PERFORMANCE BOND OF KULPEKSA LAND IMP CORP. FOR THE SUNSET AVENUE, RIDGE ROAD, OVERHILL ROAD, WEST DRIVE & MOUNTAIN VIEW ROAD WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council had deemed it necessary for Kulpeksa Land Imp Corp. to submit a performance bond prior to the commencement of the Sunset Avenue, Ridge Road, Overhill Road, West Drive & Mountain View Road Water System Improvements Project; and

WHEREAS, Kulpeksa Land Imp Corp. did produce and the Borough did accept a performance bond guaranteeing the quality and completeness of the work; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer has inspected the project site and deemed the project has been completed in general compliance with the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Attorney has advised the Mayor and Council that a maintenance bond be required in the amount of \$125,522.37 to be effective for one year from the date of issuance to ensure the quality of the work;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, at the concurrence of the Borough Attorney do hereby authorize the release of the performance bond to Kulpeksa Land Imp Corp. for the Sunset Avenue, Ridge Road, Overhill Road, West Drive & Mountain View Road Water System Improvements Project.

On motion by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Riccardi and unanimously carried by the following roll call vote, the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

Councilwoman Kuncken asked if the Borough Engineer is satisfied with the project. There were some issues during the project. Administrator McNeilly confirmed the Borough Engineer has approved. The punch list was stubborn. Councilwoman Kuncken asked if any further complaints have been received from residents. Administrator McNeilly stated the contractor had taken high definition video prior to the work beginning which was beneficial in handling resident complaints.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Kuncken – yes
Councilman Riccardi – yes
Councilman Romano – yes

Councilman Simpson – yes
Councilman Thornton – yes
Councilman Wachterhauser – yes

Resolution 067-25

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF MAINTENANCE BOND OFFERED BY KULPEKSA LAND IMP CORP. FOR THE SUNSET AVENUE, RIDGE ROAD, OVERHILL ROAD, WEST DRIVE & MOUNTAIN VIEW ROAD WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council heretofore authorized the release of a performance bond submitted by Kulpeksa Land Imp Corp.; and

WHEREAS, Kulpeksa Land Imp Corp. has substantially completed the Sunset Avenue, Ridge Road, Overhill Road, West Drive & Mountain View Road Water Improvements Project; and

WHEREAS, Kulpeksa Land Imp Corp. has offered to the Borough a Maintenance Bond in the amount of \$125,522.37, which amount has been specified by the Borough Engineer; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Attorney has reviewed and approved of the form of said Maintenance Bond.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, that the Borough does hereby accept the Maintenance Bond issued by Kulpeksa Land Imp Corp. in the amount of \$125,522.37 for the Sunset Avenue, Ridge Road, Overhill Road, West Drive & Mountain View Road Water Improvements Project.

On motion by Councilman Riccardi, seconded by Councilman Wachterhauser and unanimously carried by the following roll call vote, the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Kuncken – yes
Councilman Riccardi – yes
Councilman Romano – yes

Councilman Simpson – yes
Councilman Thornton – yes
Councilman Wachterhauser – yes

Resolution 068-25

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF STANHOPE AUTHORIZING PROFESSIONAL APPRAISAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, there exists a need for the services of an appraisal firm for reassessment services in conjunction with a Stanhope Borough-wide reassessment; and

WHEREAS, the Borough accepted sealed competitive bids on February 12, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Borough received one quote from Appraisal Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$218,125.00; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Attorney reviewed the bid for compliance with the Local Public Contracts Law and the Borough's bidding requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to award the reassessment services to Appraisal Systems, Inc., in accordance with the bid information submitted on February 12, 2025; and

WHEREAS, such award is conditioned upon the adoption of Ordinance 2025-05 regarding the special emergency appropriation of \$218,125.00 for the Borough-wide reassessment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope, Sussex County, that subject to the concurrence of the Sussex County Tax Board and the Director of the Division of Taxation that a contract be awarded to Appraisal Systems, Inc. not to exceed \$218,125.00 to provide assistance to the Tax Assessor of the Borough of Stanhope for a town-wide reassessment.

Attorney Leo stated this award is conditional upon the adoption of Ordinance 2025-05 regarding the emergency appropriation for the reassessment.

On motion by Councilman Romano, seconded by Councilman Wachterhauser and unanimously carried by the following roll call vote, the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Kuncken – yes

Councilman Riccardi – yes

Councilman Romano – yes

Councilman Simpson – yes

Councilman Thornton – yes

Councilman Wachterhauser – yes

CONSENT AGENDA (All items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the Borough Council and were enacted by one motion of the Borough Council with no separate discussion.)

Resolution 069-25

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE
BOROUGH OF STANHOPE APPROVING SOCIAL
AFFAIR PERMIT**

WHEREAS, Musconetcong Post #278 American Legion has filed an application for a Social Affair Permit for an event to be held on March 22, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the submitted application form is complete in all respects, fees have been paid and the application has been properly reviewed and approved by the Chief of Police;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope do hereby approve the Social Affair Permit for the Musconetcong Post #278 American Legion for their event to be held on March 22, 2025.

Resolution 070-25

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING 100% DISABLED
VETERAN BLOCK 11008, LOT 9 REFUND OF TAXES
PAID FOR 1st QUARTER 2025**

WHEREAS, Mr. Derek Leslie, Jr., lawful owner of Block 11008, Lot 9, has been deemed 100% disabled by the Veteran's Administration; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Derek Leslie, Jr., has been approved by the Tax Assessor for a 100% Disabled Veteran exemption in accordance with 54:4-3:30, which has been granted on December 10, 2024 via Resolution No. 196-24; and

WHEREAS, the 1st quarter 2025 was paid in the amount of \$2,598.94 on February 5, 2025 by Corelogic on behalf of Mr. Derek Leslie, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has determined that the property taxes are paid, and a refund is due in the amount of \$2,598.94 which represents the 1st quarter 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Stanhope, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to refund said amount paid of \$2,598.94 to Mr. Derek Leslie, Jr., 3 Hill Rd, Stanhope, NJ, 07874; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Borough Tax Collector.

Resolution 071-25

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF
REDEMPTION MONIES TO OUTSIDE LIEN HOLDER**

WHEREAS, at the Municipal Tax Sale held on October 30, 2024, a lien was sold on Block 11501 Lot 2 Qualifier C0235, also known as 13235 Dell Place, for 2023 delinquent sewer and water charges; and

WHEREAS, this lien which is known as Tax Sale Certificate #24-00023 was sold to NJSL 301, LLC at 0% interest and a Premium of \$200.00; and

WHEREAS, Shamita Dasgupta, property owner, has effected a redemption of certificate #24-00023 in the amount of \$68.70; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector certifies that the reimbursement is now required to be made for the required redemption amounts as shown below:

| | |
|---|----------|
| Redemption Amount: Outside Lien #24-00023 and Interest \$ | 68.70 |
| Premium Paid by Lienholder | 200.00 |
| Total From Current Fund: | \$ 68.70 |
| Total From Tax Premium Account | 200.00 |

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Stanhope, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey that the Governing Body acknowledges that NJSL 301, LLC is entitled to the redemption in the amount of \$268.70; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to issue a check in the total amount of \$268.70 for the total redemption of certificate #24-00023 payable to NJSL 301, LLC, 650 E. Palisades Ave, #2258 Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Borough Chief Financial Officer and the Borough Tax Collector.

Resolution 072-25

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REFUND FOR
DUPLICATE PAYMENT FOR 1ST QUARTER 2025 TAXES**

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2025, Real Safe Title on behalf of Keith & Beth Detombeur, had paid 1st quarter 2025 real estate taxes in the amount of \$2,368.73 for block 10405 Lot 5, also known as 27 Lawrence Ave; and

WHEREAS, subsequently on February 5, 2025, Keith & Beth Detombeur's mortgage company paid the 1st quarter 2025 real estate taxes via Corelogic's bulk payment; and

WHEREAS, a refund of this duplicate payment in the amount of \$2,368.73 must be returned.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector be authorized to execute the documents necessary to refund Real Safe Title, 111 Littleton Road, Suite 301, Parsippany, NJ 07054 in the amount of \$2,368.73 which represents said duplicate payment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Borough Tax Collector.

On motion by Councilwoman Kuncken, seconded by Councilman Romano and unanimously carried by the following roll call vote, the foregoing resolutions were duly adopted.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Kuncken – yes
Councilman Riccardi – yes
Councilman Romano – yes

Councilman Simpson – yes
Councilman Thornton – yes
Councilman Wachterhauser – yes

Mayor's Appointment

Resolution 073-25

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MAYOR'S
APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD OF HEALTH WITH
COUNCIL CONCURRENCE**

Mayor's appointment to the Board of Health as follows:

Katherine Nesheim, unexpired 3-year term, term to expire 12-31-2026

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Stanhope, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, that they do hereby concur with the Mayor's appointment of Katherine Nesheim as a member of the Board of Health, to fill an unexpired 3-year term, said term to expire December 31, 2026.

On motion by Councilman Riccardi, seconded by Councilman Romano and unanimously carried by voice vote, the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Resolution 074-25

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE
BOROUGH OF STANHOPE AUTHORIZING PAYMENT
OF BILLS**

WHEREAS, the Chief Finance Officer has certified that funds are available in the proper account; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Finance Officer has approved payment upon certification from the Borough Department Heads that the goods and/or services have been rendered to the Borough;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope that the current bills list, dated February 25, 2025 and on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Chief Finance Officer and approved by the Chief Finance Officer for payment, be paid.

On motion by Councilman Romano, seconded by Councilman Thornton and unanimously carried by the following roll call vote, the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Kuncken – yes
Councilman Riccardi – yes
Councilman Romano – yes

Councilman Simpson – yes
Councilman Thornton – yes
Councilman Wachterhauser – yes

ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Ursula Leo stated, with regard to the fourth-round affordable housing obligation, we have until the end of this month to hear from the interested parties. We have not heard anything as yet. Fair Share is asking all the municipalities for the Planner's reports.

DISCUSSION

Administrator McNeilly stated he did a quick search on the fees for the cannabis licensing. Netcong Borough charges \$7,500 for the initial licensing fee and the renewal is \$5,000. Andover Borough initially charges \$5,000 and the renewal is \$5,000.

CITIZEN'S TO BE HEARD

Mayor Wronko opened the meeting to the public after advising attendees that there is a five (5) minute time limit for each speaker.

Seeing no one from the public wishing to speak, Mayor Wronko closed the public portion of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Councilman Romano, seconded by Councilwoman Kuncken and unanimously carried by voice vote the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 P.M.

Approved:

Linda Chirip
Deputy Clerk for
Ellen Horak, RMC
Borough Clerk