

**STANHOPE BOROUGH  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
REORGANIZATION MEETING  
JANUARY 6, 2026  
7:00 PM**

**SALUTE TO THE COLORS**

Mayor Wronko led all those in attendance in a salute to the colors.

**OPENING STATEMENT AS TO COMPLIANCE WITH P.L. 1975**

Mayor Wronko called this meeting to order at 7:00 PM and read the following:

Adequate Notice of this Meeting has been provided according to the Open Public Meetings Act, Assembly Bill 1030. Notice of this Meeting was sent to the NJ Herald and the Daily Record on December 23, 2025 and was placed on the Official Bulletin Board in the Municipal Building. Please turn off all cell phones for the duration of this Meeting.

**INVOCATION**

Pastor Lynn Zaremba, from the Stanhope United Methodist Church offered the invocation.

**ELECTION RESULTS – STATEMENT OF DETERMINATION**

Ellen Horak, Borough Clerk, read the *Statement of Determination* from the Board of County Canvassers certifying that at the November 2025 election the following were duly elected to the terms set forth:

Scott Wachterhauser - Council 3-year term  
Daniel Smith – Council 3-year term

**OATH OF OFFICE FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Ursula Leo, Borough Attorney, administered the Oath of Office to the following governing body members who were elected at the November 4, 2025 general election. They are Daniel Smith, elected as Councilman, 3-year term, and Scott Wachterhauser, elected as Councilman, 3-year term.

**ROLL CALL**

Council Members

Councilman Riccardi - Present	Councilman Smith - Present
Councilman Romano – Present	Councilman Thornton – Present
Councilman Simpson – Present	Councilman Wachterhauser - Present

Others present: Mayor Wronko, Attorney Ursula Leo, Administrator McNeilly

**MAYOR’S WELCOME**

Mayor Wronko welcomed everyone to the 2026 Stanhope Borough Reorganization Meeting which included distinguished guests and Stanhope Borough residents. Mayor Wronko stated it was nice to see so many familiar faces and it was nice to be together to start the new year. Mayor Wronko extended his appreciation and that of the Council to all the people who have taken time to attend tonight’s meeting. The governing body looks forward to serving the community and having another productive year.

**RESOLUTIONS**

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

**Resolution 001-26**

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF  
THE BOROUGH OF STANHOPE AUTHORIZING THE  
REINSTATEMENT OF THE BY LAWS**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, that the By-Laws and Rules of Order, as revised and adopted on January 7, 2014, be hereby reinstated and shall be effective for the Calendar Year 2026.

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

**ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

On nomination by Councilman Riccardi, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously carried by voice vote, Councilman Romano was elected Council President for 2026.

**Resolution 002-26**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MAYOR’S APPOINTMENTS OF  
BOROUGH OFFICERS WITH COUNCIL CONCURRENCE**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council that they do hereby concur with the Mayor's appointments to Municipal Officers for the year 2026 as follows.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>
Chaplain	Pastor Lynn Zaremba	1 year	12.31.26
Administrator	Brian McNeilly	1 year	12.31.26
Municipal Clerk	Ellen Horak		tenure
Local Registrar	Ellen Horak		tenure
Deputy Municipal Clerk	Linda Chirip	1 year	12.31.26
Deputy Registrar	Linda Chirip	1 year	12.31.26
Web Content Manager	Linda Chirip	1 year	12.31.26
Receptionist	Linda Chirip	1 year	12.31.26
Chief Finance Officer	Angelica Sabatini	1 year	12.31.26
Tax Collector	Ashleigh Frueholz	1 year	12.31.26
Qualified Purchasing Agent	Angelica Sabatini	1 year	12.31.26
Deputy Tax Collector	Tammy Minniti	1 year	12.31.26
Compliance Officer (PACO)	Brian McNeilly	1 year	12.31.26
Appointing Officer	Brian McNeilly	1 year	12.31.26
Alternate Appointing Officer	Vacant	1 year	12.31.26
Tax Assessor	Jason Laliker	1 year	tenure
Certifying Officer	Brian McNeilly	1 year	12.31.26
Assessment Searcher	Ellen Horak	1 year	12.31.26
Tax Search Officer	Ashleigh Frueholz	1 year	12.31.26
Assistant Treasurer	Brian McNeilly	1 year	12.31.26
Sewer Treasurer	Angelica Sabatini	1 year	12.31.26
Water Treasurer	Angelica Sabatini	1 year	12.31.26
Water/Sewer Cashier	Tammy Minniti	1 year	12.31.26
Deputy Water/Sewer Cashier	Nancy Rivera	1 year	12.31.26
Tax Cashier	Tammy Minniti	1 year	12.31.26
Accounts Payable	Nancy Rivera	1 year	12.31.26
Clean Communities Coordinator	Angelica Sabatini	1 year	12.31.26
Overseer of the Poor	Vacant	1 year	12.31.26
Housing Officer	Thomas Pershouse	1 year	12.31.26
Building Inspector	Thomas Pershouse	1 year	12.31.26
Electrical Inspector	Thomas Pershouse	1 year	12.31.26
Construction Secretary	Vacant	1 year	12.31.26
Code Enforcement Officer	Thomas Dixon	1 year	12.31.26
Zoning Officer	Thomas Dixon	1 year	12.31.26
Municipal Housing Liaison	Thomas Dixon	1 year	12.31.26
Water Operator	Jason Titsworth	1 year	12.31.26
Sewer Operator	Jason Titsworth	1 year	12.31.26
Court Administrator	Michael Allatta	1 year	12.31.26

<b>Title</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>
Fire Chief	Alan Bookspan	1 year	12.31.26
Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator	Vacant	1 year	12.31.26
Police Detective	David DiLauri	1 year	12.31.26
Matron	Virginia Citarella	1 year	12.31.26
Police Secretary	Virginia Citarella	1 year	12.31.26
Crossing Guards	Maureen Cerni	1 year	12.31.26
	Adrienne Hade	1 year	12.31.26
	Michael D'Agostino	1 year	12.31.26
	Paul Sofia	1 year	12.31.26

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey that they do hereby concur with the Mayor's appointments herein for the year 2026.

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

Roll Call:

Councilman Riccardi - yes	Councilman Smith - yes
Councilman Romano - yes	Councilman Thornton - yes
Councilman Simpson - yes	Councilman Wachterhauser - yes

**Resolution 003-26                      RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS OF BOROUGH PROFESSIONALS WITH COUNCIL CONCURRENCE**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council that they do hereby concur with the Mayor's appointments of the Borough Professionals for the year 2026 as follows.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>
Borough Attorney	Ursula Leo	1 year	12-31-26
Borough Prosecutor	Anthony Arborre	1 year	12-31-26
Public Defender	John Grey, Jr.	1 year	12-31-26
Borough Engineer	Eric Keller	1 year	12-31-26
Borough Planner	William Hamilton	1 year	12-31-26
Borough Auditor	Raymond Sarinelli	1 year	12-31-26
Bond Counsel	Robert Beinfield	1 year	12-31-26
Labor Counsel	Ursula Leo	1 year	12-31-26
Dr. of Psychological Testing	Matthew Guller, M.D.	1 year	12-31-26
Municipal Advisor & Continuing Disclosure Services	Phoenix Advisors	1 year	12-31-26

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey that they do hereby concur with the Mayor's appointments herein for the year 2026.

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

**Resolution 004-26                      MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS TO COUNCIL COMMITTEES WITH COUNCIL CONCURRENCE**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council that they do hereby concur with the Mayor's appointments to the Council Committees for the year 2026 as follows.

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Member</b>
Finance/Administration	Thomas Romano	William Thornton
Public Safety	Scott Wachterhauser	Anthony Riccardi
Community Development	Daniel Smith	Tyler Simpson

Infrastructure  
Information Technology  
Boards/Commissions

William Thornton  
Anthony Riccardi  
Tyler Simpson

Thomas Romano  
Scott Wachterhauser  
Daniel Smith

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey that they do hereby concur with the Mayor's appointments herein for the year 2026.

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

**Resolution 005-26**

**RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE PROFESSIONAL LEGAL,  
AUDITING, ENGINEERING, PLANNING AND MEDICAL SERVICES  
PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Stanhope is in need of legal, auditing, engineering and physician services in 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 specifically exempts professional services from provisions of public bidding as provided in the Local Public Contracts Law.

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

1. Ursula Leo, of the Law firm Laddey, Clark & Ryan, is hereby retained as Attorney for the Borough of Stanhope with the understanding that Ursula Leo will be primarily responsible for the work done for the Borough;
2. Robert Beinfield, of the Law firm Hawkins, Delafield and Wood, is hereby retained as Bond Counsel for the Borough of Stanhope with the understanding that Mr. Beinfield will be primarily responsible for the work done for the Borough;
3. Ursula Leo, of the Law firm Laddey, Clark & Ryan, is hereby retained as Labor Counsel for the Borough of Stanhope with the understanding that Ursula Leo will be primarily responsible for the work done for the Borough;
4. Raymond Sarinelli, of the Accountant firm Nisivoccia & Company, is hereby retained as Auditor for the Borough of Stanhope with the understanding that Raymond Sarinelli will be primarily responsible for the work done for the Borough;
5. Eric Keller, of the firm Bowman Consulting, is hereby retained as Borough Engineer and Consultant Engineer for the Water and Sewer Utility for the Borough of Stanhope with the understanding that Eric Keller will be primarily responsible for the work done for the Borough;
6. William Hamilton, of the firm Bowman Consulting, is hereby retained as Borough Planner for the Borough of Stanhope with the understanding that William Hamilton will be primarily responsible for the work done for the Borough;
7. Dr. Matthew Guller, of the Institute for Forensic Psychology, is hereby retained to provide psychological testing as may be required for employment with the Borough of Stanhope;
8. Phoenix Advisors is hereby retained as Municipal Advisor to assist with the issuance of Bond Anticipation Notes;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution is contingent upon the receipt of a fully executed professional services contract detailing the scope of services and established fees for said professional services; and.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution is contingent upon the receipt of a completed C.271 Political Disclosure Form pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-26.4 et seq., commonly known as the Pay-to-Play Law;

**AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution is contingent upon the aforementioned professionals being members in good standing in their respective professions.

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

Roll Call:

Councilman Riccardi - yes	Councilman Smith - yes
Councilman Romano - yes	Councilman Thornton - yes
Councilman Simpson - yes	Councilman Wachterhauser - yes

**CONSENT AGENDA – Resolutions 006-26 through 028-26** (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 006-26**

**RESOLUTION DESIGNATING DEPOSITORIES FOR THE 2026  
CALENDAR YEAR**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey that the following banks are hereby designated depositories for the Borough of Stanhope for 2026:

- Bank of America, N.A.
- Capital One, N.A.
- Fulton Bank, N.A.
- HSBC Bank USA, N.A.
- JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A.
- Provident Bank
- New Jersey Cash Management Fund
- PNC Bank, N.A.
- Santander Bank
- State of New Jersey Asset and Rebate Management Program
- TD Banknorth, N.A.
- Valley National Bank
- FourLeaf Federal Credit Union

**CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN OF THE  
BOROUGH OF STANHOPE, NEW JERSEY**

**I. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

This Cash Management Plan (the “Plan”) is prepared pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:5-26 in order to set forth the basis for the deposits (“Deposits”) and investment (“Permitted Investments”) of certain Public funds of the Borough of Stanhope (the Borough) pending the use of such funds for the intended purposes. The Plan is intended to assure that all public funds identified herein are deposited in interest bearing Deposits or otherwise invested in Permitted Investments hereinafter referred to. The intent of the Plan is to provide that the decisions made with regard to the Deposits and the Permitted Investments will be done to insure the safety, the liquidity (regarding its availability for the intended purposes), and the maximum investment return within such limits. The Plan is intended to insure that any Deposit or Permitted Investment matures within the time period that approximates the prospective need for the funds deposited or invested so that there is not a risk to the market value of such Deposits or Permitted Investments. All investments shall be made on a competitive basis insofar as practicable.

**II. IDENTIFICATION OF FUNDS AND ACCOUNTS TO BE COVERED BY THE PLAN**

- A. The Plan is intended to cover the deposit and/or investment of the following funds and accounts of the Borough:
- Current Fund

- Wire Transfer Fund
- Water Operating Fund
- Sewer Operating Fund
- Capital Fund
- Water Capital Fund
- Sewer Capital Fund
- POAA Funds
- Animal Trust Fund
- Developer’s Escrow Trust
- Other Escrow Trust
- Public Defender Trust Fund
- Other Trust Fund
- Recycle Trust Fund
- SUI Trust Fund
- Payroll Trust Fund
- Any other accounts within the Borough’s name and any of its agencies

**III. DESIGNATION OF OFFICIALS OF THE BOROUGH OF STANHOPE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS UNDER THE PLAN**

The Chief Financial Officer of the Borough the “Designated Official” is hereby authorized and directed to deposit and/or invest the funds referred to in the Plan and shall thereafter be relieved of any liability for loss of such moneys due to insolvency or closing of any depository designated by, or the decrease in value of any investment authorized, by the Cash Management Plan.

**IV. DESIGNATION OF DEPOSITORIES.**

The following banks and financial institutions are hereby designated as official depositories for the Deposit of all public funds referred to in the Plan, including any certificates of Deposit which are not otherwise invested in Permitted Investments as provided for in this Plan:

- Bank of America, N.A.
- Capital One Bank, N.A.
- Fulton Bank of New Jersey
- HSBC Bank USA, N.A.
- JP Morgan Chase Bank. N.A.
- Provident Bank
- New Jersey Cash Management Fund
- PNC Bank, N.A.
- Santander Bank
- State of New Jersey Asset and Rebate Management Program
- TD Banknorth, N.A.
- Valley National Bank
- FourLeaf Federal Credit Union

**V. AUTHORIZED INVESTMENTS**

A. Except as otherwise specifically provided for herein, the Designated Official is hereby authorized to invest the public funds covered by this Plan, to the extent not otherwise held in Deposits, in the following Permitted Investments:

- (1) Bonds or other obligations of the United States of America or obligations guaranteed by the United States of America;
- (2) Government money market mutual funds;
- (3) Any obligation that a federal agency or federal instrumentality has issued in accordance with an act of Congress, which security has a maturity date not greater than 397 days from the date of purchase, provided that such obligation bears a fixed rate of interest not dependent on any index or other external factor;

- (4) Bonds or other obligations of the Local Unit or bonds or other obligations of school districts of which the Local Unit is a part or within which the school district is located;
  - (5) Bonds or other obligations, having a maturity date not more than 397 days from the date of purchase, approved by the Division of Investment of the Department of the Treasury for investment by Local Units;
  - (6) Local government investment pools;
  - (7) Deposits with the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund established pursuant to section 1 of P.L. 1977, c.281 (C.52:18A-90.4); or
  - (8) Agreements for the repurchase of fully collateralized securities if:
    - (a) the underlying securities are permitted investments pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (3) of this subsection a;
    - (b) the custody of collateral is transferred to a third party;
    - (c) the maturity of the agreement is not more than 30 days;
    - (d) the underlying securities are purchased through a public depository as defined in section 1 of P.L. 1970, c.236 (C.17:9-41); and
    - (e) a master repurchase agreement providing for the custody and security of collateral is executed.
- B. Any investments not purchased and redeemed directly from the issuer, government money market mutual fund, local government investment pool, or the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund, shall be purchased and redeemed through the use of a national or State bank located within this State or other financial intermediary through a broker-dealer which, at the time of purchase or redemption, has been registered continuously for a period of at least two years pursuant to section 9 of P.L. 1997, c.93 (C.49:3-56) and has at least \$25 million in capital stock (or equivalent capitalization if not a corporation), surplus reserves for contingencies and undivided profits, or through a securities dealer who makes primary markets in U.S. Government securities and reports daily to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York its position in and borrowing on such U.S. Government securities.

For purposes of the above language, the terms “government money market mutual fund” and “local government investment pool” shall have the following definitions:

Government Money Market Mutual Fund. An investment company or investment trust:

- (a) which is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the “Investment Company Act of 1940,” 15 U.S.C. sec. 80a-1 et seq., and operated in accordance with 17 C.F.R. sec. 270.2a-7.
- (b) the portfolio of which is limited to U.S. Government securities that meet the definition of any eligible security pursuant to 17 C.F.R. sec.270.2a-7 and repurchase agreements that are collateralized by such U.S. Government securities; in which direct investment may be made pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (3) of subsection (a) of this section and
- (c) which has:
  - (i) attained the highest ranking or the highest letter and numerical rating of a nationally recognized statistical rating organization; or

- (ii) retained an investment advisor registered or exempt from registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to the “Investment Advisors Act of 1940”, 5 U.S.C. sec.80b-1 et seq., with experience investing in U.S. Government securities for at least the most recent past 60 months and with assets under management in excess of \$500 million.
- (d) which does not permit investments in instruments that: are subject to high price volatility with changing market conditions; cannot reasonably be expected, at the time of interest rate adjustment, to have a market value that approximates their par value; or utilize an index that does not support a stable net asset value.

Local Government Investment Pool. An investment pool:

- (a) which is managed in accordance with 17 C.F.R. sec. 270.2a-7;
- (b) which is rated in the highest category by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization;
- (c) which is limited to U.S. Government securities that meet the definition of an eligible security pursuant to 17 C.F.R. sec. 270.2a-7 and repurchase agreements that are collateralized by such U.S. Government securities. Same as Money Market;
- (d) which is in compliance with rules adopted pursuant to the “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L. 1968, c.410 (c.52:14B-1 et seq.) by the Local Finance Board of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs, which rules shall provide for disclosure and reporting requirements, and other provisions deemed necessary by the board to provide for the safety, liquidity and yield of the investments;
- (e) which does not permit investments in instruments that: are subject to high price volatility with changing market conditions; cannot reasonably be expected, at the time of interest rate adjustment, to have a market value that approximates their par value; or utilize an index that does not support a stable net asset value; and
- (f) which purchases and redeems investments directly from the issuer, government money market mutual fund, or the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund, or through the use of a national or State bank located within this State, or through a broker-dealer which, at the time of purchase or redemption, has been registered continuously for a period of at least two years pursuant to section 9 of P.L. 1967 c.9 (C.49:3-56) and has at least \$25 million in capital stock (or equivalent capitalization if not a corporation), surplus reserves for contingencies and undivided profits, or through a securities dealer who makes primary markets in U.S. Government securities and reports daily to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York its position in and borrowing on such U.S. Government securities.

Any official involved in the designation of depositories or in the authorization for investments as permitted pursuant to section 8 of P.L. 1977, c.396 (C.40A:5-26.1), or any combination of the preceding, or the selection of an entity seeking to sell an investment to the local unit who has a material business or personal relationship with that organization shall disclose that relationship to the governing body of the local unit and to the Local Finance Board or a county or municipal ethics board, as appropriate.

## **VI. SAFEKEEPING CUSTODY PAYMENT AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT OF PLAN**

To the extent that any Deposit or Permitted Investment involves a document or security which is not physically held by the Borough, then such instrument or security shall be covered by a custodial agreement with an independent third party, which shall be a bank or financial institution

in the State of New Jersey. Such institution shall provide for the designation of such investments in the name of the Borough of Stanhope to assure that there is no unauthorized use of the funds or the Permitted Investments or Deposits. Purchase of any Permitted Investments that involve securities shall be executed by a “delivery versus payment” method to insure that such Permitted Investments are either received by the Borough or by a third party custodian prior to or upon the release of the Borough’s funds.

To assure that all parties with whom the Borough deals either by way of Deposits or Permitted Investments are aware of the authority and the limits set forth in this Plan, all such parties shall be supplied with a copy of this Plan in writing and all such parties shall acknowledge the receipt of that Plan in writing, a copy of which shall be on file with the Designated Official.

## **VII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

On the first day of each month during which this Plan is in effect, the Designated Official(s) referred to in Section III hereof shall supply to the governing body of the Borough a written report of any Deposits or Permitted Investments made pursuant to this Plan, which shall include, at a minimum, the following information:

- A. The name of any institution holding funds of the Borough as Deposit or Permitted Investment.
- B. The amount of securities or Deposits purchased or sold during the immediately preceding month.
- C. The class or type of securities purchased or Deposits made.
- D. The book value of such Deposits or Permitted Investments.
- E. The earned income on such Deposits or Permitted Investments.
- F. The fees incurred to undertake such Deposits or Permitted Investments.
- G. The market value of all Deposits or Permitted Investments as of the end of the immediately preceding month.
- H. All other information which may be deemed reasonable from time to time by the governing body of the Borough.

## **VIII. TERM OF PLAN**

This Plan shall be in effect from January 6, 2026 to December 31, 2026. Attached to this Plan is a resolution of the governing body of the Borough approving this Plan for such period of time. The Plan may be amended from time to time. To the extent that any amendment is adopted by the Borough, the Designated Official is directed to supply copies of the amendments to all of the parties who otherwise have received the copy of the originally approved Plan, which amendment shall be acknowledged in writing in the same manner as the original Plan was so acknowledged.

### **Resolution 007-26**

### **RESOLUTION DESIGNATING OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS FOR THE 2026 CALENDAR YEAR**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope that *The New Jersey Herald* is hereby designated the official newspaper of the Borough of Stanhope for Calendar Year 2026; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that *The New Jersey Herald* and *The Daily Record* are hereby designated to receive all Notices of meetings of the Mayor and Council for the Calendar Year 2026 as required by the Open Public Meetings Act; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that notices will continue to be published in the Borough’s designated newspapers as required under the Open Public Meetings Act. N.J.S.A. 10:4-

6-21 until March 1, 2026, after which publication on the Borough’s website will serve as the primary posting mechanism per P.L., 2025, c.72, with the complete text of each legal notice being available free of charge at <https://www.stanhopenj.gov>

**Resolution 008-26**

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF STANHOPE DESIGNATING MEETING DATES FOR THE 2026 CALENDAR YEAR**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope, in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-1 et. seq., the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope hereby announces that it shall hold its scheduled Work Session/Agenda, and Regular Business Meetings in 2026 at the Municipal Building, 77 Main Street, Stanhope, New Jersey at the dates listed below. All meetings shall convene at 7:00 p.m. Formal action may be taken at all Work Session/Agenda and Business meetings.

<b>Work Session/Agenda Meetings</b>		<b>Regular Business Meetings</b>	
January	13	January	27
February	10	February	24
March	10	March	24
April	14	April	28
May	12	May	26
June	09	June	23
July		July	28 (to convene at 6:00 p.m.)
August	11	August	25
September	08	September	22
October	13	October	27
November	10	November	24
		December	08

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Annual Reorganization Meeting shall be held on January 5, 2027 at 7:00 p.m.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that all meetings shall be opened to the public and public participation will be entertained at all meetings but limited to five minutes for each speaker to provide the Governing Body sufficient time to complete its work.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the newspapers to which all Notices required by the Open Public Meetings Act shall be published in *The New Jersey Herald* and *The Daily Record*. Notices will continue to be published in the Borough’s designated newspapers as required under the Open Public Meetings Act N.J.S.A. 10:4-6-21 until March 1, 2026 after which publication on the Borough’s website will serve as the primary posting mechanism, per P.L. 2025, c. 872 and the complete text of each legal notice will be available free of charge at <https://www.stanhopenj.gov>

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the all meeting notices shall be posted on the bulletin board in the hallway of the Municipal Building.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that any person requesting a public body to mail to them copies of any regular, special, or rescheduled meeting schedule shall be charged the sum of \$1.00 for each and every Notice to be so mailed. No Notice shall be mailed to said person unless prepayment of the aforementioned charge has been received. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any Notice requested by the news media shall be mailed, or electronically sent to such news media free of charge.

**Resolution 009-26**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE 2026 TEMPORARY BUDGET**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-26, the Local Budget Act, provides that where any contracts, commitments or payments are to be made prior to the final adoption of the 2026 budget, temporary appropriations be made for the purposes and amounts required in the manner and time therein provided; and

**WHEREAS**, the date of this resolution is within the first thirty days of 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, the total appropriations in the 2025 Budget, less appropriations for capital improvement fund, debt service and relief of the poor (public assistance) are as follows:

Current Fund	\$5,093,136.40
Water Utility	\$ 636,636.00
Sewer Utility	\$1,108,850.00

**WHEREAS**, 26.25 percent of the total appropriations in the 2025 Budget, less appropriations for capital improvement fund, debt service and relief of the poor (public assistance) in the said 2025 Budget is as follows:

Current Fund	\$1,336,948.31
Water Utility	\$ 167,116.95
Sewer Utility	\$ 291,073.13

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Borough Council of the Borough of Stanhope, County of Sussex, that the above temporary appropriations be made.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a certified copy of this resolution be placed on file with the records of the Borough's Chief Financial Officer.

**Resolution 010-26**                      **RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING INTEREST RATES FOR DELINQUENT WATER AND SEWER CHARGES**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope that the rate of 8% be charged on all delinquent sewer and water charges less than \$1,500.00 and 18% on all delinquent sewer and water charges in excess of \$1,500.00, received after the due date.

**Resolution 011-26**                      **RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING INTEREST RATES FOR DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 54:4-67 permits the Governing Body of each municipality to fix the rate of interest to be charged for nonpayment of taxes or assessments subject to any abatement or discount for the late payment of taxes as provided by law; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope as follows:

1. Property taxes shall be due and payable quarterly on February 1<sup>st</sup>, May 1<sup>st</sup>, August 1<sup>st</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, with a ten-day grace period. If the last day of the ten-day grace period falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the following Monday will be the final date to pay property tax without interest charges. After such dates, if property taxes become delinquent, interest will be charged as set forth below and will revert back to the due date on any quarterly installment of taxes.
2. The rate of interest for delinquent property taxes is fixed at 8% per annum on the first \$1,500.00 of delinquency and 18% per annum on any amount of taxes in excess of \$1,500.00.
3. A certified copy of this resolution shall be provided by the Borough Clerk to the Tax Collector, Utility Billing Clerk, Borough Attorney and the Borough Auditor for the Borough of Stanhope.

**Resolution 012-26**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL CERTAIN TAX PAYMENTS**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope that the Tax Collector be and is hereby authorized to cancel any over or under payment in the amount of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) or less for the tax year 2026.

**Resolution 013-26**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO INVEST IDLE FUNDS**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope that the Chief Financial Officer and/or Treasurer be authorized to invest idle funds of the Borough of Stanhope in investment instruments so specified in New Jersey State Law of any bank or trust company having its place of business in the State of New Jersey and organized under the laws of any State in the United States, or the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund in 2026.

**Resolution 014-26**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO SELL BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES AND BONDS**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:2-28 requires that a Resolution be adopted authorizing a Financial Officer of the Borough to sell Bond Anticipation Notes and Bonds;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to sell Bond Anticipation Notes and Bonds; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that following each sale the Chief Financial Officer shall report to the Council the principal amount of the sale, interest rate, date of maturity and name of the purchaser.

**Resolution 015-26**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR, UTILITY COLLECTOR OR CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO IMPOSE A SERVICE CHARGE TO AN ACCOUNT FOR WHICH A CHECK OR OTHER WRITTEN INSTRUMENT WAS RETURNED FOR INSUFFICIENT FUNDS**

**WHEREAS**, P.L. 1990, Chapter 105, supplementing Title 40 of the New Jersey State Revised Statutes has been enacted to allow a municipality the authority to impose a service charge to be added on an account which was by check or other written instrument returned for insufficient funds; and,

**WHEREAS**, whenever an account is owing a municipality for property tax, municipal utility charges or special assessment, the service charge authorized by this section shall be included on whatever list of delinquent accounts is prepared for the enforcement of the lien.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope that the Tax Collector, Utility Collector or Chief Financial Officer be authorized to charge the aforementioned fee at a rate of \$20.00 per check or other written instrument for all checks returned for insufficient funds during the year; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Tax Collector, Utility Collector or Chief Financial Officer may require future payments to be tendered in cash or by certified or cashier's check; and,

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

**Resolution 016-26**

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING MUNICIPAL FEES FOR 2026**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope that the fees as listed below be and are hereby established for 2026:

Water/Sewer/Tax Certification	\$ 15.00
Zoning Ordinance Book	\$ 25.00
Environmental Resource Inventory Book	\$ 25.00
Code Book of the Borough and Code Book updates	at cost
Street Map	\$ 0.75
Master Plan	\$ 25.00
Certified List of Property Owners	\$ 10.00
Radon Kits	\$ 15.00
Tax Sale Redemption Certificate	\$ 10.00
Duplicate Tax Sale Certificate	\$100.00
Duplicate Tax Bill	\$ 5.00
Duplicate Tax Bill – Subsequent	\$ 25.00
Copy of Tax/Water/Sewer Records	\$ .05 per page
Official Tax Search	\$ 10.00
Tax Search Continuation per year	\$ 2.00
Unofficial Tax Search	\$ .05 per page
Municipal Assessment Search	\$ 10.00
Assessment Search Continuation per year	\$ 2.00
Tax Map Page Duplicate	at cost
Annual Dog Licensing, neutered/spayed	\$ 10.00
Annual Dog Licensing, Not neutered/spayed	\$ 13.00
Cat Licensing, neutered/spayed	\$ 10.00
Dog/Cat Licensing Late Fee imposed after April 30	\$ 5.00/month
Death Certificate (Certified Copy)	\$ 5.00
Birth Certificate (Certified Copy)	\$ 5.00
Marriage Certificate (Certified Copy)	\$ 5.00
Check Returned for Insufficient Funds	\$ 20.00
Registration – Public Utility (N.J.S.A. 40:55D-26.1	\$ 10.00
Mental Health Records Search	\$ 15.00
Notary Public, non-residents	\$ 2.50 per signature
Tax Lien Redemption Calculation, 3 <sup>rd</sup> request	\$ 50.00
Copies of Government Documents	\$ 0.05 per letter size page \$ 0.07 per legal size page or actual cost (special charges/fees per statute delivery/postage fees additional)

**Resolution 017-26**

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING DPW FEES FOR THE 2026  
CALENDAR YEAR**

**WHEREAS**, from time to time private individuals and/or businesses must be charged for services provided by the Stanhope Department of Public Works due to an emergency situation, vandalism, accident, neglect or other situations requiring the services of the Department; and

**WHEREAS**, said charges must be based upon the DPW Operator’s hourly salary rate and an established rate for the various pieces of equipment utilized by the Department of Public Works in such instances;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope, New Jersey, that charges for said services provided by the Stanhope Department of Public Works shall be as follows for the year 2026:

**EQUIPMENT**

Backhoe/loader	\$50.00 per hour
Vac-All/Sweeper	\$50.00 per hour
Sewer jet truck	\$50.00 per hour
5-yard dump truck	\$40.00 per hour
2-yard dump truck	\$25.00 per hour
Compressor	\$25.00 per hour
Generator	\$10.00 per hour
Mud pump	\$10.00 per hour
Concrete Cutter	\$150.00 per hour including the Operator

**MANPOWER**

DPW Operator’s Hourly Salary Rate times 1.35



**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Municipal Tax Assessor and Municipal Attorney be and are hereby designated as the agents of the Borough of Stanhope for the purpose of signing settlements of the foregoing matters by stipulation.

**Resolution 022-26**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE BOROUGH WITH ANY PERSON OR ENTITY UTILIZING BOROUGH OWNED LANDS OR BUILDINGS**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Stanhope is a member of the Morris County Joint Insurance Fund which approved a standard form of hold harmless to be used by the member municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, this standardized hold harmless must be executed by any person, entity, organization, or corporation wishing to use, rent, or otherwise temporarily occupy any land and/or structure owned by the Borough of Stanhope; and

**WHEREAS**, the process of executing this hold harmless would be greatly hampered if the Borough Council had to authorize the execution of each separate hold harmless agreement and instead the Borough Administrator should be authorized to execute those agreements on behalf of the Borough of Stanhope.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope that the Borough Administrator is hereby authorized to execute on behalf of the Borough all hold harmless agreements made necessary by the use of Borough owned land and/or structures by any person, entity, organization, or corporation.

**Resolution 023-26**

**RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR, DEPARTMENT HEADS, AND TAX ASSESSOR AS DEPUTY CUSTODIANS OF PUBLIC RECORDS**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope that the Borough Administrator, all Department Heads, and the Tax Assessor be designated as Deputy Custodians of Public Records to assist the Custodian of Records in the performance of duties related to P.L. 2001, c404, commonly referred to as the Open Public Records Act (OPRA).

**Resolution 024-26**

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING AN EXECUTIVE SAFETY COMMITTEE AS REQUIRED BY THE MORRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Stanhope is a member of the Morris County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, the Morris County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund requires the establishment of an Executive Safety Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, members of the Morris County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund participate in safety programs primarily designed to teach employees to perform in a safe and efficient manner;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, that the following employees are hereby authorized to serve on the Executive Safety Committee:

Brian McNeilly, Administrator  
Vacant

JIF Commissioner  
Alternate JIF Commissioner

**Resolution 025-26**

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF STANHOPE APPOINTING WAYNE F. DIETZ OF SKYLANDS RISK MANAGEMENT, INC. AS THE BOROUGH'S RISK MANAGER**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Stanhope has resolved to join the Morris County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund, following a detailed analysis; and

**WHEREAS**, the bylaws of said Funds require that each Governing Body appoint a RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT to perform various professional services as detailed in the bylaws; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Fund Commissioners established a fee equal to six percent (6%) of the Municipal assessment which expenditure represents reasonable compensation for the services required and was included in the cost considered by the Governing Body; and

**WHEREAS**, the judgmental nature of the Risk Management Consultant's duties renders comparative bidding impractical;

**NOW THEREFORE**, be it resolved that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope does hereby appoint Wayne F. Dietz of Skylands Risk Management, Inc. as its Risk Management Consultant in accordance with the Fund's bylaws; and

**BE IT FURTHER** resolved that the Governing Body is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Risk Management Consultant's Agreement annexed hereto and to cause a notice of this decision to be published according to N.J.S.A. 40A:115 (1) (a) (i).

**Resolution 026-26**

**RESOLUTION COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES SOLID WASTE REIMBURSEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Stanhope has established a system for the collection and disposal of solid waste for residential properties throughout the Borough of Stanhope; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Stanhope also collects and disposes of solid waste from commercial establishments which utilize ordinary trash cans for curbside pickup; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Stanhope reimburses both the Stonegate Condominium Association and the Highpoint Condominium Association for the collection and disposal of solid waste, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40:67-26.3; and

**WHEREAS**, the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40:66-1(b) provides that a governing body may, in its sole discretion, choose to reimburse property owners who do not receive the municipal service, but such reimbursement shall not exceed the cost that would be incurred by the Borough in providing the collection or disposal service directly; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough currently pays \$17.03 per month per household for the collection and disposal of solid waste; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough wishes to reimburse those property owners who do not receive solid waste service from the Borough at the rate currently paid by the Borough per household.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope as follows:

1. The Borough of Stanhope shall reimburse those properties not currently receiving municipal solid waste service from the Borough at the same rate that the Borough pays for the collection and disposal of solid waste from individual households.
2. Any property owner wishing to be reimbursed by the Borough shall comply with all requirements of the CFO in processing requests for reimbursement including, but not limited to, executing vouchers and W-9 forms.

3. The Borough shall pay reimbursement twice per year in January and July. Prior to issuing payment, each property owner shall submit written proof to the Borough of their past six months' private solid waste service, including the invoice therefore.

**Resolution 027-26**

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF  
THE BOROUGH OF STANHOPE READOPTING  
STANHOPE BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT RULES  
AND REGULATIONS**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, that the Stanhope Borough Police Department Rules and Regulations, last revised April 24, 2023, be hereby again adopted.

**Resolution 028-26**

**AUTHORIZING APPROVAL OF THE BOROUGH OF  
STANHOPE HIRING OF ENTRY LEVEL LAW  
ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WITHOUT EXAMINATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Stanhope, Sussex County, State of New Jersey (hereinafter referred to as the "Borough") is a jurisdiction governed by Title 11A and the Civil Service regulations under Title 4A of the Administrative Code; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 4, 2021, N.J.S.A 11A:4-1.3, was enacted which requires the Civil Service Commission to exempt from the requirement to take an examination for an entry-level law enforcement position a person who has successfully completed a full Basic Course for Police Officers training course or a full Basic Course for Correction Officers training course at a school approved and authorized by the New Jersey Police Training commission; and

**WHEREAS**, appointments to the Police Department shall be in accordance with the requirements of applicable law. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 11A:4-1.3, the Civil Service Commission provides an exemption from the requirement of taking an examination for an entry-level law enforcement officer position, a person who successfully completes a full Basic Course for Police Officers training course or a full Basic Course for Correction Officers training course at a school approved and authorized by the New Jersey Police Training commission within nine (9) months from the date of hire as a temporary entry-level officer, and:

1. Any person employed under the provisions of this section shall enroll in a training course approved by the New Jersey Police Training Commission, and such person shall be entitled to a leave of absence with pay during the period of the training course;
2. Upon successful completion of the training course, any person employed under the provisions of this section shall be appointed from a temporary to a permanent entry-level law enforcement police officer; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough may hire a person exempt from the requirements to take an examination for an entry-level law enforcement officer position pursuant to the above, upon adoption of this resolution, and the Borough having in place conflict of interest and nepotism policies, specifically sections 213 and 214 of the Borough's employee handbook, as same may be amended from time to time; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to effectuate this policy, a municipality must affirmatively "opt-in" by adopting a Resolution authorizing such a hiring policy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Police Chief has recommended that the Borough effectuate this policy and "opt-in" to this program in the interests of efficiency, expediency, and the promotion of public safety within the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, this "opt-in" provision shall remain valid until changed by a rescinding resolution of the Governing Body; and

**WHEREAS**, all ordinances or parts of ordinances or resolutions inconsistent or in opposition to the provisions of this resolution are hereby repealed in their entirety.

**NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stanhope for the reasons set forth above that the Borough hereby authorizes such hiring policies related to the examination exemption as set forth in N.J.S.A. 11A:4-1.3 (NJ Bill S-3220, P.L. 2021, c.7); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the New Jersey Civil Service Commission.

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

Roll Call:

Councilman Riccardi - yes	Councilman Smith - yes
Councilman Romano - yes	Councilman Thornton - yes
Councilman Simpson - yes	Councilman Wachterhauser - yes

### **MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS**

#### **Resolution 029-26**

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

Mayor's appointments to the Board of Health with Council concurrence as follows:

Rosemarie Maio, 3-year term to expire 12.31.28

Laura Riccardi, 3-year term to expire 12.31.28

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the Borough of Stanhope that they do hereby concur with the Mayor's appointments herein named to the Stanhope Board of Health.

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

#### **Resolution 030-26**

#### **RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS TO THE SHADE TREE COMMISSION WITH COUNCIL CONCURRENCE**

Mayor's appointments to the Shade Tree Commission as follows:

Maria Grizzetti, 5-year term, term to expire 12-31-30

Paula Zeliff-Murphy, 5-year term, term to expire 12-31-30

Cynthia Lounsberry, to fill un-expired 5-year term, term to expire 12-31-29

Nicole Member, 1-year term, term to expire 12-31-26

**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 herein named to the Shade Tree Commission.

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

#### **Resolution 031-26**

#### **RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS TO THE RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE WITH COUNCIL CONCURRENCE**

Mayor's appointments to the Recreation Advisory Committee as follows:

Carmela Berger, 5-year term, term to expire 12-31-30

**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 herein named to the Recreation Advisory Committee.

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

**Resolution 032-26**                      **RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF THE BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE TO SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL WITH COUNCIL CONCURRENCE**

Mayor's appointment of William Eaves as the Borough representative to the Solid Waste Advisory Council for 2026 with Council concurrence.

**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 herein named Borough representative to the Solid Waste Advisory Council for a one-year term to expire on December 31, 2026.

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

**Resolution 033-26**                      **RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF THE BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE TO SUSSEX COUNTY WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE WITH COUNCIL CONCURRENCE**

Mayor's appointment of William Eaves as the Borough representative to the Sussex County Water Quality Management Plan Policy Advisory Committee for 2026 with Council concurrence.

**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 William Eaves as the Borough representative to the Sussex County Water Quality Management Plan Policy Advisory Committee for a one-year term to expire on December 31, 2026.

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

**Resolution 034-26**                      **MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF CLASS II MEMBER TO THE LAND USE BOARD WITH COUNCIL CONCURRENCE**

Mayor's appointment of Thomas Pershouse as the Class II member of the Land Use Board with Council concurrence.

**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 Thomas Pershouse as the Class II member on the Land Use Board for a one-year term to expire on December 31, 2026.

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

**Resolution 035-26**

**MAYOR’S APPOINTMENTS TO THE LAND USE BOARD**

Mayor’s appointments to the Land Use Board as follows:

- Class IV: Rosemarie Maio – 4-year term, term to expire 12-31-29
- Class IV: Glenn Kurtz - 4-year term, term to expire 12-31-29
  
- Alt. #1: Carmen Pico - unexpired 2-year term, term to expire 12-31-26

**Resolution 036-26**

**MAYOR’S APPOINTMENTS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

Mayor’s appointments to the Environmental Commission are as follows:

- Anthony Riccardi, 3-year term to expire 12-31-28
  
- Nicole Member, Chairwoman, 1-year term to expire 12-31-26

**ELECTION OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE TO THE LAND USE BOARD**

On motion by Councilman Romano, seconded by Councilman Riccardi and carried by a majority of the following roll call vote, Councilman Wachterhauser was elected as Council Representative to the Land Use Board for the year 2026.

Roll Call:

- |                           |                                    |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Councilman Riccardi - yes | Councilman Smith - yes             |
| Councilman Romano - yes   | Councilman Thornton - yes          |
| Councilman Simpson - yes  | Councilman Wachterhauser – abstain |

**OATHS OF OFFICE**

Mayor Wronko invited Fire Chief Alan Bookspan and the Officers of the Stanhope Hose Company No. 1 to step forward to be sworn in.

Mayor Wronko stated he would like to recognize outgoing Chief Ellicott who has been a dedicated member of the Fire Department since 1990. Over the last three decades Chief Ellicott has served the community with exceptional commitment, including three terms as Fire Chief and many years as a department officer. His leadership, experience and steady presence have made a lasting impact on the safety and strength of our Borough. In addition to his service here in Stanhope, Chief Ellicott proudly served our country as a member of the United States Military and continued his public safety career as a Lieutenant retiring from the Sussex County Sheriff’s Office. His lifetime of service, local, county and national, reflects the highest standards of dedication, integrity and community spirit. We are grateful for all he has contributed to Stanhope and for the example he continues to set. Mayor Wronko presented Chief Ellicott with a badge from the Fire Department in honor of his years as past Chief and for his years of service.

Mayor Wronko stated we do not often get new members in the Stanhope Fire Department and he wanted to take a moment to recognize the newest member, Hannah Ellicott, who graduated in July. Hannah started as a Junior Member when she was 15 years old and is another dedicated volunteer. Mayor Wronko invited Hannah Ellicott to come forward and congratulated her on her graduation and welcomed Hannah to the Stanhope Hose Company.

Ursula Leo, Borough Attorney, administered the Oath of Office to the Fire Chief and the officers of the Stanhope Hose Company No. 1 as follows; Fire Chief Alan Bookspan, 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Chief Mitch Ellicott, 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Chief Juan Morales and Captain Mike Donahue.

Mayor Wronko invited all appointees to the Boards and Commissions who were present to come forward and have their oaths of office administered as a group by Borough Attorney, Ursula Leo.

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF 2025**

Mayor Wronko stated, as we look back to 2025, he is proud of the progress that was made as a council and as a community. It has been a year filled with fun, whether it was family friendly events which were held throughout the Borough held by the Recreation Committee, along with important infrastructure improvements that strengthen our Borough and improve the daily life here as residents. From committee activities to the behind the scenes investments in our roads, facilities and services, 2025 reflected a continued focus on both quality of life and long term stability. Mayor Wronko thanked everyone who serves our community, whether as volunteers, or as part of the community at Borough Hall, and everyone who has helped us make this past year a positive one. Mayor Wronko is looking forward to what we will continue to build together in the year ahead.

## **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

Mayor Wronko opened the meeting to the public and invited anyone who wished to speak to come forward to do so.

Mitch Ellicott, as the outgoing Fire Chief, thanked the Mayor and Council for all their support and hard work. This was a very busy year. The Fire Department had a total of 109 calls. There was the loss of one of our past Chiefs who passed away. We are getting a new member, Tyler Simpson, who will be going to the fire academy this year. We have another fireman, Max Mulholland, who is currently at the academy. Chief Ellicott stated his daughter, Hannah, recently graduated from the academy and is now a member of the department. It is great to be getting new people and positive feedback. The Fire Department and the Council did a great deal of work rewriting the Fire Department ordinance which was approximately 125 years old and very outdated. There were changes that had to be made and everyone worked together to do the job that we have sworn to do. The Fire Departments relationship with the Police Department and the Ambulance Squad is always positive. Chief Ellicott stated for the past 36 years he is very proud to be a member of the Stanhope Hose Company No. 1 and kind of a part-time member of the Borough of Stanhope. Chief Ellicott thanked the governing body for allowing him to serve and he will continue to do so.

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

## **ADJOURNMENT**

On motion by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously carried by voice vote the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 P.M.

Approved:

Linda Chirip  
Deputy Clerk for  
Ellen Horak, RMC  
Borough Clerk