

BOROUGH OF ROOSEVELT
33 N. Rochdale Ave, Roosevelt Borough, NJ 08555

Mayor and Council
Regular Meeting Minutes of May 19, 2025

Mayor Malkin opened the meeting at 7:08pm and read the Open Public Meeting Act statement which stated, Adequate notice of this meeting, as required by Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, has been provided by a public notice on January 6, 2025 which was posted on the Bulletin Board Roosevelt Post Office and in the Borough Hall. The notice was transmitted to The Times and Asbury Park Press.

ROLL CALL

	PRESENT	ABSENT	LATE ARRIVAL
<i>Councilmember Lou Esakoff</i>	✓		
<i>Councilmember Danelle Feigenbaum</i>	✓		
<i>Councilmember Constance Herrstrom</i>	✓		
<i>Councilmember Claudia Luongo</i>	✓		
<i>Councilmember Tina Kaufman-Marut</i>	✓		
<i>Councilmember Ralph Warnick</i>	✓		
<i>Mayor Peggy Malkin</i>	✓		

Also in attendance: Greg Cannon, Esq., Kathleen Hart, Borough Clerk

PRESENTATION:

C/Herrstrom gives a background of the Amphitheater for the new council members on the design portion of the grant and states that the Bond Ordinance that was adopted was for the construction of the project. However, a petition was received and the bond ordinance is on hold. We were awarded a matching grant from Monmouth County in the amount of \$330,000, the bond was for \$710,000. Plans were submitted to SHPO and SHPO requested changes, they did not want to see a renovation they wanted more restoration. We are asking the Council to pass a resolution tonight for the revised plans to be submitted to SHPO.

- Retain and restore the brick seating walls rather than reconstruct them.
- Replace the aggregate concrete pavement at the areas between the seating walls, the walkway and stairs down into the amphitheater, and the forecourt in front to the FDR head.
- Eliminate the drainage elements (swale to the woods) in an attempt to reduce complications for the wetlands permit. Puddling at the forecourt after storms may continue but is not considered a major problem as it then drains away.

Gail Hunton presents the new plans minus the lighting plans. Once the resolution is passed we can forward to SHPO. It's a complete change from re-construction to repair/restoration. The repair is to repoint the brick walls, and to replace the missing and damaged brick and the cracks – in kind, which means as the originally were. The aggregate concrete is uneven and not safe, there is water infiltration and it is very dirty. The Memorial needs cleaning and some repair. Lighting was originally part of the plans. The Bollard lighting is very expensive (\$51,600) and should this be eliminated and done at another time. The Bollard lights are the lights going into the Amphitheater but we would still have the step lights along with the two pole lights on either side. It is a cost and that is something the Borough Council will have to decided. So other than that we are ready to go to SHPO. The repair and restoration approach makes sense. The footings and foundation has been tested with Robert's Engineering and them seem adequate. There is a 10% contingency within the bid, it is in case an emergency comes up during the construction – which can only be used with the approval of the Borough Council. The cost of the project has come down from \$676,000 to \$570,000 and if we take out the bollard lights that's another \$51,000 off of the \$570,000. C/Herrstrom asks if the pole lights are going to give enough lighting? M/Malkin states that rarely is there a night event there, we should cut as much as possible due to all the other expenses the

Borough has coming over the next couple of years. Gail Hunton states it is something that can be done at a later time if night time use increases. Temporary lighting can always be used if need be. C/Luongo asks about safety issues? Gail Hunton responds that is why the ambient lighting is there and the poles. There is handicap access on the new plans. C/Esakoff asks what is ambient lighting and what are we illuminating? Gail Hunton responds the ambient lighting are the two poles, the lighting being eliminated are the bollards. Gail Hunton asks how the Council would like to move forward? M/Malkin states that there is also a referendum pending by the residents of Roosevelt on whether or not they want to spend this money. There are 3 tiers, 1st. what the Council decides on the lighting 2nd. Do we have the approval of the Council to forward these plans to SHPO and 3rd. the referendum in November the voters will decided whether they want to approve the bond to pay for this or not? Gail Hunton explains we have an executed grant agreement between the County and the Borough of Roosevelt, the County will give us \$330,000 however, the Borough has to put up all the money first and then close out the project, so if there is any concern about the project being delayed because of the referendum the Borough could request an extension now. The grant administrator used to be on Gail Hunton’s staff and there is no question that the Borough would get the extension because of the mitigating circumstances of the referendum. We can ask for confirmation in writing. We have already signed the agreement and we have to follow through on that agreement. Attorney Greg Cannon explains the 5 requirements of the grant agreement. The process will probably take a year before we see our reimbursement from the County. M/Malkin polls the Council on eliminating the bollards? Hand vote all were in favor of removing bollards.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (Agenda items only)

M/Malkin opened the meeting to Public Comment for agenda items only at 7:47pm.
 No Public Comment.
 M/Malkin closed the Public Comment for agenda items at 7:48pm.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Letter from Roberts Engineering Group, LLC, dated May 15, 2025 regarding an Intensive-level Architectural survey for the Trickling Filter Replacement at the wastewater treatment plant.

MINUTES:

1. Closed Meeting Minutes – January 6, 2025
 On a motion by C/Esakoff to accept the minutes, with a second offered by C/Herrstrom the minutes were approved by the following roll call vote:
 Roll Call:
 AYES: C/Esakoff, C/Herrstrom, C/Kaufman-Marut, C/Warnick
 NAYS: None ABSTAIN: C/Feignbaum, C/Luongo ABSENT: None
2. Closed Meeting Minutes – January 21, 2025
 On a motion by C/Esakoff to accept the minutes, with a second offered by C/Herrstrom the minutes were approved by the following roll call vote:
 Roll Call:
 AYES: C/Esakoff, C/Herrstrom, C/Kaufman-Marut, C/Warnick
 NAYS: None ABSTAIN: C/Feignbaum, C/Luongo ABSENT: None
3. Closed Meeting Minutes – February 3, 2025
 On a motion by C/Esakoff to accept the minutes, with a second offered by C/Herrstrom the minutes were approved by the following roll call vote:
 Roll Call:
 AYES: C/Esakoff, C/Feignbaum, C/Herrstrom, C/Kaufman-Marut, C/Warnick
 NAYS: None ABSTAIN: C/Luongo ABSENT: None

4. Closed Meeting Minutes – March 17, 2025

On a motion by C/Esakoff to accept the minutes, with a second offered by C/Herrstrom the minutes were approved by the following roll call vote:

Roll Call:

AYES: C/Esakoff, C/Feignbaum C/Herrstrom, C/Luongo, C/Kaufman-Marut, C/Warnick
 NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None

5. Closed Meeting Minutes – April 7, 2025

On a motion by C/Esakoff to accept the minutes, with a second offered by C/Warnick the minutes were approved by the following roll call vote:

Roll Call:

AYES: C/Esakoff, C/Feignbaum, C/Herrstrom, C/Luongo, C/Kaufman-Marut, C/Warnick
 NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None

6. Regular Council Meeting Minutes – April 7, 2025

On a motion by C/Esakoff to accept the minutes, with a second offered by C/Warnick the minutes were approved by the following roll call vote:

Roll Call:

AYES: C/Esakoff, C/Feignbaum, C/Herrstrom, C/Luongo, C/Kaufman-Marut, C/Warnick
 NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION:

Resolution 25-71 Resolution to Submit ETM Associates, LLC’s Revised Plans for Improvements to the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Amphitheater to the State Historic Preservation Office

C/Warnick made a motion to adopt Resolution 25-71, with a second from C/Esakoff, M/Malkin states that usually with a referendum pending all work is supposed to stop on a project, however, the Attorney said so as not to lose time we separated out the project, the bond is for construction and this resolution is for design so it is ok to move this resolution. Because it is about design and not construction and we are not spending any money. By the following roll call vote:

Roll Call:

AYES: C/Feignbaum, C/Herrstrom, C/Kaufman-Marut, C/Luongo, C/Warnick, C/Esakoff
 NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

- Resolution 25-72 Resolution Authorizing Roberts Engineering Group, LLC to Prepare an Application for the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) Municipal Aid Grant Fiscal Year 2026
- Resolution 25-73 Resolution Appointing Part-Time Public Works Employee
- Resolution 25-74 Resolution of the Borough Council of the Borough of Roosevelt Waiving March/April Water and Sewer Utility Billings for 5 Cedar Court
- Resolution 25-75 Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Non-Fair and Open Contract for Professional Cemetery Management Services to Sutphen Memorial, Inc., 53 Somerset Street, Hopewell, NJ 08525
- Resolution 25-76 Payment of Bills for May 19, 2025
- Resolution 25-77 Resolution Authorizing Hunter Research to Prepare an Intensive-Level Architectural Survey for the Trickling Filter Replacement

C/Esakoff made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda Resolution's 25-72 through 25-77, with a second from C/Warnick, C/Luongo questions resolution 25-73, is there a limit to the amount of hours he can work? M/Malkin explains that the steps at the sewer plant are crumbling and our insurance company said they needed to be fixed. This a small job and he is charging us a minute amount to fix the steps, which should be about 3 hours. By the following roll call vote:

Roll Call:

AYES: C/Herrstrom, C/Kaufman-Marut, C/Luongo, C/Warnick, C/Esakoff, C/Feigenbaum,
 NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Administration: No Report at this time.

Community Dev/Code: C/Herrstrom states we had a health fair here on May 6, we had 11 vendors and about 17 people. The next meeting is on June 5 and will take place on the River Lady Cruise out of Toms River and we still have a couple seats available, trip includes lunch. Contact Michael Merritt if you would like to attend. Cost is \$27.50

Environmental, Health & Safety: No report at this time.

Finance: No report at this time.

Public Works: C/Warnick reports there has been some concern from residents about a possible sidewalk on Rochdale to get to the Post Office, C/Warnick spoke with Shannon at the school who said the residents are allowed to walk on the school sidewalk however, they can have no contact with the children, they cannot use the playground when the children are present and you cannot walk your dogs on school grounds other than that you are fine. About the sidewalk on Rochdale, the Borough has in the past applied for Safe Streets grants however, we were unsuccessful.

Utilities: No report at this time.

REPORTS OF BOROUGH OFFICIALS:

Michael Ticktin, 37 N. Valley Road: Environmental Commission is working on the puncheons on the walking trails.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

M/Malkin states that yesterday was World Tai Chi day and June Counterman our Tai Chi maven here held an event at Borough Hall, which was very well attended and beautiful. June made up a beautiful program for the afternoon, M/Malkin has left some of the extra programs out if anyone would like to take one. From the Monmouth County Clerk's office regarding the Primary Election early voting locations – (10 locations) locations are posted on the website and on the bulletin board. Early voting is from June 3 through June 8. Primary Election is June 10 from 6am-8pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Any item)

M/Malkin opens the public comment at 8:11pm

1. Michael Ticktin, 37 N. Valley Road: Questions 5 Cedar Court still waived from paying water and sewer for March and April, what about 6 Cedar? The answer is 6 Cedar Court is now hooked up to water and sewer system.

M/Malkin closes the public comment at 8:12pm

Next meeting is June 16, 2025.

C/Warnick made a motion, with a second offered by C/Esakoff, to adjourn meeting with an All in Favor.

Time Out: 8:13pm.

The audio tape is available in the Clerk's Office at Borough Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Hart, Borough Clerk

Adopted Date: July 7, 2025