

**BOROUGH OF ROOSEVELT
PLANNING BOARD
DECEMBER 11, 2025**

Present: Allison Petrilla, Mayor Peggy Malkin, Fred Septak, Tim Hartley, Ron Scibetti, John Impellizeri, and Heidi Mendies

Absent: Esther Psarakis, Arielle Debira, Tina Kaufman-Marut, June Ord, and Margaret Katz

Also, Present: Board Attorney Michele Donato, Board Engineer Cameron Corini, Board Planner Andy Thomas, and Board Secretary April Claudio

Pursuant to the Sunshine Law, adequate notice in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act was provided to this meeting's date, time, place and agenda was mailed to the news media, posted on the Borough bulletin board, mailed to those requesting personal notice, and filed with the Municipal Clerk.

Ms. Donato administered the Oath of Office to Ron Scibetti and John Impellizeri.

Mr. Hartley made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 29, 2025 meeting, which was seconded by Ms. Petrilla and approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Malkin, Septak, Hartley, and Mendies

Mayor & Council Update: Amphitheater going out to bid. Paving projects ongoing.

Environmental Commission: No report.

Mr. Septak offered a motion to approve the resolution establishing the 2026 meeting dates, which was seconded by Ms. Malkin and approved unanimously. Prior to the vote it was determined there would be no meeting in July and that meetings without an application would be held via zoom and begin at 6:30 pm, and meetings with an application would be held in person and begin at 7:00 pm.

JCP&L APPLICATION: Ms. Mendies and Mayor Malkin stepped down as they were not eligible to participate in this application. Appearing for the applicant were attorney Ben Nadell, Larry Hozempa (First Energy General Manager), engineer Jeffrey Morris, engineer Greg Brown, environmental consultant Amy Jones and planner Christine Cafone.

Mr. Hozempa stated the proposal is to upgrade transmission lines and equipment. The benefits will be seen by residents and users beyond Roosevelt. The existing structures and conductors are 60 years old.

Mr. Morris stated the initial lattice structures were built in 1959. They will be replaced with new modern structures with 500kv wires. The previous wires were 230kv. The poles will be made of steel because of the weight of the wires. Each pole will have a concrete foundation of about 7-10 feet in diameter. All changes are within the existing corridor and not in the right of way. The existing lattice structures are 126-142 feet in height and the new monopole structures will be 187-192 feet. Construction will begin in spring 2027. Construction will take about eight months.

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There will be periodic outages of about 5 minutes per a wire when resetting the wires. The lowest wire is 40 feet from the ground.

Ms. Donato asked for the need of the additional height. Mr. Morris stated the 500kv wires require more clearance due to being higher voltage.

Ms. Jones stated they looked at wetlands and endangered species along the corridor. The majority of environmental permits needed have been issued. Wetland mitigation is required and approved. There will be weekly environmental compliance monitoring. Mr. Corini asked if there are wetlands in the Roosevelt portion.

Ms. Jones replied no but there are some in Millstone. Ms. Jones stated 447 trees will be removed along the 3.4 acres, most in the southern 30ft of the right of way. Mr. Hartley felt the removal of that many trees was aggressive. Ms. Jones explained the trees will be cut at grade and will be allowed to grow back to a certain height. Mr. Brown explained there is a 20ft. clearance requirement to vegetation which leaves a 5ft. buffer to allow overgrowth. Mr. Hartley suggested some of the smaller trees be left alone. Mr. Brown expressed the importance of keeping a safe clearance.

Lawrence Mendies, 65 N. Rochdale, stated he owns much of the land JCP&L has an easement on. There are Norway spruce trees that he will be relocating. He added there are many other trees he planned to remove to allow his farm to grow. Mr. Nadell stated the tree clearing would begin in October 2026. Mr. Hartley questioned whether the tree removal plan was necessary or just a convenience for JCP&L. Ms. Jones pointed out that trees outside of the right of way will not be taken down.

Mayor Malkin spoke as a member of the public and asked if there is anything that can be done to limit the number of trees being removed.

Mr. Nadell suggested JCP&L look at their plans and see if anything can be done.

Ms. Petrilla asked about wood turtles. Ms. Jones stated a survey was done and there were none found in Roosevelt. Nothing on the endangered or threatened species list was found in Roosevelt.

Mr. Corini would like to know the number of trees with a 6 in diameter or less. He addressed Carmela Robert's review letter. All items that are required to be amendments to the plans will be made.

The Board and the applicant decided to continue the application at the January 21st meeting to allow JCP&L time to review their tree removal plan.

Public: None

Mr. Septak offered a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Ms. Malkin and approved unanimously.