

FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
REGULAR ACTION MEETING  
NOVEMBER 17, 2025

The Regular Action Meeting of the Township Committee of Fairfield Township was held on November 17, 2025 at 6:10 p.m. in the Committee Chambers Room, 70 Fairton-Gouldtown Road, Fairton, New Jersey 08320 with Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. presiding.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Mayor Pierce read the OPMA Statement into the record as follows:

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT

This meeting of the Fairfield Township Committee shall come to order. The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advanced notice of and to attend the meeting of the public bodies at which any business affecting their interests are discussed or acted upon. This meeting held on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of November 2025 is held pursuant to notice having been submitted to The South Jersey Times and The Daily Journal on January 8, 2025 and duly posted on the Township website and Bulletin Board.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG / MOMENT OF PRAYER

Mayor Pierce led the flag salute followed by a moment of prayer given by Committeewoman Julia Burrus.

ROLL CALL

The roll call was recorded as follows:

Committeewoman Julia Burrus, present; Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr., present and Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr.

MEMBER ABSENT

Committeeman Stephen M. Bateman and Deputy Mayor Mike Peterson.

ALSO PRESENT

Township Administrator Michael Burden, Township Solicitor Albert K. Marmero and Township Clerk Linda M. Gonzales.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

WORK SESSION ACTION MINUTES OCTOBER 1, 2025

REGULAR ACTION MINUTES OCTOBER 15, 2025

On a motion by Committeewoman Julia Burrus to table the Work Session Action minutes of October 1, 2025 and the Regular Action minutes of October 15, 2025 seconded by Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. Roll Call Vote: Committeewoman Burrus, yes, Committeeman Byrd, yes and Mayor Pierce, yes.

ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION (FIRST READING)

None

ORDINANCE FOR PUBLIC HEARING (SECOND READING)

None

PUBLIC HEARING 6:15 PM

MARK BLAUER, BLAUER ASSOCIATES / GRANT CONSULTANT

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SMALL CITIES PROGRAM /  
PROJECT #23-0347-00 PHASE I IMPROVEMENTS AT THE TOWNSHIP SENIOR CENTER AND  
PROJECT #23-0346-00 HOME REHABILITATION PROGRAM

A public hearing was held at 6:15 p.m. for the Phase I Improvements at the Township Senior Center and Fairfield Township's Home Rehabilitation Program.

Mark Blauer, Grant Consultant, explained that tonight's meeting is to hold a public hearing on the Township implementing Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Programs. The first project, Small Cities Project #23-0347-00 is being used to undertake Phase I Improvements at the Township Senior Center. The grant applied for said project is \$427,900.00. The second project, Small Cities Project #23-0346-00 is being used to provide forgivable and deferred loans to low and moderate-income homeowners for home rehabilitation repairs. The grant applied for said project is \$200,000 to continue with Fairfield Township's Home Rehabilitation Program.

Mr. Blauer reported that for the past 10 years, approximately eighty homes have been rehabilitated through our long-standing Home Rehabilitation Program, and we continue to accept applications for assistance.

At this time, Mark Blauer advised Mayor Pierce that we can now open the public hearing for any questions and or comments from the public.

Mayor Pierce entertained a motion to open the public hearing on the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Small Cities Program.

Committeewoman Julia Burrus moved seconded by Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. Roll Call Vote: Committeewoman Burrus, yes, Committeeman Byrd, yes and Mayor Pierce, yes.

Tameka Brown inquired as to how the public is made aware of the Home Rehabilitation Program and its funding.

Ms. Brown was informed that as required by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, it is required that such notice be published in the newspaper and in most cases by word of mouth. She expressed that the Township needs to disseminate the information for public awareness as the Township has an abundance of senior citizens who are not informed and most do not subscribe or read the newspapers and do not have access to computers and such.

The Township will do it's best to disperse the information to the public via inclusion in the tax bills. The application for Housing Rehabilitation Program will be posted on the Township's website.

There being no further comment, Mayor Pierce entertained a motion to close the public hearing on the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Small Cities Program.

Committeewoman Julia Burrus moved seconded by Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. Roll Call Vote: Committeewoman Burrus, yes; Committeeman Byrd, yes and Mayor Pierce, yes.

The Township Committee thanked Mark Blauer for his presentation on tonight's public hearing.

SPECIAL SCHOOL ELECTION / DECEMBER 9, 2025

CARL DOLENTE, SUPERINTENDENT, CUMBERLAND REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Carl Dolente, Cumberland Regional High School Superintendent, thanked the Township Committee for having him tonight regarding the pending Special School Election scheduled for December 9, 2025.

The presentation given by Superintendent Dolente provided input, the election purpose and answer questions that the public may have regarding the proposed bond question on the ballot where Cumberland Regional residents will decide on a \$10.37 million dollar high school renovation package, supported by \$6.6 million dollars in state aid. Mr. Dolente explained that the current taxes will not increase.

Questions from Tameka Brown were addressed and explained in detail.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION

2025 MUNICIPAL BEST PRACTICES WORKSHEET SURVEY

Our score 34.50      The threshold for aid withholding is as follows:

Inventory Score	Final Payment Amount Disbursed	Aid Withheld
32 & Greater	100%	No Withholding
28 - 31	75%	Lose 25% of final formula aid payment
24 - 27	50%	Lose 50% of final formula aid payment
0 - 23	0%	Lose 100% of final formula aid payment

Mayor Pierce reported on the announcement and presentation of the 2025 Municipal Best Practices. Mayor Pierce asked the Township Committee if they had any questions. There were none.

REVIEW OF BILL LIST PROVIDED BY THE CFO

Mayor Pierce asked the Township Committee if they had any questions on the bill list provided by the Chief Financial Officer.

Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. entered the record of his conflict on payable #48201 to South State Incorporated.

Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. entered the record of his conflict on payables #13002 & #13011 to Fairfield Volunteer Fire Company No. 2.

Mayor Pierce read Resolution No. 135 - 2025 into the record as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 135 - 2025

A RESOLUTION OF FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP, CUMBERLAND COUNTY AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF TOWNSHIP BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,450,223.29

Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. moved to adopt Resolution No. 135 - 2025 seconded by Committeewoman Julia Burrus. Roll Call Vote: Committeewoman Burrus, yes; Committeeman Byrd, yes, abstained on payable #48201 and Mayor Pierce, yes, abstained on payables #13002 & #13011.

Mayor Pierce read the Consent Agenda into the record as follows:

CONSENT AGENDA

(RESOLUTION NO. 136 - 2025 THROUGH RESOLUTION NO. 141 - 2025)

The Consent Agenda includes items of business which are not controversial & do not require individual discussion. A motion approving the Consent Agenda is moved, seconded, and voted upon as one item by the Township Committee. If any discussion is requested on a Consent Agenda item, it is removed from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda

RESOLUTION NO. 136 - 2025

A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING REVIEW OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 BEST PRACTICES INVENTORY

RESOLUTION NO. 137 - 2025

A RESOLUTION AWARDED BID TO NICKOLAUS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INCORPORATED FOR BASKETBALL COURT IMPROVEMENTS

RESOLUTION NO. 138 - 2025

A RESOLUTION AWARDED THE BID TO BOGEYS TRUCKING & PAVING, INCORPORATED FOR PIERCTOWN ROAD RECONSTRUCTION

RESOLUTION NO. 139 - 2025

TAX EXEMPTION GRANTED TO 100% PERMANENTLY AND TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN AND CANCELS 2025 TAX AMOUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 140 - 2025

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD, CUMBERLAND COUNTY AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF STREET OPENING PERMIT(S) TO SOUTH JERSEY GAS COMPANY  
PERMIT NO 6 - 2025 / INSTALLATION OF GAS SERVICE / 473 EAST AVENUE

RESOLUTION NO. 141 - 2025

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD AND THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES, FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE NJHOMES PROGRAM

On a motion by Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. to approve the above Resolutions by Consent Agenda Resolution No. 136 - 2025 through Resolution No. 141 - 2025 seconded by Committeewoman Julia Burrus. Roll Call Vote: Committeewoman Burrus, yes; Committeeman Byrd, yes and Mayor Pierce, yes.

OLD BUSINESS

ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS SCORING RESULTS NJDCA PROJECT #25-0737-00 ADA COMPLIANCE IMPROVEMENTS AT THE TOWNSHIP CONVENIENCE CENTER/TRANSFER STATION

The solicitation of Request for Proposals for the above project resulted in the receipt of only one 1) firm, Fralinger Engineering PA. The response was scored using the scoring criteria included in the legal published notice.

The next step from the Township Clerk is to obtain a vote from the committee to request a contract from Fralinger Engineering PA to be adopted at the December 17<sup>th</sup> meeting with a contingent upon the availability of funds and the contract to be reviewed by the Township Solicitor.

On a motion by Committeewoman Julia Burrus seconded by Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. to

request Fralinger Engineering PA to submit their contract for the Committee to review prior to making an award. All members voted in the affirmative.

NEW BUSINESS

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS / REMARKS

Committeewoman Julia Burrus had no report or remarks to make at this time.

Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. had no report or remarks to make at this time.

MAYOR'S REPORT / REMARKS

Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. had no report or remarks to make at this time.

Mayor Pierce read the Public Comment on Current Agenda Items & Non-Agenda Items as follows:

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS & NON-AGENDA ITEMS

In order for the Committee to conduct the business of the Township in the most productive manner possible, meeting attendees will be given five (5) minutes, all-inclusive to comment on any agenda item(s) without comment or question from the Committee and any non-agenda items including all dialogue, questions, and responses from both the speaker and the Committee for the designated public portion of the meeting. There may be no transference of a speaker's time to other attendees. Please step up at the appropriate time and state your name and address for the record.

Mayor Pierce entertained a motion to open Public Comment on Current Agenda Items & Non-Agenda Items.

Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. moved seconded by Committeewoman Julia Burrus. Roll Call Vote: Committeewoman Burrus, yes; Committeeman Byrd, yes and Mayor Pierce, yes.

Clarence Dixon, 27 Walden Drive appeared with his concern that was raised last year in reference to street/road markings that are in dire need on all the drives situated off Route 49 (Main Street).

Mr. Dixon advised that Walden Drive is not wide enough for parking and there is a problem with vehicles parked on both sides of the street facing the wrong direction, leaving only one lane open in the middle of the street. There is a need for "No Parking" signs to be installed, and road stripes are needed on these drives.

Iris Rountree, 564 East Avenue reported a need for streetlights on East Avenue.

There being no further comments, Mayor Pierce entertained a motion to close Public Comment on Current Agenda & Non-Agenda Items.

Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. moved seconded by Committeewoman Julia Burrus. Roll Call Vote: Committeewoman Burrus, yes; Committeeman Byrd, yes and Mayor Pierce, yes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF NEEDED)

AUTHORIZING TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC (ACTION MAY BE TAKEN)

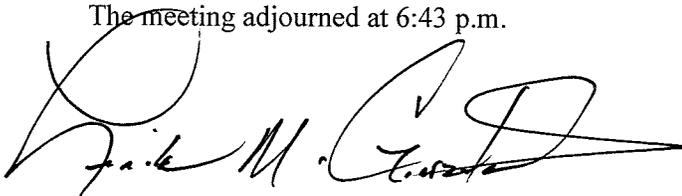
There was no need for an Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Township Committee, Mayor Pierce entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. moved seconded by Committeewoman Julia Burrus. Roll Call Vote: Committeeman Burrus, yes; Committeeman Byrd, yes and Mayor Pierce, yes.

The meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.



Linda M. Gonzales, RMC  
Municipal Clerk