

**MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE MAYOR & COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF WALDWICK
HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026 AT 7:30 PM**

Mayor Giordano called the meeting to order and read the Statement of Compliance.

Mayor Giordano asked for a roll call. Present on roll call: Mayor Giordano, Mr. Brennecke, Mr. Ritchie, Ms. Smith and Ms. Wingate. Mr. Martinello was absent. Ms. Cericola-Drake arrived at 7:32 pm.

Also present: Kelley Halewicz, Municipal Clerk and Craig Bossong, Municipal Attorney.

Mayor Giordano asked everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance, remain standing for a moment of silence honoring our Veterans and to remain standing for the prayer.

PROCLAMATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

- a. Public Hearing on the Request for Scope Change for the 2022 Open Space Trust Fund Award (\$127,995) to Resurface and ADA-related Improvements of Park Pathways and Parking Areas at Municipal Pool and Borough Park

Mrs. Halewicz explained that the Borough was awarded \$127,995 for Brookview Park in 2022. The Borough would like to repurpose this award for Improvements at the Waldwick Pool and Borough Park. We believe this change yields a higher residential benefit.

Mayor Giordano asked if anyone from the Council had any questions. No questions were asked.

Mayor Giordano opened the public hearing for public comments and asked anyone who wished to speak on this application to come forward stating your name for the record.

None one from the public came forward.

- b. Resolution 2026-109 Approve Request for Scope Change for the 2022 Open Space Trust Fund Award to Resurface and ADA-related Improvements of Park Pathways and Parking Areas at Municipal Pool and Borough Park

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-109

MUNICIPAL ENDORSING RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF A BERGEN COUNTY OPEN SPACE TRUST FUND GRANT APPLICATION TO REPURPOSE AN AWARDED GRANT

WHEREAS, the Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Floodplain Protection, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund (the "County Trust Fund"), provides matching grants to municipal governments for assistance in the development or redevelopment of municipal recreation facilities; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Waldwick (the "Borough") received a 2022 Trust Fund matching grant award in the amount of \$127,995, approved via Bergen County Board of Commissioners Resolution No. 1202-22, dated December 14, 2022, for improvements at Brookview Park (Project Contract No. 2200393); and,

WHEREAS, the originally approved Brookview Park project included the construction of a publicly accessible pedestrian footbridge and primitive walking trails; and,

WHEREAS, after further evaluation of the Borough's park system and current capital needs, the Borough has determined that it is in the best interest of the community to request a modification (change of scope) to the originally approved project; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough now proposes to repurpose its 2022 Trust Fund grant award toward a project involving resurfacing and ADA-related improvements to the Municipal Pool parking lot and the pathways within Borough Park; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Waldwick have reviewed the County Trust Fund Program Statement and the Trust Fund Municipal Program Park Improvement application and instructions and desire to submit this request and provide such documentation as may be required; and,

WHEREAS, as part of such request, the governing body received public comments on the proposed transfer and use of its 2022 Trust Fund Municipal program grant award on April 14, 2026; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Bergen will determine whether the proposed change of scope is complete and in conformance with the intent and requirements of the County Trust Fund; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough is willing to comply with all applicable rules, regulations, and statutes, and to enter into any amended agreement with the County of Bergen necessary to complete the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF WALDWICK:

1. That the Borough hereby authorizes the submission of a request to the County of Bergen for a modification (change of scope) to its 2022 Bergen County Open Space Trust Fund grant award (Project Contract No. 2200393); and,
2. That the Borough hereby requests approval to repurpose its existing 2022 Trust Fund grant award toward the Municipal Pool and Borough Park Resurfacing Project, consisting of resurfacing and ADA-related improvements to the Municipal Pool parking lot and pathways within Borough Park; and,
3. That the Borough shall submit a certified copy of this resolution along with all required supporting documentation as part of its formal request to the County; and,
4. That the Borough has or will secure the balance of funding necessary to complete the project, or will modify the project as necessary; and,
5. That the Borough is committed to providing the required dollar-for-dollar cash match for the project; and,

6. That only those park improvements identified and approved in the amended project scope, Trust Fund contract, or related documentation shall be considered eligible for reimbursement; and,
7. That the Mayor and/or Borough Administrator is hereby authorized to execute all documents and take any action necessary to effectuate this request and, if approved, to execute any amended agreement with the County of Bergen; and,
8. That the Borough agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations in the performance of the project; and,
9. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Council Member	Motion	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Brennecke	X		X			
Cericola-Drake			X			
Martinello						X
Ritchie		X	X			
Smith			X			
Wingate			X			
Mayor Giordano						

- c. Public Hearing on the Submission of a 2026 Bergen County Open Space Trust Fund Grant, Park Improvements Application • Veterans Park Repaving Project • Block 148 Lot 1 • 12 Lindbergh Parkway, Waldwick, NJ 07463

Mrs. Halewicz explained that the proposed project will resurface the parking lot, walking path and basketball court to reduce trip hazards, strengthen ADA access and continue to provide accessible, attractive functional outdoor recreation opportunities for the community.

Mayor Giordano asked if anyone from the Council had any questions. No questions were asked.

Mayor Giordano opened the public hearing for public comments and asked anyone who wished to speak on this application to come forward stating your name for the record.

None one from the public came forward.

- d. Resolution 2026-110 Endorse Submission of the Bergen County Open Space Trust Fund Grant, Municipal Park Improvements Application for Veterans Park Improvements

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-110

AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF A 2026 BERGEN COUNTY OPEN SPACE TRUST FUND MUNICIPAL PARK IMPROVEMENT GRANT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Floodplain Protection, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund (“County Trust Fund”), provides matching grants to municipal

governments and to nonprofit organizations for assistance in the development or redevelopment of outdoor municipal recreation facilities; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Waldwick desires to further the public interest by obtaining a matching grant of approximately \$85,800.00, from the County Trust Fund for the resurfacing of Veterans Park basketball courts, parking lot and walking paths; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Waldwick have reviewed the County Trust Fund Program Statement, and the Trust Fund Municipal Program Park Improvement application and instructions, and desires to make an application for such a matching grant and provide application information and furnish such documents as may be required; and,

WHEREAS, as part of the application process, the Mayor and Council held the required Public Hearing to receive public comments on the proposed park improvements in the application on April 14, 2026; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Bergen shall determine whether the application is complete and in conformance with the scope and intent of the County Trust Fund; and,

WHEREAS, the applicant is willing to use the County Trust Fund in accordance with such rules, regulations and applicable statutes, and is willing to enter into an agreement with the County of Bergen for the above-named project and ensure its completion on or about the project contract expiration date.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Waldwick:

1. That it is hereby authorized to submit the above completed project application to the County by the deadline of April 24, 2026, as established by the County; and,
2. That, in the event of a County Trust Fund award that may be less than the grant amount requested above, the Mayor and Council have, or will secure, the balance of funding necessary to complete the project, or modify the project as necessary; and
3. That the Mayor and Council are committed to providing a dollar-for-dollar cash match for the project; and,
4. That only those park improvements identified and approved in the project application, its Trust Fund contract, or other documentation will be considered eligible for reimbursement.
5. That the Mayor and Council agree to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations in its performance of the project; and,
6. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Council Member	Motion	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Brennecke			X			
Cericola-Drake			X			
Martinello						X
Ritchie		X	X			
Smith	X		X			
Wingate			X			
Mayor Giordano						

- e. Public Hearing on the Submission of a 2026 Bergen County Historic Preservation Trust Fund Grant Application • Erie Railroad Signal Tower • Block 117 Lot 1.02 • NJT Bergen County Line, Waldwick, NJ 07463

Mrs. Halewicz explained that the Borough applied for this grant last year. It is the same project to rehabilitate the Erie Railroad Signal Tower including structural and aesthetic improvements, including but not limited to exterior repainting and window installation, railings and stairways. All items are visible when looking at the building. This is \$100,000 with the Borough requesting \$50,000 and the grant is \$50,000. The Borough is being encouraged by the County to apply for this project.

Mayor Giordano asked if anyone from the Council had any questions. No questions were asked.

Mayor Giordano opened the public hearing for public comments and asked anyone who wished to speak on this application to come forward stating your name for the record.

None one from the public came forward.

- f. Resolution 2026-111 Endorse Submission of the Bergen County Historic Preservation Trust Fund Grant Application for the Erie Railroad Signal Tower Renovations

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-111

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF WALDWICK TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE 2026 BERGEN COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST FUND

WHEREAS, the Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Floodplain Protection, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund (“County Trust Fund”), provides matching grants to municipal governments and to nonprofit organizations for assistance in the preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation of historic resources; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Waldwick desires to further the public interest by obtaining a matching grant from the County Trust Fund in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 for the Erie Railroad Signal Tower Rehabilitation Project, located at Block 117, Lot 1.02, End of Bohnert Place, Waldwick, New Jersey; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed project includes the rehabilitation of the Erie Railroad Signal Tower through necessary structural and aesthetic improvements, including but not limited to exterior repainting and window installation, in order to preserve and enhance this historic community asset; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Waldwick have reviewed the County Trust Fund Program Statement and the Historic Preservation Trust Fund application and instructions, and desire

to submit an application for such a matching grant and provide all required application materials and documentation; and,

WHEREAS, as part of the application process, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Waldwick held the required Public Hearing to receive public comment on the proposed historic preservation improvement project on April 14, 2026; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Bergen shall determine whether the application is complete and in conformance with the scope and intent of the County Trust Fund; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Waldwick is willing to use the County Trust Fund in accordance with such rules, regulations and applicable statutes, and is willing to enter into an agreement with the County of Bergen for the above-named project and ensure its completion on or about the project contract expiration date.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF WALDWICK:

1. That the Borough of Waldwick is hereby authorized to submit the completed grant application to the County of Bergen for the 2026 Historic Preservation Trust Fund funding round by the established deadline of April 24, 2026; and,
2. That, in the event of a County Trust Fund award that is less than the amount requested, the Borough has or will secure the balance of funding necessary to complete the project, or will modify the project as necessary; and,
3. That the Borough is committed to providing the required dollar-for-dollar cash match for the project; and,
4. That only those project improvements identified and approved in the application, the Trust Fund contract, or other supporting documentation shall be considered eligible for reimbursement; and,
5. That the Mayor and/or Borough Administrator is hereby authorized to execute all documents and take any action necessary to effectuate this grant application and, if awarded, the execution of a grant agreement with the County of Bergen; and,
6. That the Borough agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations in the performance of the project; and,
7. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Council Member	Motion	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Brennecke	X		X			
Cericola-Drake			X			
Martinello						X
Ritchie			X			
Smith			X			
Wingate		X	X			
Mayor Giordano						

MAYOR'S REPORT AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Mayor's Report. Mayor Giordano reported that he attended the Pistol Range Rededication on Saturday. Councilwoman Smith and the Mayor are working together to see if they can get some concerts this summer.

Financial & Administrative Committee. Mr. Martinello was absent.

Fire & Police Protection Committee. Mr. Brennecke reported that the Fire Department has had 9 calls this month so far; YTD 85. The Department is undergoing the annual mask fit test which checks the safety of the masks. This should be completed in May.

Mr. Brennecke reported that the Police Department has been very active. 98 motor vehicle summonses; 18 motor vehicle accidents; 11 juvenile incidents; 18 traffic/radar stops.

Public Safety Committee. Ms. Wingate reported that the Middle School will have sensitivity training due to an antisemitism incident at the school. It is important to teach empathy, and this program will expand in different forms for other grade levels. The Board of Education is also considering community training.

Due to the non-use of a snow day, the schools will be closed on Tuesday, May 26.

The Robotics Team is working together with the school representative.

The Board of Education is raising fees for individual fields to include a \$20 per athlete fee.

Recreational & Health Committee. Ms. Smith reported on the Lions Club Playground Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on May 2 at 10:30 am.

Ms. Smith will report on Board of Health at the next meeting.

Public Works Committee. Mr. Ritchie reported that he apologized for missing the last meeting, but he did watch it. He was particularly impressed with the hydrant flushing segment. He and his neighbors are noticing an improvement in water because of the flushing. Residents should continue to log observations good and bad on our website.

Mr. Ritchie reported that he followed up with an email to the sewer authority and we are waiting for a response to their mitigation plan as they were running some tests.

Buildings & Grounds Committee. Ms. Cericola-Drake reported that she also attended the Pistol Range Rededication which was well attended and the Police Department and Gun Club are glad to see it is ready to use.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Municipal Clerk. Mrs. Halewicz had no report.

Attorney. Mr. Bossong reported that the Borough's 4th Round COAH obligation was filed.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-112

Approval of Consent Agenda

BE IT RESOLVED that the following resolutions herewith listed by consent having been considered by the Governing Body of the Borough of Waldwick are hereby passed and approved as amended to include 2026-124:

- 2026-112 Approval of Consent Agenda
- 2026-113 Approval of Minutes - Special Budget Meeting, March 14, 2026 and Regular Meeting, March 24, 2026

Policy Vote(s)

- a. Alda De Lorenzo requests to use Pavilion A on May 17, 2026, from 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm for a birthday party with alcoholic beverages being served
- b. Kevin Fallon requests to use Pavilion A on June 7, 2026, from 11:00 am – 4:00 pm for a birthday party with alcoholic beverages being served
- c. Tereza Glavan requests to use Pavilion A on June 13, 2026, from 12:00 pm – 8:00 pm for a reunion with alcoholic beverages being served
- d. Nadia Sernatinger requests to use Pavilion B on June 20, 2026, from 10:00 am – dusk for a birthday party with alcoholic beverages being served
- e. Stephanie Rodriguez requests to use Pavilion A on June 27, 2026, from 11:00 am – dusk for a birthday party with alcoholic beverages being served
- f. Annette Gordon requests to use Pavilion A on August 29, 2026, from 11:00 am – 6:00 pm for a family reunion with alcoholic beverages being served
- g. Appointment of James J. Antoine as Senior Member of the Waldwick Fire Department
- 2026-114 Award Contract to Bruno Associates, Inc. for Grant Writing Purposes in the Amount of \$30,000
- 2026-115 Adopting the Bergen County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan
- 2026-116 Authorize Waiver of Permit Fees to the Board of Education for the Waldwick High School Event on April 29th with Food Trucks
- 2026-117 Authorize Autocab License - VIP Car & Limo Service
- 2026-118 Approval of Social Affairs Permit for Gearblock Brewing Company LLC - 4/24 - 4/26
- 2026-119 Appointment of Mark Sinclair as Tennis Instructor for Waldwick Summer Tennis Program
- 2026-120 Termination of Part Time Account Clerk Typing, Bilingual English/Spanish, Rocio Carrion
- 2026-121 Authorizing Refund for Fire Police Overpayment
- 2026-122 Payment of Vouchers
- 2026-124 Approval of MOA with PBA Local 217

Council Member	Motion	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Brennecke	X		X			
Cericola-Drake			X			
Martinello						X
Ritchie		X	X			
Smith			X			
Wingate			X			
Mayor Giordano						

PUBLIC HEARING & ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE(S)

Mayor Giordano asked the Clerk to read Ordinance No. 2026-#03 by title.

Ordinance No. 2026-#03 - CALENDAR YEAR 2026 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET COST OF LIVING ALLOWANCE AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A-4-45.14)

Council comments. None.

Public comment. None.

Mayor Giordano closed the Public comment. Ordinance No. 2026-#03 was advertised and on second reading is adopted. This ordinance will go into effect immediately after approval and publication according to law.

Council Member	Motion	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Brennecke			X			
Cericola-Drake			X			
Martinello						X
Ritchie	X		X			
Smith		X	X			
Wingate			X			
Mayor Giordano						

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE(S)

Mayor Giordano asked the Clerk to read Ordinance No. 2026-#04 by title.

Ordinance No. 2026-#04 - BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW ADDITIONAL OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY, NEW COMMUNICATION AND SIGNAL SYSTEMS EQUIPMENT AND NEW INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF WALDWICK, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$2,073,600 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO APPROPRIATE BOROUGH CAPITAL SURPLUS AND STATE GRANTS, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS

Council Comments. None.

Mayor Giordano stated that a motion is in order to move and pass the ordinance on first reading and that it be advertised as required by law, setting a public hearing for Tuesday, April 28, 2026 at 7:30 pm or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

Council Member	Motion	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Brennecke		X	X			
Cericola-Drake			X			
Martinello						X
Ritchie	X		X			
Smith			X			

Wingate			X			
Mayor Giordano						

Mayor Giordano asked the Clerk to read Ordinance No. 2026-#05 by title.

Ordinance No. 2026-#05 - BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW ADDITIONAL OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY IN, BY AND FOR THE WATER UTILITY OF THE BOROUGH OF WALDWICK, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$1,475,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS

Council Comments. None.

Mayor Giordano stated that a motion is in order to move and pass the ordinance on first reading and that it be advertised as required by law, setting a public hearing for Tuesday, April 28, 2026 at 7:30 pm or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

Council Member	Motion	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Brennecke		X	X			
Cericola-Drake			X			
Martinello						X
Ritchie	X		X			
Smith			X			
Wingate			X			
Mayor Giordano						

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Giordano reported that the Environmental Committee will hold a Town Wide Clean Up Day on Saturday, April 18 from 9 am – 12 pm starting at the DPW Garage, 19 Industrial Parkway. If students wish to attend, we will prepare a letter for their volunteer hours.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Giordano asked if any member of the public wished to come forward and to discuss anything and if so, please state your name only for the record.

No one came forward to speak.

CLOSED SESSION - Any matter permitted to be discussed in Closed Session pursuant N.J.S.A. 10:4-12

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-123

Authorize Closed Session

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)(1-9)) permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council is of the opinion that such circumstances exist.

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

The public shall be excluded from discussions of the Closed Session.

The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

Personnel Matter

It is anticipated at this time that the above-mentioned subject matter will be made public within 60 days or as soon thereafter as it is deemed to be in the public interest to do so based on the conclusion of the matter.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Council Member	Motion	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Brennecke			X			
Cericola-Drake			X			
Martinello						X
Ritchie	X		X			
Smith		X	X			
Wingate			X			
Mayor Giordano						

The Council convened into Closed Session at 7:50 pm. At 7:53 pm the Mayor and Council came back on the record of the Regular Meeting. Present on roll call: Mayor Giordano, Mr. Brennecke, Ms. Cericola-Drake, Mr. Ritchie, Ms. Smith and Ms. Wingate. Mr. Martinello was absent.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council at its Regular Meeting on MOTION by Mr. Ritchie, seconded by Ms. Wingate and on roll call carried the meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Adopted: April 28, 2026

KELLEY HALEWICZ, RMC/CMC
MUNICIPAL CLERK