

## **BOROUGH OF TOTOWA**

### **MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

**February 25, 2025**

**PRESENT:** Mayor John Coiro, presiding, Council President Lou D'Angelo, Councilman Anthony Picarelli, Councilman John Capo, Councilman Patrick Fierro, Councilman Sanders Reynoso, Municipal Clerk Joseph Wassel and Municipal Attorney Kristin Corrado.

**ABSENT:** Councilman William Bucher.

Mayor John Coiro called the meeting to order and asked the Municipal Clerk to call the roll.

Municipal Clerk Wassel recited the Prayer of the Meeting followed with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag with the public participating.

Mayor Coiro asked the Clerk to read the statement of the meeting.

Municipal Clerk Wassel read the following statement: This meeting of the Mayor and Council held on this day is being held in accordance with Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 of the State of New Jersey as amended. The agenda for this meeting has been prepared and distributed to the Mayor and Council and a copy has been on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to dispense with the regular order of business in order to hold a public hearing on the 2025 Passaic County Open Space and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund grant application for the installation of upgraded playground equipment and rubberized safety surface at the Kennedy Park Playground and on Ordinance No. 03-2025 as advertised. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

Municipal Clerk Wassel announced that the 2025 Passaic County Open Space and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund grant application for the Kennedy Park Playground Project and Ordinance No. 03-2025 have been advertised for public hearing for Tuesday, February 25, 2025.

Municipal Clerk Wassel read the Open Space Public Hearing Notice.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to open the public hearing. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

Mayor Coiro asked if any citizens wish to be heard on the 2025 Open Space grant application.

**CITIZENS HEARD:**

There were no citizens who wished to be heard.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to close the public hearing. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing A Grant Application To The Passaic County Open Space, Farmland And Historic Preservation Trust Fund For The Kennedy Park Playground Project By The Borough Of Totowa. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 31-2025

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A GRANT APPLICATION  
TO THE PASSAIC COUNTY OPEN SPACE, FARMLAND  
AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST FUND FOR THE  
KENNEDY PARK PLAYGROUND PROJECT  
BY THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA

WHEREAS, the Passaic County Board of County Commissioners (hereafter "Board") provide grants to municipalities and qualified non-profit corporations for the assistance in acquisition, development, stewardship and historic preservation from the Passaic County Open Space, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund (hereafter "Trust Fund"); and

WHEREAS, the BOROUGH OF TOTOWA desires to further the public interest by obtaining funding in the amount of \$250,000 from the Board for the County to fund the KENNEDY PARK PLAYGROUND PROJECT at a cost of \$275,552; and

WHEREAS, the Board shall determine if the application is complete and in conformance with the scope and intent of the Trust Fund program and the rules and regulations established pursuant to R20170349, and any subsequent Resolutions passed by the Board governing the administration of the Trust Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA AS FOLLOWS:

1. The MAYOR OF THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA is authorized to make application, provide all required information and documents as required, and correspond as necessary for a grant to the Passaic County Open Space, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund.
2. That the MAYOR OF THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA is hereby authorized to execute a grant agreement and any amendment thereto with the County of Passaic for the KENNEDY PARK PLAYGROUND PROJECT.
3. That, if the funds provided by the County are less than the total project cost specified above, the applicant has the balance of funding necessary to complete the project.
4. That, the applicant agrees to comply with all applicable federal, State, County, and local laws, rules, and regulations in its performance of the project.
5. That this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Municipal Clerk Wassel read the legal notice and the title of Ordinance No. 03-2025.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to open the public hearing. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

Mayor Coiro asked if any citizens wished to be heard on Ordinance No. 03-2025.

CITIZENS HEARD:

There were no citizens who wished to be heard.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to close the public hearing. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

Municipal Clerk Wassel read Ordinance No. 03-2025 by title:

**ORDINANCE NO. 03-2025**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA AUTHORIZING THE  
CHANGE OF A STREET NAME IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40:67-1(k)**

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to adopt Ordinance No. 03-2025 on second and final reading. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to revert to the regular order of business. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

Mayor Coiro asked if any members of the Council, the Municipal Clerk or the Municipal Attorney wished to address the Council.

Councilman Reynoso: Announced that we will be having the Car Show on April 13<sup>th</sup> and the Easter Bunny Breakfast on April 19<sup>th</sup> and said to register early, with more information to follow as we get closer to each event.

CITIZENS HEARD:

There were no citizens who wished to be heard.

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to approve the Minutes of the Mayor and Council for the meeting of February 11, 2025. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE:

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to approve Resolution No. 2025-05 for the payment of bills. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following resolution authorizing the Treasurer to issue refunds to various property owners due to overpayment of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2025 taxes. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, there has been an overpayment of 1st quarter 2025 taxes on the property listed below; and

WHEREAS, the taxpayer is entitled to a refund; and

WHEREAS, the chart sets forth the refund as follows:

Block	Lot	Property Owner	Payable To:	Overpayment
9	34.04	66 Liberty Ridge Tr April & David Ayaviri	Corelogic Attn:Refund Dept. PO Box 9202 Coppell, TX 75019-9760	\$5,097.36
82	1	53 Greene Ave Jessica & Michael Petrowski	Corelogic Attn:Refund Dept. PO Box 9202	\$ 173.08

			Coppell, TX 75019-9760	
155	14.02	700 Totowa Rd Jenish Kanani & Bharat & Harshaben	Corelogic Attn:Refund Dept. PO Box 9202 Coppell, TX 75019-9760	\$4,852.02
173	32	16 Tow Path Cres Qual C1056 Sami & Ramsey Merhi	Corelogic Attn:Refund Dept. PO Box 9202 Coppell, TX 75019-9760	\$1,680.82

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the overpayment shall be refunded to the taxpayer, as stated above, and the Treasurer is authorized to issue separate checks for the refunds, which shall be paid to the stated property or taxing authority.

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following Resolution Appointing Special Tax Appeal Counsel And Authorizing The Filing Of Reverse Tax Appeals. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 32-2025

RESOLUTION APPOINTING SPECIAL TAX APPEAL COUNSEL AND  
AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF REVERSE TAX APPEALS

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa requires the services of an attorney to represent the Borough of Totowa as Special Tax Appeal Counsel for the purpose of handling certain reverse real estate tax appeals; and

WHEREAS, the professional services to be provided by Special Tax Appeal Counsel include but are not limited to reviewing all property classes, making appeal recommendations for properties that are substantially under-assessed, and performing all professional services necessary for filing reverse tax appeals which are designed to accurately and equitably apportion the real estate tax burden among the existing properties within the Borough of Totowa; and

WHEREAS, the professional legal services shall be awarded as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5; and

WHEREAS, the term of this contract shall commence on the date of this Resolution and terminate on December 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Special Tax Appeal Counsel shall be entitled to compensation on a contingent fee basis if any increase in assessment occurs as a result of the reverse tax appeal; and

WHEREAS, Special Tax Appeal Counsel shall be responsible for all fees and costs associated with the filing and prosecuting any reverse tax appeal; and

WHEREAS, the value of services to be provided by Special Tax Appeal Counsel under its' contingent-fee arrangement may exceed the value of \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, Charles E. Blau, Esq., Blau & Blau, Attorneys at Law, 223 Mountain Avenue, Springfield, New Jersey 07801, is an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Charles E. Blau, Esq. shall be required to complete and submit a Business Entity Disclosure Certificate which certifies that Blau & Blau, Attorneys at Law, have not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Totowa in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit Blau & Blau, Attorneys at Law from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Borough of Totowa to enter into a contract with Charles E. Blau, Esq., Blau & Blau, Attorneys at Law, to serve as the Borough of Totowa Special Tax Appeal Counsel and provide professional legal services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Council of the Borough of Totowa does hereby authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute any and all necessary instruments relating thereto.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Entity Disclosure Certification shall be placed on file with this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that no appropriation of funds is required at this time with payment to Special Tax Appeal Counsel coming from the proceeds of any successful tax appeals.

There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing Emergency Temporary Appropriation. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 33-2025

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION

WHEREAS, an emergent condition has arisen with respect to Current Fund appropriations for various improvements and acquisitions; and

WHEREAS, no adequate provision has been made in the 2025 Temporary Budget for the aforesaid purpose, and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 provides for the creation of an emergency temporary appropriation for the purpose above mentioned; and

WHEREAS, the total emergency temporary resolutions adopted in the year 2025 pursuant to the provision of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20) including this resolution total \$290,000 for the Current Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Totowa, County of Passaic, that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 that emergency temporary appropriations be made and that said emergency temporary appropriations shall be provided for in the 2025 budget or by a capital ordinance to be adopted prior to the adoption of the 2025 budget:

CURRENT FUND

Capital Improvements	
Capital Improvement Fund	<u>\$290,000</u>

A letter was received from Violations Clerk Keri Giacchi requesting a Temporary Leave of Absence beginning March 10, 2025. There was a motion by Councilman Picarelli, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to approve the Temporary Leave of Absence. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.



COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY:

There was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Capo to approve payment of an additional contribution to the Borough Of Totowa First Aid Squad, Inc. in the amount of \$17,267.00 for their 2024 TSAP. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:

There was a motion by Councilman Fierro, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to approve Change Order No. 2 for a net increase of \$17,427.70 and Payment Estimate No. 2 in the amount of \$55,047.01 to AJM Contractors for the FY2024 NJDOT Municipal Aid and 2024 Road Program. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

There was a motion by Councilman Fierro, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing The Installation Of Thermoplastic Rumble Strips On Willard Avenue. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 34-2025

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INSTALLATION OF  
THERMOPLASTIC RUMBLE STRIPS ON WILLARD AVENUE

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa Police Chief has requested that thermoplastic rumble strips be purchased and installed on Willard Avenue; and

WHEREAS, rumble strips are a traffic calming measure that are used to reduce vehicle speed by creating a noticeable vibration and audible noise when driven over thereby alerting drivers to the need to slow down; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa Police Chief has advised that they have been very effective in reducing speeds due to their immediate feedback mechanism; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa have determined that there is need for these thermoplastic rumble strips which will remind drivers of their speed, can encourage them to slow down and reduce speeding violations; and

WHEREAS, Denville Line Painting, Inc., 2 Green Pond Road, Rockaway, New Jersey 07866 has submitted a proposal for the purchase and installation of six (6) sets of thermoplastic rumble strips in the amount of \$3,348.00, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to authorize the purchase and installation of thermoplastic rumble strips for the aforementioned reasons; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable New Jersey State laws, the purchase and installation of thermoplastic rumble strips may be authorized without public bidding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the purchase and installation of thermoplastic rumble strips from Denville Line Painting, Inc. in the amount of \$3,348.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Municipal Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Municipal Clerk and Police Chief to execute any and all instruments relating thereto.

There was a motion by Councilman Fierro, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following Resolution Approving Adjusted Water Balance Credit And Waiving Of Interest For Walid A. & Gehan Mahmoud, 24 Lookout Point Trail. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 35-2025

#### RESOLUTION APPROVING ADJUSTED WATER BALANCE CREDIT AND WAIVING OF INTEREST FOR WALID A. & GEHAN MAHMOUD, 24 LOOKOUT POINT TRAIL

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa Water Department bills its customers based on three cycles, four times a year; and

WHEREAS, the Cycle 1, 2023 Period 3, 2023 Period 4 and 2024 Period 1 meter readings came in at 304,000, 209,000 and 342,000 gallons respectively, which resulted in higher than normal water bills; and

WHEREAS, the owner, Walid Mahmoud disputed the billings claiming that the meter had to be defective because he didn't have any water leaks; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa swapped out his old water meter with a new one and thereafter the meter readings were more in line with the norm; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa can adjust the meter readings for the 2023 Period 3, 2023 Period 4 and 2024 Period 1 meter readings to 104,000, 32,000 and 30,000 gallons respectively based on historical averages for those periods; and

WHEREAS, the owner, Walid Mahmoud has requested a credit based on the adjusted meter readings for the billing periods in question along with the waiving of any interest; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have agreed to the adjusted water balance credit and the waiving of interest; and

WHEREAS, the Water Registrar is now requesting permission to do a balance adjustment on the water account and to waive off interest fees to date.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby approve the request and authorize the Water Registrar to make the necessary adjustments to the account.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that the Borough Clerk send a copy of this resolution to the Water Registrar.

There was a motion by Councilman Fierro, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following Resolution Approving Partial Refund For Overpayment On Water Account ID #725-0 Located At 221 Boyle Ave. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 36-2025

#### RESOLUTION APPROVING PARTIAL REFUND FOR OVERPAYMENT ON WATER ACCOUNT ID #725-0 LOCATED AT 221 BOYLE AVE

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa Water Department bills its customers based on three cycles, four times a year; and

WHEREAS, Evelyn Rojas who resides at 221 Boyle Ave, known as Block 36, Lot 14 has been making monthly online water payments in excess of what is billed; and

WHEREAS, the Water Registrar for several years has notified the owner to cease making online payments, with no response up until February 19, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the current water account has a credit balance of \$793.83; and

WHEREAS, Evelyn Rojas is now requesting a partial refund in the amount of \$600.00 for the overpayment of water; and

WHEREAS, the Water Registrar has agreed that this is a fair amount to refund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby approve the request for a partial refund and authorize the Water Registrar to make the necessary adjustments to the accounts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa that the Borough Clerk send a copy of the resolution to the Water Registrar.

There was a motion by Councilman Fierro, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing The Purchase And Delivery Of One 2024 Ford F-350 4X4 Truck With Plow For The Department Of Public Works. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 37-2025

#### RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF ONE 2024 FORD F-350 4X4 TRUCK WITH PLOW FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa Department of Public Works ("DPW") Superintendent has requested the purchase of one Ford F-350 4x4 Truck with Plow; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa have determined that there is a need for this multi-function vehicle to be added to the DPW fleet; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to authorize the purchase and delivery of the Ford F-350 4x4 Truck with Plow; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey State Contract No. T2959 has been awarded to Route 23 Auto Mall, 1301 Route 23, Butler, New Jersey 07405 for the purchase and delivery of Ford F-350 4x4 Trucks and all related equipment; and

WHEREAS, Route 23 Auto Mall has submitted a proposal dated February 13, 2025 for the purchase and delivery of one Ford F-350 4x4 Truck with Plow in the amount of \$67,320.00, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable New Jersey State laws, the purchase of this vehicle may be authorized without public bidding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the purchase and delivery of one Ford F-350 4x4 Truck with Plow from Route 23 Auto Mall in the amount of \$67,320.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Municipal Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Municipal Clerk and DPW Superintendent to execute any and all instruments relating thereto.

There was a motion by Councilman Fierro, seconded by Councilman D'Angelo to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing The Purchase And Delivery Of One Bobcat UV34 Diesel Utility Vehicle For The Department Of Public Works. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 38-2025

#### RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF ONE BOBCAT UV34 DIESEL UTILITY VEHICLE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa Department of Public Works ("DPW") Superintendent has requested the purchase of one Bobcat UV34 Diesel Utility Vehicle; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa have determined that there is a need for this equipment to be added to the DPW inventory; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to authorize the purchase and delivery of the Bobcat UV34 Diesel Utility Vehicle; and

WHEREAS, Bergen County Co-op Contract No. 24-10 has been awarded to Bobcat of North Jersey, 201 Maltese Drive, Totowa, New Jersey 07512 for the purchase and delivery of Bobcat Utility Vehicles and all related equipment; and

WHEREAS, Bobcat of North Jersey has submitted a proposal for the purchase and delivery of one new Bobcat UV34 Diesel Utility Vehicle in the amount of \$18,831.60, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable New Jersey State laws, the purchase of this equipment may be authorized without public bidding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the purchase and delivery of one new Bobcat UV34 Diesel Utility Vehicle from Bobcat of North Jersey in the amount of \$18,831.60.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Municipal Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Municipal Clerk and DPW Superintendent to execute any and all instruments relating thereto.

COMMITTEE ON ENGINEERING & PUBLIC PROPERTY:

There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilman Reynoso to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing Reimbursement To The Borough Of Woodland Park For Emergency Repairs To The Shared 24” Sanitary Sewer Force Main. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 39-2025

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REIMBURSEMENT  
TO THE BOROUGH OF WOODLAND PARK FOR EMERGENCY REPAIRS  
TO THE SHARED 24” SANITARY SEWER FORCE MAIN

WHEREAS, emergency repairs were made to the shared 24” sanitary sewer force main utilized by the Township of Little Falls, Borough of Totowa and Borough of Woodland Park and located on McBride Avenue in Woodland Park; and

WHEREAS, these repairs included but were not limited to emergency stabilization, utilizing the Jet-Vac to clean pipe access hole; power washing the fittings to locate leaks; setting up the confined space permit; ventilating the chamber and setting up the blower; locating, removing and replacing all damaged valves, fittings and hoses; cleaning the site and demobilizing the area; and

WHEREAS, the repairs were performed on October 23, 2024 and October 24, 2024 by Montana Construction, 80 Contant Avenue, Lodi, New Jersey 07644 at a total cost of \$9,747.53; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Woodland Park paid for the costs incurred to repair the shared 24" sanitary sewer force main; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to an agreement previously entered into by the three (3) municipalities, the cost of this repair project shall be split between the municipalities on a pro rata basis with the allocation of costs set at 32.3% for Little Falls, 36.9% for Totowa and 30.8% for Woodland Park; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Woodland Park has now invoiced the Borough of Totowa for their share of the costs for emergency repairs in the amount of \$3,596.84; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to authorize net payment in the amount of \$3,596.84 to the Borough of Woodland Park for the above repairs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Borough of Totowa to reimburse the Borough of Woodland Park the sum of \$3,596.84 for their share of costs incurred for emergency repairs to the shared 24" sanitary sewer force main.

There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilman Reynoso to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing Telecom Consulting Services For The Borough Of Totowa. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 40-2025

#### RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TELECOM CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa requires the services of a professional Telecom Consulting Firm for the purpose of providing technical support and assistance with the municipality's communication carriers, communication agreements and wireless communication facilities; and

WHEREAS, the professional services to be provided by the Telecom Consulting Firm include but are not limited to reviewing applications, drawing submissions and right-of-way agreements; ordinance review and recommendations including direction of use of utility poles and smart poles; recommendations for improvements of communications; assisting with bid packages for the installation of next generation mobile networks in the public right-of-way and wireless towers; negotiating contracts with future tenant and general telecom advisory consulting services; and

WHEREAS, the professional consulting shall be awarded as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5; and

WHEREAS, Ace Telecom Consulting, 301 Baldwin Avenue, New Milford, New Jersey 07646 has submitted a proposal to provide the professional telecom consulting services, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Borough of Totowa Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the term of this contract shall commence on the date of this Resolution and terminate on December 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Telecom Consultant shall be entitled to compensation in accordance with the fee scheduled set forth in their proposal; and

WHEREAS, Ace Telecom Consulting shall be required to complete and submit a Business Entity Disclosure Certificate which certifies that Ace Telecom Consulting have not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Totowa in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit Ace Telecom Consulting from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Borough of Totowa to enter into a contract with Ace Telecom Consulting to provide Telecom Consulting Services to the Borough of Totowa.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Council of the Borough of Totowa does hereby authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute any and all necessary instruments relating thereto.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Entity Disclosure Certification shall be placed on file with this Resolution.



A letter was received from Murph's Tavern inviting the Mayor and Council to attend their annual celebration in honor of St. Patrick's Day on Monday, March 17, 2025 and requesting permission to have Rosengren Avenue closed from Totowa Road to Union Boulevard on Saturday, March 15, 2025, Sunday, March 16, 2025 and Monday, March 17, 2025. There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilman Reynoso to approve the request. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### STREET CLOSING AUTHORIZED BY THE MAYOR

Under the authority vested in me as Mayor of the Borough of Totowa, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, by virtue of N.J.S.A. 40:67-16.9 and the Code of the Borough of Totowa Chapter No. 398-42, I, Mayor John Coiro, do hereby order and direct that Rosengren Avenue between Totowa Road and Union Boulevard be closed to vehicular traffic on Saturday, March 15, 2025, Sunday, March 16, 2025 and Monday, March 17, 2025. I further direct that proper signs and barriers be erected at the intersections of Rosengren Avenue and Totowa Road and Rosengren Avenue and Union Boulevard and that the Totowa Police Department control and regulate, as well as enforce, this regulation.

There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilman Reynoso to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing The Application To The Passaic County Community Development Block Grant Program For FY2025. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 41-2025

#### RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO THE PASSAIC COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FOR FY2025

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa wishes to apply for funding from the Passaic County Community Development Block Grant Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa authorizes the application for and use of requested funds in the amount of \$290,000.00 from the Passaic County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program for the rehabilitation of the Borough's Sanitary Sewer Main on Scrivens Street from Totowa Road to Lincoln Avenue.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if awarded, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa shall implement the activities in a manner to ensure compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa agrees that if CDBG funds are determined by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development to be expended on ineligible program costs or do not meet a national objective, the Borough of Totowa agrees to repay the proportion deemed ineligible from non-federal sources.

There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilman Reynoso to adopt the following Resolution In Support Of The Federal Fair Housing Law And New Jersey Law Against Discrimination. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 42-2025

#### RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE FEDERAL FAIR HOUSING LAW AND NEW JERSEY LAW AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa supports Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Federal Fair Housing Law) and the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Borough of Totowa to implement programs to ensure equal opportunity in housing for all persons regardless of race, color, religion, ancestry, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, nationality, familial status, marital or domestic partnership status, affectional or sexual orientation, atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait, genetic information, liability for military service, mental or physical disability, perceived disability, AIDS/HIV status and Lawful Income or Source of Lawful Rent Payment (Section 8); and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa further objects to discrimination in the sale, rental, leasing, financing of housing or land to be used for construction of housing, or in the provision of brokerage services because of race, color, religion, ancestry, sex, national origin, handicap or disability as prohibited by Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Federal Fair Housing Law) and the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby support Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Federal Fair Housing Law) and the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination as follows:

1. Within available resources, the Borough of Totowa will assist all persons who feel they have been discriminated against under one of the aforementioned categories, to seek equity under federal and state laws by filing a complaint with the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, as appropriate.

2. The Borough of Totowa shall publicize this resolution and through this publicity shall cause owners of real estate, developers, and builders to become aware of their respective responsibilities and rights under the Federal Fair Housing Law, the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination, and any local laws or ordinances.

3. The Borough of Totowa will at a minimum include, but not be limited to: (1) the printing and publicizing of this resolution, a fair housing public notice and other applicable fair housing information through local media, community contacts and placement on the Municipal website and in other social media; (2) distribution of posters, flyers, and any other means which will bring to the attention of those affected, the knowledge of their respective responsibilities and rights concerning equal opportunity in housing.

A letter was received from the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission along with a check in the amount of \$13,710.77 for the Municipal Rebate Incentive Program. There was a motion by Councilman Capo, seconded by Councilman Reynoso to accept the funds. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### COMMITTEE ON LIAISON & INSPECTION:

There was a motion by Councilman Reynoso, seconded by Councilman Fierro to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing The Purchase And Installation Of Playground Equipment For Washington Park. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 43-2025

#### RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR WASHINGTON PARK

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa Board of Recreation has recommended the purchase of new playground equipment for Washington Park; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to purchase the new playground equipment for the safety and welfare of the children that play in this park; and

WHEREAS, Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (“ESCNJ”) Contract No. 24/25-01 has been awarded to MRC, P.O. Box 106, Spring Lake, New Jersey 07762 for the purchase of recreational equipment; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable New Jersey State laws, the purchase of this equipment may be authorized without public bidding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the purchase of new playground equipment for Washington Park from MRC in the amount of \$57,477.67.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Municipal Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Municipal Clerk to execute any and all instruments relating thereto.

There was a motion by Councilman Reynoso, seconded by Councilman Fierro to adopt the following Resolution Authorizing The Purchase And Installation Of Playground Safety Surface For Washington Park. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 44-2025

#### RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF PLAYGROUND SAFETY SURFACE FOR WASHINGTON PARK

WHEREAS, the Borough of Totowa Board of Recreation has recommended the purchase of new playground safety surfacing for Washington Park; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa desire to purchase and install the new surfacing for the safety and welfare of the children that play in this park; and

WHEREAS, State of New Jersey Contract No. 16-Fleet-00131 has been awarded to Rubber Recycle, 1985 Rutgers University Boulevard, Lakewood, New Jersey 08701 for the purchase and installation of playground safety surfacing; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the applicable New Jersey State laws, the purchase and installation of this safety surface material may be authorized without public bidding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the purchase and installation of new playground safety surfacing for Washington Park from Rubber Recycle in the amount of \$133,420.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Municipal Council of the Borough of Totowa do hereby authorize the Municipal Clerk to execute any and all instruments relating thereto.

There was a motion by Councilman Reynoso, seconded by Councilman Fierro to approve Payment Estimate No. 2 (Final) in the amount of \$5,300.00 to A-Plus Construction, Inc. For The Borough Of Totowa Home Improvement Program for 112 Jefferson Place. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION & ORDINANCES:

There was a motion by Councilman Fierro, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to introduce on first reading and advertise for public hearing the following entitled ordinance. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 04-2025**

#### **A CAPITAL ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$290,000 FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS AND ACQUISITION OF EQUIPMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE BOROUGH OF TOTOWA**

There was a motion by Councilman Fierro, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to approve the Temporary Capital Budget. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

There was a motion by Councilman Fierro, seconded by Councilman Picarelli to approve the Application For Extension of Premises Permit from the State Of New Jersey Division Of Alcoholic Beverage Control for Anthony Murphy, Inc. on Saturday, March 15, 2025, Sunday, March 16, 2025 and Monday, March 17, 2025. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

There being no further business to come before the Council, there was a motion by Councilman D'Angelo, seconded by Councilman Picarelli that the meeting be adjourned. On roll call vote, all members of the Council present voted in the affirmative.

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Joseph Wassel, RMC  
Municipal Clerk