

**Pennington Borough Council
Work Session Meeting – March 30, 2026**

Mayor Davy called the Regular Meeting of the Borough Council to order at 7:00 pm. The meeting was held via Zoom.

Borough Clerk Betty Sterling called the roll with Council Members Angarone, Chandler, Kassler-Taub, Rubenstein, and Stern in attendance. Absent: Council Member Valenza

Also present were Borough Clerk Betty Sterling, Borough Attorney Walter Bliss, Borough Administrator GP Caminiti, Chief Financial Officer Sandra Webb, and Lieutenant Daryl Burroughs.

Mayor Davy announced that notice of this meeting has been given to the Hopewell Valley News, Trenton Times, Trentonian and was posted on the bulletin board at Borough Hall and on the Borough web-site according to the regulations of the Open Public Meetings Act.

Open to the Public

Mayor Davy read the following statement.

The meeting is now open to the public for comments. In an effort to provide everyone interested an opportunity to address his or her comments to the Governing Body, a public comment time limit has been instituted for each speaker. Please raise your hand and when the Borough Clerk acknowledges you state your name and address for the record. Please limit comments to the Governing Body to a maximum of 2 minutes.

Dan Pace, Pennington Resident, asked if Pennington Borough submitted the legal notices with the State.

Work Session Discussion Items

Pennington Day – Mr. Caminiti - the PD and DPW are on track for Pennington Day. Mr. Rubenstein - anyone giving out candy must have a license as per the Board of Health. Mr. Bliss – make sure we get last year's insurance in place and confirm we are covered specifically for the beer garden. Please confirm with JIF that we are covered.

Supplemental Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Fund - Landfill - Ron Harwood

Ron Harwood of Excel Environmental was present and advised Council the previous supplemental request was \$278,000 after going through the remediation investigation they have underestimated the level of effort and the ecological risk assessment. They need another resolution from the Council in the amount of \$24,734.08. The council will handle the resolution. Mr. Harwood advised if the state rejects the additional amount then it is the responsibility of Excel Environmental to move further with the funds. The council asked what development can be done with the landfill. Mr. Harwood responded single family residential cannot be done. But all other options are on the table such as open space and commercial.

Rejection of Bids - Abey Drive, Queens Lane, and Mallard Place - Paul Christopher (Pennoni) – Mayor Davy – all bids will possibly be rejected and the Borough may solicit new bids unless they excise Mallard Place and Queens Lane. The recommendation is to reject the bids and only bid Abey Drive to put that within budget for the transportation trust fund by the end of July 2026. Council agreed.

Paul Christopher, Pennoni Engineering, advised once the bids are rejected due to lack of funds you have to then put a change request to DOT with the modified scope and they would have to review and approve that, then at that time you can go out to bid.

Mayor Davy – a resolution will be done to reject the Abey Drive, Mallard Place and Queens Lane.

Lead Service Line Replacement Program – Mayor Davy – there is money set aside for the lead line replacement. Sherry Tracy, Phoenix, advised of the options of LSL Financing and the PFAS Financing and went into detail of the costs. For purposes of analysis, the LSL Project and PFAS Project are estimated to close in 2026 with short-term 0% loan from NJIB, then bonded as long-term debt on 5/1/26. All financings anticipated at a Rate of 3.50% for I-Bank Loan, 0% for fund loan.

Ms. Tracey advised of the water and sewer utility operating pro forma, projected operations at status quo.

Review of Tentative Council Regular Agenda

Proclamation - Arbor Day

Mayor Davy - There will be a proclamation for Arbor Day and two other proclamations will be at the next meeting on April 6, 2026.

Appointment - Nancy Rubenstein - Senior Advisory

Appointment - James Ottomanelli - Parks & Recreation

Mayor Davy – Nancy Rubenstein will be appointed to Senior Advisory and James Ottomanelli will be appointed to Parks and Recreation. There are still three (3) vacancies on Park and Recreation.

Appointment of Borough Engineer

Mr. Caminiti stated that he is still finalizing his review of the applications so this will go for the April meeting.

Presentation of 2025 Audit

Mayor Davy – the municipal auditor will be doing a presentation of the 2025 audit for the Borough budget operations.

Approval of Minutes

Ordinance 2026-17 - An Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank in Accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45:14 in the Borough of Pennington, New Jersey (Public Hearing and Adoption)

Ordinance 2026-18 - An Ordinance to Provide for and Determine the Rate of Compensation of Officers and Employees of the Borough of Pennington, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey for the Year 2026 (Public Hearing and Adoption) Resolution - Civil Rights Compliance Budget - Public Hearing and Adoption

Resolution - Lien Redemption

Resolution - Authorizing Payment of Bills

Resolution - Borough Administrator - Reappointment

Resolution - Appointing Borough Clerk (Effective May 1, 2026)

Ms. Chandler would like to know the job descriptions with the recent updates in employment.

Resolution - Registrar Appointment

Ms. Chandler would like to know the job description for the Registrar.

Resolution - Appointing Public Agency Compliance Officer

Resolution - Reappointment - Tax Assessor

Resolution - Municipal Alliance

Resolution - Supplemental HDSRF Application - Landfill

See above discussion with Ron Harwood of Excel Environmental.

Resolution - Approving Computer Contract with RND

Contract for IT consultant – the contract will now have a caveat of not to exceed.

Resolution - Purchase of Trash Cart Enclosure for Kunkel Park (Open Space Funds)

Resolution - Outdoor Dining - Vito's Pizza

Resolution - Pennington Day - Beer Garden

Resolution - Audit Certification

Other Business

Ms. Sterling advised that a bingo license was dropped off today and should be on the Council agenda for April 6, 2026. Mayor Davy agreed.

Ms. Chandler mentioned the fees ordinance needs to be on the May 4, 2026 Council agenda.

Open to the Public/ Public Comment

Mayor Davy opened the meeting to the public. There were no comments from the public.

CLOSED SESSION

AT, 8:18 PM, BE IT RESOLVED, that Mayor and Council shall hereby convene in closed session for the purposes of discussing a subject or subjects permitted to be discussed in closed session by the Open Public Meetings Act, to wit:

Personnel

Borough Engineer Contract

Council Member Rubenstein made a motion to convene in Closed Session and adjourn the regular meeting, second by Council President Stern with all members present voting in favor.

Respectfully submitted,