

**BOROUGH OF FOLSOM
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
April 8, 2025**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:58 PM

SALUTE TO THE FLAG LED BY MAYOR GLENN SMITH

OPENING STATEMENT: *Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the directives of the "Open Public Meetings Act", pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice of this meeting has been advertised in the Hammonton Gazette and Atlantic City Press and has been posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board showing the time and place of said meeting.*

ROLL CALL: Councilpersons: Ballistreri, Whittaker, Porretta, Norman, Hoffman and Blazer

Also present: Mayor Glenn Smith, Clerk Patti Gatto, Solicitor Angela Costigan, and CJ Kaenzig from Polistina & Assoc.

APPROVAL OF THE WORKSHOP COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES March 11, 2025

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Councilman Porretta and seconded by Councilman Norman

There was a roll call vote with ayes all

APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, March 11, 2025

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Councilman Ballistreri and seconded by Councilman Blazer

There was a roll call vote with ayes all.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: *None*

CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE:

Borough Hall Offices will be closed on April 18, 2025 in honor of Good Friday

Next E-Waste Drop-off Day is May 10, 2025 from 8:00am to 1:00pm.

ORDINANCES: (None)

RESOLUTIONS:

Consent Agenda: All matters listed under Consent Agenda, are considered to be routine by this Borough Council and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

RESOLUTION 2025-51
BOROUGH OF FOLSOM
A RESOLUTION OPPOSING ATLANTIC CITY ELECTRIC RATE INCREASES

WHEREAS, Atlantic City Electric has been approved for another significant rate increase that will impose an undue financial burden on the residents and businesses of Folsom; and

WHEREAS, Atlantic City Electric rate increases come at a time when many families and small businesses are still recovering from economic challenges, making higher utility costs especially burdensome; and

WHEREAS, these rate hikes will disproportionately impact low-income families, senior citizens on fixed incomes, and small business owners who rely on affordable energy to sustain operations; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) is responsible for regulating utility rates and ensuring that any increases are justified, transparent, and in the best interest of ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, the NJBPU has repeatedly approved rate increases without sufficient oversight, transparency, or justification, failing to adequately protect consumers from excessive utility costs; and

WHEREAS, concerns remain regarding whether the additional revenue generated from these rate hikes will be used for meaningful infrastructure improvements and increased service reliability, or if it will continue to fund misguided energy policies, including failed offshore wind projects that have cost billions without delivering real benefits to New Jersey ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, instead of focusing on an energy policy that ensures affordability and reliability, state regulators have prioritized an agenda that has led to wasteful spending on failed Green New Deal initiatives, while consumers are left facing higher electricity bills; and

WHEREAS, Folsom residents and businesses deserve fair and reasonable utility rates and improved service reliability without unjustified financial hardship caused by politically motivated energy initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Folsom stands in opposition to any rate increase that places an unnecessary burden on the community while failing to provide clear benefits to ratepayers;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Folsom, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, that:

1. The Borough of Folsom formally opposes the recent rate increases by Atlantic City Electric.
2. The Borough urges the NJBPU to reject any rate increase that does not directly benefit ratepayers through improved service and reliability rather than funding failed Green New Deal initiatives.
3. The Borough calls on the JBPU to increase transparency in the rate-setting process and ensure meaningful public engagement before approving any future increases.
4. The Borough demands stronger regulatory oversight to prevent excessive corporate profits at the expense of New Jersey residents and businesses.
5. A copy of this resolution shall be sent to the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, Governor Phil Murphy, Atlantic County officials, and Atlantic City Electric.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Borough of Folsom remains committed to advocating

for affordable, reliable energy solutions for its residents and businesses that do not include costly and ineffective offshore wind projects.

BOROUGH OF FOLSOM

RESOLUTION #2025-52

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PREPARATION AND PUBLICATION OF An
RFP/RFQ FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM ON A
LANDFILL OWNED BY THE BOROUGH**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Folsom wishes to ensure the health, safety and welfare of its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Borough is the owner of a landfill and is interested in determining the cost and feasibility of installing solar panels at the site; and

WHEREAS, the Borough intends to solicit bids for the project through the RFP/RFQ fair and open process pursuant to New Jersey Local Unit Pay to Play Law, N.J.S. A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq. in order to determine the cost of the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Folsom, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey that the Engineer, Solicitor, and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to prepare and publish a RFP/RFQ for the development of a photovoltaic system on the landfill owned by the Borough.

**Borough of Folsom
RESOLUTION #2025-53**

MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE GRANT APPLICATION Form 1B
Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse
Fiscal Grant Cycle October 2025-June 2026

WHEREAS, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities through New Jersey.

WHEREAS, the Borough of Folsom, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Folsom further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials, but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

WHEREAS, The Borough of Folsom has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Atlantic;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough of Folsom Governing Body

does hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Mayor and Council of the Borough of Folsom does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the Borough of Folsom Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2025 in the amount of:

GCSUD GRANT FUND	\$5,850.68
Cash Match	\$1,462.67
In Kind Match	\$4,388.01

Total Alliance Budget: \$11,701.36

2. The Borough of Folsom acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance Grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

**RESOLUTION 2025-54
BOROUGH OF FOLSOM**

**A RESOLUTION GRANTING A RAFFLE LICENSE TO FOLSOM ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
TO BENEFIT THE SOFTBALL AND BASEBALL PROGRAMS**

WHEREAS, the Folsom Athletic Association has applied for a license to conduct an on premise (50/50), Gift Basket raffles to be held on May 6 and May 31, 2025 and;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Folsom, that

1. The following facts are hereby found and determined:
 - a) The Applicant is qualified.
 - b) The members designed to conduct the games are active members.
 - c) The members designated to conduct the games are of good moral character and have never been convicted of a crime.
 - d) The raffle will be conducted according to the Raffle Licensing Law and the Rules of Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission.
 - e) The entire proceeds are to be disposed of for a purpose permitted by the Raffles Licensing Law.
 - f) There is satisfactory proof that no payment will be made for conducting the raffle or assisting therein except to the extent allowed by the law.
 - g) There is satisfactory proof that the prizes are of the nature and amount allowed by the Raffles Licensing Law.
 - h) The rental to be paid for equipment does conform to the schedule of authorized rental prescribed by the Rules of the Control Commission.
2. The Council is hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the proper certificates of the aforesaid Findings and Determinations in the Form prescribed and specified by the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission.

**BOROUGH OF FOLSOM
RESOLUTION #2025-55**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RESERVE FOR PRELIMINARY EXPENSES

WHEREAS, the Borough of Folsom Council hereby acknowledges the requirement of preliminary costs to determine the cost of a proposed undertaking; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of these preliminary costs is for the legal, engineering and related studies to determine the feasibility to develop a photovoltaic system on the Borough's Landfill; and,

WHEREAS, the cost to be charged is for the purpose for which bonds may be issued under Chapter 2 of Title 40A

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Folsom, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey that \$25,000 is appropriated for this purpose, and the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to set up a "Reserve for Preliminary Expenses" from the Capital Improvement Fund of the General Capital Fund.

**RESOLUTION 2025-56
BOROUGH OF FOLSOM**

**SELF EXAMINATION OF BUDGET RESOLUTION
(as required by DCA)**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:30-7 was adopted by the Local Finance Board on February 11, 1997; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 through 7.5, the Borough of Folsom has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local Government Services, and the Chief Financial Officer has determined that the local government meets the necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2024 budget year.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Borough of Folsom that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a & 7.6b and based upon the Chief Financial Officer's certification, the governing body has found the budget has met the following requirements:

1. That with reference to the following items, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law and appropriated as such in the budget:

- a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges
 - b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
 - c. Cash deficit of preceding year
 - d. Reserve for uncollected taxes
 - e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items
 - f. Any inclusions of amounts required for school purposes
2. That the provisions relating to limitation on increases of appropriations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.2 and appropriations for exceptions to limits on appropriations found at N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.3 et seq., are fully met (complies with CAP law).
3. That the budget is in such form, arrangement, and content as required by the local Budget Law and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4 and 5:30-5.
4. That pursuant to the Local Budget Law:
 - a. All estimates of revenue are reasonable, accurate and correctly stated
 - b. Items of appropriation are properly set forth
 - c. In itemization, form arrangement and content, the budget will permit the exercise of the comptroller function within the municipality.
5. The budget and associated amendments have been introduced and publicly advertised in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Budget Law, except that failure to meet the deadlines of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 shall not prevent such certification.
6. That all other applicable statutory requirements have been fulfilled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services upon adoption.

RESOLUTION 2025-57 (Revised)

BOROUGH OF FOLSOM

A RESOLUTION REVISING RESOLUTION 2025-26 TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS

2025 COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

Parks Commission	5 Year	Tiffany Lind	12/31/2029
Remove Mike Gilmore And replace with Barbara Ballistreri	1 Year	Barbara Ballistreri	12/31/2025
Parks Commission Vice-Chairman	1 Year	Al Norman	12/31/2025

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the foregoing appointment was adopted at the regular meeting of Mayor and Council on April 8, 2025 in the Borough of Folsom, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey.

A motion to approve resolutions #2025-51 through #2025-57 was made by Councilman Norman and seconded by Councilman Porretta

There was a roll call vote with ayes all

BUDGET HEARING:

RESOLUTION 2025-58 BOROUGH OF FOLSOM

A RESOLUTION TO READ AND ADOPT THE BUDGET BY TITLE ONLY

WHEREAS, the local municipal budget for the year 2025 was approved on the 11th day of March, 2025 and

WHEREAS, the it is the desire of the Borough of Folsom governing body to read the budget by title only, and

WHEREAS, the public hearing on said budget has been set for April 8, 2025 and will be advertised as such; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this Resolution was approved by the Council of the Borough of Folsom, County of Atlantic at 1700 12th St., Folsom, NJ on the 8th day of April, 2025 at 6:00pm.

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

A motion to approve resolution #2025-58 was made by Councilman Hoffman and seconded by Councilman Blazer

There was a roll call vote with ayes all

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: *No report. Angela wished everyone a Happy Holiday next week.*

MAYOR'S REPORT: *Mayor Smith reported that he attended the FAA Opening Day event at the Ball field and it was a well-attended and organized event. The mayor said the FAA did a great job. Glenn informed everyone that long time resident Anna Whitmeyer passed away recently.*

FIRE REPORT: *No report*

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

FY 2025 Municipal Aid: Resurfacing of Fenimore Drive

We are currently collaborating with the Borough to finalize the design of Fenimore Drive. The plans and specs will be submitted to Council for approval in May.

FY 2025 Local Recreational Improvement Grant

NJDCA announced the grant awards, and the Borough was not selected to receive a grant.

COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Ballistreri: *Tom reported on the Parks & Rec Commission. Tom stated that the Public Works Dept. will be starting spring cleanup in the Parks next week. Tom also reported that he and John Lapollo (PWD) inspected the parks and playgrounds for any safety issues. Tom stated that some bleachers have to be replaced. Tom discussed with Council the possibility of adding more lighting in the handicap area at 13th St. Tom and Jake suggested maybe a solar lighting system. Tom thanked the FAA for a great job on Opening Day.*

Councilman Norman: *no report*

Councilman Porretta: *No report*

Councilman Whittaker: *Jim read the State Police report. Jim stated that he will be meeting with the Sheriff to discuss patrols in Folsom.*

Councilman Hoffman: *Jim reminded residents that leaf pickup is going on and was asking everyone to get the leaves to the road. Jim reported that the house on 14th is finally being clean up. Jim stated that he hopes a few more in the Borough get cleaned up.*

Councilman Blazer: *Jake reported on the FAA Opening Day event. He thanked Mayor and Councilman Ballistreri for attending.*

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: *no comment*

PAYMENT OF BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF: \$508,524.81

A motion to approve payment was made by Councilman Mike and seconded by Councilman Whittaker

There was a roll call vote with ayes all

Mayor Smith reminded the public that all other monthly reports are on file in the minute book.

Please visit the Borough of Folsom website at folsomborough.com for updated Borough information and the Borough of Folsom Facebook page.

The next regular meeting of Mayor and Council will be held on **Tuesday, May 13, 2025** starting with the workshop meeting at 6:00 pm and continuing immediately thereafter with the regular meeting at Borough Hall, 1700 12th Street, Folsom, NJ.

With no other discussion the meeting was adjourned at 7:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Gatto
Municipal Clerk

