

MINUTES OF THE HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING HELD ON JUNE 24, 2026

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kula at approximately 7:00 P.M. with the opening statement that the meeting had been duly advertised and met all the requirements of the Sunshine Law. Also present were Deputy Mayor Alfano, Councilman Miller, Councilman Kaminski, Manager Carrine Piccolo-Kaufer, Clerk Jane Bakalarczyk, Deputy Clerk Dana Vitz and Township Attorney Robert Rossmeissl of Dorsey & Semrau. Councilman Cicerale was in attendance via Microsoft Teams.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Township Manager and Council discussed the following items:

A. Hardyston Recreation Facilities – Fees

Township Manager stated that a draft of the amended rules and regulations will be prepared for discussion at the July 8, 2026 workshop meeting.

B. Wallkill Valley Drug Alliance Committee – Member Appointment

Township Manager stated that Lisa Vallacchi, Principal of the Franklin Elementary School, is interested in becoming a member of the Municipal Drug Alliance Committee. She stated that the appointment is on the regular meeting agenda for Council consideration.

C. Lake Stockholm Association – Land Use Board Application Fee Waiver Request

Township Manager stated that a request was received from the Lake Stockholm Country Club & Community Association requesting a waiver of the land use application fees associated with a letter of interpretation for Block 57, Lot 14. The item was placed on the regular meeting agenda to follow for Council consideration.

D. Resolution Requesting Restoration of New Jersey School of Conservation Funding

Township Manager stated that a resolution has been placed on the regular meeting agenda to follow for Council consideration.

E. CJS Emerald Estates Developer's Agreement Extension

Township Manager stated that CJS is requesting a one-year extension to their developer's agreement. This item will be placed on the July 8, 2026 agenda for Council consideration.

F. Architect Proposal for Community Center Design

Township Manager stated that she requested a revised scope of work from FC3 Architecture & Design, LLC for the Wheatsworth Community Recreation Center Project. She stated that FC3 has provided the revised scope of work and she will have a final form of agreement prepared for the July 8, 2026 meeting for Council consideration.

G. Grant Writer Services

Township Manager stated that the annual agreement with Millennium Strategies has expired. She stated that she will request a proposal from them and have a professional services agreement prepared for the July 8, 2026 meeting for Council Consideration.

H. Silver Grove Road Traffic Study Update & Recommendations

Township Manager and the Council reviewed data collected by the Township Engineer regarding the speed limit on Silver Grove Road. It was the consensus of the Council to make the speed limit 30 mph for the entire length of Silver Grove Road as per the recommendation of the Township Engineer.

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I. Hamburg Mountain/GTC Cell Tower Lease

Township Manager stated that GTC, who has acquired the tower from Optimum, has added additional equipment to the tower that causes interference with the fire department's communications. The Township is working with GTC to eliminate the interference and a new lease agreement will be needed. A new form of lease agreement will be prepared for the July 8, 2026 meeting for Council consideration.

J. Hardyston Day/250th Celebration – Time Capsule

Councilman Cicerale suggested working with residents and the school for suggestions for a time capsule for America's 250th celebration. Councilman Kaminski suggested putting up 250th banners at Wheatsworth park.

K. July 8, 2026 Agenda Items

Township Manager gave the Council an overview of the agenda items for the July 8, 2026.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilman Miller suggested having a discussion with the Chief of Police to address speeding trucks throughout the township.

Councilman Kaminski thanked the Township Manager for getting the revised scope of work from FC3 Architecture & Design, LLC for the community center project.

Deputy Mayor Alfano asked if there are any costs incurred by the Township when Crystal Springs has their annual beer fest. He also asked if it would be feasible to share a fire truck with Vernon.

Mayor Kula thanked Dana Vitz, Recreation Director, for doing a great job with the Hardyston pageant. He also stated that he would like the Declaration of Independence read by the Council at the America's 250th celebration at Hardyston Day.

PUBLIC COMMENT (in accordance with P.L. 2002, c.80): A motion was made and seconded to open the meeting to the public. All in favor. Motion carried.

Aaron Simmons stated that the residents who signed the petition for the speed limit change on Silver Grove Road would prefer the speed limit to be changed to 25 mph.

Tom Manzi thanked Councilman Miller for addressing the issue of speeding trucks.

Brian Tobachnick thanked the Council for addressing speed enforcement and also thanked the Council for approving the resolution to restore funding to the New Jersey School of Conservation. He also asked about a study by the Highlands Council.

Laurel Schnurr commented on the trucks speeding through the township.

Trevor Wassel of Hamburg commented and thanked the Council for adopting the ordinance to ban data centers in the township. He also asked who would have access to the new community center.

A motion was made and seconded to close the meeting to the public. All in favor. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: At approximately 8:10 p.m., a motion was made by Kaminski to adjourn seconded by Miller. All in favor. Motion carried.

Jane Bakalarczyk, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk